



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 2020 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Email: [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Website: [www.holyfamilymh.ca](http://www.holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Facebook: Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish

**Reconciliation:** By Appointment Only 403-527-6933 ext. 101

**Office Hrs.** Monday to Friday - 8:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm to 4:30pm - Closed on Holidays

Reconciliation is by appointment only Tuesday to Friday Call the office to book a time with Fr. Iqbal or Fr. Rodel

ADORATION IS IN THE  
HOPE ROOM  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
9:30am to 4:00pm



## MASSES

**MONDAY to FRIDAY at 9:00AM Administration doors,**

**SATURDAY at 5:00PM Main Front Doors &**

**SUNDAY at 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 6:00PM Main Front Doors**

**MAKE SURE TO COME EARLY TO BE SCREENED & WEAR YOUR MASKS**

**DOORS WILL BE LOCKED WHEN MASS STARTS**

We do have masks available if needed! Please dispose of them in a responsible manner.



Catholic Women's League

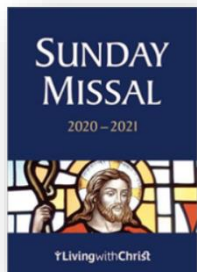
Vi Sheridan - 403-526-9091



Knights of Columbus

Ron Pisoni - 403-526-1848

*The New Missals or in the Foyer for you to purchase. The price jump is because of shipping.*



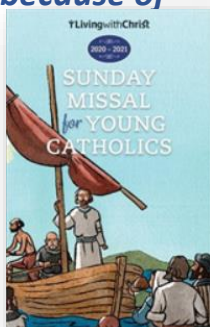
**Adult Missal**

**\$7.00**

**&**

**Youth Missal**

**\$11.00**



*Honor System so please have the right amount of cash to put in the box... Thank You!!!*

## Sunday 10:30am Mass Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q)



### OPERATING FINANCES

*December 3-10, 2020*

Operating Budget 2020	\$ 15,000
General Envelope Collection	\$ 12,696
Loose Collections	\$ 183
Future Development	\$ 448
Sale of Church Supplies	\$ 2,663
Youth Ministry	\$ 120
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,110</b>

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 1,177
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,094
CARO	\$ 10
Mission Mexico	\$ 195
Seminary Fund	\$ 20

2020 TIA GOAL – \$71,214  
TO DATE \$ 41,074 = 58% OF THE WAY

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year B Sunday, December 13, 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord.

Responsorial Canticle: Lk 1.47-50, 53-54  
(R. Isa 61.10b)

R. My soul shall exalt in my God.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24




May your spirit and soul and body be kept  
sound and blameless at the coming of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28

Among you stands one whom you do not  
know.

### WHO AM I?

As we long for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, let our Advent be perfectly holy. To help us, Saint Paul reminds us of these basic Christian attitudes: (1) rejoice always, (2) pray without ceasing, and (3) always give thanks.

-  In whom or in what will I rejoice this week?
-  How will I pray every day this week?
-  For whom and for what am I thankful? What will I do because of this thanksgiving?

### † Masses Intentions... December 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> †

**Saturday, December 12**

5:00pm – Jim Buscholl †

**Sunday, December 13**

8:30 am – Holy Family Parish

10:30am – Lambert Streifel †

6:00pm – Shirley Martin

**Monday, December 14**

9:00am – Don Zahn †

**Tuesday, December 15**

9:00am – John & Frances Hunder †

7:30pm – Children & Grandchildren to  
return to Church

**Wednesday, December 16**

9:00am – William Opalka †

7:30pm – Nick & Rosina Mucciarone †

**Thursday, December 17**

9:00am – Amara Meyer †

7:30pm – Gordon Hardowa †

**Friday, December 18**

9:00am – Genevieve Feltham †

7:30pm – Theresa Thomas †

Friday, November 27 6:00-7:00pm

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Holy Family's Mission of Pandemic

Fr. Rodel Abanto

**Thank You Fr. Rodel**

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Why Peace is Important for our

Families, Society, and the World

Fr. Roque Pereira

**Thank You Fr. Roque**

Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Joy Changes our Perspective of Life

Deacon Robert Risling

Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00-

7:00pm

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

God's Love is Completed in

the Manger

Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

6:00-7:00pm

Nativity of Jesus

Word Became Flesh and

Dwelt Among Us

Fr. Roque Pereira

At Holy  
Family  
Parish

Talks will be  
live streamed  
or you may  
attend in  
person. With  
Covid  
Restrictions.

**ADVENT**  
**MISSION TALKS**





### Attending Masses...

MAKE SURE TO COME EARLY TO BE  
SCREENED  
THE DOORS WILL NOW BE LOCKED WHEN  
MASS STARTS TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY  
FROM PEOPLE ENTERING THAT HAVE NOT  
BEEN SCREENED.



### MASKS

It is **mandatory** to wear a  
mask at all times now in  
the church.

We Need Volunteers for Ushering, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Signing People in and Disinfection... Please sign up!!!



WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO PURCHASE POINTSETTAS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES. PLEASE MARK YOUR DONATION SO WE KNOW WHO IT IS FOR. DEADLINE IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Thursday, December 24, 2020 Christmas Eve

4:00pm (will be live streamed) 6:30pm, 8:30pm & 10:30pm

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

8:30am & 10:30am (will be live streamed)

Thursday, December 31, New Year's Eve

5:00pm

Friday, January 1, 2021, New Year's Day

9:30am (will be live streamed)

SIMBANG GABI  
MASSES STARTING  
DECEMBER 16 @  
7:30PM

Masks  
must be  
worn.

200 people  
(includes children  
& babies) capacity  
will be allowed in  
for each Mass.





The school year is well under way and sacraments classes have begun for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, we are very happy to tell you that the dates for Confirmation registration on behalf of both Holy Family Parish and St. Patrick's Church will continue to January 8.

The program will consist of 4 sessions starting in January and ending in March. Parents will have 2 options:

1. Homebase learning with online coaching for the parents via Zoom through the diocese. This means parents will get instruction for each session during their Zoom meeting and then teach their children at their convenience.
2. Attend in person sessions for both child and parent at Holy Family Parish. Social distancing and masks will be mandatory.

Registration forms are being sent home from your schools however PLEASE fill out completely and return to HOLY FAMILY PARISH ONLY with the following:

- copy of baptism certificate
- copy of communion certificate
- for those born outside of Canada a copy of Permanent residency
- registration fee of \$35.00. This is to cover cost of workbooks. If payment is a financial burden, then please disregard the fee.

## **Because of Covid 19 changes may occur.**

Full details and material for the sessions will be given to parents once they have returned the completed registration form to the church.

Office hours are Monday to Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. Office is closed from 12:00-1:00 for lunch.

If you have any questions, please call 403-527-6933 and leave a message for Fr. Iqbal #102.

Or you can email us at [sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca) or Fr. Iqbal [pastor@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:pastor@holyfamilymh.ca)

## **Holy Family Parish and St. Patrick's Church.**

If you need a Registration Form please  
print the last three pages of the Bulletin.

Thank You to everyone who participated in  
GIFT SHARING SUNDAY...  
We were very happy with your generosity!!!!

We collected all these toys  
for the Santa Claus Fund  
Valued at \$750.00  
&  
204 pounds of food for the  
Medicine Hat Food Bank  
&  
\$2120.00 for the Society of  
St. Vincent de Paul.



**GIVE JESUS SOME OF YOUR TIME**  
**Give him your problems and tell**  
**him all you are thankful for.**  
**He is often alone and waiting to**  
**see you.**

**ADORATION IS IN THE**  
**HOPE ROOM**  
**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**9:30am to 4:00pm**







## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

### WHY TO REJOICE

The third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday” because on this day the Mass begins with the opening antiphon: “Gaudete in Domino semper” “Rejoice in the Lord always”. In the first week of Advent, we prayed for the restoration of hope. In the second week we prayed for the gift of peace which comes from the Lord to make us stronger and stronger in our day to day life in spite of this deadly pandemic. Today also we start the second phase of the Advent season which will have us reflect on the first coming of Jesus through the prophecies of old. These coming two weeks will have us reflect on the “O Antiphons” making us to meditate on the titles of Jesus. Let us reflect why this Sunday is called “Gaudete Sunday”? Why we must rejoice so early when Christmas is two weeks away?

Someone described the Gaudete Sunday as follows: "Nature's annual cycle is characterized by two phenomena, light and life. Out of the darkness of night comes light; out of death comes life. The transition from night to light characterizes the winter season; the transition from death to life is proper to summertime. The holy year of the Church is likewise divided into two phases which have similar characteristics." In a similar way we are reminded by the Sacred Scriptures that you must rejoice in the Lord because our Salvation has come near. Someone asked St. Mother Teresa what the secret of her joy was in serving the poor and marginalized people and her answer stunned the world “Joy is a prayer -- joy is a strength -- joy is a love -- joy is a net of love. . . A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love . . . loving as He loves, helping as He helps, giving as He gives, serving as He serves, rescuing as He rescues, being with Him twenty-four hours, touching Him in His distressing disguises.”

A 92-year-old man, short, very well-presented, who took great care of his appearance, was moving into an old people's home one day. His wife of 70 years had recently died, and he was obliged to leave his home. After waiting several hours in the retirement home lobby, he gently smiled as an employee told him his room was ready. As he slowly walked to the elevator, using his cane, the employee described his small room to him, including the sheet hung at the window, which served as a curtain. "I like it very much", he said, with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old boy who had just been given a new puppy. "Sir, you haven't even seen the room yet. Hang on a moment, we are almost there." "That has nothing to do with it," he replied. "Happiness is something I choose in advance. Whether or not I like the room does not depend on the furniture, or the decor – rather it depends on how I decide to see it. It is already decided in my mind that I like my room. It is a decision I make every morning when I wake up. "I can choose. I can spend my day in bed enumerating all the difficulties that I have with the parts of my body that no longer work very well, or I can get up and give thanks to heaven for those parts that are still in working order. Every day is a gift, and as long as I can open my eyes, I will focus on the new day, and all the happy memories that I have made during my life. "Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw in later life what you have deposited along the way. "

