



# St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

St. Mina Coptic Church Newsletter – April 2011 Edition

**“And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.”**

Matt.4:2



The time of Great Lent is to be considered the holiest fast since our Lord Jesus Christ Himself had fasted it. Great Lent is an ascetical fast, meaning it is a time where we should truly be focused on abstaining from the pleasures of life. Not only should we remember to abstain from life's pleasures, but we must remember this is a time for repentance. Before the start of Great Lent, we fast Jonah's Fast reminding us of the story of Jonah and the Ninevites' repentance. During the third Sunday of Lent, the Holy Church offers us the Gospel reading of the Prodigal Son as a model of repentance (Luke 15:11-32). This story illustrates an awakening, confession of sins, leaving the place of sin, and returning to the Heavenly Father with confidence in His mercies and acceptance. God's love is then revealed to us, and we are shown how God accepts all sinners. We can realize this in John 6:37, where Jesus Christ said, "The one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out." May God grant us a blessed fast allowing us to grow closer to Him through abstinence and repentance.

## Construction Update & Development Additions!

As shown in the recent photos, construction is progressing very well, on target, on schedule, and on budget. The building structure is now complete, enclosed and insulated, and all seven domes are erected. The concrete slab floor was poured in the North and South wings, and wall partitions are under construction.

The Church has decided to implement a few upgrades to enhance the building envelope and functionality. These are:

1. All seven domes will be cladded with copper similar to the domes we see on the Church on Memorial drive
2. Added stacked washer and dryer for the altar linens
3. Added a central vacuum for the Kitchen, Quorban room, and the dining hall
4. Wireless microphones and camera/video receivables in the dining and auditorium rooms
5. Gas line, water line with bibs and electrical outlet to the playground area to the north of the church. This will allow for future barbeque stand and picnic shed to be constructed
6. Chain-link fence around the perimeter

All of the above upgrades are expected to be completed within the current budget.

Clark Builders staff, Woods Parker and Engineers are working diligently and are taking pride and honorship in all aspects of the project. For all their dedication and hard work, we sincerely thank them.

## 11 The Next Glimpse

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, arrangement is being made to go take a second visit at the new site. After the liturgy is prayed at our current location, we will make a trip to the new church site. We would like for everyone to view all the new construction updates in person. Transportation will be arranged for those who cannot drive. The whole congregation is invited for a free barbeque agape in the yard after the tour.

## Church Address!



We have been blessed and given an official church address!

**292120 Wagon Wheel Blvd.,  
Balzac, Alberta Canada.**



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St. Mina Coptic Church Newsletter – March 2011 Edition



February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011



March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011



March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011



February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011



March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011



March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011

**Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" -John 11:25-26**

For further information, questions, or comments, please visit to [WWW.THEDREAM.STMINA.AB.CA](http://WWW.THEDREAM.STMINA.AB.CA)