



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

DECEMBER 20TH 2020 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 

Email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca ~ Website: 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 9:30am – 4:00pm. 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

**Next
Bulletin
January 10
2021**

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

**ALL CHRISTMAS AND NEW
YEAR'S MASS VOLUNTEERS
PLEASE ATTEND AN
INSTRUCTIONAL MEETING OF
COVID 19 GUIDELINES ON
TUESDAY DECEMBER 22, 2020 IN
THE FOYER AT 6:00PM**

**Sunday 10:30am
Mass**

**Medicine Hat Holy
Family Church Live
Stream**

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q



OPERATING FINANCES

December 10-17, 2020

Operating Budget 2020	\$ 15,000
General Envelope Collection	\$ 19,652
Loose Collections	\$ 275
Future Development	\$ 1,096
Sale of Church Supplies	\$ 675
Youth Ministry	\$ 145
TOTAL	\$ 6,843

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 413
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 769
CARO	\$ 110
Mission Mexico	\$ 1210

2020 TIA GOAL – \$71,214
TO DATE \$ 41,487 = 58% OF THE WAY

*Thank You for your
Generous Contributions*



4th Sunday of Advent – Year B Sunday, December 20, 2020

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-5,8b-12,16

The Kingdom of David will be made sure
forever before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 89.1-4,26+28
(R. 1a)

R. Forever I will sing of your steadfast
love, O Lord.

2nd Reading: Romans 16.25-27

The mystery, so long held secret, is now
revealed to all.

Gospel: Luke 1.26-38

You will conceive in your womb and bear
a son.

HOW CAN THIS BE?

Words of a visiting angel: Do not be afraid; God has this plan; you are full of grace. Mary speaks aloud what we all are thinking: "How can this be?" God makes it possible because God makes us holy!

- What should I stop fearing?
- What is God's plan for me just for this day?
- What will I do this week as God's holy person that benefits someone else?

† Masses Intentions... December 19th to 23rd †

Saturday, December 19

5:00pm – Alex Scherger †
7:30pm – Eva Weisgerber †
Sunday, December 20
8:30 am – Valerie Wolf
10:30am – Butac Family
6:00pm – Holy Family Parish
7:30pm – Alice Meier †

Monday, December 21

9:00am – Angie & Ron
7:30pm – Special Intention

Tuesday, December 22

9:00am – Mataya Curtis Castillo
7:30pm – Piera Dal Molin

Wednesday December 23

9:00am – Frank Gutfriend †
7:30pm – Nick Weisgerber †

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD December 24th & 25th

A GREAT LIGHT

Isaiah declares (in 9:1): “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.” We have surely walked in darkness during this pandemic year. Some of us, perhaps all of us may still be there. We have been confined to home. We have jobs and homes in peril. We grieve the sickness and death of family, friends, and unknown-to-us citizens of this country and of the world. Yet we take hope this Christmas. For we are not alone. We are not left in darkness. Today, the Lord Jesus Christ is with us. In truth, he never abandons us. He will be with us today and tomorrow and tomorrow’s tomorrow. And all the tomorrows.

★ How do I know that Jesus is with me, is with us?

The Nativity of the Lord – Year B
Friday, December 25, 2020

1st Reading: Isaiah 62.11-12

See, your salvation comes.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 97.1-2,5-6,11-12 (R. see 11)

R. A light will shine on this day: The Lord is born for us.

2nd Reading: Titus 3.4-7

The goodness and loving kindness of God has saved us.

Gospel: Luke 2.15-20

The shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Masses Intentions

December 24th & 25th

Thursday, December 24

4:00pm – Lorette Klassen

6:30pm – Holy Family Parish

8:30pm – Sophie Dumanowski †

10:30pm – Special Intentions

Friday, December 25

8:30am – Neil Tumbach †

10:30am – Scholastica Hammel †

Merry Christmas from all of us at Holy Family Parish



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Sunday, December 27, 2020

THIS CHILD

Every parent knows a child is a blessing who is filled with innocence and wonder and grace. Grandparents know this, too, perhaps in renewed and deeper ways. It is their hope that every child will grow strong, be wise, and be favored.