The words of the old man present the exact message which we find in the Sacred Scriptures today. The first reading tells us that we should rejoice because the promised Messiah is coming as our Savior and liberator, saving us by liberating us from our bondages. The Responsorial Psalm of the day is taken from Mary's *Magnificat*, in which she exclaims: "*My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God my Savior.*"

St. Paul, in the second reading, advises us to "*rejoice always*" by leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit, because Christ is faithful to his promise that he will come again to reward us. In the Gospel the questions and the message of St. John the Baptist is a beautiful reminder to see the reason of the season. We need to ignore the secularism and worldly approach to this beautiful and salvific season, and we must rejoice in the Lord that "He became man and dwelt among us".

St. Augustine, reflecting on the Gospel today says "John is the voice, but the Lord is the Word who was in the beginning. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives for ever. Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine. In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find a place also in



yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes it away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine.

When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: The word ought to grow, and I should diminish? The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: My joy is complete. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts. Do you need proof that the voice dies, but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish the word from the voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offense to the word. I am not the Christ, he said, nor Elijah, nor the prophet. And the question came: Who are you, then? He replied: I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. Prepare the way for the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into your hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him." To prepare the way means to pray well; it means thinking humbly of oneself. We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistakes to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself. He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

The question of John the Baptist should be our question to examine ourselves that when we have Jesus as our Reason for the Season then should we wait for someone else or ...?

Now let's reflect on the second question "Why we have to rejoice so early when Christmas is two weeks away? As we celebrate this Gaudete Sunday, the reply of Jesus to St. John the Baptist sums everything "what do you see....? That is the exact purpose of rejoicing in the Lord that he has taken all our pain and suffering on to him and died on the Cross so that we may have life and life in abundance. It seems Christmas is two weeks away, but we need to rejoice every day in the Lord as St. Paul says "rejoice, rejoice and again I say rejoice in the Lord".

Pope Francis reflects on this Sunday in this way “Rejoice in the Lord, means always being joyful, even when things do not go according to our wishes; but there is that profound joy, which is peace: that too is joy; it is within. And peace is a joy “at the ground level”, but it is a joy. Distress, difficulties, and sufferings pass through each person’s life, we are all familiar with them; and so often the reality that surrounds us seems to be inhospitable and barren, like the desert in which the voice of John the Baptist resonated, as today’s Gospel passage recalls. But the very words of the Baptist reveal that our joy rests on a certainty, that this desert is inhabited: “among you” — he says — “stands one whom you do not know”. It refers to Jesus, the Father’s envoy who comes, as Isaiah stresses, “to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour”. These words, which Jesus will speak in his discourse at the synagogue of Nazareth (Lk 4:16-19), clarify that his mission in the world consists in the liberation from sin and from the personal and social slavery that it produces. He has come to the earth to restore to mankind the dignity and freedom of the Children of God — which only he can communicate — and thereby to give joy.

A Christian’s joy is not bought; it cannot be bought. It comes from faith and from the encounter with Jesus Christ, the reason for our happiness. And when we are rooted in Christ, the closer we are to Jesus, the more we find inner peace, even among everyday contradictions. For this reason, a Christian, having encountered Jesus, cannot be a prophet of misfortune, but a witness and herald of joy. A joy to share with others; an infectious joy that renders the journey of life less toilsome.

In this deadly pandemic as everyone is struggling to take life easy or to manage it properly the question today is “why rejoice?” becomes very important for us as Christians. We not only need to rejoice but we must create the circle of joy to help other people to believe and rejoice in the “Reason for the Season”.

Let us reflect on this story as I conclude my reflection with one question for all of us to reflect and meditate on during this week: **What is my reason to rejoice?**

And old story tells that one day, a countryman knocked hard on a monastery door. When the monk tending the gates opened, he was given a magnificent bunch of grapes.

Brother, these are the finest my vineyard has produced. I have come to bear them as a gift. Thank you! I will take them to the Abbot immediately, he will be delighted with this offering. No! I brought them for you. For whenever I knock on the door, it is you opens it. When I needed help because the crop was destroyed by drought, you gave me a piece of bread and a cup of wine every day.

The monk held the grapes and spent the entire morning admiring them. He decided to deliver the gift to the Abbot, who had always encouraged him with words of wisdom.

The Abbot was very pleased with the grapes, but he recalled that there was a sick brother in the monastery and thought: "I'll give him the grapes. Who knows, they may bring some joy to his life."

And that is what he did. But the grapes did not stay in the sick monk's room for long, for he reflected: "The cook has looked after me for so long, feeding me only the best meals. I'm sure he will enjoy these."

