



## VITAL GRANDIN CHAPLAINCY

Edmonton Latin Mass Community

ARCHDIOCESE OF EDMONTON

Served by the Priests of the Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP)

### Third Sunday of Advent

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Entrance Hymn: #4 Dear Maker of the Starry Skies

Asperges Me: #218

Mass XVII: Booklet p. 19; Angelus p. 1888; Baronius p. xviii

Credo I: Booklet p. 21; Angelus p. 1892; Baronius p. xxii

Recessional Hymn: #5 Veni, Veni Emmanuel

Assumption Catholic Church ♦ 9034 - 95 Ave, Edmonton, AB



From the Church of San Giuseppe in Milan.

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### The Nature of Faith

How great a dignity the Lord bestows on you in transferring you from the order of Catechumens to that of the Faithful, the Apostle Paul shows, when he affirms, *God is faithful, by Whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ.* (1 Cor. 1:9) For since God is called Faithful, thou also in receiving this title receive a great dignity. For as God is called Good, and Just, and Almighty, and Maker of the Universe, so is He also called Faithful. Consider therefore to what a dignity you are rising, seeing you are to become partaker of a title of God.

Here then it is further required, that each of you be found faithful in his conscience: for a faithful man it is hard to find (Prov. 20:6): not that you should show your conscience to me, for you are not to be judged of man's judgment; but that thou show the sincerity of your faith to God, who tries the reins and hearts, and knows the thoughts of men. A great thing is a faithful man, being richest of all rich men. For to the faithful man belongs the whole world of wealth, in that he disdains and tramples on it. For they who in appearance are rich, and have many possessions, are poor in soul: since the more they gather, the more they pine with longing for what is still lacking. But the faithful man, most strange paradox, in poverty is rich: for knowing that we need only to have food and raiment, and being therewith content, he has trodden riches under foot.

Nor is it only among us, who bear the name of Christ, that the dignity of faith is great: but likewise all things that are accomplished in the world, even by those who are aliens from the Church, are accomplished by faith.

By faith the laws of marriage yoke together those who have lived as strangers: and because of the faith in marriage contracts a stranger is made partner of a stranger's person and possessions. By faith husbandry also is sustained, for he who believes not that he shall receive a harvest endures not the toils. By faith sea-faring men, trusting to the thinnest plank, exchange that most solid element, the land, for the restless motion of the waves, committing themselves to uncertain hopes, and carrying with them a faith more sure than any anchor. By faith therefore most of men's affairs are held together: and not among us only has there been this belief, but also, as I have said, among those who are without. For if they receive not the Scriptures, but bring forward certain doctrines of their own, even these they accept by faith. The lesson also which was read today invites you to the true faith, by setting before you the way in which you also must please God: for it affirms that without faith it is impossible to please Him. (Heb. 11:6) For when will a man resolve to serve God, unless he believes that He is a giver of reward? When will a young woman choose a virgin life, or a young man live soberly, if they believe not that for chastity there is a crown that fades not away (1 Pet. 5:4) Faith is an eye that enlightens every conscience, and imparts understanding; for the Prophet says, *And if you believe not, you shall not understand.*

Faith stops the mouths of lions, as in Daniel's case: for the Scripture says concerning him, that Daniel was brought up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. Is there anything more fearful than the devil? Yet even against him we have no other shield than faith, an impalpable buckler against an unseen foe. For he sends forth various arrows, and shoots down in the dark night those that watch not; but, since the enemy is unseen, we have faith as our strong armour, according to the saying of the Apostle, *In all things taking the shield of faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.* (Eph. 6:16) A fiery dart of desire of base indulgence is often cast forth from the devil: but faith, suggesting a picture of the judgment, cools down the mind, and quenches the dart.

There is much to tell of faith, and the whole day would not be time sufficient for us to describe it fully. At present let us be content with Abraham only, as one of the examples from the Old Testament, seeing that we have been made his sons through faith. He was justified not only by works, but also by faith: for though he did many things well, yet he was never called the friend of God, except when he believed. Moreover, his every work was performed in faith. Through faith he left his parents; left country, and place, and home through faith. (Heb. 11:8-10) In like

manner, therefore, as he was justified be thou justified also. In his body he was already dead in regard to offspring, and Sarah his wife was now old, and there was no hope left of having children. God promises the old man a child, and Abraham without being weakened in faith, though he considered his own body now as good as dead, heeded not the weakness of his body, but the power of Him who promised, because he counted Him faithful who had promised, and so beyond all expectation gained the child from bodies as it were already dead. And when, after he had gained his son, he was commanded to offer him up, although he had heard the word, In Isaac shall your seed be called, he proceeded to offer up his son, his only son, to God, believing that God is able to raise up even from the dead. And having bound his son, and laid him on the wood, he did in purpose offer him, but by the goodness of God in delivering to him a lamb instead of his child, he received his son alive. Being faithful in these things, he was sealed for righteousness, and received circumcision as a seal of the faith which he had while he was in uncircumcision (Rom. 4:11), having received a promise that he should be the father of many nations (Gen. 17:5).

