



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

APRIL 25, 2021 – 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

FORMED.org

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!

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/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q

You Tube



” Then the people rejoiced because these had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord
1 CHRONICLES 29:9

1.4 MILLION of the Diocesan goal will financially support the approved diocesan ministries, partner organizations, and agencies. See list at catholicyyc.ca/tia

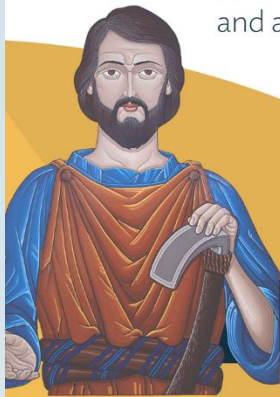
OUR PARISH GOAL

\$ 49,657

Everything raised **OVER** our parish goal will go to support*:

Mustard Seed
Medicine Hat Food Bank
& Society of St. Vincent de Paul

TO DATE \$ 12,485= 25% OF THE WAY



2021
THE YEAR of
ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLICYC.CA/TIA

OPERATING FINANCES

March 1-31, 2021

Operating Budget 2021	\$ 55,769
General Envelope Collection	\$ 43,223
Loose Collections	\$ 586
Future Development	\$ 3,317
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 8,660
Other Ministries	\$ 525
Budget Vs Actual	\$ 767

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,157
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,311
Clergy Retirement	\$ 35
Mission Mexico	\$ 130
CARO	\$ 70

*Thank You for your
Generous Contributions*

† Masses Intentions April 24th – 30th †

Saturday, April 24

5:00pm – Chris Hellman †

Sunday, April 25

8:30 am – Edward Hertz & Anthony Hertz †

10:30am – Adolf Hoffart †

6:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Monday, April 26

9:00am – Marion Minchuk †

Tuesday, April 27

9:00am – Tina Hertz

Wednesday April 28

9:00am – Joyce Risling †

Thursday, April 29

9:00am – Yvonne D'Amour & Dorothy Hecker †

Friday, April 30

9:00am – Angelo & Dorothy Giacobbo †

4th Sunday of Easter - Sunday, April 25, 2021

1st Reading: Acts 4.7-12

There is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

Responsorial Psalm: 118.1+8-9,21-23,26-28 (R. 22)

R. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3.1-2

We will see God as he is.

Gospel: John 10.11-18

The good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

BEING GOOD

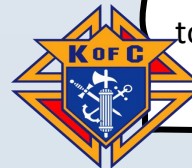
Jesus is good. He is the best of shepherds. He knows and protects, leads and loves. He offers himself as a pattern for our own living.

- † Who needs my guidance?
- † Who needs my love and protection?
- † How will I be good today, this week, this Easter Time?

Holy Family Catholic Women's League would like to thank everybody that contributed to the Bottle Drive.



The Knights on Columbus would like to thank everybody that contributed to the Food Drive.



Light Weigh One King is coming back to Holy Family Parish. This 12-week DVD Bible Study program is designed to enrich our relationship with Jesus Christ and improve health through weight loss and healthy eating. New research shows church-based meetings increase people's weight loss success. There are no weigh-ins. Let Our LORD and King help you break free from all things keeping you chained! A **Light Weigh One King** Orientation will be held on **Thursday, April 29** at 6:30 pm in the Faith Room at Holy Family Parish. We will begin our 12-week session on Thursday, May 6 at 6:30 pm in the Faith Room for all new and previous members to attend. Hope to see you there!

Make sure to check out the article on the Calgary Diocese website that features our volunteer, Pat Ries.

[Volunteerism - the hidden power in parishes - Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary \(catholiccyyc.ca\)](http://catholiccyyc.ca)



Confirmation

ST. PATRICK'S CONFIRMATION MASS

Saturday May 15th at 10:30am at Holy Family Parish.

HOLY FAMILY CONFIRMATION MASS

Sunday May 16th at 2:00pm at Holy Family Parish

IMPORTANT INFO:

All candidates must go to confession before Confirmation.