The cook was amazed at the beauty of the grapes. So perfect that no one would appreciate them more than the sexton; many at the monastery considered him a holy man, he would be best qualified to value this marvel of nature.

The sexton, in turn, gave the grapes as a gift to the youngest novice, that he might understand that the work of God is in the smallest details of Creation. When the novice received them, he remembered the first time he came to the monastery, and of the person who had opened the gates for him; it was that gesture which allowed him to be among this community of people who knew how to value the wonders of life.

And so, just before nightfall, he took the grapes to the monk at the gates. – Eat and enjoy them – he said. – For you spend most of your time alone here, and these grapes will make you very happy. The monk understood that the gift had been truly destined for him, and relished each of the grapes, before falling into a pleasant sleep. Thus, the circle was closed; the circle of happiness and joy, which always shines brightly around generous people.



Photo by  
Fr. Iqbal Khurshid



*With a special  
visit from  
Santa*

JOIN US FOR OUR FREE- ONLINE HOLIDAY

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Fun  
for the  
entire  
family**

**GAMES,  
MAGIC,  
MUSIC,  
PRIZES AND  
MORE**

December 13th, 2020 @ 4:00 PM

RSVP through eventbrite to get the

**SCAN HERE TO  
REGISTER**



Zoom link



*Hosted by CARO-a  
local Medicine Hat  
Charity*

**SCAN HERE TO  
DONATE**





NOVEMBER 2020



[www.mhcbe.ab.ca](http://www.mhcbe.ab.ca)

**NEXT CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 4:30pm

Hosted online via Google Meet and YouTube livestream

[Click here](#) to access our Division YouTube Channel

# MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD BULLETIN

## TRUSTEE ELECTIONS 2021

At the Public Board Meeting on November 10, the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approved the School Board Trustee Information Package as presented for inclusion into the Nomination Package for the October 18, 2021 School Board Election.

**The nomination process starts on January 1, 2021.**

Information packages will be available online and at the school board office in January.



## ARTS & ATHLETICS COMMUNITY CENTRE



At the Public Board Meeting on November 10, the Board of Trustees passed a motion to initiate efforts to build an Arts and Athletics Community Centre at Monsignor McCoy High School.

In addition, a follow up motion was passed "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education ask Central Office Administration and Monsignor McCoy to develop a high school dance academy that will begin classes in September 2021". More information will be available in the new year.

## PROPERTY TAXES 2020

MHCBE reminds our community of the importance of declaring your **PROPERTY TAXES** in support of Catholic Education



**How do you declare your support?** - To ensure your property taxes are supporting Catholic Schools, you must declare your Catholic school support as "Separate" on your annual property assessment notice. Contact the Taxation Office at the City of Medicine Hat, or the Town or Municipal Office in your area. Changes made on or before Dec 31 will be in effect for the next taxation year



## AERR, 3-YEAR PLAN & AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS APPROVED

On Tuesday, November 24, 2020, The Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approved the Combined 2019-2020 Annual Education Results Report & Three-Year Education Plan 2020-2023 and Audited Financial Statements as presented.

## SUPPORT MISSION MEXICO!



Bring a loonie to a Catholic school on Friday, December 11th to support Mission Mexico, an outreach project in the Diocese of Calgary.

Funds raised by MHCBE students & staff support education, health & human rights projects in the state of Guerrero, Mexico.

[Link: Letter from Bishop McGrattan](#)



## RECOGNIZE A TEACHER FOR EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

**Do you know a deserving teacher who does an exemplary job in preparing youth to grow into outstanding and faith-filled citizens? Nominate them for an Excellence in Catholic Education Award!**

Nominations can be submitted by parents, teachers, administrators or members of our parish community. Nominations close on January 31, 2021. Visit our website for nomination package and guidelines.

## THE SEASON OF ADVENT



Wishing all of you a blessed **Advent Season!** May your hearts be filled with joy, love and peace during this time of preparation and anticipation as we wait for the coming of our Savior.

**A list of Virtual School Advent Masses & can be found on our website at [www.mhcbe.ab.ca](http://www.mhcbe.ab.ca).**





THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

**LOG IN WWW.FORMED.ORG**

- Go to Formed.org
- Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**  
Create a personal account with your personal username/email and password.
- Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

***IMPORTANT: Do not sign up as an individual. Our parish access code provides more content than an individual subscription and it costs you nothing!***

## LIVESTREAM

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses in the Diocese of Calgary is available at:

<https://www.catholicyc.ca>.

You can also watch parish Sunday Masses via TELUS Optik TV Ch. 876 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#).