- ★ How will I care for a child today even if not related to me?
- ★ How can I help children be holy?
- ★ How will I be holy because of the blessedness of children?



The Holy Family – Year B Sunday, December 27, 2020

1st Reading: Genesis 15.1-6;17.3b-5,15-16;21.1-7++

Your very own issue shall be heir.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 105.1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9 (R. 7a+8a)

R. The Lord is our God, mindful of his covenant forever.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 11.8,11-12,17-19

The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.

Gospel: Luke 2.22-40

The child grew with wisdom.

† Masses Intentions... December 26th to 30th †

Saturday, December 26

5:00pm – Jake Lukasewich

Sunday, December 27

8:30 am – Holy Family Parish

10:30am – Syroishka Family

6:00pm – Lucas Sehn †

Monday, December 28

9:00am – Mike & Michelle Rae

Tuesday, December 29

9:00am – Msgr. Mario Ramos †

Wednesday December 30

9:00am – Sherry & Henry Curtis

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Friday, January 1, 2021

BEING AMAZED

All those who heard the shepherds (among the riffraff of ancient society) were amazed at what was said about angels on high ... about glory to God ... about the resting favor of God.

🕯 How will I glorify and praise God this day?

The Solemnity of Mary– Year B Friday, January 1, 2021

1st Reading: Numbers 6.22-27

They shall put my name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67.1-2,4-5,6-7 (R. 1a)

R. May God be gracious to us and bless us.

2nd Reading: Galatians 4.4-7

God sent his son born to a woman.

Gospel: Luke 2.16-21

They found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. After eight days he was named Jesus.



All God's Blessings
to you and yours in
2021

Masses Intentions
December 31st, 2020
& January 1st, 2021

Thursday, December 31
5:00pm – Thanksgiving

Friday, January 1
9:30am – David & Catherine T.
Miller †

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sunday, January 3rd, 2021

COPARTNERS IN THE PROMISE

The readings and this solemnity are filled with competing images and persons. Darkness and light. Christians of Jewish heritage and Gentiles. Chosen people and coheirs, copartners. Herod and the Magi. Epiphany teaches us this: all are members of the same body, all are coheirs of God's goodness, all are copartners in the promise of Christ Jesus.

- ★ Like the Magi, how will I give homage to Christ today?
- ★ Whom do I look down upon that I must see as a copartner with me?
- ★ What treasure will I give away, will I offer to another?



The Epiphany of the Lord Sunday, January 3, 2021

1st Reading: Isaiah 60.1-6

The glory of God has risen upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 72.1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13 (R. 11b + Ps 98.3c)

R. The Lord is our God, mindful of his covenant forever.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Now the mystery has been revealed: now the Gentiles have become fellow heirs of the promise.

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

We have come from the East to pay homage to the King.

† Masses Intentions... January 2nd to 8th †

Saturday, January 2

8:30am – Jim Buscholl †

5:00pm – Chad & Anna Morgan

Sunday, January 3

8:30 am – Roy Buscholl †

10:30am – John Kopp †

6:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Monday, January 4

9:00am – Helena Mudri

Tuesday, January 5

9:00am – Fr. Vijaya Bathineni

Wednesday, January 6

9:00am – William Opalka †

Thursday, January 7

9:00am – Calvin Metcalfe †

Friday, January 8

9:00am – Tillie Krassman †

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

1st Sunday of Advent

Holy Family's Journey of Pandemic

Fr. Rodel Abanto

Thank You Fr. Rodel

Friday, December 4th 6:00-7:00pm

2nd Sunday of Advent

Why Peace is Important for our

Families, Society, and the World

Fr. Roque Pereira

Thank You Fr. Roque

Friday, December 11th 6:00-7:00pm

3rd Sunday of Advent

Joy and our Perspective of Life

Deacon Robert Risling

Thank You Dcn Robert

Friday, December 18th 6:00-

7:00pm

4th Sunday of Advent

God's Love is Completed in

the Manger

Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

Monday, December 21st

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**

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

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.



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 RUNNING
THRU TO
DECEMBER 23 @
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 1st Reconciliation and 1st 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 or Fr. Iqbal 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.

During this Christmas season, as Finance Council Chair, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for your continuous generosity in the support of Holy Family Parish.

