

# The Parish Connection

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**  
13 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, Alberta T8H 1Y7



December-March 1  
2016/17 Advent,  
Christmas and  
Ordinary Time

**Regular Sunday Mass times: Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sundays: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 pm.**

## Dates to Watch

- **Dec. 2–** 9:30am Mass at OLPH Parish, St. Theresa School attending
- **Dec. 3-** 9:30am-6:00pm Confirmation Preparation Day
- **Dec. 4-** 7:00pm Advent Evening of Song and Reflection at OLPH Parish
- **Dec. 8-** 7:00pm Advent Penitential Service
- **Dec. 12–** 9:00am and 10:15 am Advent Masses at ABJ.
- **Dec. 16-** 9:15am Mass at OLPH Parish, Jean Vanier Grade 2 attending
- **Dec. 24 & 25-Christmas Eve Masses**  
4:00pm Upstairs and Downstairs  
6:30pm Upstairs  
9:00pm Upstairs  
Midnight Upstairs  
**Christmas Day Masses**  
8:30 am Upstairs  
10:30am Upstairs
- **Dec 31-** Feast Day of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)-Mass at 5:00pm
- **Jan. 1-** Feast Day of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)-Mass at 8:30am and 10:30am
- **Jan. 15-** OLPH Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- **Jan. 18-** 9:15am Mass at OLPH Jean Vanier Grade 1 attending
- **Jan. 22–** Madonna School providing ministries at 10:30am Mass
- **Feb 6-** 7:00pm Registration for Confirmation at OLPH Parish
- **Feb. 16-** 9:30am Chris Padgett presentation at OLPH Parish for Grades 6-8
- **Feb. 19-** OLPH Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, following the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses
- **Feb. 24-** 9:15am Mass at OLPH Jean Vanier Grade 4 attending
- **Feb. 26-** First Communion Retreat 1:00pm-3:00pm OLPH Parish
- **Feb. 28-** 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (see bulletin for details)



## First Reconciliation and First Communion 2016/2017



***Congratulations to all those who made their First Reconciliation this fall!***

The retreats for First Communion will be held on  
**Sunday, February 26th** at OLPH Parish from 1-3pm  
OR  
**Saturday, March 11th** at OLPH Parish from 1-3pm

You may book your child's First Communion for any Mass following Easter Sunday.

**If you have any questions please contact Raylene at the Parish Office 780-467-5470 or ryuzyk@olph.ca**

## Confirmation 2017 (Grade 6 and Older)



The Parent meeting for Confirmation 2017 will be held at OLPH Parish on

**Monday, February 6th, 2017 at 7:00pm**

If you have any questions please contact Raylene at the Parish Office 780-467-5470 or at ryuzyk@olph.ca



## **BAPTISMS**

If for any reason your school aged child is not yet baptized and you would like to look into baptism for your child please do not hesitate to contact the church at 780-467-5470 or [pastoralcare@olph.ca](mailto:pastoralcare@olph.ca) We would be most happy to help.



## **Religion Catechetics (Religious Education)** **Home Program:**

At the beginning of the school year parents decide what activities their children will be involved in during the year. Among those activities it is important to think of the spiritual dimension of the child's life. In OLPH parish we have many families whose children are not in our Catholic Schools. For those families, we invite you to journey with your child at home. There is a "Home program" to help you. Beginning with Kindergarten, parents work with their children at home each week, at a time that is convenient for them. There will be someone available to help throughout the year. Materials for the program are available through the Parish. For more information, and to get the materials you need, please contact Sr. Gertrude, 780-417-3526 or Val Becher at 780-416-7122

### **Catechists for the Home Program**

Would you consider being a catechist for the Home Program? This means connecting with one or more families to support them and help them when needed. Formation and support will be given to these catechists. Please contact Sr. Gertrude at 780-417-3526 or the Parish office at 780-467-5470.

**JOURNEY**  
OF  
*Faith*



**Watch for our new website! Official Launch will be on December 5th, 2016**  
[www.olph.ca](http://www.olph.ca)



Young Disciples is a children's program that teaches about Jesus and the Catholic Church, while encouraging the development of long-lasting friendships. The JD Youth Group is a recent addition to the program and provides young teens with continued Spiritual growth through various acts of service, activities and fun times. In the 17 years since the group first began the children have prayed, sang songs, performed plays, had countless visits from priests and other guest speakers, watched movies about the saints, participated as a group in the Mass, played games, washed each others' feet, re-enacted the Last Supper and celebrated Seder meals, read the bible and memorized scripture, hosted concerts, drew giant rosaries in the parking lot, gone on field trips, participated in Pro-Life walks, baked cookies, enjoyed All Saints' Day costume parties, eaten snacks, and colored, pasted, painted, cut and hammered their way through hundreds of crafts. The children (AND adults) have learned much, laughed lots, made lasting friendships, gotten dirty, sticky, wet and unmistakably holy!

Young Disciples is an interactive faith program for children and teens that meets each Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8 PM in the lower level of the church. The cost for a whole year of faith, fun and snacks is only \$40 per child, or \$100 for a family with 3 or more children. Please watch the bulletin for more information or email [olph.youngdisciples@gmail.com](mailto:olph.youngdisciples@gmail.com) to learn how you can be involved. Your help is always appreciated and very much needed!



### O.L.P.H. Children's Choir

Please come out and join us! All elementary age school children are welcome to join. Watch the bulletin for more details. For more information, contact Elizabeth at [olphchildrenschoir@gmail.com](mailto:olphchildrenschoir@gmail.com)



### Altar Servers (Grade 4 and older)

Are you able to share your time and talents in consider volunteering as an altar server. An altar server helps during Mass. There is a training session to teach you what you need to do. If you are interested please contact the Parish at 780-467-5470.

### What is Advent, Christmas and Ordinary Time?



#### November 26-December 23

Violet or purple is used during Advent and Lent as a sign of penance, sacrifice and preparation. Purple is the traditional color of royalty and is the familiar color for the season of Advent, the season in which we look forward to the coming of the King. As a season of preparation, Advent is, in some ways, penitential.



#### December 24-January 9

White is actually not one color but the sum of all of the colors of the spectrum. This fact recommends it as the "color" of choice for the greatest feasts which epitomize the Faith, and it has been the most commonly appointed color for feasts of our Lord, including Christmas and Easter and the seasons following those feasts. Traditionally, white is regarded as the color of purity and joy, so it has also been the color for the feasts of many of the saints, particularly those who were not martyrs.



#### January 10-February 28

Green is used during the liturgical season called Ordinary Time. This season focuses on the three-year period of our Lord's public ministry, and the Gospel passages, particularly on Sundays, recount His teachings, miracles, exorcisms, and other deeds during this time. All of these teachings and events engender great hope in the mystery of salvation. We focus on the life He shared with mankind during His time on this earth, the life we share now with sacraments, and we look forward to sharing everlasting life with Him perfectly in Heaven. Green symbolizes this hope and life, just as the hint of green on trees in early Spring arouses the hope of new life.

### This Holy Light Evening Of Advent Song & Reflection



What does Advent mean to you?

If you're looking for a way to make Advent more meaning-full for you and your family, join the OLPH Music Ministry on:

**Sunday, December 4, 7:00 pm**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church  
13 Brower Drive

An ecumenical event for the whole family. Bring your friends and neighbors, too!

Donations for the Strathcona Food Bank  
will be gratefully accepted.



May the Infant Jesus  
fill your hearts with the gift of Love,  
encourage you with the gift of Hope,  
and bless you with the promise of  
Peace.

Wishing you a holy and happy  
Christmas Season!