### Sunday 10:30am Mass

### Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q)



Our Lady of the Assumption Prayer Community offers two weekly Virtual Zoom sessions. Each Wednesday there is a Charismatic Prayer Group and Thursday there is a program called DIALOGUE, which offers sharing and teaching experiences to charge and strengthen the Christian Community. If you would like to receive information about these events call Ken Fabbi at 403-331-8923 or email [healing-workshops-subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:healing-workshops-subscribe@googlegroups.com)



For more Livestreams, visit  
CATHOLICYC.CA/LIVESTREAMMASS

# SCHEDULE



## MONDAY TO FRIDAY

**6 pm - Rosary**

(WEDNESDAY - ROSARY AND MASS)

BILINGUAL: PORTUGUESE & ENGLISH  
OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, CALGARY



## SATURDAY

**5 pm - Anticipated Sunday Mass**

ST. PAUL'S PARISH, AIRDRIE



## SUNDAY

**10:30 am - Sunday Mass**

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH, CALGARY

**Noon - Sunday Mass**

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, CALGARY  
IN PORTUGUESE

**5 pm - Sunday Mass**

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH, CALGARY



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
of Calgary

THANK YOU  **TELUS**  
FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE!

## EMAIL SCAM

Several reports of email scams have been brought to our attention. The emails have been written in a compelling way that the email addresses of the senders were not visually verified and responses were sent. Perhaps this is a reminder that when someone you know asks you to email them back and sounding desperate to perhaps check the sender's email address. The scammers have become more intelligent in acquiring the tone of how we write as clergy.

## ONLINE GIVING

*Our parish relies on our regular offertory giving for maintenance and growth. By making your pre-authorized offertory gift, you are providing crucial support to care for your parish during this difficult time. You can also use the online giving page on the diocesan website to set up a one-time or recurring donation to your parish via credit-card. Funds donated will be transferred to the selected parish. Give now at <https://www.catholicyyc.ca/give> [or contact your Parish to set up a direct debit deposit].*



Faithfully November's Edition is out

November edition of Faithfully is out! This month Faithfully highlights the hope found in Christ's redemption as we remember the souls of our departed beloved ones. Read an important message from Bishop McGrattan about the two important legislative matters (Bill C-6 & C07) and what the Bishops of Canada urge you to do, so that we can make a difference.

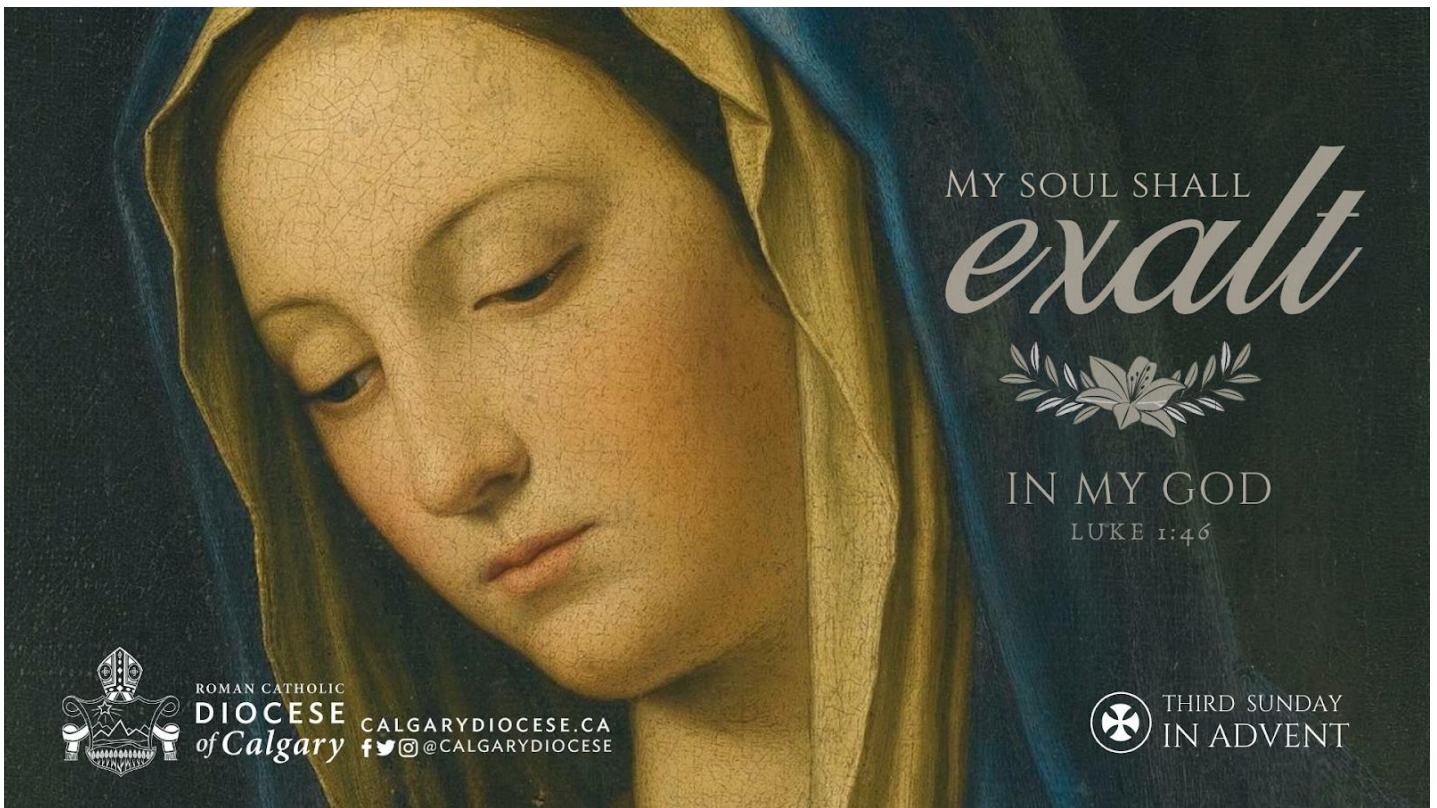
Also highlighted in this edition: stories from two teachers on the importance of Catholic Education, the joy of volunteering, and an insight on caring and serving our children well. Two highlighted events in November: Field of Crosses Memorial Park (Nov. 10 & 11) and the Memorial Liturgy for those mourning the loss of a child through miscarriage or stillbirth.