This year has been a difficult year for many of us, but we look back with gratitude on what has been accomplished in our parish.

Since June, with the guidance of our Diocese and the assistance of our many parish volunteers, we have been able to join together to celebrate the Eucharist.

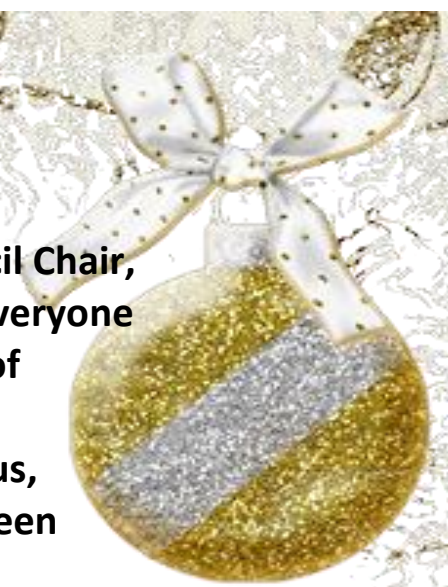
Because of the pandemic, our weekend Mass attendance has reduced but we have added Live-Streaming so that those who have been unable to attend Mass can use Live Streaming (You Tube – Medicine Hat Holy Family) to join our Sunday 10:30 Masses, School Masses, Advent talks, and other liturgies.

We are grateful to each of our parishioners for continuing to contribute to meet the day-to-day expenses of the parish. Our parishioners have also given generously to other charitable appeals such as Together in Action, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Mission Mexico, Loonies for Lent, etc.

Please keep in mind that any contributions made on or before December 31st, will be added to tax receipts. Contributions may be made by stopping into the parish office to drop off a donation. You can also call the office to make a credit card donation. The Diocese of Calgary also has a website where donations may be made. Simply click on “catholicyc.ca” and “Give” and follow the prompts designating Holy Family Parish as the recipient. Again, thank you for your financial support, your prayers, and your volunteerism.

On behalf of our Finance Council, I wish you a Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy Healthy New Year!

Karen Melle, Chair





4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

THE JOURNEY OF DIVINITY TO HUMANITY TO DIVINITY

We have come to the completion of our Advent Season as we light the 4th Candle which opens our hearts and minds to reflect on the theme of Love. The season of Advent basically is a time to reflect on the journey of Divine becoming Human as St. John says, "He became flesh and dwelt among us". This journey started right before the creation of the world as Jesus said, "he was even the world was created" and the author of Letter to Hebrews adds witness in this way *"Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds"*.

God created the universe when there was nothing and his spirit was hovering over the waters which clearly shows how God loved the world and for that love, he gave his only Begotten Son that anyone who believes in him, may have life and life in abundance. After creating the universe, God saw something is missing and then he created his masterpiece "Adam" from the dust and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and became living being. Did God's love stop there? Absolutely no, but rather started growing deeper and deeper even though Adam and Eve committed sin and became unfaithful to him, but he could not deny himself as St. Paul say because God created Adam on his own image.

Throughout the Salvation history of humankind God always walked with them but there was still a long way to see him taking our human form and walking like us on this earth. God was preparing people for centuries to see him becoming human and taking on the human form to be like us but sin. God's deliverance of Israel from the bondage of Egyptian slavery and leading them to the promise land was the first step to prepare them for the journey of Divinity to humanity.

Later we read in the Scripture God kept sending his messengers and prophets to prepare people for this great mystery of "God becoming man". We read from the Letter to Hebrews *"Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. For if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will"*. This mystery was also announced 700 years ago by Prophet Isaiah *"a virgin will bear a son and she will name him Emmanuel which means 'God is with us'"*. After the long the wait, God started to become human *"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth"*. God, leaving heavenly throne, came down to this earth, the footstool for his feet because he loved the world so much. The following story will help us to understand that once we have the Son, we have everything.

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart, and he died instantly. He often talked about you and your love for art." The young man held out the package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home; he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected. The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection.

On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then, a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will somebody bid for this painting. Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?"

