



**First Reading:** *Jeremiah 20:7-9*

Jeremiah laments but cannot fail to speak in God's name.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 63:2-6, 8-9*

Our souls yearn for God.

**Second Reading:** *Romans 12:1-2*

Paul encourages the Romans to stay faithful to God.

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 16:21-27*

Jesus speaks of his Passion and rebukes Peter for his objection.

### **Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in [last week's Gospel](#). Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no

longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

## Parish News

### **Novena for a safe and blessed return to school: August 2020**

We are grateful for our Catholic Schools. Let us unite in prayer that our Blessed Mother Mary may intercede for our students, families, educators, staff and Catholic Education throughout Alberta.

**We pray this novena daily from August 28 until September 5, 2020.**

*Let us pray...*

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

God, we thank You for the new school year. Bless and keep safe all those who are returning to school, whether it be to our buildings or through online learning.

We pray that You will guide our staff always in the daily work they do, and that your will be done.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.  
Our Lady, Comforter of the Afflicted, pray for us.

Our Lady, Help of Christians, pray for us.

Our Lady, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, pray for us.

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven and Earth, pray for us.

Rosary



**Back to School:** August 31<sup>st</sup> marks the return to class for St. Anthony's Staff and students. We pray for a safe return and the health and safety of all our families throughout the school year!

## Faith Formation

*For those unable to attend, consider watching Mass on television on the following networks:*

**Salt + Light TV** (Daily at 4:30 & 9:00 am, 1 & 8:30 pm)

**EWTN** (Daily at 6 & 10 am, 5 & 10 pm)

**Vision TV** (Daily at 6 & 10 am)

**TELUS Optik TV Channel 876 is now providing livestream from our Diocese:**  
*To access the livestream, go to Channel 876 after you turn on TELUS Optik TV, and select the [Diocese of Calgary](#) tile with the left/right arrows on the remote control. Click the OK button one more time to expand to full screen video.*

### Mass and Intention Schedule

Tuesday, September 1	6:30 pm	+ Amanda Long
Wednesday, September 2	9:00 am	+ Henry Barborka
Thursday, September 3	9:00 am	+ Frank Pavich
Friday, September 4	9:00 am	(Spec) Elaine Heptonstall
Saturday, September 5	7:00 pm	(Spec) Debi Kennedy
Sunday, September 6	8:00 am 10:30 am	(Spec) St. Anthony's Parishioners (Spec) Mary Miller

**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9 am – 11 am**

### Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 5:30 – 6:30 pm Saturday evenings and by appointment. To schedule an appointment, please call the Parish Office or email Fr. Lukas at [fr.lukas.d@gmail.com](mailto:fr.lukas.d@gmail.com).

**Baptism:** Please contact the Parish Office at (403)823-2683 to arrange an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to your desired date.

### Scripture Readings

**Monday, August 31:** 1 Corinthians 2.1-5 | Psalm 119 | Luke 4.16-30

**Tuesday, September 1:** 1 Corinthians 2.10b-16 | Psalm 145 | Luke 4.31-37

**Wednesday, September 2:** 1 Corinthians 3.1-9 | Psalm 33 | Luke 4.38-44

**Thursday, September 3:** 1 Corinthians 3.18-23 | Psalm 24 | Luke 5.1-11

**Friday, September 4:** 1 Corinthians 4.1-5 | Psalm 37 | Luke 5.33-39

**Saturday, September 5:** 1 Corinthians 4.6-15 | Psalm 145 | Luke 6.1-5

**Sunday, September 6:** Ezekiel 33.7-9 | Psalm 95 | Romans 13.8-10 | Matthew 18.15-20



# ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

*St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church is an inviting family community united in Christ.*

**Pastor: Rev. Lukas Drapal**

**Email: [fr.lukas.d@gmail.com](mailto:fr.lukas.d@gmail.com)**

**Secretary:** Jennifer Ferro | **Book Keeper:** Linda Lacher

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Brian Viczko | **Finance Council Chair:** Mary Pavich

**CWL President:** Joanne Dumaine | **K of C Grand Knight:** Tony Ibrahim

**Couples for Christ:** Cen and Tess Felisilda

## Parish Mission

**Family:** To encourage participation of children and families in the Church Community by offering family focused events.

**Faith Building:** To promote and host Church education, Bible Studies, and Parish Missions.

**Liturgy:** To formalize our Liturgy and elicit committed parishioners to participate in all aspects of the Liturgy.

**Environment:** To promote clean and well-maintained premises and decorate to highlight the Liturgical Seasons.

**Social:** To have a Social Committee to plan and hold Parish activities.

## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time August 30, 2020

We all want to belong. Today's readings are about belonging to God. How do we belong to God? To belong to God is to love. Jesus shows us that love is at the very heart of those who belong to God. Jeremiah is a reluctant prophet who cannot ignore God's call "like a burning fire shut up in my bones." His only answer is "yes" and he belongs to God. Jesus belongs to God. He is firm in his mission

to serve the poor, the rejected and the voiceless, even to the point of losing his life. There were followers of Jesus who sought to stop him because they were afraid of losing their lives. Fear is the opposite of love. Fear is exclusive. Belonging is inclusive. Jesus was single-minded in his purpose to love and create belonging. He berated those who sought to stop him. Our culture claims that we can protect ourselves by excluding others. Our culture promotes fear and exclusion as the way to preserve life. In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to belong to God by letting go of fear. What fears do we have to leave behind to belong to God? Are we willing to allow God to entice us and change our behaviour? In today's Eucharist, let us pray that our way of life is an imitation of God who is love. *Anthony Chezzi, Sudbury, ON*

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**Mailing Address:** 151 3 St. W. Drumheller AB, T0J 0Y4 | **Phone:** (403)823-2683

**Email:** [stanthonysdrumheller@telus.net](mailto:stanthonysdrumheller@telus.net) | **Website:** [stanthonysdrum.ca](http://stanthonysdrum.ca)