First Holy Communion

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

***NOTE: If any candidate has NOT received 1st Reconciliation please email Sally (sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca) ASAP so we can set up a time. Your child will not be able to receive 1st Communion if they did not get this sacrament.

1st Communion Masses:

Holy Family Parish - Friday April 23rd at 6:30pm

St. Patrick's Church - Tuesday April 27th at 7:00pm & Thursday April 29th at 7:00pm



2021 Knights of Columbus #9502 Vocations Challenge

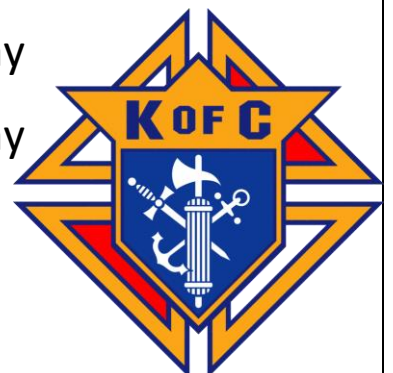
Knights of Columbus #9502 would like to thank Mother Teresa School, Ecole St. John Paul II, St. Patrick's School, St. Mary's School, Notre Dame Academy and At-Home Learning Catholic students for participating in the 2021 Vocations Challenge. This year we received 449 entries from these schools. We want to acknowledge the effort made by these students, their teachers and principals in this Knights of Columbus Faith in Action Community activity.

The Knights of Columbus also want to express our gratitude to our program sponsor, Nehal Patel, owner of Trans Canada Way Pizza Hut and Downtown Dairy Queen. Mr. Patel's continued support provides each of our winners with a \$25 gift certificate to Pizza Hut or Dairy Queen.

This year's winning posters can be seen on the Knights of Columbus bulletin board in the church lobby.

Congratulations to the following students for their winning poster selections:

Grade 1	Presley Morrison	Ecole St. John Paul II
Grade 2	Kellan Taylor	Ecole St. John Paul II
Grade 3	Rae Jensen	St. Patrick's School
Grade 4	Nellie Campbell	St. Patrick's School
Grade 5	Saoirze Masanque	Mother Teresa School
Grade 6	Imogen Reynolds	Notre Dame Academy
Grade 7	Haya Carino	Notre Dame Academy
Grade 7	May Valle	St. Mary's School
Grade 8	Madison Cox	St. Mary's School





