

St. Vital Catholic Parish
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780-929-8541
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Pastor: Fr. Les Drewicki
Deacon: Dan Ritchie (778-228-3633)
Secretary: Jeanette Gariepy

First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2024

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) Sunday 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, February 20th Mass @ Place Beausejour @ 10:30 a.m.

No weekday Mass on Thursday, February 21st

Thursday, February 22nd & Friday, February 23rd @ 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday's - 11 a.m. – noon or by appointment by contacting Fr. Les

ADORATION- Friday, February 23rd (9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.) followed by Benediction

Check out the website www.saintvitalparish.com and check it regularly for updates.

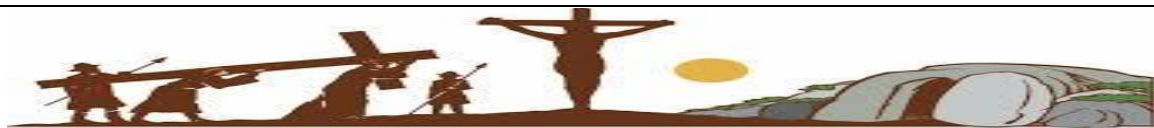
Loan Balance January 31, 2024 \$441,893.72

Please pick up your 2023 Tax receipts at the back of the church.

Parish Office closed on Monday, February 19th (Family Day)

The Pope's Prayer intention for the month of February – For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment



STATIONS of the CROSS

Every **FRIDAY** evening during Lent, join us for **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** led by parish groups

Friday February 23 @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday March 1 @ 3:15 p.m.

Friday March 8 @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday March 15 @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday March 22 @ 7:00 p.m.

"No Scents Makes Scents". Please refrain from wearing scented products to Mass, such as: hand lotions, shaving products, scented hair products - shampoos, sprays etc, perfumes/colognes. There are parishioners who experience severe reactions when exposed to these products at Mass. We want all parishioners to feel safe when we come to celebrate together.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Please note that Lenten Penitential Service for our parish is scheduled for **Wed., March 6th** beginning at **6:30 p.m.** in St. Vital Church. A number of visiting priests will be here to help us at this time.

Our Condolences

Our Sympathies are extended this week to the family of Omer Brassard who passed away on February 7th at the Mazankowski Center. The Funeral Mass for Omer will be held at St. Vital on Wednesday, February 21st at 11:00 a.m. May he rest in peace.

***Please note that the 9:00 a.m. Mass will be cancelled that day.

The CWL will be hosting the **World Day of Prayer Service, Friday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Vital. This year the Christian women of Palestine have prepared the prayer service. The theme is: "I beg you...Bear With One Another in Love". (Ephesians 4:1-2) All parishioners are invited to attend. Following the service everyone is invited to stay for snacks and fellowship.

Grandparents Gather To Pray

The first Thursday of each month, (**March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd and June 6th**) grandparents are invited to meet in the **Conference Room (Parish Office) at 9:45 a.m.** to pray the Rosary for our children and grandchildren and to spend time in fellowship. For more information call Irma Jean Campbell at 780-737-7989.

The **Annual Men of Integrity Conference** will be an opportunity for men to gather on **March 1-2 at Holy Family Parish, St. Albert, AB**, The theme for the conference is "Setting the Captives Free". Our Guest Speakers are Fr. Michael Denk, (The Prodigal Father), Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio and Fr. Paul Moret from Holy Trinity Parish, Spruce Grove. The conference will focus on the importance, power, and methods of prayer. For further information on speakers and the schedule please check our website: www.catholicfamilyministries.com

**Blank Schedules for Holy Week are at the back of the Church.
Please sign up for the masses you are attending.**

Knight Riders

The Knights of Columbus are offering to drive, to and from church, any parishioners who wish to attend weekend Masses at St. Vital Church but are unable due to a lack of transportation.

As the Knights are using their private vehicles, they cannot offer assistance for people with mobility issues or those with wheelchairs. Neither can they accommodate car seats for babies or young children. If you think you can take advantage of this free service, contact Joe Lauer at 780-929-6056 to arrange a ride to Mass and back home and we will do our best to accommodate you. Alternate contact: Paul Weisenberger @ 780-929-5150.

"The Order of Secular Franciscans, a lay order of men and women in the Catholic Church, who live the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the charism of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, gather weekly for prayer, faith formation, and fellowship. You are invited to the Come and See, which is a standing open invitation to see if this vocation is one that you are being called to. The St. Berard Fraternity gathers on **Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm** in the St. Joan Room of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Sherwood Park**. For more information please contact: Dawid (David) Ksiazek (a parishioner of St. Vital) at 780.394.6193 or Monica (available in the evenings only) at 780.881.0990. Blessings in Christ."

REASONS TO TALK ABOUT THE CWL

CHANGE

Are you ready to transform your spiritual life, serve others and act on social justice? This change is possible when you join the Catholic Women's League. It has all these values at the heart of its mission.

St. Vital CWL

Catholic Women's League General Meeting – Tuesday, February 27th at 7:00 p.m.

SILVER ROSE PRAYER SERVICE - MARCH 7, 2024

Our Lady of the Hill Beaumont Knights of Columbus is once again hosting this very special event on Thursday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. The 45 minute prayer service has three parts:

- the Holy Rosary
- A liturgy of the Word
- An Act of Consecration to Mary

Everyone is invited. What a blessing to be able to pray in the presence of these relics from our Lady of Guadalupe. We hope you can join us!



The Alberta Life Issues Educational Society (operates The Back Porch) is recruiting for an Executive Director. This would be an opportunity for interested applicants to work on the front lines of the pro-life movement. For more information and to apply, you can go to <https://www.alies.ca/careers>. (Posting: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/64ac451445b0232aa1fedf73/t/65b7d1c7baddc871c64766b6/1706545608450/2024+ALIES+Executive+Director+posting.pdf>)

Baptism Preparation Course

Are you expecting a child in the near future? Consider taking Baptism Preparation now while you are waiting for the birth of your son or daughter. **The classes are for parents and sponsors (godparents).**

Attending now eliminates the need to find baby-sitters, rearrange feeding schedules etc. plus it adds to the joyful anticipation of your new arrival.

Parents wishing to register for the **next course** which will be held on **Monday, March 11th, at 7:00 pm**, please call the parish office.

40 Days for Life-Friday, February 23, 2024-Day of prayer and fasting at St. Vital Parish

The 40 Day for Life campaign began on Feb. 14th and runs until April 2, 2024. This is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. If one desires one can sign up to pray at the Back Porch 10958 124 St. Edmonton.

The CWL have planned their own day of prayer and fasting to end abortion, on Friday, February 23 from 9:45 to 6:30 at the church. Everyone is welcome to come and pray during these times. Prayer material will be provided for your use at the back of the church.

Pope John Paul II once said "“Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid!”"

Stewardship Corner First Sunday of Lent Weekend of February 17/18

In today's Gospel, Jesus urges His listeners to do two things: To believe in the Good News and to repent. Stewards are called to repent, to be humble enough to open their hearts so they may begin anew, to change existing attitudes and habits, and to act with faith in the Gospel. In this season of Lent, now is the time to ask ourselves whether or not we truly believe in the Gospel; and if we do, to what extent are we willing to change our prevailing habits and be more faithful to the Gospel?