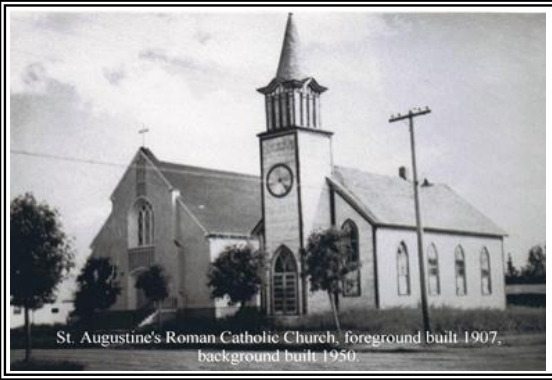

St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church, foreground built 1907, background built 1950

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

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026

Exodus 17.3-7 Psalm 95

Romans 5.1-2, 5-8 John 4.5-42

Water pours through today's readings, soaking us with grace. In the desert, water pours from a rock with divine energy. St. Paul tells us that God's love is poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. The well water drawn by the Samaritan woman becomes living water poured into her life through her meeting with Christ.

These are moments of grace. Grace is a word that eludes easy explanation, but we sense it in what Celtic Christians call "thin" places or locations where we feel God's presence. The distance between us and God is thin. Our churches are thin places, as are awe-inspiring sights in creation. Places where the needy are served are thin places. These are places soaked with grace.

The well was a very thin place for the Samaritan woman. She encountered the sacred as Jesus sat, listened and encouraged her. This love-infused sacred grace transformed her, leading her to bring that grace to others.

Where are our thin places? Where are our wells? Seeing Christ in the face of our beloved? Seeing Christ in the face of the stranger? Seeing Christ in our worship? Seeing Christ in our solitude? Seeing Christ in the beauty of creation? In its wounds? From these thin places we draw the living water that satisfies our deepest thirsts and blesses our daily pilgrimages towards holiness.

Les Miller

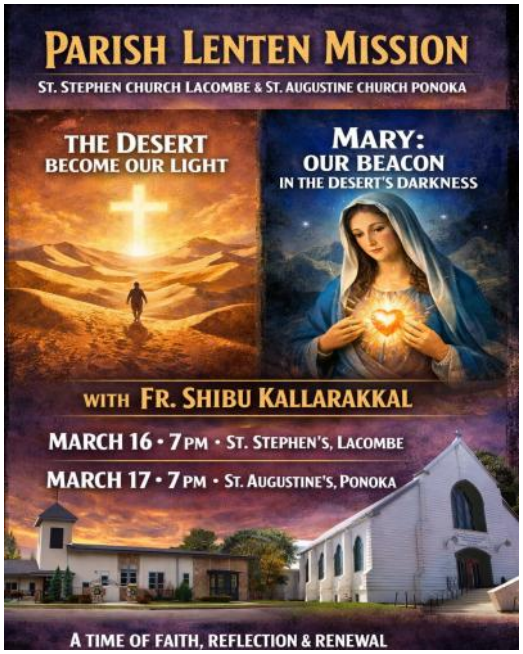
LENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 @ 7 P.M.

The Sacrament of Penance, also known as "confession" and…the "Rite of Reconciliation,"…The name "Penance" focuses on what we must do to reform our lives. "Confession" emphasizes the need to be honest about what makes such change necessary. **Reconciliation's ...purpose is … to restore our friendship with God**…"Five C's" of the Rite of Reconciliation…: **C**onviction, **C**onfession, **C**ontrition, **C**ompensation, and **C**orrection.

https://vocationnetwork.org/en/blog/questions_catholics_ask/2010/04/the_five_cs_of_confession

With Fr. Leon Kler ,Fr. Rajesh and Fr. Liju Jose



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

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 6	6:00 pm	+ Fallon Jenkins
Saturday	March 7	7:00 pm	Intentions of Noel Harvey
Sunday	March 8	9:00 am	+ Jannette Stang
Wednesday	March 11	12 Noon	Deceased Members of The Caouette Fami
Thursday	March 12	12 Noon	+Noreen Gorman
Friday	March 13	6:00 pm	+ Liam Holtz
Saturday	March 14	7:00 pm	+ John Morin
Sunday	March 15	9:00 am	+ Deceased Members of The Abel & Koleyak Families

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

We accept e-transfers!