Let us see, then, how Abraham is the father of many nations. Of Jews he is confessedly the father, through succession according to the flesh. But if we hold to the succession according to the flesh, we shall be compelled to say that the oracle was false. For according to the flesh he is no longer father of us all: but the example of his faith makes us all sons of Abraham. How? And in what manner? With men it is incredible that one should rise from the dead; as in like manner it is incredible also that there should be offspring from aged persons as good as dead. But when Christ is preached as having been crucified on the tree, and as having died and risen again, we believe it. By the likeness therefore of our faith we are adopted into the sonship of Abraham. And then, following upon our faith, we receive like him the spiritual seal, being circumcised by the Holy Spirit through Baptism, not in the foreskin of the body, but in the heart, according to Jeremiah, saying, *And you shall be circumcised unto God in the foreskin of your heart:* and according to the Apostle, *in the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with Him in baptism*, and the rest (Col. 2:11-12). This faith if we keep we shall be free from condemnation, and shall be adorned with all kinds of virtues. For so great is the strength of faith, as even to buoy men up in walking on the sea. Peter was a man like ourselves, made up of flesh and blood, and living upon like food. But when Jesus said, *Come* (Matt. 14:29), he believed, and walked upon the waters, and found his faith safer upon the waters than any ground; and his heavy body was upheld by the buoyancy of his faith. But though he had safe footing over the water as long as he believed, yet when he doubted, at once he began to sink: for as his faith gradually relaxed, his body also was drawn down with it. And when He saw his distress, Jesus who remedies the distresses of our souls, said, *O thou of little faith, wherefore did you doubt* (Mark 14:31) And being nerved again by Him who grasped his right hand, he had no sooner recovered his faith, than, led by the hand of the Master, he resumed the same walking upon the waters: for this the Gospel indirectly mentioned, saying, when they had gone up into the ship. For it says not that Peter swam across and went up, but gives us to understand that, after returning the same distance that he went to meet Jesus, he went up again into the ship.

*St. Cyril of Alexandria, “Catechetical Lectures” (Excerpts)  
Trans. Edwin Hamilton Gifford*

**Upcoming Marriage:**

**Please pray for Myles Bumphrey and Phoebe Naidu who will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Announcements**

**The next December social** will be on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>.

The **Wednesday Adult Catechesis** will continue this week; The other talks continue in February.

**Christmas Octave Mass Times**

**Thurs. Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** (Holy Day of Obligation)

**Christmas Eve:** Midnight Mass (Assumption Church): Carols begin at 11:30 pm.

**Two Christmas Day Masses:**

7:30 am - Low Mass (Assumption Church)

12:30 pm - Missa Cantata - Sung Mass (Assumption Church)

**There will be no 4:30 pm Mass**

Friday Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>: 8 am at Assumption

**Thurs. January 1<sup>st</sup>** (Holy Day of Obligation)

7:30 am - Low Mass (Assumption Church)

12:30 pm - Missa Cantata - Sung Mass (Assumption Church)

4:30 pm - Low Mass (St. Edmund's)

**Friday Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 8:00 am at Assumption.

Other days: regular Mass times.

There is a two bedroom basement apartment for rent, 15 min. drive from Assumption, garage parking included. Please phone Bob at 780-434-2726.

**For the full list of announcements for the Archdiocese of Edmonton, see** [caedm.ca/window/](http://caedm.ca/window/)

**Mass Calendar**

Date & Feast*	Mass times	Church Mass Intention	Chapel Mass Int'n ①
<b>Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup></b> Third Sunday of Advent (I Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass 12:30 pm Sung Mass 4:30 pm Low Mass	EM & family by MCM A J by P A Private Intention	
<b>Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup></b> Feria of Advent (III Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass	Souls in Purgatory by DC	Z K †
<b>Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup></b> St. Eusebius, Bp & Martyr (III Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass	R J	XV by SP
<b>Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup></b> Ember Wed. of Advent (II Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass	D T † by V P	JC † by ALB
<b>Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup></b> Major Feria of Advent (II Cl)	5:30 pm Low Mass; Followed by a Holy Hour & Benediction	D T † by V P	AM † by ALB
<b>Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup></b> Ember Friday of Advent (II Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass	C J	TT by AT
<b>Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup></b> Ember Saturday of Advent (II Cl)	8:00 am Low Mass	S V	JB by JPB
<b>Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup></b> Fourth Sunday of Advent (I Cl)	7:30 am Low Mass 12:30 pm Sung Mass 4:30 pm Low Mass		

*\* All Masses are at Assumption Church, except for the Sunday 4 pm Mass at St. Edmund's Church.*

**The Sacrament of Confession** is available before & after all Masses & on Saturdays from **7-8 pm** on at Assumption Church.