

*Our Lady of the Foothills
Catholic Faith Community*



*"You can never truly
enjoy Christmas
until you can look
up into the Father's
face and tell Him
you have received
His Christmas gift."
—John R. Rice*

Wishing you and your family a Blessed Christmas

124 Tamarack Avenue
Hinton, Alberta T7V 1C8

Phone numbers:

Parish Office - 865-3045

Parish Hall - 865-5291

Pastor: Father Anthony Narisetty email: narisettyantony@gmail.com

Associate Pastor: Father Jimmy Puttananickal

Deacon: Ed Meding

Secretary: Mary Lou LaFrance

2023

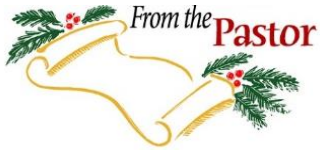
Email - olfoothills.hinton@caedm.ca

Website - www.olfoothills.com

Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Please note office is closed over lunch (12-1:30 p.m.)

Mission Statement: Our Lady of the Foothills, is a Catholic Faith Community, centered on Jesus Christ, called to continue His mission by growing in Holiness and by proclaiming the Good News of our Father's love.



John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life."

Christ came on earth to reveal an extraordinary message, a message of love, hope, joy and peace. Christ asks us to have love for one another, to be reconciled to one another and to accept one another. Jesus said: "I have come so that you may have life and have it more abundantly." Giving us life is the first purpose for which Jesus came into the world. The second purpose is that the life promised by Christ is a source of joy and hope. By His coming, the promise of our salvation has been achieved: we have been delivered from the slavery of sin.

We are now children of God and we will therefore never wander in darkness but always in the source of Light: Jesus Christ Himself. Each of us has been entrusted with a special gift, a sacred responsibility: to show others how the mystery of God is among us. We are called to go out into the world and share the message of God's love for all humanity.

As we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus, we remain eternally grateful to God for all the blessings, especially for the gifts of life, family, faith community, friends and neighbors. I would like to thank each one of you for your commitment to our parish this past year. The giving of your time, talent and treasures to the Lord continues to reflect god's presence in our community.

My sincere thanks to all our Parish Pastoral Councils, Finance Councils, CWL, Knights of Columbus, Church Cleaning Teams, Sacristan, Choir, Maintenance Team, the Youth, Parents and the Faithful who helped me endlessly in my ministry this year. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations truly wonderful. Additionally, a special thank you to our staff and devoted members of the various ministries in our parish and especially to those few who work quietly, behind the scenes to make our parish vibrant. I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely as you have been such a blessing to our parish by being active and supporting us with your gifts of time, talents and timely financial help.

I am eager to see what God has in store for us in the New Year. Our lives and ministries will continue to transform in ways we could never imagine. I am grateful for all the ways you support OUR LADY OF THE FOOTHILLS CATHOLIC CHURCH and pray that you will continue to do so with your prayers, presence, service, and gifts in 2024. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

May our Lord Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem, bless you, your families and loved ones at this blessed time of hope and grace. May Mary, the Mother of the Child Jesus and our Mother, watch over you and our beloved Parish always.

With Prayers and Blessings
Fr. Anthony Narisetty SAC
Fr. Jimmy Puttanickal CFIC

Sacraments

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE - A one day course takes place once a month. This course is required before any Baptism can take place. For more information, please call the parish office.

FIRST RECONCILIATION - This Sacrament is usually celebrated for the first time in Grade two. A preparation course is compulsory for all children. Date is yet to be determined. For more information, please call the parish office. **This Sacrament is necessary as a prerequisite for First Eucharist.**

FIRST EUCHARIST - This Sacrament is usually celebrated for the first time in Grade Two. A preparation course is compulsory for all children. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is required before 1st Eucharist. For more information, please call the parish office. Date is yet to be determined.

CONFIRMATION - This Sacrament is usually celebrated in Grade Six. A preparation course is compulsory. Confirmation is usually held in May. Date is yet to be determined. For more information, please call the parish office.

PRE-MARRIAGE - In order to properly prepare for this sacrament, SIX MONTHS notice is required. For more information, please call the parish office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) - This course is for adults who would like to know more about the Catholic faith in order to become full members of the Catholic Church. For more information please call the parish office.



Christmas and New Year's Schedule

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Wednesday, December 20 – 7:00 p.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24 – 11:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS – THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 24 – 5:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25 – 11:00 a.m.

HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 30 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 31 – 11:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Sunday, December 31 – 5:00 p.m.

Adoration 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1 – 11:00 a.m.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 6 – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 7 – 11:00 a.m.



