Golden to Holy Family Parish MARCH 7, 2021 - 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

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



Catholic Women's League Marjorie Bowlby 403-527-2739 **Knights of Columbus** Ron Pisoni - 403-526-1848



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

PLEASE BE ON ALERT TO EMAIL SCAMS CLAIMING TO BE FROM **OUR PRIESTS!!! HIT DELETE!!!**

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.

Sunday 10:30am Mass

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

https://www.youtube.com/c hannel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut Q



OPERATING FINANCES	
February 1-28, 2021	
Operating Budget 2021	\$ 55,769
General Envelope	\$ 43,398
Collection	
Loose Collections	\$ 745
Future Development	\$ 3,172
Sale of Church Supplies	\$ 6,701
Other Ministries	\$ 680
Shortage YTD	-\$ 1,073
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 2,569
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,324
Clergy Retirement	\$ 55
Seminarian Fund	\$ 25
Mission Mexico	\$ 150
CARO	\$ 100
2021 TIA GOAL - \$??,???	
TO DATE \$ 5,475 = ??% OF THE WAY	
Thank You for your Generous Contributions	

† Masses Intentions Mar 6th - 12th †

Saturday, March 6

8:30am – George Zacher †

5:00pm - Allen Kaupp †

Sunday, March 7

8:30 am - Leroy Hammell †

10:30am - Steven & Olivia Blair & Family

6:00pm - Holy Family Parish

Monday, March 8

9:00am - Rosina Mucciaroni †

Tuesday, March 9

9:00am - Rhonda Hellman & Children

Wednesday March 10

9:00am - Fred & Brenda Hellman & Family

Thursday, March 11

9:00am - Catherine Bernhart †

Friday, March 12

9:00am - Michael Schmaltz †

3rd Sunday of Lent - Year B Sunday, March 7, 2021

1st Reading: Exodus 1-17

The Law was given through Moses.

Responsorial Psalm: 19.7-10 (R.Jn6.68)

R. Lord, you have the words of eternal life.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.18,22-25++

We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to some, but to those who are the called, the wisdom of God.

Gospel: John2.13-25

Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.



THIRSTING

During the Exodus, the People of the Hebrews grumbled for water. At God's direction, Moses provided it. At the well in Samaria, the woman came for potable water. But Jesus provided living water. She was forever changed.

- † For what am I really thirsty?
- † How is it that only Jesus can slake that thirst for me?
- † Drinking this living water now, what words and deeds must I change?



Confirmation

The next Decision Point lesson through Holy Family WILL be <u>IN PERSON</u> at Holy Family Church!! Session 4 is at 6:30pm Wednesday Mar. 17th So please note the following:

- 1. Wear your masks.
- 2. Arrive a few minutes before 6:30pm to sign in. We need to do this for attendance but also for tracing.
- 3. Accompany your child into the hall where all the children will be seated socially distanced. Make sure your child has their workbook and if possible their own pencil and eraser. We can provide them with some if they don't have one.
- 4. Parents will then continue into the church where you will have a parent session with the priest or deacon.
- 5. We ask for those who can, to help sanitize the pews after the meeting which will be 1 hour.

See you Wednesday!

First Holy Communion

The next class through Holy Family WILL be IN PERSON at Holy Family Church!! Session 4 is at 6:30pm Thursday Mar. 18th So please note the following:

- 1. Wear your masks.
- 2. Arrive a few minutes before 6:30pm to sign in. We need to do this for attendance but also for tracing.
- 3. Accompany your child into the hall where all the children will be seated socially distanced. Make sure your child has <u>their workbook and if possible their own pencil and eraser</u>. We can provide them with some if they don't have one.
- 4. Parents will then continue into the church where you will have a parent session with the priest or deacon. Also please be sure to bring your <u>Parent Session booklet</u> you were given during the Reconciliation classes. If you've misplaced it we will have extras available just ask for a booklet when you sign in.
- 5. We ask for those who can, to help sanitize the pews after the meeting which will be 1 hour.

**NOTE: If you would prefer to continue at home please see the schedule on the Diocese of Calgary website for parent sessions.

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me Sally at 403-527-6933 ext 105 or Fr. Iqbal ext 102 or email PASTOR@HOLYFAMILYMH.CA

See you Thursday!

Fr. Iqbal requested families come at 6:15pm on Thursday to give more time to sign in and get everyone settled.