Presley Morrison

Grade 1

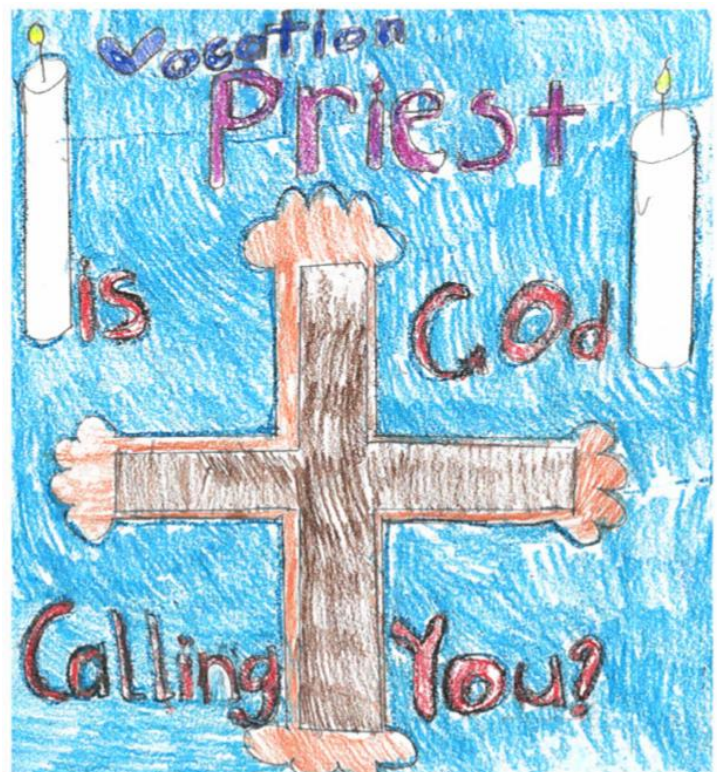
Ecole St. John Paul II



Kellan Taylor

Grade 2

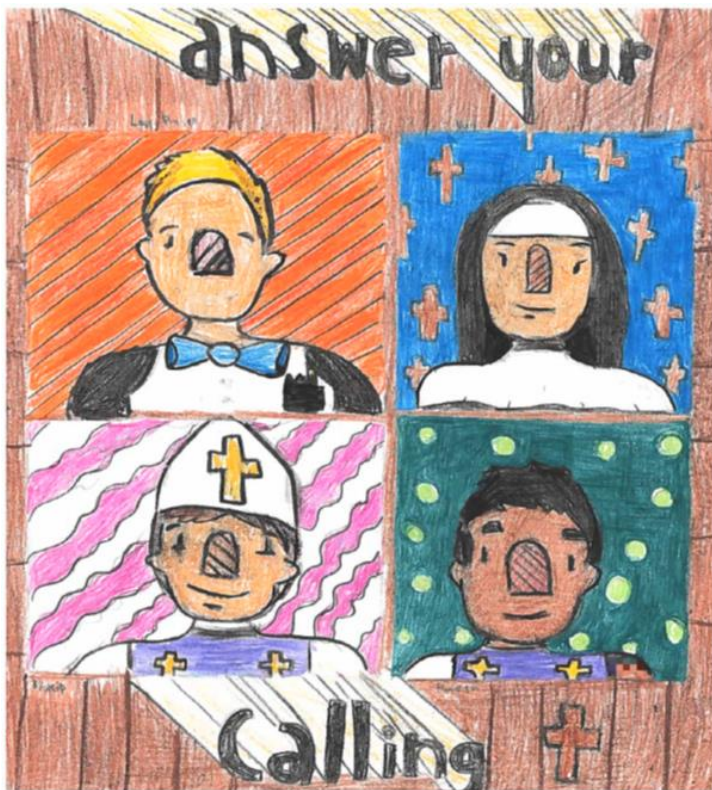
Ecole St. John Paul II



Rae Jensen

Grade 3

St. Patrick's School



Nellie Campbell

Grade 4

St. Patrick's School

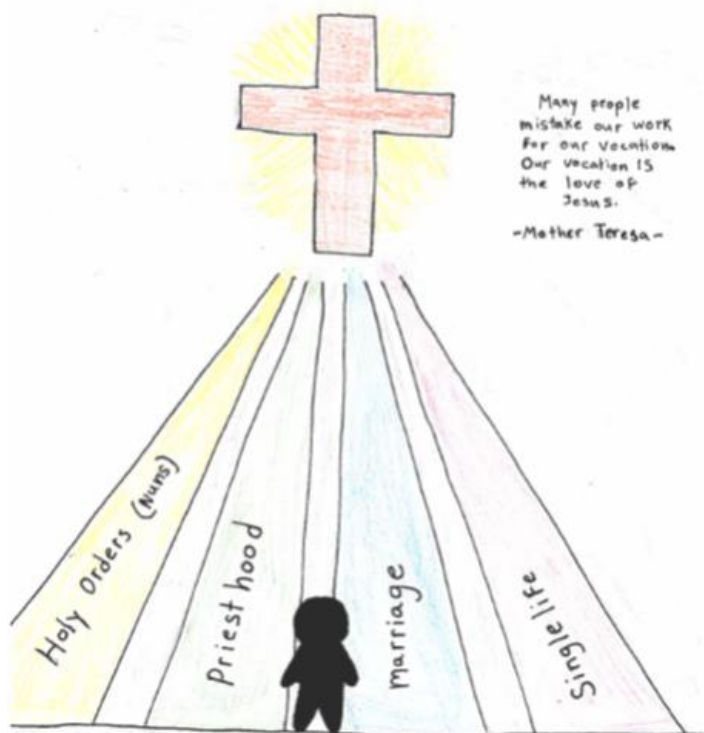


Saoirse Masanque

Grade 5

Mother Teresa School

What path will you Choose?



