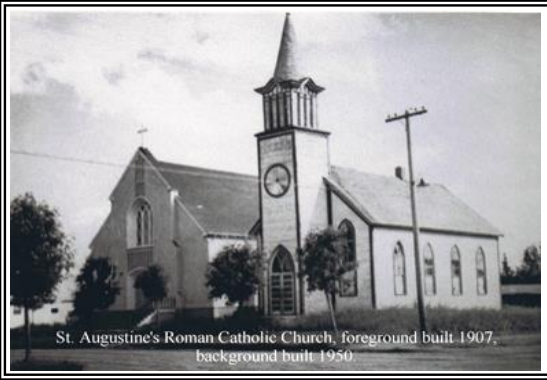


St. Augustine Parish

5113 - 52 Avenue, Ponoka, Alberta T4J 1H6

Phone: 403.783-4048 Text: 825.706-4863

E-mail: StAugustine.Ponoka@caedm.ca

Website: staugustine.caedm.ca

Facebook: St.AugustinePonoka ***https://staugustineponoka.flocknote.com/***

Office Hours: 9 AM – 1 PM Tues to Fri

APRIL 20, 2025— EASTER SUNDAY

Dear Beloved Parish Family,

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Easter is the heart of our Christian faith—the day when darkness is overcome by light, sorrow by joy, and death by the promise of new life. After the long journey of Lent, and the solemn days of Holy Week, we arrive at the empty tomb with hearts full of hope. This is the day the Lord has made—let us rejoice and be glad!

The Resurrection of Jesus is not just a moment in history—it is a living truth that continues to shape our lives. It means that **love is stronger than hatred, that mercy is greater than sin, and that even in our darkest moments, God is working to bring about new beginnings.**

So many of us carry burdens: personal struggles, worries for loved ones, grief, or uncertainty about the future. Easter reminds us that these crosses do not have the final word. In rising from the dead, Christ has opened the door to a life filled with purpose, peace, and joy. He walks with us, often in quiet and hidden ways, renewing our hearts and calling us to live as **people of hope**.

This season invites us to open our eyes and hearts to the many signs of resurrection around us: the **forgiveness** we extend or receive, the healing of relationships, the **kindness** of strangers, the **strength** to endure, and the **courage** to begin again. Each of these moments is a reflection of the risen Christ at work in our world.

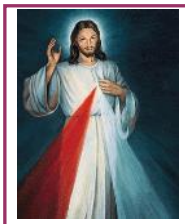
Let this Easter be a fresh start—a **renewal of faith**, a return to prayer and reading Bible, a deepening of love for God and one another. Whether we are celebrating surrounded by family or quietly reflecting in solitude, the joy of the Resurrection reaches us all.

On behalf of our entire parish community, I wish you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Easter. May the peace of the Risen Lord fill your hearts, your homes, and your lives throughout this holy season and beyond.

With Easter joy,

Fr Liju Jose, Pastor

God's blessings & congratulations to **Carmen Lyon.**
He will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
on Holy Saturday, April 19!



The ***DIVINE MERCY NOVENA***
begins on
Good Friday, April 18
Pray with us in the church:
April 18 @ 3 p.m.
Holy Saturday, April 19 @ 7:45 pm
Easter Sunday & Monday, April 20 & 21 @ 6 pm

Tues. April 22 @ 6 pm;
April 23 & 24 @ 11:15 am
Fri. April 25 @ 6 pm
Sat. April 26 @ 6:15 pm
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—April 27 @ 3 pm
Celebrate God's endless mercy and love for us.
Please bring a potluck item to share.

Mass Times:

Saturday - 7:00 p.m. Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Wednesday & Thursday —12 noon

Hand sanitizer is provided at all the entrances. Please stay home if you feel sick.

Be respectful of each other's comfort level.

Adoration: 45 MINUTES before Saturday (6:15 PM) & Wednesday (11:15 AM) masses.

Rosary: 8:30 am on Sundays **Confession:** 30 minutes before mass or by appointment

Sacrament/Anointing of the Sick: in case of emergency call **Fr. Liju (780.935-1589)**

If you know someone who needs prayers, call our **Prayer Line Co-ordinators**

Judy @ 403.783-4347 Gail @ 403.783-8123

ADORATION
Wednesdays @ 11:30 AM
Saturdays @ 6:30 PM

ROSARY
Sundays @ 8:30 AM

Mass Intentions

Thursday	April 17	**8:30 PM**	+ Ralph & Mary Gramlich's Deceased Children
Friday	April 18	**10:00 AM**	**Good Friday**
Saturday	April 19	**8:30 PM**	+ Deceased Members of the Winczura & Hemingson Families
Sunday	April 20	**9:00 AM**	+ Deceased Members of the Caouette Family
Wednesday	April 23	12 Noon	Intentions of Nathan Carlson
Thursday	April 24	8:45 AM	Easter Mass at St. Augustine School Secondary School Gym
	April 24	12 Noon	+ Shirley Kohlman
Saturday	April 26	7:00 PM	+ Antonio Bartolome
Sunday	April 26	9:00 AM	+ Amado Agpalza

Pray for the sick and elderly in our parish community, especially for **Jeanne Alain, Nathan Carlson, John Morin, Florence Roach, George Serkasevich and Helen Polny.** Pray for Pope Francis and all the clergy during Holy Week. Pray for the repose of the soul of **Fr. Les Drewicki** (a priest of 45 years for CAEDM). He was 71 years old and passed away last weekend.

e-Transfer

We accept e-transfers!
No service fees
Include your **name, address & phone number**.