Holy Family Parish

Friday, March 12
ADORATION

9:30am – Midnight

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

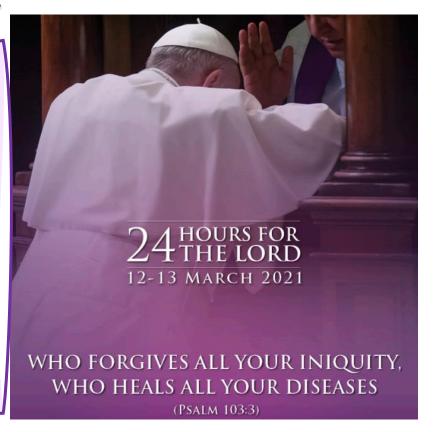
6:00pm - 6:30pm

LENTEN MISSION TALK

6:45pm - 7:45pm

RECONCILIATION

8:00pm - Midnight



"Since its introduction in 2014, the 24 Hours for the Lord is an annual worldwide Lenten initiative traditionally held on the Friday and Saturday preceding the fourth Sunday of Lent that invites Catholics to receive the mercy of God through Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Pontifical Council highlights that it is of significant importance to promote this initiative. In the situation where public worship has been restricted or is not authorised due to preventative measures and precautions regarding the pandemic, the Pontifical Council informs that the Eucharistic Adoration can be transmitted through online channels and encourages Catholics to unite spiritually in prayers and in personal

penitential reflection."



March 12, 2021 – Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

After the Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm, there will be Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 7:30pm until midnight.

Father Francis and Father Roque will be available for confessions in the Parish hall from 7:30pm to midnight.

Theme: Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.
(Psalm 103:3)

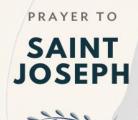
To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis announced that the Church would celebrate a special year dedicated to St. Joseph beginning on December 8, 2020 and continuing through December 8, 2021.

Join us for the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Friday, March 19, 2021, Mass at 5 pm.

the faithful are encouraged to pray the Novena to Saint Joseph which begins on Thursday March 11, 2021. (See Novena to Saint Joseph)

12 hour Eucharist Adoration on March 19th, 930am to 930pm, all parishioners encouraged to attend. Pope Francis said " I invite everyone to discover the beauty of the prayer of Adoration and to exercise it often". Volunteers to cover all 12 hours needed, if you can help please email Darrell at d gofsky@shaw.ca. If you cant volunteer, just come out the grace's received are out of this world.

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus



Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil.

Amen.

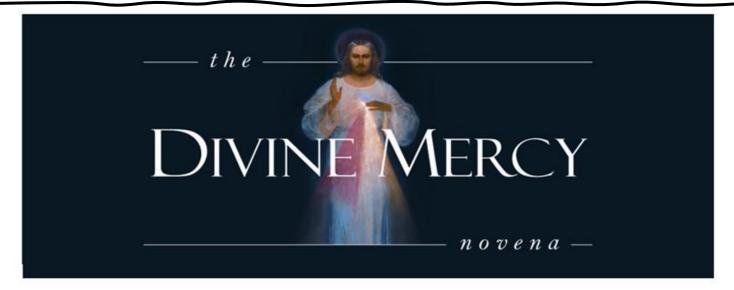
- Pope Francis, Patris Corde, 2020

Holy Family Catholic Women's League is hosting our second annual Bottle Drive as a fundraiser for our local charities.

Saturday April 17th 8:00 am - 5:30 pm Sunday April 18th 8:00 am - 5:30 pm Monday April 19th 8:00 am - 11:00 am



Shamrock Bottle Depot will have a truck on the east side of Holy Family to drop off your bottle donations, glass, plastic, plus milk cartons, juice, pop containers.



You are invited and encouraged to join the praying of the Divine Mercy Novena every day after mass commencing Tuesday, February 16 and continuing through until Divine Mercy Sunday, April 11. We will be praying the Daily Novena prayer for each of the nine days, followed by the Chaplet and the Litany of Trust in Divine Mercy. You may excuse yourself and depart after the conclusion of mass.

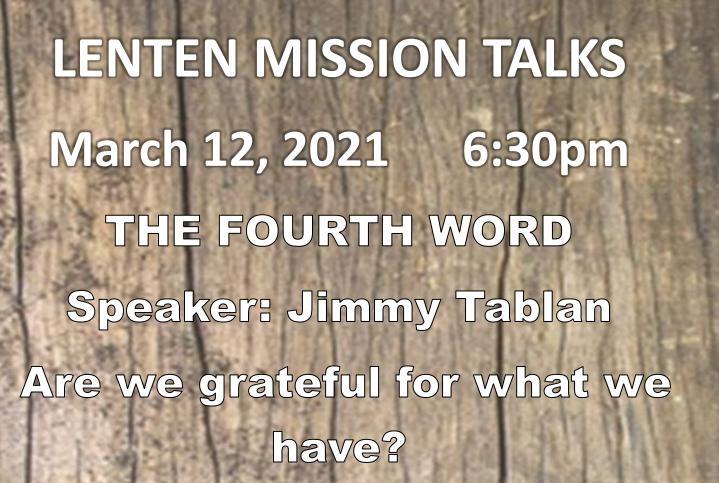
Weekdays immediately after 9:00 mass
Saturdays & Sundays immediately after 8:30 mass



Vincentian Corner

If you are looking to deepen your faith by helping those in need then St. Vincent de Paul may be for you. One of our members says this is the most rewarding thing she does. Another member says, "St. Vincent de Paul fills my cup in a world that empties it". Our meetings during the month of March will be held at Holy Family Parish. Our next meeting is March 2 at 4:00 p.m.