Imogen Reynolds

Grade 6

Notre Dame Academy



Hayo Carino
Grade 7
Notre Dame Academy



Madison Cox
Grade 8
St. Mary's School



May Valle
Grade 7
St. Mary's School



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP

There was once a Shakespearean actor who was known everywhere for his one-man shows of readings and recitations from the classics. He would always end his performance with a dramatic reading of Psalm 23. Each night, without exception, as the actor began his recitation - "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. the crowd would listen attentively. And then, at the conclusion of the Psalm, they would rise in thunderous applause in appreciation of the actor's incredible ability to bring the verse to life.

But one night, just before the actor was to offer his customary recital of Psalm 23, a young man from the audience spoke up. "Sir, do you mind if tonight I recite Psalm 23?" The actor was quite taken back by this unusual request, but he allowed the young man to come forward and stand front and center on the stage to recite the Psalm, knowing that the ability of this unskilled youth would be no match for his own talent.

With a soft voice, the young man began to recite the words of the Psalm. When he was finished, there was no applause. There was no standing ovation as on other nights. All that could be heard was the sound of weeping. The audience had been so moved by the young man's recitation that every eye was full of tears. Amazed by what he had heard, the actor said to the youth, "I don't understand. I have been performing Psalm 23 for years. I have a lifetime of experience and training - but I have never been able to move an audience as you have tonight. Tell me, what is your secret?"

The young man quietly replied, "Well sir, you know the Psalm... I know the Shepherd."

We continue our faith journey to grow in mutual relationship with the Lord during this Season of Easter. The Season of Easter is a season of cherishing the gift of life and mystery of resurrection. Last Sunday we reflected that Jesus came to his disciples and invited them to touch

and see him to believe that he is truly risen from the dead and gives peace to all of us. This Sunday is called Good Shepherd Sunday and we are invited to reflect on the qualities of Good Shepherd and our relationship with the Good Shepherd as the story above mentions “I know the Shepherd”.

Good Shepherd Sunday invites us each year to rediscover, with ever new astonishment, how Jesus defined himself, reading it again in the light of his passion, death, and resurrection. “The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep”; these words are wholly fulfilled when Christ, freely obeying the will of the Father, is immolated on the Cross. The significance that He is “the Good Shepherd” thus becomes completely clear: He gives life, He offered his life in sacrifice for us all: for you, for you, for you, for me, for everyone! And for this reason, He is the Good Shepherd!

Christ is the true shepherd, who fulfils the loftiest model of love for the flock: He freely lays down his own life, no one takes it from Him, but He gives it for the sheep. In open opposition to false shepherds, Jesus presents himself as the one true shepherd of the people. A bad shepherd thinks of himself and exploits the sheep; a good shepherd thinks of the sheep and gives himself.

In the words of Holy Father Pope Francis “In the figure of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we contemplate the Providence of God, his paternal solicitude for each one of us. He does not leave us on our own! The result of this contemplation of Jesus the true and good Shepherd, is the exclamation of poignant astonishment that we find in the Second Reading “Beloved: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are”. It is truly a surprising and mysterious love, for by giving us Jesus as the Shepherd who gives his life for us, the Father has given us all the greatest and most precious that He could give us. It is the purest and most sublime love, for it is not motivated by necessity, is not conditioned on accounting, is not attracted by a self-interested desire for exchange. Before this love of God, we feel immense joy and we open ourselves to recognizing how much we have freely received”. Isn’t an amazing reflection by Pope Francis?

No one can be a shepherd without knowing the sheep and neither without relationship. In the Book of Ezekiel, we can find two types of shepherds: first the false shepherd who are not worried about the sheep but themselves. Prophet Ezekiel prophesy against them in these words “Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So, they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high

hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them". Off course these shepherds are rejected by God who seek only their own pleasures.

