



# St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

7237 Morrow Road, Agassiz, British Columbia V0M 1A3 (604) 796-9181

[www.stanthonyagassiz.ca](http://www.stanthonyagassiz.ca) email: [st.anthonys@shaw.ca](mailto:st.anthonys@shaw.ca); [parish.sapa@rcav.org](mailto:parish.sapa@rcav.org)

*We, the Catholic community of St. Anthony of Padua, relying on the wisdom and the grace of God, unite ourselves to the call for renewal and transformation of our spiritual, social and economic life.*

## December 13, 2020 – Third Sunday of Advent

**Pastor:** Fr. Dennis O. Flores

[dflores@rcav.org](mailto:dflores@rcav.org)

**Deacon:** Jamie Meskas

[jamiemeskas@gmail.com](mailto:jamiemeskas@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant:** Beccie Bokenfohr

[st.anthonys@shaw.ca](mailto:st.anthonys@shaw.ca)

(604) 796-9181

**Sunday Mass Times:** 9 am and 11 am

**Weekday Mass Times:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday – 9 am; Tuesday – 7 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 20 minutes prior to Mass

Important Notice regarding Mass Registration

Please make sure that you register by phone or email for the Mass that you and your family would like to attend. There are 4 Sunday Masses in our parish. All of the Masses are full with the exception of the newly instituted Mass of 5 PM on Sundays. Please attend the Mass that you have registered for and avoid jumping from one Mass to another.

If you have any questions, please speak to Fr. Dennis or call the parish office. Let's keep our place of worship a safe place. times and/or by appointment

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament:** All Fridays 9:30 am until Benediction at 12 noon

### Mass Intentions December 13 to 19, 2020

Saturday	Dec 12	5 pm	Cancelled
Sunday	Dec 13	9 am	Dianne Young+
		11 am	Cancelled
		5 pm	Cancelled
Monday	Dec 14	9 am	Grace Calubaquib (healing)
Tuesday	Dec 15	7 pm	Grace Calubaquib
Wednesday	Dec 16	9 am	Lucy Usman+
Thursday	Dec 17	9 am	Frank & Lynda VanScheyndel (60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Friday	Dec 18	9 am	Souls who especially venerate my mercy & your own intentions Thomas Miles+
Saturday	Dec 19	9 am	Yohwan Jang+

**2021 Envelopes are prepared and ready for you to pick up in the Gathering Area at your convenience**

### Last Sunday Collections

<b>Loose</b>	\$34.00
<b>Envelopes</b>	\$1,062.00
<b>Other</b>	\$65.00
<b>Total</b>	\$1,161.00

Please pray for those who are ill or housebound in our

**Parish family:** Peggy Turner, Cheryl Yaretz, Lyn Milburn, Ralph and Jeanette Watson, Janet Quinn, Paul Van Scheyndel, Wayne Turner, Pat Donegan, Sr. Celine Graf, Elizabeth Ryan, Jane Van Laerhoven, Beryl Sheard, Joan Vowles, Jean Van Tryp, Anieta Kienzle, Helene Juzda

Please pray for the most recently deceased: Fr. Tom Nicolson

### Confession Schedule in our parish

**Advent: December 19<sup>th</sup>  
10 am to 12 noon**

*Appointments can also be made if these times are inconvenient*

Masses are closed for in-service worship, waiting for further lifting of provincial restrictions. Please find us online on Facebook. The church is open for private prayer until 5 pm daily. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held each Friday from 10 am to 12 noon. Please consider spending some time with our Lord during this very difficult time.

St. Anthony's Thrift Store will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup>, reopening on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. We are so grateful to all of the volunteers who have committed themselves to making this store such a success in our local community! Merry Christmas to all of you and a Happy New Year!

## The O Antiphons: The Fullness of Time

December 17 begins the 'O' Antiphons, and it means Christmas is only an octave away.

The 'O' Antiphons (also known as Greater Antiphons or the Great 'O') are ancient antiphons found in the liturgy that are prayed from December 17-23. They all begin with the invocation 'O.' They call to mind the ancient longing and pleading of the people of the Old Testament for a Savior to come, invoking different Christological titles on the seven days before Christmas Eve. In praying these we remember the original yearning for the First Coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and echo the same waiting and supplication for the Emmanuel to come at Parousia, His Second Coming. The 'O' Antiphons take us through chronological order from before Creation to the birth of Christ at Bethlehem.

*You also might recognize the antiphons as the same words in the favorite Advent hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* Because of this, Advent is not only the celebration of God's coming to us, but also of our coming to him.

The circle is just a simple closed geometric shape, but in context with these 'O' Antiphons it is more than a shape or letter of the alphabet. The 'O' is all encompassing. The 'O' denotes fullness, completeness, wholeness, ripeness. The 'O' symbolizes eternity, no beginning or end. This simple letter plumbs the depths and speaks to the final fulfillment in the Second Coming of Christ at Parousia.

- **O Wisdom**—At God's word, creation was formed; the Word issued from the mouth of God, the Son, came to earth; we ask prudence to keep on the paths of wisdom to come to His Kingdom.

- **O Lord and Ruler**—God fulfilled His promises and redeemed the Israelites from the bondage of Egypt, and also unveiled the Law at Sinai; Jesus as Lord redeems mankind from the bondage of sin and bestows the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Parousia is often seen as a fullness of Pentecost.
- **O Root of Jesse**—Jesse’s tree was cut down to the root, with only the stump remaining. Jesus revitalizes that root. He is the Vine and the Branches, of which requires pruning until Parousia.
- **O Key of David**—Paradise was closed by the sin of Adam, but Jesus re-opens it with His Redemption. At the end of time there will be no more sin or obstructions to the Kingdom of God.
- **O Dayspring/Sun of Justice/Rising Sun**—The prophets begged for deliverance from the darkness of death, which Jesus accomplished at His resurrection as the new Rising Sun. At Parousia this Light of the World will dispel any remaining sin and darkness.
- **O King of Nations**—Israel in exile longed for the Kingdom of God; Jesus, Desire of Nations, extends this Kingdom to all peoples, Jews and Gentiles alike. At Parousia Jesus will draw all things to Himself and His Kingdom will be fulfilled.
- **O Emmanuel**—The sacred name revealed to Israel of Who was to come was fulfilled as Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us, with His enduring presence. This is the final Scriptural image of the apocalyptic vision in Revelation, seeking the ultimate promise of the Emmanuel at Parousia: “Surely I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20).

These ancient antiphons are some of the crown jewels of our liturgy, and the echo of the longing through the ages seems to reverberate and repeat with all the faithful through all time, on heaven on earth, “O Come, Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20).

## Stewardship Reflection

*December 13, 2020 - 3rd Sunday of Advent*

*“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18*

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. “Rejoice always” means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. “Pray constantly” means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. “Give thanks in all circumstances” means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

Our daily weekday Masses and Sunday Mass are live on Facebook for you to see each day. Please find us on our Facebook page: **St Anthony of Padua – Agassiz**



## AGASSIZ PRODUCE



7266 Pioneer Avenue  
Agassiz, BC  
(604) 796-8444

*Locally owned & operated*

Seniors' Day: Wednesday: 10% off regularly priced  
produce & grocery items



**Attention CWL members: Annual membership dues of \$30 are due now for 2021 Please submit your payment as soon as possible.**