Another voice said angrily, "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the real art!" But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the long-time gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have \$10. Who will bid \$20?" "Give it to him for \$10. Let us see the masters." "\$10 is the bid. Won't someone bid \$20?"

The crowd was becoming angry. They did not want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!" A man sitting on the second row shouted, "Now let's get on with the collection!" The auctioneer laid down his gavel. "I'm sorry; the auction is over." "What about the paintings?"

"I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings. The man who took the son gets everything!"

If someone will ask the question "when did you fall in love with God?" What would be our answer to this question? Is there a certain time that we fall in love with God or is it a continuous journey with God? Just imagine if we ask the same question to God "when did you fall in love with the world?" what would be his answer? God fell in love with the world the day Adam and Eve disobeyed him and committed sin: ***"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel"*** and this love never ended. God continued to journey with people.

As we reflect on the Readings of today's Sunday, we come to know that the journey of Divinity to humanity was finally completed in Blessed Virgin Mary when the Angel Gabriel came to her and greeted her in a very solemn way. God's promise to become human was fulfilled when Blessed Virgin Mary said, "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your Word". God loved the world so much that he gave his only Begotten Son, so that anyone who believes in him, may have life and life in abundance. Christmas (The Nativity of the Lord) is a day where we reflect on the journey of God becoming human. The journey which started from becoming divine to human has brought everyone to become God's children and God is making everyone to become like him because we are all created in the image of God and have received grace upon grace. Do we struggle everyday to become like him? Are we walking in his divinity to allow him to help us to become true image of his love on earth? The following story, which is written by unknown author, will assist us to have better relationship with him who became flesh and dwelt among us.

One day, I woke early in the morning to watch the sunrise. Ah! ... the beauty of God's creation is beyond description. As I watched, I praised God for His beautiful work. As I sat there, I felt the Lord's presence with me. He asked me, "Do you love me?" I answered, "Of course, God! You are my Lord and Saviour!"

Then He asked, "If you were physically handicapped, would you still love me?"

I was perplexed. I looked down upon my arms, legs and the rest of my body and wondered how many things I would not be able to do and thought about the things that I take for granted. I answered, "It would be tough Lord, but I would still love You."

Then the Lord said, "If you were blind, would you still love my creation?"

How could I love something without being able to see it? Then I thought of all the blind people in the world and how many of them still loved God and His creation. So, I answered, "It's hard to think of it, but I would still love you."

The Lord then asked me, "If you were deaf, would you still listen to my word?"

How could I listen to anything being deaf? Then I understood. Listening to God's Word is not merely using our ears, but our hearts. I answered, "It would be tough, but I would still listen to Your word."

The Lord then asked, "If you were mute, would you still praise My Name?"

How could I praise without a voice? Then it occurred to me, God wants us to sing from our very hearts and souls. It never matters what we sound like. And praising God is not always with a song, but when we are persecuted, we give God praise with our words of thanks. So, I answered, "Though I could not physically sing, I would still praise Your Name."

And the Lord asked, "Do you really love Me?"

With courage and a strong conviction, I answered boldly, "Yes Lord! I love You because You are the one and true God!"

I thought I had answered well, but God asked, "Then why do you sin?"

I answered, "Because I am only human. I am not perfect."

"Then why in times of peace do you stray the furthest? Why only in times of trouble do you pray the earnest?"

I had no answers ... only tears.

The Lord continued. "Why only sing at fellowships and retreats? Why seek Me only in times of worship? Why ask things so selfishly? Why ask things so unfaithfully?"

The tears continued to roll down my cheeks. "Why are you ashamed of Me? Why are you not spreading the good news? Why in times of persecution, you cry to others when I offer My shoulder to cry on? Why make excuses when I give you opportunities to serve in My Name?"

"You are blessed with life. I made you not to throw this gift away. I have blessed you with talents to serve Me, but you continue to turn away. I have revealed My Word to you, but you do not gain in knowledge. I have spoken to you, but your ears were closed. I have shown My blessings to you, but your eyes were turned away. I have heard your prayers and I have answered them all. Do you truly love me?"

I could not answer. How could I? I was embarrassed beyond belief. I had no excuse. What could I say to this? When my heart had cried out and the tears had flowed, I said, "Please forgive me Lord. I am unworthy to be Your child."

