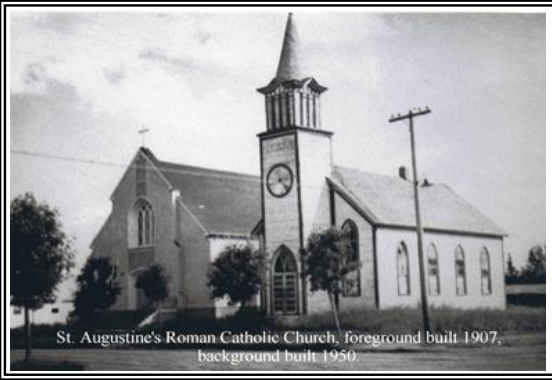

St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church, foreground built 1907, background built 1950

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 – 1:30 PM Tuesday to Friday

5th Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37.12-14	Psalm 130
Romans 8.8-11	John 11.1-45

AT FUNERALS, WE often hear St. Paul's admonition not to grieve "as others do who have no hope" (1 Thes 4.13). Grief is natural, but even in grief, we have hope.

The prophet Ezekiel and his people were exiled in Babylon, grieving the loss of their homeland. Ezekiel assured them of God's presence and God's promises: his people will be delivered and will return home. People died; new generations were born; the exile continued. Exile felt like death. Ezekiel offered hope: God's restoration would be like coming back to life, coming out of the grave.

The Gospels were written many years after Jesus' death and resurrection. People died; new Generations were born. Even the great leaders of the faith eventually died. What was the fate of those who had died? In today's Gospel, when Jesus says that Lazarus will rise again, Martha affirms that he will rise on the last day. But Jesus goes further, declaring that he himself is the resurrection and the life.

Sadness, loss, death are realities in all lives. We grieve. But we do not despair. We hope and trust in new life. Each Lent, we face the reality of suffering and death. But we do this with Easter faith, looking forward to the resurrection, for death is not the end of the story.

Dinab Simmons

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday —**March 29 @ 9:00 AM**

Holy/Maundy Thursday—

April 2 @ 6:00 PM

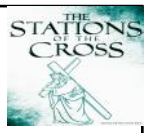
Friday of the Passion of the Lord

April 3 @ 3:00 PM

Holy Saturday—**April 4 @ 6:30 PM**

Easter Sunday—**April 5 @ 9:00 AM**

Stations of The Cross
Mass at 6PM
Friday March 27 lead by the
Music Ministry



The **Pope's Prayer Intention** for March: For disarmament and peace — Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particulary nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Mass Times: ***Saturday @ 7 PM Sunday @ 9 AM Wednesday @ 12 NOON Thursday @ 9 AM***

Adoration: Saturday (at 6:20 PM)

Rosary: 30 minutes before weekend masses

Confession: 30 minutes before mass or by appointment

Sacrament/Anointing of the Sick: in case of emergency call **Fr. Liju (780.935-1589)**
The Pastoral Team visits hospitals/long term care & senior residences on Tuesdays.

If you know someone who needs prayers,

call our **Prayer Line Co-ordinators**

Judy @ 403.783-4347 Gail @ 403.783-8123

ADORATION
Wednesdays @ 11:15 AM
Saturdays— @ 6:20 PM

Mass Intentions

Friday	March 20	6:00 pm	+	Leticia Lim
Saturday	March 21	7:00 pm	+	Derrill Fiveland
Sunday	March 22	9:00 am	+	Leonila Mandanas
Wednesday	March 25	12 Noon	+	Doug Domagas
Thursday	March 26	9:00 am	+	Amelia Perez
Friday	March 27	6:00 pm	+	Caring & Amadeo Cayabyab
Saturday	March 28	7:00 pm	+	John Morin
Sunday	March 29	9:00 am	+	Jannette Stang
Wednesday	April 2	6:00 pm	+	Wes Kohlman

The Community Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday April 3 (Good Friday) starting at 12:00 noon from the parking lot across from the Ponoka United Church. The walk is open to everyone. Our route goes through the community, stopping at various places while the prayers of that station are recited. Our parish act as the lead organizing parish for this spiritual walk. Join us if you can.