If you donated directly to St. Vincent de Paul in 2020 and did not pick up your tax receipt, it has been mailed to you.



"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34

Lenten Talks will be
Livestreamed on
YouTube
or come listen in
person.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE \$ 2,945

40 LOONIES FOR LENT

This lent, let unarticipate more fully in a Lenten spiritual discipline of reading the gospels, prayer, fasting, abstinence, and almsgiving. We encourage families to establish a daily program to pray for the less fortunate and to fast to become more empathetic for our hungry and starving brothers and sisters resulting in a spirit aligned for sacrificial almsgiving.

This year, Holy Family Parish and Knights of Columbus Council 9502 ask you to consider directing your Lenten sacrificial almsgiving to be equally split between the Mustard Seed and St. Vincent de Paul via our weekly parish donation envelopes collected at every weekend mass. Our goal this year is \$10000.

Simply write "40 LOONIES FOR LENT" and the dollar amount on your weekly parish donation envelope. You may donate your full Lenten gift of \$40.00 one time or contribute an amount of \$7.00 or more each week. If sacrificial giving means you can give more, please do so.

For those who are not using weekly envelopes you may make your cheque payable to Holy Family Parish or donate cash in a separate envelope marked with your name, address & "40 LOONIES FOR LENT" and place it in the weekly collection basket or drop it off at the Parish office. Alternatively, you may authorize the parish to process your donation on your credit card.

Look for updates on funds collected in the parish bulletin.

Please be generous. Thank you!

MARCH 2021 KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Gary Heinbecker has been a Knights of Columbus member for 34 years and currently serves as outside guard on our executive council. He is an active 4th degree Knight and holds the position of Faithful Scribe.

He is the Knights of Columbus representative on Holy Family Parish Pastoral Council where he is also Vice Chair. Gary is always willing to give up his own time to help others.

You will note that Gary has been a very diligent usher during the pandemic, and apparently has excellent mechanical skills when it comes to changing snow tires.

Gary and his wife Mary are part of team 13 which Feeds the Needy at 5th Avenue United church, they are also very faithful members of our Parish and we thank them for their dedication.

The Knights of Columbus would like to congratulate Brother **Gary Heinbecker** for receiving the Knight of the Month Award for March. Well-deserved.

Stations of the Cross 2021 – 6:00pm

followed by a Mission Talk each Friday night.

March 12 - RCIA February 19 - Knights of Columbus February 26 - Catholic Women's League March 5 - Finance Committee

March 19 - Parish Pastoral

March 26 - Filipino Community

Monday, March 29 - CWL with Margaret

Velichko Slide Show



March 5th, 2021 - Speaker: Fr. Iqbal

How do we share our life with others?

"Jesus said to his mother: "Woman, this is your son."

Then he said to the disciple: "This is your mother." John 19:26-27

March 12th, 2021 - Speaker: Jimmy Tablan

Are we grateful for what we have?

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken
me?"

Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34

March 19th, 2021 - Speaker: Deacon Robert Risling

Why Jesus is thirsty?

"I thirst." John 19:28

March 26th, 2021 - Speaker: Fr. Roque Pereira

What is our relationship with Him?

When Jesus had received the wine, he said,
"It is finished;" and he bowed his head and
handed over the spirit. John 19:30

March 30th, 2021 - Speaker: Fr. Rodel Abanto

Why trust in the Lord is important?

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

"Father, into your hands I commend my

spirit."

Luke 23:46

Talks will be Livestreamed on You Tube



3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

RESPECT & ACCEPTANCE

In our day-to-day life we try our best to show respect to everyone and everything whether it is people, animals, or place; in return we wish to have the same respect shown to us. We do believe by showing our respect to others, we accept them. Just imagine if there is no respect and acceptance left in the world, what would happen? To highlight the title of my reflection, the following story will help us to understand why respect is important to acceptance.

Once upon a time, in a city, a certain calf was born and a Rich Old Man bought the calf as he was very fond of the gentle animal, named him 'Delightful'. The Rich Old Man took good care of Delightful and fed him only the best. Delightful grew up into a big fine strong bull and he thought, "I was brought up by this generous man. He gave me good food and constant care, even in times of difficulties. Now I am a big grown-up bull I would like to use my strength to give something in return to my Master".

So Delightful said to the Rich Old Man, "Sir, please find some wealthy merchant who is proud of having many strong bulls. Challenge him by saying that your bull can pull one hundred heavily loaded bullock carts."

So the next day, the Rich Old Man struck up a conversation with a proud merchant. He brought up the topic of who had the strongest bull in the city. The merchant said, "Many have bulls, but no one has any as strong as mine."

The Rich Old Man said, "Sir, I have a bull who can pull one hundred heavily loaded bullock carts."

"No friend, how can there be such a bull? That is unbelievable!" said the merchant. The other replied, "I do have such a bull, and I am willing to make a bet." The merchant said, "I will bet a thousand gold coins that your bull cannot pull a hundred loaded bullock carts." So, the bet was made, and they agreed on a date and time for the challenge.