Secondly the Good Shepherd has mutual relationship with his sheep because he not only knows them but sheep on the other hand know him as well. The Prophet Ezekiel explains the qualities of the Good Shepherd in this way "For thus says the Lord God: I will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet?"

In Jesus, the prophesy of Prophet Ezekiel is being fulfilled "I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd". Jesus being Good Shepherd always has compassion for his sheep "He saw them and had compassion on them because they were sheep without the shepherd". The whole Psalm 23 reflects on the qualities of the Good Shepherd and his relationship with his sheep. This Psalm shows the heart of the Good Shepherd. The Heart of the Good Shepherd is not only the Heart that shows us mercy but is itself mercy. There the Father's love shines forth; there I know I am welcomed and understood as I am; there, with all my sins and limitations, I know the certainty that I am chosen and loved. Contemplating that heart, I renew my first love: the memory of that time when the Lord touched my soul and called me to follow him, the memory of the joy of having cast the nets of our life upon the sea of his word.

The Heart of the Good Shepherd tells us that his love is limitless; it is never exhausted, and it never gives up. There we see his infinite and boundless self-giving; there we find the source of that faithful and meek love which sets free and makes others free; there we constantly discover anew that Jesus loves us "even to the end" to the very end, without ever imposing. The Heart of the Good Shepherd reaches out to us, above all to those who are most distant. There, the

needle of his compass inevitably points, there we see a particular “weakness” of his love, which desires to embrace all and lose none.

All of us have our weaknesses and sins. But let us go deeper: what is the root of our failings, those sins, the place we have hid that “treasure” that keeps us from the Lord? Are we listening to him? Do we try to know him as he knows us? It is necessary to follow the Good Shepherd. We are called to be shepherd in our walk of life to guide, help and support one another. Let me conclude my reflection with the following true story which invites us to use our time, talent, and treasure to help other in their needs.

One day a traveler was walking through a part of Italy where a great many sheep were pasturing. Near the top of a hill, he saw a little shepherd boy who was lying on the ground while a flock of sheep and lambs were grazing around him. As he came nearer, he saw that the boy held a charred stick in his hand, with which he was drawing something on a flat rock. The lad was so much interested in his work that he did not see the stranger. The stranger bent over him and looked at the picture he had made on the rock. It was the picture of a sheep, and it was drawn so well that the stranger was filled with astonishment. "What is your name, my boy?" he said. The lad was startled. He jumped to his feet and looked up at the kind gentleman. "My name is Giotto," he answered. "What is your father's name?" "Bondone." "And whose sheep are these?"

"They belong to the rich man who lives in the big white house there among the trees. My father works in the field, and I take care of the sheep." "How would you like to live with me, Giotto? I would teach you how to draw pictures of sheep and horses, and even of men," said the stranger. The boy's face beamed with delight. "I should like to learn to do that—oh, ever so much!" he answered. "But I must do as father says." "Let us go and ask him," said the stranger. The stranger's name was Cimabue. He was the most famous painter of the time. His pictures were known and admired in every city of Italy. Bondone was surprised when Cimabue offered to take his little boy to Florence and teach him to be a great painter. "I know that the lad can draw pictures wonderfully well," he said. "He does not like to do anything else. Perhaps he will do well with you. Yes, you may take him."

In the city of Florence little Giotto saw some of the finest pictures in the world. He learned so fast that he could soon paint as well as Cimabue himself. One day Cimabue was painting the picture of a man's face. Night came on before he had finished it. "I will leave it till morning," he said; "then the light will be better." In the morning, when he looked at the picture, he saw a fly on the man's nose. He tried to brush it off, but it remained there. It was only a painted fly. "Who has done this?" he cried. He was angry, and yet he was pleased.

Little Giotto came out from a corner, trembling and ashamed. "I did it, master," he said. "It was a good place for a fly, and I never thought of spoiling your picture. He expected to be punished.

But Cimabue only praised him for his great skill. "There are few men who can draw so good a picture of a fly," he said. This happened six hundred years ago, in the city of Florence in Italy. The shepherd boy became a very famous painter and the friend of many famous men.

