



secretaries@sacredheartcalgary.ca

## 'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

As I was doing my rounds in the parish, I saw these two images which captured my attention and got me thinking and praying. The first shows the work of the volunteers, preparing the Nativity Scene for Christmas in the narthex of the Church. I was consoled to think that all of you, friends and parishioners, are also doing just that: preparing a place for Jesus in your hearts and homes. All the "externals" of Christmas – the Christmas trees, the lights and decorations, the good meals, the gifts and carols— are beautiful, but remembering Jesus' birth is the heart of our festivities, giving warmth and light to all the rest. May he find a warm place, a clean and loving place, in your hearts! And the second scene was just as moving. Someone (maybe even a poor man or woman who lives on the street?) must have passed by our Parish and thought: how cold must Jesus be! And they kindly put a ragged scarf around the statue's neck. Which one of our family, or friends, or relatives, might need to receive a little gesture of affection? Christmas is a perfect time for each of us to be a sign of God's love and concern, spreading a little bit of cheer in our midst. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and the child Jesus fill your hearts with their light, grace, and peace this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

- Father John "JP" Luxbacher





# CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR Mass and Office Schedule

24th - office is closed, church remains open regular noon mass, 7 pm, 10 pm, midnight

**25th** - 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm **26th** - 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm

27th - the office, church, and columbarium are closed

**31st** - (daily) noon, 5 pm

**1st** - 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm

2nd - 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm

3rd - office is closed, church and columbarium will be open from 11 am to 1 pm

## I AM BLESSED CAMPAIGN

## Be there for those in need.

1. **Pray now** - Supporting others with prayer by praying in solidarity with them; ideas on what prayers to pray and what to do if others ask to pray for them.

2. Act now - Offering tips on how to be a good friend especially to those who are in need; getting familiar with services available in our midst as we may need to lead others to seek help.

3. **Give now** - Providing financial assistance online to programs and intiatives that empower others.

Concludes on Sunday, January 9, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord



23 kids had their first confession in December.

Please pray as they start preparing for their First Eucharist in the coming year!



## Register for the Sacrament of CONFIRMATION.

visit <a href="www.sacredheartcalgary.ca/sacraments/confirmation">www.sacredheartcalgary.ca/sacraments/confirmation</a>
Deadline is January 20th 2022. If you would like to volunteer, please contact busmgr@sacredheartcalgary.ca

## **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS**

#### Christmas, Dec. 25

The Christmas season celebrates the mystery of the Incarnation and the manifestation of Jesus Christ to the world: past, present and future. The mystery and feast of Christmas (the Nativity of the Lord) is second only to Easter in the liturgical life of the Church. The Christmas season begins after evening prayer on December 25th and continues through the Baptism of the Lord. The first week of the season is the octave of Christmas which closes on the feast of the Mother of God (Jan 1).

#### Solemnity of Mary, Jan. 1

We close out the Christmas octave with a day to honour Mary as the Mother of God.

#### The Holy Family, Dec. 26

This feast day commemorates the life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph together. It portrays the holy family as "the true model of life." Celebrate with your family and consider praying the Holy Family Novena together in hopes that your family will be guided and faithful.

#### Epiphany of the Lord, Jan. 2

Epiphany means "manifestation", that moment when we suddenly understand something that previously was hidden from us. Christmas is about the Incarnation, the coming down of the Son of God to become human, one of us. Epiphany is the showing of the Christ Child's divinity, which is beginning to manifest itself in the world.

### **Ministry Leaders**

Pastoral Council: Tom Cotter Finance Council: Mike Walsh Pastoral Health Care: Tom Shannon **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy** Communion: Patricia Tsang Lectors: Kevin McCormack Weekday Liturgy: Addie Dedio **Hospitality:** Christine Suherman Altar Servers: Karissa Factura RCIA: Karen Howells/Kent Wang Society of St. Vincent de Paul: Red Armstrong, Mike Walsh Catholic Women's League: Anna Marinelli/Janet MacPhee Knights of Columbus: Tim Cornish **Building Committee:** Terry Allen In-Residence: Rev. Daniel Wilson LC, Rev. Kenneth LeBlanc LC, Rev. Michael O'Connor LC, Brother Andrew Wing LC

I"f so great and good a
Lord, then, on coming into
the Virgin's womb, chose to
appear despised, needy,
and poor in this world, so
that people who were in
utter poverty and want and
in absolute need of
heavenly nourishment
might become rich in Him
by possessing the kingdom
of heaven, then rejoice and
be glad! Be filled with a
remarkable happiness and
a spiritual joy!"

St. Clare of Assisi





Formed.org, which some describe as the Catholic Netflix, is available for your use. The parish provides this service for you for free so you can stream Catholic content anytime, anywhere! Sign up by going to www.formed.org and entering our parish, Sacred Heart, Calgary, AB to get access!

2021 Target COMPLETED

We have hit our target for TIA! Thank you so much to our parishioners for their generous donations - please consider donating to a different fund (ex. building fund) instead.

## **Financial Update**

Thank you for your generosity and support for our parish during these times. Please email busmgr@sacredheartcalgary.ca for any questions.

	Budget	As of Dec. 23, 2021
Regular Collection	\$525,000	\$466,823
Outreach	\$26,000	\$28,024
Building Fund	\$60,000	\$74,405