[Read November edition of Faithfully online](#)

<https://subscribepage.com/faithfully>

## LINKS

- [News.CalgaryDiocese.ca](http://News.CalgaryDiocese.ca) | Announcements from the Diocese of Calgary
- [Events.CalgaryDiocese.ca](http://Events.CalgaryDiocese.ca) | Diocesan events and registrations
- [Blog.CalgaryDiocese.ca](http://Blog.CalgaryDiocese.ca) | Catholic Pastoral Centre Blog
- [Careers.CalgaryDiocese.ca](http://Careers.CalgaryDiocese.ca) | Employment opportunities in the Diocese of Calgary
- Connect to the Diocesan [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)
- To share with parishioners:
  - [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
  - [Spiritual Resources](#)
  - [Sacrament Preparation](#)
  - [Online Formation Opportunity](#)



## COVID-19 Resources

To share with parishioners:

- [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- [Spiritual Resources](#)
- [Sacrament Preparation](#)
- [Online Formation Opportunity](#)
- [Advent & Christmas in the Diocese](#)

Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

## Stricter Covid-19 Restrictions

New stricter restrictions have been introduced by the Government of Alberta in the effort to bend the curve on the number of confirmed cases. These restrictions will take effect on Sunday, December 13, 2020.

Parishioners can visit: <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/blog/covid19> for more information.



## #IAMBLESSED2020 Video



A video for #iamblessed2020 campaign is now available! It's short, only 1 minute long. [View video in Youtube](#) (click the down arrow button - top right of the screen)

## *Christmas Prayer Cards*



Here is one suggestion for a fruitful Christmas gift this year. Give each other the gift of prayer, such as a Novena, a Rosary, or a Mass offering, and let them know that you care.

Handy and printable #iamblessed2020 Christmas Prayer (Rosary, Mass Offering, Novena) postcards have been made available for you [here](#). Here are some ways to print or use the Christmas Prayer Postcards

- Print file (on regular paper or card stock), add your own messages, put it in an envelope and send it to friends via mail. Or have it printed by [Vistaprint](#), [Staples](#), [Costco Printing](#), [Canva](#) or other online/local printer company
- Download the image to your phone (or screen capture it), add your own text (use any [words-on-photo apps](#)) and send it out digitally (text it, or share on social)

[Find printable Christmas Novena, Rosary and Mass Offering cards here](#)

## Year of St. Joseph



With the Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from Dec. 8, 2020, to Dec. 8, 2021. [Read more](#)

- Read *Patris corde* (With a Father's heart) [here](#)

The Apostolic Penitentiary also issued a decree granting **special indulgences** for the duration of the special year to celebrate the anniversary and “to perpetuate the entrustment of the whole Church to the powerful patronage of the Custodian of Jesus.” Conditions for the plenary indulgence:

- The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph on these occasions and manners indicated by the Apostolic Penitentiary:
- The plenary indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. "St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us", the decree reads, "to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will."
- The indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph's example, will perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. St. Joseph "encourages us to rediscover the value of silence, prudence and loyalty in carrying out our duties," the decree notes.
- The recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples is another way of obtaining indulgences, in order that "all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family."
- Everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work can also obtain the plenary indulgence. On 1 May 1955, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph "with the intent that the dignity of work be recognized by all, and that it inspires social life and laws, based on the fair distribution of rights and duties."
- The plenary indulgence is also granted to the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the *Akathistos* to St. Joseph (for the Byzantine tradition), or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra*, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution. Because, the decree notes, "the flight of the Holy Family to Egypt shows us that God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he runs away, where he experiences rejection and abandonment."