The Lord answered, "That is My Grace, My child."

I asked, "Then why do you continue to forgive me? Why do You love me so?"

The Lord answered, "Because you are My creation. You are my child. I will never abandon you. When you cry, I will have compassion and cry with you. When you shout with joy, I will laugh with you. When you are down, I will encourage you. When you fall, I will raise

you up. When you are tired, I will carry you. I will be with you until the end of days, and I will love you forever."

Never had I cried so hard before. How could I have been so cold? How could I have hurt God as I had done? I asked God, "How much do You love me?"

The Lord stretched out His arms, and I saw His nail-pierced hands. I bowed down at the feet of Christ, my Savior. And for the first time, I truly prayed.

WISH YOU ALL MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS



Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid



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.catholiccyyc.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



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 | Announcements from the Diocese of Calgary
- Events.CalgaryDiocese.ca | Diocesan events and registrations
- Blog.CalgaryDiocese.ca | Catholic Pastoral Centre Blog
- 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

COVID-19 Resources for Parish Staff: catholiccycc.ca/resources.html

To share with parishioners:

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

Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

Christmas Mass in the Diocese of Calgary

- [In-person Christmas Mass schedule](#) (Full-page paper ads in PDF)
- [Full schedule of Christmas & Solemnity of Mary Masses](#)

- Christmas Mass **livestream schedule** at iamblessed.ca (right under the main banner)
 - If your parish livestream schedule is not included in the website, please [complete this form](#) and submit before Friday, Dec. 18.

Please note that **Bishop McGrattan will celebrate Christmas Masses at St. Mary's Cathedral** on Thursday, Dec. 24 at midnight, and on Friday, Dec. 25 at noon. Both Masses will be livestreamed [here](#)

- Telus OPTIK TV (on **Channel 877** starting Dec. 21) will be broadcasting Christmas Masses in the Diocese from the participating parishes. [Updated listing here.](#)



For more Livestreams, visit
CATHOLICYC.CA



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



MONDAY TO SATURDAY

6 pm - Rosary

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

CHRISTMAS SEASON

CHANNEL 877

DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

- 5 pm Mass (from St. Anthony's, Calgary)
- 6 pm Mass (from Our Lady of Fatima, Calgary) - in Portuguese
- 7 pm Mass (from St. Anthony's, Calgary)
- 9 pm Mass (from St. Paul's, Airdrie)

DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

- 11 am Mass (from St. Joseph's, Calgary)
- Noon Mass (from Our Lady of Fatima, Calgary) - in Portuguese

DEC. 31 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

- 5 pm Mass (from St. Paul's Airdrie)

JAN 1 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

- 10:30 am Mass (from St. Anthony's, Calgary)
- Noon Mass (from Our Lady of Fatima, Calgary) - in Portuguese

Latest video messages from the Bishop



1. In case you missed it, here is the latest video message from Bishop McGrattan for all everyone, right from the Feed the Hungry site. A Christmas video message will be shared with you this weekend
 - Watch in [Youtube](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Download video](#)
2. Bishop McGrattan speaks on Bill C-6 & C-7 currently in the parliamentary process
 - Watch in [Facebook](#) | [Grandin Media](#)

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](#)

First Eucharist / Communion

For Sacrament Preparation Coordinator:

Documents and materials are going to be released early in January. A Zoom meeting will also be hosted with all who are responsible for the coordination of sacrament preparation in your parish.

- There is no registration period for First Communion since those who registered for First Reconciliation in the fall are also registered for this Sacrament.
- The format that was used for First Reconciliation will be replicated for First Communion with the addition of another session. The program has 10 chapters for First Communion instead of the 8 chapters for First Reconciliation.
- If you have not yet received the books for First Communion, please contact Sr. Mariflor Jacob at 403-218-5521 or mariflor.jacob@calgarydiocese.ca
- Information for parents are available at catholiccyyc.ca/sacraments
- Please see the chart below for the overview of the program.


