



## HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 22: Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 29: Feast of the Holy Family

Dear Parishioners:

Years ago, there was a very wealthy man who, with his devoted young son, shared a passion for art collecting. Together they travelled around the world, adding only the finest art treasures to their collection. Priceless works by Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet and many others adorned the walls of the family estate. The widowed father looked on with satisfaction as his only child became an experienced art collector. But the day came when war engulfed the nation, and the young man left to serve his country. After only a few short weeks, his father received a telegram that his beloved son had been killed while carrying a fellow soldier to a medic.

On Christmas morning a knock came at the door of the old man's home, and as he opened the door, he was greeted by a soldier with a large package in his hand. He introduced himself to the man by saying, "I was a friend of your son. I was the one he was rescuing when he died. May I come in for a few moments? I have something to show you." "I'm an artist," said the soldier, "and I want to give you this." As the old man unwrapped the package, the paper gave way to reveal a portrait of his son. Though the art critics would never consider the work a piece of genius, the painting did feature the young man's face in striking detail, and seemed to capture his personality.

The following spring, the old man became ill and passed away. The art world was in anticipation! According to the will of the old man, all of the art works would be auctioned. The day soon arrived, and art collectors from around the world gathered to bid on some of the world's most spectacular paintings. The auction began with a painting that was not on any museum's list. It was the painting of the man's son. The auctioneer asked for an opening bid. The room was silent. "Who will open the bidding with \$100?" he asked. Minutes passed with not a sound from those who came to buy. From the back of the room someone callously called out, "Who cares about that painting? It's just a picture of his son. Let's forget it and go on to the important paintings." There were other voices which echoed in agreement. But the auctioneer replied, "No, we have to sell this one first. Now, who will take the son?" Finally, a friend of the old man spoke. "I knew the boy, so I'd like to have it. I will bid the \$100." "I have a bid for \$100," called the auctioneer. "Will anyone go higher?" After a long silence, the auctioneer said, "Going once. Going twice. Gone." The gavel fell. Cheers filled the room and someone was heard to say, "Now we can get on with it!" But the auctioneer looked at the audience and announced the auction was over. Stunned disbelief quieted the room. Someone spoke up and asked, "What do you mean it's over? We didn't come here for a picture of some old guy's son. What about all of these paintings? There are millions of dollars worth of art here! We demand that you explain what's going on!" The auctioneer replied, "It's very simple. According to the will of the father, whoever takes the son... gets it all."

That is the essence of the story of Christmas: Whoever receives the Son gets it all. The Bible puts it like this: "God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:11-12). "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). Because Jesus came, we know what God is like. We experience forgiveness for our sins and the transformation of our hearts and minds. We have received the promise of heaven and eternal life through Him. What better gifts could we ask for?

I wish you all the blessings of this Christmas season and a peaceful & healthy New Year.

Fr. Paul Moret, Pastor



OL—Our Lady's; SJ—St. Joseph;  
L—Library; C—Church;  
Chpl.—Chapel; BR—Board Rm.

**UPSTAIRS:**

C—Knights of Columbus Room;  
**CWL**—Catholic Women's League  
(formerly Martin de Porres room)

**KR**—Kateri Room; **CR**—Classrooms; **LZM**—St. Louis  
and Zelig Martin; **SF**—St. Faustina Youth Room;  
**CA**—Blessed Carlos Acutis; **SA**—St. Anne's Kitchen;  
**SJPII**—St. John Paul II Classroom; **STL**—St. Therese  
of Lisieux; **AR**—All rooms upstairs, excluding the KC  
Room.

**Monday December 23 9:30am MASS**  
6:00pm Encounter—all main floor rooms

**The Parish office will be closed  
Tuesday, December 24 at noon,  
and will re-open on  
Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00am.**

**PARISH OFFICE:**

200 Boundary Road,  
Spruce Grove  
Mailing Address:  
Box 3220,  
Spruce Grove, AB. T7X 3A5



Phone: 780-960-0135  
**Emergency only: 587-590-0143**  
Office email: holytrinity.sg@caedm.ca  
Parish website: www.trinitycatholic.net

**Pastor:** Father Paul Moret  
paul.moret@caedm.ca  
**Associate Pastor:** Father Joselito Cantal  
joselito.cantal@caedm.ca  
**Deacon Patrick Hessel:**  
pat.hessel@caedm.ca  
**Deacon Wesley Turton:**  
wesley.turton@caedm.ca

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**December 24—January 3**



*Christmas Eve:*

*Tuesday, December 24*

St. Thomas Aquinas School:  
4:00pm Mass

Holy Trinity Masses:

4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm,  
and Midnight (incense will be used)

*Christmas Day:*

*Wednesday, December 25*

9:00am & 11:00am Mass

Thursday and Friday 9:30am Mass  
Saturday, December 28 5:00pm Mass  
(Confessions 4pm to 4:45 pm)  
Sunday, December 29 9:00am & 11:00am; 6:00pm Mass  
Monday, December 30 9:30am Mass

*Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God:*

Tuesday, December 31 5:00pm Mass (NO Confessions)  
Wednesday, January 1 9:00am & 11:00am Mass (NO Adoration)

**ORDINARY WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

Thursday, January 2 9:30am Mass  
First Friday, January 3 9:30am Mass  
(followed by Confessions and Adoration until 11:00am)



**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:**

For more information please contact Sister Susan at 780-968-5543 or  
email her at [holytrinitycwl.president@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinitycwl.president@gmail.com)

On behalf of your executive, a most sincere note of thanks to all the  
women who have helped make Holy Trinity council one of the most active in the  
diocese. Every action, no matter how seemingly small or insignificant is so much  
appreciated. God bless each of you and your families in this most sacred season of  
Advent. May your Christmas celebrations bring you joy and peace as we celebrate  
Christ becoming one with us in the flesh.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.**



**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank you for your  
continued generosity to  
your parish!

Any contributions you wish to have for the  
2024 year must be  
**received at the office by Tuesday,  
December 31, 2024.**

All contributions after that  
will be receipted for **2025.**



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—  
HOLY TRINITY COUNCIL:**

For more information contact Brad Medernach at  
780-984-1728. Membership [kofc.org/JoinUs](http://kofc.org/JoinUs)

Mark your calendars for the K of C Crib Tournament on Saturday, February 8.  
More information to follow in January.