Deacon Rollie

The Parish is in need of a computer Desk. If you have a desk that you are not using, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please call the office at (403) 783-4048

The parish has begun to make pies for Stampede and some extra apple pies for sale at $15.00 per pie. Available after weekend masses. Cash only.

Season of Lent: Lent is the yearly celebration by the church of its conversion in Jesus Christ. During Lent, the liturgy prepares catechumens to celebrate the Paschal Mystery by the various stages of Christian Initiation. It also prepares the faithful for Easter as they recall their Baptism and do penance in preparation for the greatest Feast of the year

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

e-Transfer

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

Knights of Columbus, Council 4503

In Service for One, In Service

"Welcome brother Henry Hollman as the new Financial Secretary for our council. Thank you brother Ken Kustiak for your years of service as the past FS"

Please forward all membership dues to brother Henry.

Grand Knight, **Joe Henderson**
(403)358–48455
Financial Secretary, **Henry Hollman**

March 21 & 22 is the <u>Second Collection for the Building Fund</u> (after Communion). Every donation helps! Write your name & address on the **beige Building Fund envelopes** (for your tax receipt) Thank you for your generosity & sacrifice!

The Children's Donations will go the Building Fund on the Fourth Sunday.

Thank you all for your monetary donations and volunteer support throughout the year

PRAYER FOR BUILDING A NEW CHURCH

Heavenly Father,

Send Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may seek Your truth and follow Your will with courage and love. Guide our hearts and minds, especially the members of our Building Committee as they discern your right path in creating a sacred place of worship.

May the decisions we make honor You and ensure that Your presence dwells amoung us. Help us to creat a community rooted in love, compassion, and unity. Bless our work today, tomorrow and for generations to come. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son.

Amen

Catholic Women's League

Faith, Service & Social Justice

Instead of Soup to Go on April 1th this year the CWL has decided to serve Meatless Soup with Hot Cross Buns after our Good Friday Service on April 3. We hope you will join us!

Co-presidents: Carol (403) 783-2148
Maria P (403) 783-8912

SACRAMENTS & RITES

ANOINTING OF THE SICK—in case of an emergency, please call **Fr. Liju Jose @ 780-935-1589**

BAPTISM– Baptism Preparation is compulsory for parents prior to the Baptism of their child. Please contact the Parish Office to register with your child's birth certificate.

CONFESSION/RECONCILATION— 30 minutes before mass or by appointment with Father Liju on Wednesday or Thursday.

MARRIAGE—Please contact the parish office one year to six months before the proposed date of your marriage. A pre-marriage course is obligatory.

FUNERAL—Family or designated person by the family should contact the Parish Office for funeral arrangements with the Parish Priest.

The Building Committee awaits our, Archbishop Bishop Stephen Hero's approval to proceed with planning the new church. Once we receive approval we will meet with parishioners to discuss the preliminary drawings. We will also discuss the budget before proceeding.

Bring your refundable cans & bottles
To the church
We CAN BUILD for the Building Fund!

World Youth Day 2027 – Parish Group Registration

The Archdiocese of Edmonton is beginning preparations for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, and we are collecting preliminary information from parish groups interested in attending under the Archdiocesan umbrella.

Travel Dates: July 25 – August 9, 2027
Days in the Diocese: July 27 – August 1 (tentative)

World Youth Day: August 3- 8, 2027

Pope's Prayer Intention: the following intention may be included in Sunday and daily Prayer of the Faithful during Mass and at Morning and Evening Prayer, on serveral occasions during the month.

For disarmament and peace—Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Save the dates: **June 24 to July 1** for the 2026 Ponoka Stampede Food Booth. We look forward to your support and your company as we serve together. Let us sail together for the Lord and for St. Augustine Church!

We are excited to announce our **parish and community camp out happening on July 17-19**

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CAMP

Registration for our 2026 summer camping season is now OPEN!

For young people from grades 4 to 12. Experience faith, fun, and community at camp! Celebrate the Sacraments, make friends, and learn new skills like archery. Owned and operated by the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton.

www.OLVC.ca