No service fees. Include <u>your **name, address & phone number**</u>. For <u>**OPERATIONS**</u> (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 <u>**BUILDING FUND**</u> donations, Send e-transfer to: **staugustine.etransfer@caedm.ca**

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.

- Meet-and-Greet with Archbishop Hero, April 8 at Corpus Christi parish

Knights of Columbus,
Council 4503
In Service for One, In Service for All
can we put in the KofC reminder.

Brother Knights, membership fees of 40 dollars was due January 1st. Payment not received by March 29 will result in suspension of membership. Payment can be dropped off in collection basket with KofC on envelope or etransfer to kenn21@telus.net Vivat Jesus

K of C will prepare and host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday March 8 after 9:00 am Mass.
Capt Gjex Escurdaro; Lee Cayabyab; Joakaz Fernando; Laurence Cayabyab; Arnel Juan; Landon Stone;

Knights of Columbus Charities Appeal Raffle tickets are on sale. Go to kofc.ab.ca to purchase. First Early bird drawis March 10!

KofC meeting on March 19 @ 7:00 pm in the church basement. Please join us for discussion and fellowship.
The KofC meetings are held on the third Thursday of each momth.
Please come out and join us.

Financial Secretary, **Ken Kustiak (403) 307-270**
Grand Knight, **Joe Henderson (403)358–48455**

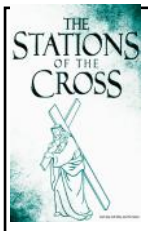
Catholic Women's League

Faith, Service & Social Justice

Membership renewal Time

Please contact Sue Henderson, Lent Soup & Share Co-ordinator @ 403-783-1280 if you can make and bring soup. We will have Soup & Share after Wednesday 12 noon Mass. We will schedule some Soup-To-Go soon.

The CWL will lead the Stations of the Cross on Friday March 13
If you have not received yur Winter League Magazine please contact Carol
Co-presidents: Carol (403) 783-2148
Maria P (403) 783-8912



Stations of the Cross 2026

Friday March 6: St. Augustine School
Friday March 13: CWL
Friday March 20: Confirmation 26 group
Friday March 27: Music Ministry

New to the parish? Or visiting? Left your envelopes at home? For *tax receipts,* please print your full NAME & ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER on the pink Visitor Envelopes for Operations Fund (heating, mass supplies, etc.) Thank you!

You are invited to a complimentary **Will and Estate planning** seminar hosted by The Archdiocese to teach us how to decrease taxes paid on our estate so that we can have more to give to our family and any causes close to our heart.

Saturday March 14, 2026; 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Sacred Heart Parish, Wetaskiwin

Please register with the Parish by March 9

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.

FIVE MINUTE SAFETY TALK–

Beware of the Stairs! Most people do not approach a stairway and think. “There is potential risk here for me if I am not careful”. We tend to view the use of stairways as simply a part of our daily routine and this ‘every day’ aspect of the activity can lead to unsafe behavior. As harmless as they may seem. falls downstairs, down staircases and stairwells are a very real problem in everyday life. Almost every day people slip, trip and fall on stairs, in apartment buildings, homes, restaurants, bars, and in workplaces!

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**

2025 Tax Receipts are ready for pick up at the front entrance of the church!

We are grateful for your generous financial support of St. Augustine Parish. Despite the rising cost of living, your generosity continues to be a true blessing. Your contributions joined with fellow parishioners enable our parish to share the Gospel (i.e. Children’s Liturgy) and maintain our operating costs (mass supplies; heat & light, etc).

The Building Fund continues to grow with faithful witness and generous sacrifice. God bless everyone.