PARISH HAPPENINGS

You too can become involved:

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST (Mass) – Sat-5:00 pm, Sun-11:00 am; Weekdays: Tuesday 7:00 pm, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday-9:00am and 1st Saturday of the month at 9:00 am.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Father is available before masses except on Sundays. Please call or email parish office if you would like to make an appointment. Confession is not encouraged after masses.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – Fridays 9:30 am to 10:00 am and first Friday of the month until 1:00 pm

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE – our parish women's group. For more information, please contact the parish office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – our parish men's group which meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Please contact Grand Knight, Gary Giffin for more information.

Come Join Us

Prayer & Praise and Bible Studies

CATHOLIC MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP – The group meets online. For more information, please call the parish office.

CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP – Please call the parish office if you are interested in joining or helping.

HOLY HOUR with EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT – Every third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY – Every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. Please call parish office for more information and location.



ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE



An opportunity for individual Reconciliation
Wednesday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Pastoral Visits – If you have a family member who is homebound or in hospital, who would like a visit from the Clergy, to receive the sacraments, please call the parish office. 780-865-3045

The Rosary

1. At the church:
Wednesday mornings before Mass
a Rosary for our parish family.
2. At the cemetery:
Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.
a Rosary for the souls in purgatory

For more info, email Gary:
gcgiffin@gmail.com



Christmas Message from your Parish Council

Merry Christmas from Our Lady of the Foothill's Parish Pastoral Council!

I feel blessed to have arrived at another Advent season and to feel the joy and hope that comes with the birth of our saviour, Jesus! Advent marks the start of a new liturgical year, another opportunity for a spiritual fresh start for us and everyone who joins our church community over the Advent season. Let us appreciate everyone who takes the time to join us here, both our parish family, newcomers, and visitors. Let's welcome them with love and acceptance.

On behalf of our Parish community, thank you for all you do to improve our parish. Your hard work, willingness to listen and understand, and dedication to our faith's tenants make our parish a better place! With us working in community, our parish will thrive. Thank you!

Also, I want to thank our priests and deacon for their dedication in fostering our spiritual lives and making our parish vibrant! The commitment they demonstrate and the sacrifices they make to do their jobs is inspirational. I look forward to their guidance throughout the Christmas season and in the New Year!

On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish you all a Holy Advent, a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. May we continue to grow together in faith, hope and love.



Dan Burkinshaw
Parish Council Chairperson

YOUR PARISH TEAM:

Pastor: Father Anthony Narisetty

Associate Pastor: Father Jimmy Puttanickal

Deacon: Deacon Edward Meding

Secretary: Mary Lou LaFrance

Bookkeeper: Colleen Ludwig

Housekeeper: Paula McKay

YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Pastor: Father Anthony Narisetty

Associate Pastor: Father Jimmy Puttanickal

Finance Chairperson: Arleen Wambolt

Bookkeeper: Colleen Ludwig

Members

Wes Litke

Marlys Phillips

Paula McKay

Randy Jones

YOUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor: Fr. Anthony Narisetty

Associate Pastor: Fr. Jimmy Puttanickal

Deacon: Ed Meding

Chairperson: Dan Burkinshaw

Members

Dale deSeguin

Christian Ludwig

Colleen Ludwig

Ian Langley

Athena Marchildon

Lori Richard

Sarah Shah

Dennis Slavik



EVERGREEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD

Trustee: Ron McKay

Welcoming Christ in One Another

~ By Paul Pennick

Every family experience challenging times. Parish families are no different. We all know of Catholics separated from the Church by some hurt they experienced. Advent is a time to prepare for and welcome the Prince of Peace, our time to learn to be peacemakers.

Christmas and family are inextricably linked. Every greeting card, television special and holiday movie reinforces this theme. We recall the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. We think about our own families, arriving from near and far. We consider our parish family as we gather to await the coming of Christ. When one of us is unable to join in these family occasions, we suffer in their absence.

Wounds of the heart, we know, are not easily healed. What we can do during this holy season of Advent is make our parish a place of hospitality, where all feel welcomed. We can begin in our homes, in traffic or at the mall with small acts of kindness: a smile, a compliment, helping with packages or letting the other driver go first. Think of each act as a small prayer that can be included in our seasonal prayers of preparation.

By the time Advent is over, we pray that we have become ambassadors of peace and joy in our homes, our communities and our parishes. As the pews fill on Christmas day, our message to those newcomers and old-timers will be: We need you. We love you. We are better with you among us. Welcome home for Christmas.

Are you one of our missing pieces?



We extend a special welcome to all of you who may not celebrate the Eucharist with us on a regular basis. It doesn't matter how long you have been away from the faith, God will always welcome you back home. It is never too late.

We invite you to explore the possibilities within our faith and to continue your faith journey with God. We encourage you to call the parish office 865-3045, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. closed (12-1:30 p.m.)

Evergreen Catholic Schools In Hinton		St. Gregory ECS – Gr. 4 780-865-4555 www.sgces.ca	Fr. Gerard Redmond Gr. 5 – 12 780-865-2820 www.grccs.ca	Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ
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Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year