

St. Anthony's Parish

4708 - 50th Avenue
Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1E1
(780) 542-5254
Fax (780) 542-2853

E-mail: StAnthony.DraytonValley@caedm.ca

Dear Parishioners,

"Let us allow ourselves to be loved, so that we can give love in return. Let us allow ourselves to stand up and walk towards Easter. Then we will experience the joy of discovering how God raises us up from our ashes." - Pope Francis (Ash Wednesday Homily, 2020)

Due to COVID-19, we might believe that we have returned to Ash Wednesday and everything is reduced to ash, even our practice of the faith. Our daily lives have changed or are changing in ways never seen before. But we Christians are people of hope. Hope in God who provides.

With the message of the Angel Gabriel that she had conceived the Son of God by the Holy Spirit, the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary changed in a way never known before or since. She trusted in the love of God that is ever abiding. It gave her the strength to say yes in faith. Love and faith that bore hope, our Hope, Jesus Christ.

Our prayer and support for one another, especially in this challenging time, are ways in which we can show the love of Christ toward others, witness our faith, and live in hope. In and through our hope in Christ, I, as the Pastor of St. Anthony's Parish, offer my prayers for you in a very special way through the private celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

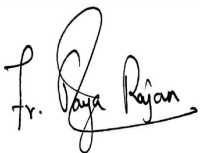
Unprecedented things are happening. While we are being asked to physically stay apart, we can all be connected through technology, but also through the Holy Spirit who connects us, all of us, especially in our prayer. There are many good opportunities to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts, minds and actions.

To help you to enter and meditate on the Holy week liturgies, St. Anthony's Parish website has links to live streams of Holy week masses and liturgies through which you can unite yourselves with the universal church in prayer, especially during the Holy week, from the convenience of your home. (www.stantparishdv.com)

If you wish to make a Sacrament of Penance before the Paschal Triduum, please call the parish office and make an appointment with me to schedule a time.

Let us use this time as wisely as we can, whether together with our family or in personal reflection. Christ our hope is with us. We are called to follow the example of Mary and have trusting faith in Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

With Love and Prayers,



Fr. Jaya Rajan JM SAC
Pastor - St. Anthony's Parish