



St. Paul's Co-Cathedral Parish

720 Spadina Crescent East

Saskatoon, SK S7K 3H2

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4th Sunday of Advent

December 21,
2025



Do Not be Afraid to Ask

Ahaz, King of Judah, is one of the most unpleasant persons we meet in Holy Scripture.

He was a canny king even though young (his 16-year-reign ended when he was 36). The Assyrians, truly horrible warriors, had conquered all Judah's troublesome neighbours and Ahaz threw in with this new empire. Perhaps he relied too much on his political alliances as he even took to worshipping the idols of the pagans. Isaiah confronts Ahaz's (self)reliance on earthly powers – demanding that Ahaz turn to “YHWH, your God” and ask for a sign.

Ahaz refuses to ask – “*I will not put the Lord to the test.*” (Is. 7:14) – using pious language to hide a wicked heart. He is utterly self-absorbed. He relies only on himself – a reliance that had left him dependent on “allies” who would toss him to the side easily. So be it, Ahaz seems to say, it is better to fail while an independent king than to be victorious as a servant of God.

Sound familiar? Even when our faltering culture manifests the divisive consequences of not “asking God”, our Government wants to double down and further push God's Word out of its politically-correct and desperately unhappy rule. “I can do it alone” is the mantra of our age.



But God will give Ahab a sign anyway. The same sign given to generations of proud “self-reliant” ones. The sign given us in four short days. It is the sign of “a young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel” (Is. 7:14). The complete opposite of Ahaz- kingship, God-with-us as a baby utterly reliant for all its needs on his parents.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. God-with-us in utter vulnerability. Asking only for our love. Asking us to ask for love.

That is why “asking” God for intentions is itself the gift of knowing God-with-us. God is with us to attend to everything that we ask. In asking, we are proclaiming our faith that Jesus is God-with-us.

We bid *Paalam* to Pilar last weekend. The eldest of the first crew of Filipinas who arrived in 1975 to work as seamstresses. The first of the now-abundant gift of Filipino Catholics renewing our Church.

Pilar is not afraid to ask. She told us last Sunday of her prayers:

“Father, I prayed that you would come back from being away... and you did.

Father, I asked that some young boys would take over my serving Mass ...
and they did.

Father, I asked that young families come to our parish ... and boy have they.

Father, I asked that people open their wallets to donate to the renovation
... and they are.

Father, I asked that I be allowed to see some of the renovation ... and look
at it today.”



Pilar has returned to the Philippines to continue asking Jesus for signs ... until He takes her Home.

Do not be afraid to ask. It is a gift to God.

God-with-us comes from Mary's womb, the Holy One in our midst whether we will it or not.

“Let the Lord come in, He is King of Glory.” (Ps.24)

MONDAY, December 22, 2025

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** († Carmela losca)

TUESDAY, December 23, 2025
St. John of Kanty (OM)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Peter Tahn)

WEDNESDAY, December 24 2025
Christmas Eve

6:00 pm - **Vigil of the Nativity Mass**
11:00 pm - **Vigil of the Nativity Mass**

THURSDAY, December 25, 2025
Nativity of the Lord (S)

10:00 am - **Mass with Bishop Mark**

FRIDAY, December 26, 2025
St. Stephen (F)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Monica Fitzpatrick)
5:30 pm - Sto. Nino Prayer Group

SATURDAY, December 27 , 2025
St. John (F)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Kateri Gaudet)

SUNDAY, December 28, 2025
Holy Family (F)

8:00 am - **Mass**
10:00 am - **Closing of the Jubilee Year Mass**
12:30 pm - Eritrean **Mass**
7:30 pm - **Solemn Vespers**
8:00 pm - **Mass**

Christmas Season Masses

Christmas Eve - 6 pm & 11 pm

Christmas Day - 10 am with Bishop Mark

Closing of Jubilee - Sunday, Dec. 28 at 10am

December 31 - 12:10 pm

New Years Day - 10:00 am



Registration for Confirmation Class is open!

Confirmation Classes will be held Saturdays at 10:00am beginning January 31. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated May 21 with Bishop Mark Hagemoen. To register your child for confirmation, or for more information please contact Sr Peter Mary at 306-986-3885 or srpetermary@stpaulcocathedral.ca
Registration is open until January 27.

**Please note, The parish off will be closed from
December 24 - January 1.**

We wish you all a merry Christmas!

Call for Christmas Poinsettias!

We are asking for donations of poinsettias to decorate the Church for Christmas! Please drop off poinsettias at the parish office **by Monday, December 22.**



OFFERING for December 14, 2025

Cash Donations	\$ 1,202.35
Envelopes	\$ 1,765.00

***in order to qualify for the 2025 tax receipt, donations must be in to the office by Wednesday, December 31**