Home-Based First Communion Sacrament Preparation					
Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 1 & 2 February 1 - 12	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 3 & 4 February 15 - 26	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 5 & 6 March 1 - 12	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 7 & 8 March 15 - 26	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 9 & 10 April 12 - 23	Celebration of the Sacrament in the Parish End of April and the month of May
Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 1 & 2 Via Zoom by the Diocese	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 3 & 4 Via Zoom by the Diocese	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 5 & 6 Via Zoom by the Diocese	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 7 & 8 Via Zoom by the Diocese	Parents Coaching Session for Chapters 9 & 10 Via Zoom by the Diocese	
Parents go through Chapters 1 & 2 with their children at home.	Parents go through Chapters 3 & 4 with their children at home.	Parents go through Chapters 5 & 6 with their children at home.	Parents go through Chapters 7 & 8 with their children at home.	Parents go through Chapters 9 & 10 with their children at home.	

Confirmation

For Sacrament Preparation Coordinator:

- The sacrament preparation program for Confirmation that is being endorsed by the Diocese of Calgary for 2021 is the online course of *Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation* by Ascension Press.

- The Diocese is simplifying the online program for the youth and their families by only requiring the completion of 11 select video lessons out of the total 24 lessons available and with the weekly accompanying learning activities.
- The entire program is hosted online by Ascension Press. Parishes only need to supply additional supports.
- The Diocese plans to produce other virtual supports for the youth and their families in 2021.
- Documents and materials for parishes on this modified program will be sent to you early in January.
- Parents will need to register twice:
 - Registration for sacrament preparation in your parish using your registration form – no cost for registration as they pay for the online course themselves.
 - Registration with Ascension Press' online course of [Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation](https://ascensionpress.com) (ascensionpress.com). Cost is US \$17.95 and families register directly with Ascension Press
- Registration is open for the whole month of January. You may wish to advertise this in your Christmas bulletin and on your parish website as soon as possible
- Information for parents are available at catholiccyyc.ca/sacraments
- Please see the chart below for the overview of the program

Online Sacrament Preparation for Confirmation				 ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE <i>of Calgary</i>
January	February	March	April	May & June Parishes are free to use these months for the implementation of additional supports for sacrament preparation and the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parishes. The Sacrament will be celebrated by the priests who will be granted the necessary faculties by Bishop McGrattan.
Registration	Online Video Lessons	Online Video Lessons	Online Video Lessons	
Parents need to register twice: 1. The Parish Registration for the Sacrament of Confirmation - no registration cost. 2. The Online Course of "Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation" from Ascension Press. Cost is US \$17.95 and registration is done online directly with www.ascensionpress.com .	The program for the Diocese of Calgary will only require the completion of <u>11 select video lessons</u> of the 24 lessons offered by the program from Ascension Press and the weekly accompanying learning activities. 1 video lesson per week for 11 weeks. From February 1 to April 30, 2021, there are a total of 13 weeks. Families can decide how they complete all the 11 lessons within the timeframe of three months.			

Year-End Giving

In order to receive 2020 tax receipts for donations for all parishes, Catholic Pastoral Centre or its ministries, they must be received in the Parishes or the Diocese by Dec. 31, 2020 at midnight (cash, credit card or online) **OR** post marked by December 31 (cheques). For more information about the guidelines for year-end giving, visit

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

- If you have any questions about these deadlines, please contact the Catholic Pastoral Centre (403-218-5545) or email finance@calgarydiocese.ca

On behalf of the Bishop, and all who will benefit from your gift, thank you again. We commit to using your gift as designated.

Announcements, Events & Resources

1. Fourth Sunday of Advent - Bulletin Shorts, free to use

[Mass Readings](#) | **How Can This Be?** Words of a visiting angel: Do not be afraid; God has this plan; you are full of grace. Mary speaks aloud what we all are thinking: "How can this be?" God makes it possible because God makes us holy!

- What should I stop fearing?
- What is God's plan for me just for this day?
- What will I do this week as God's holy person that benefits someone else?

Source: Diocese of Springfield

2. Christmas - Bulletin Shorts, free to use

Mass Readings | **A Great Light.** Isaiah declares (in 9:1): "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." We have surely walked in darkness during this pandemic year. Some of us, perhaps all of us may still be there. We have been confined to home. We have jobs and homes in peril. We grieve the sickness and death of family, friends, and unknown-to-us citizens of this country and of the world. Yet we take hope this Christmas. For we are not alone. We are not left in darkness. Today, the Lord Jesus Christ is with us. In truth, he never abandons us. He will be with us today and tomorrow and tomorrow's tomorrow. And all the tomorrows.