On the day of the challenge, the proud merchant attached together one hundred big bullock carts. He filled them with sand and gravel to make them very heavy. The Rich Old Man fed the finest rice to Delightful. He bathed him and decorated him and hung a beautiful garland of flowers around his neck. Then he harnessed Delightful to the first cart and climbed up onto it.

Amidst his sudden popularity, the Rich Old Man could not resist the urge to make himself seem very important. So, he cracked a whip in the air, and yelled at the faithful bull, "Pull, you dumb animal! I command you to pull, you big dummy!"

The bull called Delightful thought, "This challenge was my ideal. I have never done anything bad to my master, and yet he insults me with such harsh words!" So Delightful remained in his place and refused to pull the carts. The proud merchant laughed and demanded his winnings from the bet. The Rich Old Man had to pay him the one thousand gold coins. He returned home and sat down, saddened by his loss.

Delightful grazed peacefully on his way home. When he arrived, he saw his Master sadly lying on his side. He asked, "Sir, why are you lying there like that? Are you fine?" The man said, I lost a thousand gold coins because of you. With such a loss, how could I be fine?" The bull replied. "Sir, you called me 'dummy'. You even cracked a whip in the air over my head. In all my life, did I ever break anything, step on anything, make a mess in the wrong place, or behave like a 'dummy' in any way?"

Rich Old Man answered, "No, my pet." Delightful said, "Then Sir, why did you call me 'dumb animal', and insulted me though I have done nothing wrong? But now I feel sorry for you, so please go again to the merchant, and make the same bet for two thousand gold coins. And remember to use only the respectful words."

So, the Rich Old Man went back to the merchant and made the bet for two thousand gold coins. The proud merchant thought it would be easy money. Again, he set up the one hundred heavily loaded bullock carts. Again, the Rich Old Man fed and bathed the bull, and hung a garland of flowers around his neck.

When all was ready, the rich man touched Delightful's forehead with a lotus blossom, having given up the whip. Thinking of him as fondly as if he were his own child, he said, "My son, please do me the honour of pulling these one hundred bullock carts."

Lo and behold, the wonderful bull pulled with all his might and dragged the heavy carts, until the last one stood in the place of the first. The merchant, with his mouth hanging open in disbelief, had to pay the two thousand gold coins. The onlookers were so impressed that they honoured the bull called Delightful with gifts. But even more important to the Rich Old Man than his winnings, was his valuable lesson in humility and respect.

Isn't it an amazing journey of Lent we have started by learning respect and accepting Jesus' sacrifice with humility? If we recall the readings of the previous Sundays, we can find ourselves deep rooted in the spirit of Lent. On the First Sunday of Lent we reflected on the Temptation of Jesus and the beginning of his public ministry which started with the words "The time is fulfilled, believe and repent for the Kingdom of God is near". And the Last Sunday's Sacred Scripture invited us to open our hearts and minds to reflect and meditate on the great mystery of Jesus' transfiguration. During that period, we contemplated also on the excitement of St. Peter who said "Rabbi, it is good to be here. We will build three dwellings....". Isn't it encouraging that every day or every week we are able to be with the Lord during the celebration of the Holy Mass?

Today on this Third Sunday of Lent we are not only shown the true spirit of the Law but also the disrespectful behaviour towards the Temple. In the First reading we see that people of Israel are given commandments of God by Moses. These laws are core of moral life of everyone who believes in God alone. These commandments help everyone to be strong in their spiritual journey of Lent.

The journey of Lent is all about the Holy Cross. We strongly believe that the Holy Cross is a source of our salvation and redemption because our Saviour died on the Cross to save and give us eternal life. St. Paul rightly says in the Second Reading "The message about the Cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God". Every time when we participate in the Station of the Cross, we always repeat these words "We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You. Because, by Your holy cross, You have redeemed the world". People

make their own understanding of the Cross, while St. Paul says, "For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength".

In the Gospel today we see the human side of Jesus who is upset with people who are disrespectful toward the Holy Temple. He makes the cord and drove everyone out of the Temple who were using Temple for mere profits and told them "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" This is the beginning of the real teaching which will come later as people will demand a sign from him. Holy Father Pope Francis' reflection on this Gospel is very inspiring as he says "Today's Gospel presents the episode of the expulsion of the merchants from the temple. Jesus made "a whip of cords, he drove them all, with the sheep and oxen, out of the temple", the money, everything. Such a gesture gave rise to strong impressions in the people and in the disciples. It clearly appeared as a prophetic gesture, so much so that some of those present asked Jesus: "What sign have you to show us for doing this?", who are you to do these things? Show us a sign that you have authority to do them. They were seeking a divine and prodigious sign that would confirm that Jesus was sent by God. And He responded: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up". They replied: "It has taken 46 years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?". They did not understand that the Lord was referring to the living temple of his body, that would be destroyed in the death on the Cross but would be raised on the third day. Thus, in three days. "When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that He had said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken".

