

December 23rd, 2007  
Fourth Sunday Of Advent  
(A-2)



**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:**

**Dear Parishioners:**

**Mt. 1, 18-24 "...The virgin shall be with a child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel."**

Matthew quotes Isaiah's oracle we hear this morning in today's first reading :- **The birth of Christ from the Virgin Mother, the perfect fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy.** It is only in his Only Son, the Lord Jesus - God becomes a reality in our life - "**Emmanuel**". That is the centre of what we celebrate at Christmas.

**Emmanuel means God is with us.** He can only be with us through our faith in Him. God approaches us and dwells in us through his only Son, Jesus, who saves us from a meaningless existence. God is willing to step into the darkness of our confusion in life..... If we let Him enter.

We all know that **our loneliness in life is the greatest threat to our longing for happiness.** It is clear that a person alone, relying on his own autonomy, has no answers for life's questions. **A loner is an unhappy person.** He is unavoidably depressed, facing absurdity until he understands the meaning of Emmanuel. Only the faith in Jesus Christ can save him from himself.

Time and again, Christmas reminds us of **the mystery of God made flesh.** He came to our planet as **one of us to share in our human situation.** Looking at it in this way, the Christmas celebration, helps us to grow in faith and love, **to be in deeper communion with baby Jesus, our Lord and Savior.**

**MASS OF THE WEEK**

Dec 22 - Dec 28, 2007

**Saturday** 5:30pm

**Sunday** 9:00am

11:00am

4:30pm

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**Friday**



**PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

*Please pray for our parishioners who are sick*

Andrew&Cecilia Schneider, Jacinta Dato, Sandra Slaney, Concepcion Boquiran, Paula Borromero, Irma Ponce, Douglas Keller, Milagros Velasco, Joseph Cortez, Marlisa Wolfe, John&Rose Lafferty, Stephen Hungerford, Nora Li, Mark Cavelo, Katherine Haynes, Oli Figel, Micheal Schneider, Julialita Hermano, Don Skilling, Vic Spiegelman, Leslie Tibor, Lali Anika, Serena D.Blances, David, Dona, Richard, Julia Almeida, Maria Pachecos, Laurence Smolinski, Debbie Nizrik, Debbie Galligler, Cirilo Salvador, Giralaine Whale, Mrs Pe Benito, Lea Comeau, William Rudd, John Puchniak, Barry Hamle Louis Roy, Mrs C.Blue, Aurea Eusebio, Karol Kramer, Jean Kramer, Johanna Brianti and James, Linda, Anthony & Mireya & the Kelly Family, Irene Arthurs, Bruce Mitchell, John McCarthy, Margie Lowe, Debbie Mclachlin and Family, Consuelo Rendon and Family, Jacqueline Restepo, Carlos Rendon and Ms. Andrea, Cathy + Dennis & Family, Don McDonell

**Anyone requesting for prayers, please call Tel 266-2512**

**Visit us at our website :  
stfranciscalgary.org**

**PARISH NEWS & ACTIVITIES**

**CONFIRMATION AND RCIA**

Classes for RCIA are held every Saturday from 7:00 pm. Confirmation classes are held every Saturday at 8:00 pm. Both Classes will be at the Parish Office, located at 64 - 1st Street S.E. For more information, please call Rico at 263-0491 or 693-6125.

**OFFERING ENVELOPE 2008** are ready in the sanctuary for you to pick-up . Just look for the box of envelope with your written name and number. Parishioners who wish to have an offering envelope may take numbered boxes with no names. Please remember to use the new envelopes beginning on New Year Day, 1 Jan 2008.

**BISHOP CARROL HIGH SCHOOL**

**INFORMATION NIGHTS** - A presentation of the school and its programs will be held on Wed, Jan 9 and Tues, Jan 15 from 7-8pm.

There will also be an Open House on Tue, Feb 12 from 6:30-8:30pm to tour the school, and meet both the faculty and students.

**ST AUGUSTINE FINE ARTS SCHOOL 50TH**

**ANNIVERSARY** - The school is looking for past graduates of St Augustine. If you are an alumni or know of one, please contact Nicole Feigs at 863-5142. Also please let Nicole know if you are willing to help out with the planning of the celebration.

**THE REV ELVIS & FRIENDS BLUE CHRISTMAS**

will be held on Thur, Dec 20 at 7:30pm at the Epcor Centre's Jack Singer Concert Hall. Pse phone 218-5504 for tickets.

**DAY FOR CLERGY** - The Canadian National Youth

Ministry will be conducting a 1 day conference for Adult Leaders on Fri, Jan 11 at the Banff Centre, Banff. The conference includes a buffet Lunch and Private Dinner. Tickets are \$60 per participant.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Important Dates To Remember**

First Sunday of Advent Dec 2, 2007  
Second Sunday of Advent Dec 9, 2007  
Third Sunday of Advent Dec 16, 2007  
Fourth Sunday of Advent Dec 23, 2007

**Christmas Eve** Celebration will be held on Monday Dec 24, 2007, beginning from 6pm. The celebration will include Christmas Caroling and Christmas Nativity Play, followed by Christmas Eve Solemn Mass.

**Christmas Day** Dec 25th

9:00am Solemn Mass  
11:00am Solemn Mass  
4:30pm Solemn Mass



**New Year Eve**

There will be no Mass on New Year Eve, Monday Dec 31, 2007.

**New Year Day**

Tuesday Jan 1, 2008 New Year Day  
Solemn Mass :  
1. at 12 Noon  
2. at 4.30pm



**Christmas Party 2007**

Because Santa was surprised by a big snow storm, he will only arrive in Calgary on 22 Dec. We will welcome him to our Parish right after the 5:30pm Mass.

**HOLY COMMUNION 2008** - The following children has begun classes in preparation for their First Holy Communion sometime in 2008. They are:



John Michael Alias, Joseph Angelo Alias, Carla Bianca Calabia Bren Carlos Calabia, Vina Mareb Galang, Zhanika Jane Gimeno Zharina Gimeno, Stephanie Claire Vibar, Sabella Chalice Vibar Arvin Grendel Perez, Jea Maritzel Ricafort, Joanna Patricia Rarog Joseph Albert Rarog, Angelita Stevenson