## A Christmas Message from CWL

**On the occasion of 100 year of National CWL, the Alberta Mackenze Provincial is delighted to share in this wonderful anniversary. This Christmas message is delivered by Judy Look, President of AB Mackenzie CWL. Watch the message here [catholicyyyc.ca/blog/cwl](http://catholicyyyc.ca/blog/cwl)**



# Mission Mexico Sunday - Dec 12/13



Kindly share with your parishioners:

- **Letter from Bishop McGrattan for 2020 Mission Mexico Sunday -**  
[Download here](#)
- **Video of Mike & Lindsey** - A greeting from Mike MacDonald, onsite coordinator for Mission Mexico, and from Lindsey Victoriano, a former student who has benefitted from the scholarships provided through Mission Mexico. Watch video: <https://youtu.be/JjwnhCrwJO0>
- **Direct link to donate online -**  
[catholiccyrc.ca/donatemissionmexico.html](https://catholiccyrc.ca/donatemissionmexico.html) - or visit [missionmexico.com](https://missionmexico.com)

# Announcements, Events & Resources

## 1. **Second Sunday of Advent - Bulletin Shorts, free to use**

[Mass Readings](#) | **Who Am I?** As we long for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, let our Advent be perfectly holy. To help us, Saint Paul reminds us of these basic Christian attitudes: (1) rejoice always, (2) pray without ceasing, and (3) always give thanks.

1. In whom or in what will I rejoice this week?
2. How will I pray every day this week?
3. For whom and for what am I thankful? What will I do because of this thanksgiving?

*Source: Diocese of Springfield*

## 2. **Not long until Elizabeth House reaches \$20k!**

As of today, the matching campaign for Elizabeth House has reached \$11,058 from 47 caring donors! Not long until we reach \$20,000! Consider doubling your donation to Elizabeth House before Dec. 24. Donate here <https://www.catholicyc.ca/donateelizabethhouse.html>

## 3. **What's happening in the Diocese of Calgary during the Advent Season?**

Find retreats, parish missions and prayer events during the Advent Season on our website: <https://www.catholicyc.ca/advent.html>

## 4. **Simbang Gabi Masses**

The Couple for Christ (CFC) invites you to Simbang Gabi, a devotional nine-day series of Masses in anticipation of Christmas. For more information [click here](#)

## 5. **Retreat Centre upcoming events**

1. **FCJ Centre, Calgary** - The FCJ Centre is offering a large number and range of Advent retreats, prayer services, workshops, and other experiences for spiritual enrichment. Upcoming schedule: <https://www.fcjcentre.ca/>
2. **Mount St. Francis, Cochrane** - Nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains where are all welcome in the name of Christ, Mount St. Francis offers silent retreats and spiritual direction led by The Franciscan Friars of Canada. Upcoming schedule: <https://mountstfrancis.ca/year-at-a-glance/>
3. **Divine Mercy Centre, Calgary** - Live Stream Prayers available at: <https://sistersofdivinemeracy.org/livestream-adoration>

## 6. **Martha Retreat Centre, Lethbridge** - The Martha Retreat Centre seeks to provide a quiet, welcoming space where people, individually or in groups, can come away and rest awhile, nourish their spirits and open their hearts to God's call to them in the current reality of their life's circumstances. Upcoming schedule: <https://www.martharetreatcentre.ca/programs-retreats>

**New Vatican guide for bishops addresses common challenges to Christian unity** | The Vatican published Friday a guide with suggestions for Catholic bishops to promote unity with other Christian communities, offering practical advice for how to overcome common challenges to ecumenism. [Read more](#)

## 7. **Greccio: A St. Francis Christmas Pageant**

Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre invites you to check out our Annual Greccio Event. Due to the pandemic this year's event is online. Beginning Dec. 6 until Jan. 4, please visit

[mountstfrancis.ca](http://mountstfrancis.ca) or check out [this direct link](#) to experience this annual event. Mount St. Francis also encourages you to make a donation to a local Food Bank or Safe Shelter. "May the peace of Christ, and the love of God, be yours this Christmas." from the Friars and Staff at Mount St. Francis.

**8. World Day of Prayer for the Consecrated Life**

Save the date! Please mark Feb. 6/7, 2021 in your calendars. It will be the World Day of Prayer for the Consecrated Life. More information to follow in January.

**9. 12 Children books to read for the 12 Days of Christmas**

Don't forget that Christmas is just beginning on December 25. The Christmas Octave lasts until January 1st, but we can continue celebrating the season of Christmas until January 13th, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. How can you keep your family focused on Christmas? Reading meaningful books will help! [Here are a few suggestions](#)

**10. A blessing for your Christmas Manger and Nativity Scene**

Once you have your Nativity Scene all set up, take some time to ask for God's blessing as a family. [Find prayer here](#)



### **ONLINE Praying with Handel's Messiah**

An Afternoon Retreat with Sr. Madeleine Gregg, FCJ  
Sunday, December 13, 2020 - 2:00pm-4:00pm

### **ONLINE "O" Antiphons**

An Advent Afternoon Retreat with Sr. Madeleine Gregg, FCJ  
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 - 7:00pm-9:00pm

### **A Dimmed Light, A Hidden Wholeness**

An Advent Twilight Retreat with Sr. Ita Connery, FCJ  
Thursday, December 17, 2020 - 5:30pm-9:30pm