This is also very interesting to see what people are selling because all those became part of Jesus' life later. The doves were offered for his purification which is the symbol of peace and Jesus is Prince of Peace. The sheep bring us to the point of reflecting on the qualities of Good Shepherd who laid his life for his sheep. The money was taken from the Temple by Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus and again thrown on the floor of the Temple by him when he came to know about his betrayal of Jesus. Furthermore, we can also meditate on the fact these things also represent the worldly attachments and evils which can destroy our lives.

From the Gospel today we have understood following points:

1. Jesus cares about us and he does not want the Temple of our body to be polluted by the corruption of the evil but kept safe and pure from the poison of sin. St. Paul writing his Letter to Ephesians says "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole

armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put the on breastplate righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God".

2. Jesus wants us to be respectful to God's commandments and never go against them. He suffered and died for us to save. He wants us to come to him for forgiveness and healing because if we have died with him, we will also rise with him as well.



3. He does not need our human testimony, as he is Divine who has the power to know us in and out. He is always standing and knocking at the door to call us to follow him and to be saved.

Third Sunday of Lent from the Diocese

Lenten Spiritual Renewal #3



- Watch Reflection #3 from the Bishop: The Call to Holiness - Youtube | Website
- Watch the full series <u>here</u>
- Read the Bishop's Lenten Message <u>here</u>

Upcoming reflection themes:

- March 7, Third Sunday of Lent: Prayer
- March 14, Fourth Sunday of Lent: Listening to the Word of God
- March 21, Fifth Sunday of Lent: Proclaiming the Word of God
- March 28, Palm Sunday: Reconciliation and Healing
- April 4, Easter Sunday: The Holy Eucharist

COVID-19 Resources

- Sacraments & Liturgies
- Spiritual Resources
- <u>Sacrament Preparation</u> (First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation)
- Online Formation Opportunity

Visit the Diocesan Event Calendar

Follow us on Social Media
Facebook | Instagram | Twitter

Weekly reflections can be found here:

<u>Vatican News</u> | <u>The Sunday Website</u>

<u>Sunday Connection</u> | <u>CCCB Reflection</u>
(new link)

Daily and Sunday Mass Prayers & Readings: CCCB Daily Readings (pick the desired date)

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses:

https://www.catholicyyc.ca | TELUS Optik TV Ch. 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit Salt+Light TV, Shalom World TV, EWTN and Vision TV

February Edition of Faithfully

The February edition of Faithfully was released last Thursday, Feb. 11. This month, Faithfully is featuring the Bishop's Lenten message, the faith stories from those who are sick and their carers, Catholic schools advocates and stories highlighting the month of the Holy Family.

- Read Faithfully <u>here</u>
- Subscribe to Faithfully

Sunday Livestream Mass with the Bishop

Bishop McGrattan is offering Sunday Masses at the following parishes in March. Masses will be livestreamed via Parish Livestream link(s).

 Saturday, March 6 at 5 pm - Anticipated Mass for the Third Sunday of Lent | Holy Name, Calgary. Watch on <u>Facebook</u>

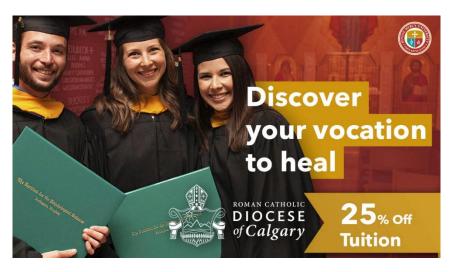
- Sunday, March 7 at 11 am Third Sunday of Lent | St. Francis de Sales, High River. Watch on Youtube.
- Sunday, March 14 at 11 am Fourth Sunday of Lent | St. Pius X, Calgary. Watch on Youtube.
- Saturday, March 20 at 5 pm Anticipated Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Lent | All Saints Parish, Lethbridge. Watch on their website or TikiLive
- Sunday, March 21 at 10:30 am Fifth Sunday of Lent | Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat. Watch on Youtube

Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Friday, March 19 at 5 pm | St. Mary's Cathedral. Livestream info to be confirmed.
- Friday, March 19 at 7pm | St. Joseph's, Calgary. Watch on Youtube of Facebook

Reduced tuition rates from DMU

Divine Mercy University (DMU) is the first and only graduate school that integrates the science of psychology and proven therapeutic methods with the Catholic-Christian understanding of the person, marriage and the family. DMU provides educational instruction to all Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary applicants at a reduced tuition.



Parish members in good standing with their respective parish will receive a tuition reduction of 25% for any of the DMU online programs. To learn more about Divine Mercy University, contact divinemercy.edu | 703-416-1441



Online Faith Formation Courses

Certificate in Catholic Studies

The Benedict XVI Institute for New Evangelization offers comprehensive selection of courses on various aspects of the Catholic faith. All are offered online, so you can study from the comfort of home and work around your personal schedule. Each course runs five weeks and costs \$85. Take an individual course for interest, or work toward one or all the twenty two specialized Certificates in Catholic Studies. This program is open to adults and youth of all backgrounds and education levels. The next start date is April 5, 2021. Students may register completely online at newman.edu/ccs Visit our website for further details and FAQs.