- How do I know that Jesus is with me, with us?

Source: Diocese of Springfield

3. What's happening in the Diocese of Calgary during the Advent & Christmas Season?

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

4. Employment Opportunities

A few employment opportunities are now available in the Diocese of Calgary. For more information and qualification details, please visit: [catholiccyyc.ca/careers](https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/careers)

- Admin. Assistant / Bookkeeper - St. Martha's Parish, Lethbridge
- Bookkeeper (part-time) - St. Ambrose / St. Catherine's, Coaldale
- Admin. Assistant (Level 2, part-time) - St. Ambrose / St. Catherine's, Coaldale

5. Have you been singing the Antiphons?

During this time of pandemic, the singing of the Mass is permitted by one cantor under strict conditions. Cantor may sing for the assembly the propers of the Mass: Introit (entrance antiphon), Offertory antiphon and Communion antiphon.

- Resources on singing the antiphons are available on our Diocesan website at: <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/blog/singing-the-antiphons>
- Parish musicians who are not sure about singing the antiphons, and would like to learn more about it can now learn online from Dr. Jenny Donelson (Seminary of New York/Dunwoodie) on [How to add Antiphons to your Parish Sunday Mass](#). Click *Enroll in course* to get access to the instruction videos.

6. The Psalms A doorway to Jewish-Catholic Dialogue

The CCCB – Canadian Rabbinic Caucus bilateral dialogue is releasing a new resource entitled: “The Psalms: A Doorway to Jewish-Catholic Dialogue.” This free resource presents a selection of teachings and reflections flowing from the Dialogue members’ deep study of a selection of psalms from the perspective of both traditions. This document likewise serves as an invitation for further dialogue among the faithful of the Catholic and Jewish communities in Canada.

[Download here](#)

7. How to adopt a healthy mindset during a very different Christmas season

Whatever your situation this holiday season, here are some tips on how to adopt a healthy mindset as you celebrate Christmas and get ready for 2021. [Read tips here](#)

8. **Imitate St. Joseph on a daily basis**

While prayers and devotions are important to honour St. Joseph, especially during the Year of St. Joseph, what is *more important* is to imitate the life and example of the foster-father of Jesus. How do we imitate his example? [Read more](#)

9. **6 Last-minute low-budget gift ideas**

When you're struggling with a low budget, and you want to give people gifts, and you want them to be meaningful, that's okay! It's really encouraging to remember that it's the thought that counts. Listen to the latest podcast from [Danielle Bean from Ascension Press](#)

10. **How do I offer hope to those discouraged this season?**

For those who are lonely or suffering, the joyous signs of Christmas can intensify their pain. We might not know what to say or do to encourage someone this season. And that's okay. Our goal isn't to "fix" or "remove" someone's suffering or difficulties. Still, there are some practical steps that we might consider for sharing hope with others this season. [Read more](#)

FCJ



RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE

A corporate ministry of the Sisters Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) since 1980



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

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 _____

Candidate's FULL LEGAL name as on birth certificate or Permanent Residency First _____ Middle _____ Last _____			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
PLEASE INDICATE CHOICE OF LEARNING (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>)			Home Based
School _____		Grade _____	Date of Birth _____
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> Holy Family Parish _____ </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Please indicate Home Parish </div> <div> St. Patrick's Parish _____ </div> </div>			
Mother's FULL Name _____ _____ (_____) Religion _____ <div style="text-align: center;">Maiden Name</div>			
Father's FULL Name _____ _____ Religion _____			
Child Lives with Both parents <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Shared Custody <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian/Other <input type="checkbox"/>			
Home address _____		City _____ Postal Code _____	
E-mail address (PRINT CLEARLY PLEASE!) _____			Phone Number _____
Church of Baptism or Profession of Faith _____		City _____	Date _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Still needs
Parish of First Holy Communion _____		City _____	Date _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Still needs
Parish of First Reconciliation _____		City _____	Date _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Still needs
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?			

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

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