### **Christmas Break**

Wed, Dec 23, 2020 - Sun, Jan 3, 2021





## Spiritual Centre of Peace, Healing and Prayer

**Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre is nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains where are all welcome in the name of Christ. The Franciscan Friars of Canada, inspired by the vision and example of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, have served here since 1949.**

**We offer silent retreats and spiritual direction. We also serve those in the 12 Step Program through weekend and evening Serenity retreats. We listen to 5th steps. We host groups and individuals seeking a place of quiet and stillness in an often hectic world. We can accommodate up to 50 people (46 rooms/50 beds). We have one large and one small meeting room, a library and chapel. We can accommodate most dietary restrictions. There are approximately 500 acres to explore.**

**Our retreats are organized through a group of dedicated volunteer Captains that oversee the registration. Please see our retreats page for more information.**

**We have strong ties with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary; other Christian Churches, schools and organizations; as well as others not affiliated with any particular faith but who are in accord with our mission of peace, healing and prayer. We value the many loyal friends and benefactors that have supported us in our ministry for over 70 years.**

# **Greccio: A St. Francis Christmas Pageant**

## **Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre**

**invites you to check out our Annual Greccio Event.**

Due to the pandemic this year's event is online.

Beginning December 6 until January 4

visit our website [www.mountstfrancis.ca](http://www.mountstfrancis.ca)

or <https://www.youtube.com/embed/MlcTyktENrU>  
to experience this annual event.

As always, we encourage you to make a donation  
to a local Food Bank or Safe Shelter.

**May the peace of Christ, and the love of God,  
be yours this Christmas.  
from the Friars and Staff at Mount St. Francis**



# Sacrament of CONFIRMATION 2020 - 2021

\*\*Office Use CONFIRMATION DATE REC'D \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Candidate's FULL LEGAL name</b> as on birth certificate or Permanent Residency First _____ Middle _____ Last _____			___ Male ___ Female			
<b>PLEASE INDICATE CHOICE OF LEARNING ( √ )</b>			<b>Home Based</b>			
School _____		Grade _____	Date of Birth _____			
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%; border: none;"> <b>Holy Family Parish</b> _____         </td> <td style="width: 30%; border: none; text-align: center;">           Please indicate Home Parish         </td> <td style="width: 35%; border: none;"> <b>St. Patrick's Parish</b> _____         </td> </tr> </table>				<b>Holy Family Parish</b> _____	Please indicate Home Parish	<b>St. Patrick's Parish</b> _____
<b>Holy Family Parish</b> _____	Please indicate Home Parish	<b>St. Patrick's Parish</b> _____				
Mother's FULL Name _____ _____ ( _____ ) Religion _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 150px;">Maiden Name</div>						
Father's FULL Name _____ _____ Religion _____						
Child Lives with    Both parents ___    Mother ___    Father ___    Shared Custody ___    Guardian/Other ___						
Home address _____ City _____ Postal Code _____						
E-mail address (PRINT CLEARLY PLEASE!) _____ Phone Number _____						
Church of <b>Baptism or Profession of Faith</b> _____		City _____	Date _____ √ Still needs			
Parish of <b>First Holy Communion</b> _____		City _____	Date _____ √ Still needs			
Parish of <b>First Reconciliation</b> _____		City _____	Date _____ √ Still needs			
<b>Does your child need assistance in the classroom on a regular basis due to learning challenges? Are there any health problems we need to know about?</b>						

**Please include the following with the registration:**

- ☐ Copy of the child's **Baptism or Profession of Faith Certificate** if baptized in a faith other than catholic
- ☐ Copy of **Birth Certificate** or **Permanent Canadian Residency card** if born out of the country.
- ☐ Registration Fee **\$35.00 PAID**

**PARENTS ONLY:**

### Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) Release to Parish

Please indicate your desire to allow the Parishes to publish your child's **name and PICTURES** in a designated area within the Church or release your child's name to the Catholic school they attend, allowing the school to recognize your child's participation in this sacramental program.

YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature of Commitment** \_\_\_\_\_



### Office Use

Retreat ☐ attended    Study appointment ☐ attended

Sponsor Name form submitted ☐

Confirmation Name form submitted ☐

Service Project booklet submitted ☐

Letter to Bishop ☐

CONFIRMATION NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

# **CONFIRMATION 2020 – 2021 Jan. – Mar.** **IN PERSON LEARNING**

Children's Sessions Wednesdays 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Holy Family Hall

Parent Sessions Wednesday 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Holy Family Church

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION SESSIONS</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>		
Child / Parent Sessions	Wednesday Jan. 13 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 1
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
Child / Parent Sessions	Wednesday Feb. 10 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 2
Child / Parent Sessions	Wednesday Feb. 24 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 3
<b>MARCH</b>		
Child / Parent Sessions	Wednesday Mar. 17 6:30pm – 7:30pm	Session 4
<b>RETREAT</b>	<b>TBA</b>	
<b>CONFIRMATION MASS</b>	<b>TBA</b>	