Other online formation opportunities

These formation opportunities will help you with your faith journey and to help you grow closer to Christ. Find a list of webinars and courses on our

diocesan website here.

Women's Lenten Liturgy

Beloved Daughter's Ministry invites women in the Diocese to attend a Lenten Liturgy "The Women on the Road to Calvary." on **Saturday, March 20, 2021**. This Lenten event will start with a Mass with Fr. John Nemanic at 9 am, and followed by Adoration and reflection from Fr. Cristino Bouvette. Please note that all COVID protocols upheld by the city and Diocese will be in place for the duration of the event. To register, click here.



Worth Sharing

- 1. Third Sunday of Lent Bulletin Shorts, free to use Mass Readings | Cleansing Temples. After turning water to wine at Cana, Jesus goes to Jerusalem today and cleans out the Temple. This can be a helpful metaphor for our Lenten retreat. We say that we are temples of the Holy Spirit. How, then, are we to act? The Book of Exodus is clear. It speaks of right conduct in all areas of common life.
 - 1. What needs cleaning in my thinking and speech?
 - 2. What needs cleaning in my actions?
 - 3. How will I embrace and support others who are also cleaning up?

 Source: Diocese of Springfield
- 2. First Scrutiny Third Sunday of Lent Bulletin Shorts, free to use

Mass Readings: Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8. John 4:5-42 **Thirsting.** During the Exodus, the People of the Hebrews grumbled for water. At God's direction, Moses provided it. At the well in Samaria, the woman came for potable water. But Jesus provided living water. She was for ever changed.

- 1. For what am I really thirsty?
- 2. How is it that only Jesus can slake that thirst for me?
- 3. Drinking this living water now, what words and deeds must I change? Source: Diocese of Springfield
- 3. Pope Francis' prayer intention for March 2021

Pope Francis' prayer intention for March seeks to highlight the joy that the Sacrament

of Reconciliation brings, and reminds us that it's a loving and merciful encounter between us and God.

Full text from the Pope's intention: When I go to confession, it is in order to be healed, to heal my soul. To leave with greater spiritual health. To pass from misery to mercy. The centre of confession is not the sins we declare, but the divine love we receive, of which we are always in need. The centre of confession is Jesus who waits for us, who listens to us and forgives us. Remember this: In the heart of God, we come before our mistakes. And let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the forgiveness and infinite mercy of God. And let us pray that God may give his Church merciful priests and not torturers. Watch Video here

4. Reminder: March 11 is the start of the Novena to St. Joseph

Bishop McGrattan encourages parishes, families, and the faithful to pray the <u>Novena to Saint Joseph</u> which begins on **Thursday March 11, 2021.** To find the Novena, please visit: <u>catholicyyc.ca/stjoseph.html</u>

5. Alpha Online webinar with Fr. James Mallon & Nicky Gumbel

Did you know that 5600 parishes worldwide are running Alpha now? Join Fr James Mallon and Nicky Gumbel to hear their vision for evangelization at this significant moment for the church and the part Alpha Online can play in helping parishes respond. There will be a time of prayer and the opportunity for Q&A during this live webinar. Register here

6. Permanent Diaconate information sessions

If you are interested or feel that you are being called to a vocation as a Permanent Deacon, and you meet the qualifications listed in the Brochure (link below), please join in on one of the following information sessions (Zoom). When: **Wednesday, April 21 at 7 pm, or Saturday, April 24 at 10 am.** For more information, click here

7. Retreat for unemployed persons

Loss of employment can be trying to our souls and our emotional balance, not just our financial health. At this time in history, a significant number of people are without work. FCJ Centre invites you to this special retreat "Gift of Hope" on **Friday, March 26 to Sunday, at 1 pm.** Cost: Free! This retreat is not about job-finding but a heart helping retreat. The focus will be on getting in touch with feelings, discovering gifts, and supporting one another in a time of personal transition. It is designed to help find patience, hope, humour and self-esteem in God's creative love. This program is sponsored by The Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), FCJ Christian Life Centre, and generous contributions from our donors. For more information, click here

8. Share Love, Share Lent resources

Prayer of the Faithful for the *Third Sunday of Lent:* For members of our community; may they act in solidarity with their sisters and brothers around the world in protecting God's Creation, our common home. Let us pray to the Lord.