The Knights would like to thank everyone for their support this year, and wish  
you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom favor rests."*



A warm thank you to all parishioners who supported the **Parkland Pregnancy Support Centre** with donations. The staff at the centre were thrilled to receive your donations at this busy time of year when so many women with children are in need. Know that your generosity makes a difference in their lives!



The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to **Everglades Special Care Lodge** (they currently house about 85 residents). We were able to deliver a full truckload of supplies to them last week. They are very appreciative of our support. They will use all of our donations during the coming year.

Thanks to all for your generous food donations, and cash donations for the **Parkland Food Bank** at the Advent/Christmas Singalong. We managed to donate 55 kg. of food and \$410.15!!! Thank you also to those who consistently donate to the food bank box year round, as the necessity of the Parkland Food Bank never withers depending on the time of year. And last but not least, Merry Christmas to everyone!

Thanks, Joshua Merkel & Joan Schmidt  
Holy Trinity Social Justice Committee

**CONFIRMATION** classes are full.

Registration is now closed.



Thank you to all who took part in the beautiful presentation of **Jesus is the Reason for the Season** Nativity Play. We are so grateful for everyone's support! Please note that there will be

**NO Children's Liturgy** on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 29<sup>th</sup>.  
**See you January 5!**

May your Advent and Christmas Season be blessed!

**GRIEF AS A JOURNEY,  
OUR WALK TO EMMAUS:**

This program is for those grieving the loss of a loved one. We are offering a **Spring session** beginning **March 25—May 6, 2025 at 7:00pm**, (following the 6:30pm Mass). Please think about joining us! Need more information? Please call Bonnie at 780-960-0135.



**Every day is a new beginning....  
Blessings to you and yours this Christmas season!**

**Two Creches?**

You may have noticed that there are two creches being set up in the church. To preserve the tradition of an indoor and outdoor creche, while following guidelines for the liturgical environment, we had to make some changes.



Since the outdoor creche is aging and has become quite fragile over the years, we chose to move it inside the building away from the winter elements. You may note, though, that it is located in the narthex (foyer), which technically means it is still "outside", since it is not within the nave.

The indoor creche **is** within the nave, next to the sanctuary, where it once again is visible to be enjoyed by all during the Christmas season when Mass is celebrated.

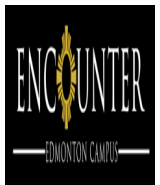
Each creche has its own personality, and it is our sincere hope that these displays help to draw you each into pondering the Nativity of Our Lord, to meditate upon His love for us.

The creches and Christmas decorations will remain throughout the Christmas season, and will gradually be changed as we near the Feast of the Presentation.

We wish everyone in Holy Trinity parish the blessings of Christ during this Christmas season!

Your Arts and Environment Team

Encounter School of Ministry Healing Service,  
**Saturday, December 28, 6:30pm**, starting after the 5pm Mass. Come, experience the healing power of Jesus at the last healing service for the year!



**Remember, it is Christmas every time  
you let God love others through you.**

Saint Mother Teresa

How many of you say: I should like to see His face, His garments, His shoes. You do see Him, you touch Him, you eat Him. He gives Himself to you, not only that you may see Him, but also to be your food and nourishment.



*St. John Chrysostom*

**"HONEY" FOR MARY'S MEALS:**

A sincere thank you to everyone who bought honey or made a donation to **Mary's Meals**. So many children will have something to eat because of your generosity! "Your honey will be back again next Christmas!!" Gratefully yours, Harriet.



**PILGRIMAGE**

(Spiritual guidance with Father Paul Moret)  
Austria, Slovenia, Medjugorje, Croatia,  
Hungary, Slovakia, Poland & Czech Republic  
**October 9—23, 2025.**

Please see the poster at the back of the church,  
or contact Deacon Bong at 780-278-7672 to book your seat.



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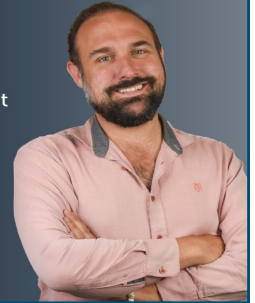
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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

The Parish office will be closed  
Tuesday,  
December 24 at noon,  
and will re-open on  
Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00am.

FOR EMERGENCIES PLEASE  
CALL 587-590-0143



INSCRIPTION EN COURS  
DE LA PRÉMATERNELLE À LA 8<sup>e</sup> ANNÉE  
POUR L'ANNÉE SCOLAIRE 2025-2026

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## 5 LOAVES 2 FISH

This program allows us to assist those who find themselves in need.

Please contact Deacon Wesley Turton at 780-221-2265 or email him at [wesley.turton@caedm.ca](mailto:wesley.turton@caedm.ca)

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