For **OPERATIONS** (mass supplies, utilities, Together We Serve, Children's Liturgy; Holy Thursday; Good Friday, Christmas, flowers, utilities, etc.) Send your e-transfer to:
StAugustine.Ponoka@caedm.ca.

For **BUILDING FUND** donations, Send e-transfer to:
staugustine.etransfer@caedm.ca

WHAT IS EASTER?

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the world. **The Paschal Candle** used during the Easter Vigil is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time and lit for all liturgical celebrations.

The Easter Vigil is the "Mother of All Vigils" and Easter Sunday is the greatest of all Sundays. **The season of Easter is the most important of all liturgical times, which Catholics celebrate as the Lord's resurrection from the dead, culminating in his Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit upon the Church.**

The octave of Easter comprises the eight days which stretch from the first to the second Sunday. It is a way of prolonging the joy of the initial day. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday to Pentecost. It is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the resurrection: "If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith." (1 Cor 15:14)

From: https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/easter

Chalice

Thank you for supporting our Chalice children, **Peace** from Kenya & **Anna** from the Ukraine!

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration
after Holy Thursday mass in the church basement

GOOD FRIDAY is a universal day of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. We fast to honor the suffering & death of our Lord Jesus and to share more deeply in the joy of his resurrection.

The **community Way of the Cross** will start at **12:00 noon** on **Good Friday, April 18** in the parking lot across from the Ponoka United Church. Our Catholic church has been leading this devotion, sharing in the carrying of the cross and helping with the readings at each Station. Please join in if you can.
Info: Deacon Rollie

No Children's Liturgy on Easter Sunday

Knights of Columbus, Council 4503
In Service for One, In Service for All

Vivat Jesus! Have a joyful and peaceful blessed Easter with your family and friends!

The Knight of Columbus general meeting will be postponed until April 24th.

Brother Knights mark your calendar—*June 25 to July 5* for the Ponoka Stampede Food Booth. We can help as Shift Co-ordinators (form KofC teams); work on the grill; wrap burgers; make taco in a bag, prep fries or poutine, etc.
Or in May, please help Bro Fred with preparing taco meat.

April 26 & 27 is the Second Collection for the Building Fund (after Communion). Every donation counts! Write your name and address on the beige Building Fund envelopes (for your tax receipt) We are all called to prayer, give our time and give financially. We trust you will do what you can to help and give as your budget allows. Thank you for your generosity & sacrifice!
The Children's Donations will go the Building Fund on the Fourth Sunday.

THE KING OF KINGS: A father tells his son the greatest story ever told...Through vivid imagination, the boy walks alongside Jesus...The King of Kings invites us to rediscover the enduring power of hope, love & redemption. (Angel Studio)

Highly recommended by our ***Children's Choir*** who saw it at *Cineplex Galaxy,* 357 Liberty Ave (by Costco, Red Deer)

Bring your refundable cans & bottles
April 22 to 26
We CAN BUILD for the Building Fund!

Catechesis classes in preparation for the **Sacrament of First Communion is on April 27** (Divine Mercy Sunday) after 9 a.m. mass. Deacon Rollie: (403) 396-1700

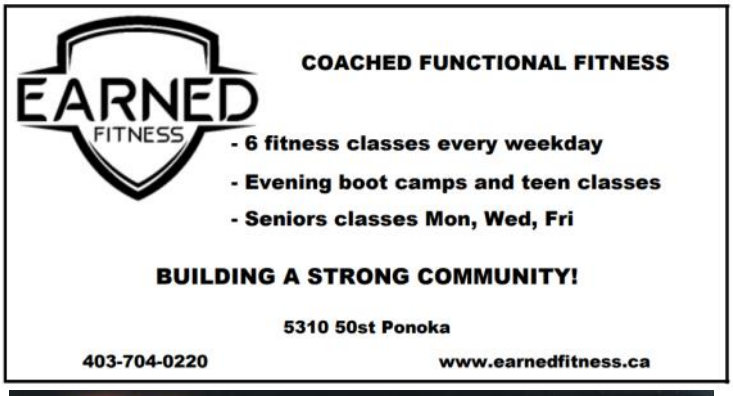
Catholic Women's League
Faith, service and social justice
Easter Blessings to all!

Deadline for the **May 3 & 4 Diocesan Convention is April 27**. Please contact Carol /403.783-2148 as they have requested a group registration. The theme is: **"Hope in the Lord"**, Registration fee: is $75 for both days and $45 for one day. Lunch is: $20. Banquet: $50. All CWL members are invited. 83rd Annual Edmonton Diocesan Convention

Our patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel's feast day is April 26. On Sunday, **April 27**, we will lead the Rosary before mass at 8:25 AM. The next CWL Ministry Sunday).
Next meeting **April 28** at 7 PM. Meeting and Rosary making.

Financial Report to March 31, 2025

Operations:	
Revenues	$12,554.00
Expenditures	14,317.00
Net income (loss)	(-1,763.00)
Building Fund:	
Revenues:	$6,455.00



When receiving the Holy Eucharist please consume the host in front the Minister. As the person in front of you receives Holy Communion, bow/make a sign of reverence. The Minister lifts the Sacred Host and says "The Body of Christ". You respond with "Amen". You may receive in your hand or on your tongue. If you receive in your hands, place your hands on top of each other close to your heart or chest height. Keep your fingers flat so Father can place the host. Once you have received the Sacred Host (after the Priest has moved his hand) consume the Host immediately & directly in front of the Priest & then reverently move on -- do not step aside and bless yourself, genuflect, etc.

Children—Make sure you hold your hands up high so the Minister can reach your hands.

Parents*— please instruct your children accordingly.*