- 1. For the rest of the Lenten Prayers of the Faithful in Lent click here
- 2. D&P Solidarity Calendar can be downloaded here

3. All campaign resources can be found here

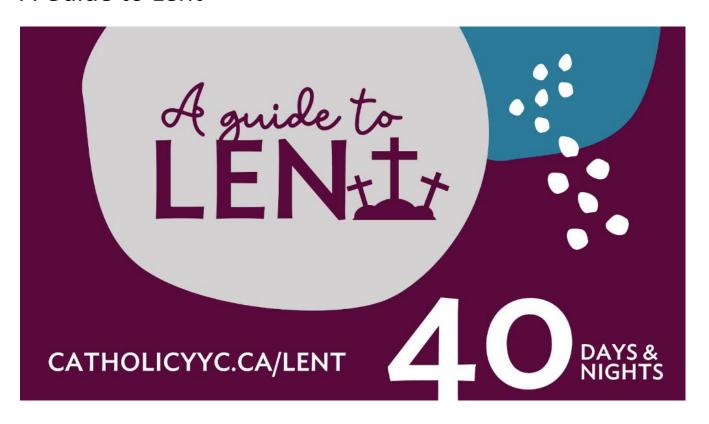
9. Employment opportunity at St. Michael Catholic Community

There is one new employment opportunity at St. Michael's Catholic Community for the position of **Administrative Assistant**. For more information and application details, visit catholicyvc.ca/careers.html

10. Pope's recommended Lenten fast

After praying the midday Angelus on February 28, Pope Francis expressed his hopes that everyone is having a good journey in Lent. The pope went on to make a recommendation for a Lenten fast, ones that will not make you hungry! Read more

A Guide to Lent



Together we prepare for the great Easter mysteries by committing ourselves to fulfill our baptismal call to maturity, holiness, service, and community. The Diocese of Calgary have prepared a Lent Resources page for individuals, family, children, ministries and pastoral leaders in the Diocese: catholicyc.ca/Lent

What's Happening?

An Evening in Conversation with Fratelli Tutti

You are invited to: Imagining a More Just World After Covid-19: An Evening in Conversation with Fratelli Tutti" on **March 2 at 6 pm MT**, in partnership with, the Centre for Faith, Reason, Peace, and Justice at St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon. This free event will consist of a

moderated, interdisciplinary panel with four panelists: Dr. Peter Baltutis (CWL Chair for Catholic Studies, St. Mary's University); Dr. Susanna Barnes (Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan); Ms. Georgina Jolibois (Mayor of La Loche, Saskatchewan); Dr. David McGrane (Political Studies, St. Thomas More College). The panelists will reflect upon Pope's Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti to imagine - together with the audience - a more just post-pandemic world. Archbishop Murray Chatlain (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Keewatin - Le Pas) will provide an initial response to the panel. Small group discussion will follow. For more info or to register, click here.

24th Annual God Squad Men's Conference

Men of the Diocese: don't miss this. When: **March 20.** God Squad Canada invites you to join their 24th annual conference. The theme for this virtual conference is St. Joseph: Sanctifier of the Hidden Life! Leading up to the conference, God Squad also ask that participants pray the Consecration to St. Joseph. God Squad Conference this year is a truly Canadian conference, with speakers from across the country: Bishop Scott McCaig, Andre Regnier, Jake Khuym, and Fr. Cristino Bouvette! For more information or to register, visit: godsquad.ca/2021-conference | Download Poster

The Bishop's Dinner

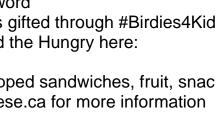
This year, our annual Bishop's Dinner will be a little different. With so many of our community members facing food insecurity, we've redirected our efforts to provide care packages to those in need.

Feed the Hungry is a Diocese of Calgary provides care packages to 300 guests every Sunday at St. Mary's Hall. We are currently providing food bundles that guests can take with them.

You can help us support this important initiative in 3 different ways:

- Share this with your community to help spread the word
- Make a bigger impact with your donation. Donations gifted through #Birdies4Kids program will be matched up to 50%! Donate to Feed the Hungry here: https://shawcharityclassic.com/donatenow
- Provide items to cover 300 food bundles (store-wrapped sandwiches, fruit, snacks and bottles of water. Email feedthehungry@calgarydiocese.ca for more information





40 Days for Life

As people of faith, we affirm that all human life is sacred from the moment of conception to natural death. 40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and peaceful vigils outside of abortion

clinics. The spring campaign is from Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17 to Mar. 28, 2021.

Here are some ways your parish can be involved for the protection of life, to pray for the aborted babies, their mothers, fathers, families, those experiencing unexpected pregnancies, and for staff and physicians working in abortion clinics.

- Offer Mass
- Choose a day in the week to pray the Rosary for these intentions
- Choose a day to fast
- Choose a day to pray before The Blessed Sacrament
- Share the pro-life message via parish communication methods homilies, video clips, online church bulletins, announcements, etc.
- Choose a day to pray outside of the Kensington Clinic by signing up here https://www.40daysforlife.com/vigil-hours-signup.aspx?l_id=359
- View "Unplanned" and other movies, documentaries and informative and inspirational videos concerning abortion
- Read books that have a strong pro-life message
- Visit www.40DaysforLife.com
 - Sign up and listen to their free podcasts
 - Sign up to receive weekly prayers/devotions via email
 - Read the 40 Days for Life blog
- Study the Church's teachings on Abortion in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 2270-2275

<u>Please see the attached Pre and Post Pregnancy Resources Sheet.</u> This is a helpful tool to know where you may refer those who need these resources. For more information about 40 Days for Life in Calgary, click here

IWIN raffle to support survivors of human trafficking

February 22 was National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. In recognition, IWIN (I'm Worth It Now) launched a raffle with some great prizes to support survivors of human trafficking. Tickets can be purchased by emailing your name and phone number to iwincalgary@gmail.com - payment is by etransfer to the same email. See the poster for more details.

Nurturing Friendship Webinars

The CCCB Office for Evangelization and Catechesis will offer a four-part webinar series, "Nurturing Friendship, the *Directory for Catechesis* in Dialogue with the Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti*." Beginning 2 March 2021, the series will explore how the themes of these two documents call catechists to be people of hope who promote human dignity and communion with God by building bridges and asking 'Who is my neighbour?'

The series is designed for those who have responsibility for evangelization and catechesis including, clergy, consecrated persons, laity involved in ministry, directors and coordinators of evangelization and catechesis, and Catholic educators.

- Program (or check on catholicyyc.ca/news)
 - Session 2: Tuesday, March 9, at 11 am, "The Catechist asks: Who is my neighbour? Parable of the Good Samaritan as a paradigm for encounters of mercy" with Elisa Lollino and Dr. Josephine Lombardi
 - Session 3: Tuesday, March 16 at 11 am, "The Catechist Promotes Human Dignity and Communion with God" with Dr. Nick Olkovich & Dr. Anne Walsh
 - Session 4: Tuesday, March 23 at 11 am, "The Catechist builds bridges with diverse faith communities" with Julien Hammond and Charlene Peters.
- Download Poster | Register here

Follow us on Social Media

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter

Weekly reflections can be found here:

Vatican News | The Sunday Website Sunday Connection

Daily and Sunday Mass Prayers & Readings: CCCB Daily Readings (pick the desired date)

Livestreams

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses in the Diocese of Calgary is available at: https://www.catholicyyc.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 <u>Salt+Light TV, Shalom World TV</u>, <u>EWTN</u> and <u>Vision TV</u>.

During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is a witness to fraternal charity and a work of justice pleasing to God. (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2462). There are several special opportunities for almsgiving through donations. Find ways to donate to your parish community and other ministries in the Diocese. Visit our Giving page

LIVESTREAM

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

Sunday 10:30am Mass Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream https://www.voutube.com/channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/ /UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut Q



EMAIL SCAMS

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 preauthorized 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].

LINKS

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



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



Check out opportunities to join online programs run by the FCJ Centre (retreats, spiritual exercises, daily examen, prayers etc.). Visit their events calendar



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.

March 12-14: Outside Group – Private Booking

March 19-21: Outside Group – Private Booking

March 26-28: Women's Serenity Weekend

March 31: Charity of the Cross

April 9-11: Men's Serenity Weekend

April 16-18: Couple's Weekend

April 23-25: Anglican Weekend

April 30 - May 2: Women's Weekend

May 7-9: Young Christian Professionals (Ages 20-40)

May 14-16: Outside Group – Private Booking

May 17-21: Diocese of Calgary RC Clergy

May 28-30: Outside Group – Private Booking

June 4-6: Women's Weekend

June 11-13: Men's Weekend

June 14-19: Outside Group – Private Booking

June 21-27: 6 Day Preached Retreat

July 17: Brother Sun-Sister Moon

July 18-25: 7 Day Directed Retreat



GOOD FRIDAY: Reflections on the Way to the Cross – with Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick C.S.Sp.

HOLY SATURDAY: The Luminous

Mysteries of the Rosary – with Fr. John Bertão

Holy Week Reflections

WATCH ON TV APRIL 2 & 3, 2021

www.dailytvmass.com Toll Free: 1-888-383-6277





GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTIONS ON THE WAY TO THE CROSS

with Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick C.S.Sp.

APRIL 2 – WATCH DURING
YOUR REGULAR TV MASS TIMES

We come face to face with Christ in those who suffer. Through these Stations of the Cross, we follow in Jesus' footsteps from Pilate's palace, to Calvary. We mark ourselves with the sign of the cross and walk with Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick on the way to the cross. This production is not the traditional Way of the Cross, as it invites us to join with the faithful followers of Christ, especially his mother, and to enter into the passion and death of Jesus our saviour.

In appreciation of your kind support, please check the appropriate box on your donation form if you would like us to send you the new booklet based on these reflections.



HOLY SATURDAY THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

with Fr. John Bertão

APRIL 3 – WATCH DURING YOUR REGULAR TV MASS TIMES

"With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the School of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love." St. John Paul II

Holy Saturday is a time of contemplation for Catholics as we wait for the joy of our Easter celebration. Father John Bertão will be sharing a reflection on the Luminous Mysteries. (Baptism of Christ, Wedding at Cana, Proclamation of the Kingdom, Transfiguration, Institution of the Eucharist.) These newest of the mysteries of the Rosary, established by St. Pope John Paul II in 2002, have been called "Mysteries of Light" and are messages of enlightenment and hope.