Jesus the Good Shepherd has painted us on his own heart with his own blood which he shed on the Cross to give us eternal life.



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



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.

FORMED.org

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!

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Good Shepherd Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Easter, or widely known as Good Shepherd Sunday is the World Day of Vocations. There will be a special collection for the work of vocations, in supporting the education and formation of seminarians and permanent diaconate program in our Diocese.

The purpose of **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

COVID-19 Resources

- [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- [Spiritual Resources](#)
- [Sacrament Preparation](#)
(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:

[Vatican News](#) | [The Sunday Website](#)
[Sunday Connection](#) | [CCCB Reflection](#)
(new link)

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

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses:

<https://www.catholicyc.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](#)

April Edition of *Faithfully*

The April edition of *Faithfully* will be released on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

- [Read March Faithfully](#)
- [Subscribe to Faithfully](#)
-



Parishioners can donate directly to: catholiccyc.ca/donatevocations

- Suggested Prayer of the Faithful:
 - *For young men and women; That God may give them the gift of understanding to discern their service in the Church, the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life; And for the gift of courage to follow His call. We pray to the Lord. . . .*
 - *For young people; That they may know the personal love of the Lord for them, and respond with open and generous hearts. We pray to the Lord. . . .*
- [Good Shepherd activities for children and family](#)

Wanted: ASL Interpreters



St. Anthony's Parish in Calgary is looking for ASL Interpreters to sign for their livestreamed Sunday Mass at 10:30 am. This Mass is being broadcasted to Facebook and Telus Optik TV ch. 877 (St. Anthony's Parish sub channel). Interpreters can sign at the Mass in-person, or virtually from a remote location. As per the guideline from Deaf and Hearing Alberta, there will be an honorarium of \$120 for each Mass. Those who are interested can send their information to secretary@stanthonysyc.ca

Diaconate Information Sessions

The Diocesan Permanent Diaconate Council invites those who are interested or feel that they are being called to a vocation as a Permanent Deacon to join one of the following information sessions (Zoom).

- Wednesday, April 21 at 7 pm | [Join via Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 864 2999 8972 - Passcode: 619475
- Saturday, April 24 at 10 am | [Join via Zoom](#)
Meeting ID: 841 7267 9702 - Passcode: 705724

Permanent Diaconate application deadline is May 31, 2021. The formation will run from September 2022 to November 2026.

To find more information about how Permanent Deacons serve, the criteria and qualities sought for in a candidate, visit: catholicyc.ca/permanentdiaconate - or [download this brochure](#)

Worth Sharing

1. In need of Sunday Missals?

St. Mary's Cathedral has over 100 copies of the 2020-2021 Sunday Missals available at a reduced price of \$4/each. If you are interested to purchase, please contact Marilyn at 403-228-4170 #221, or email marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca

2. O truly blessed night!

Fr. Cristino Bouvette refers to this year's Triduum as triply blessed as he welcomes the neophytes in SFXC's new home, St. Mary's Cathedral. "It was an honour and a joy for the SFXC to welcome seven new sheep into the flock, and all the more by our shepherd himself." [Read more](#)

3. First World Day for Grandparents and Elderly: July 25

The Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life announces the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly under the theme "I am with you always," to be celebrated on Sunday, July 25. To further encourage the celebration of the World Day in local churches and associations, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life will offer pastoral tools from mid-June, which will be available on the website www.amorislaetitia.va

4. Catholic Love Life Online Conference

So how do I grow closer to the people I love? How can I truly be known? If you're looking for answers to these questions — and so many others. At this free conference, you will learn how to experience intimacy in any state of life, elevate your relationships, address challenging topics like pornography, same sex marriage and gender identity. Conference presenters: Mark Hart, Matt Fradd, Jason Evert, Pete Burak, Mother Miriam, Chris Stefanick and many more. When: May 14-16. To sign up, [click here](#)

5. Lust is boring: Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and Chastity

Jason Evert: On this episode of "Lust is Boring," we look at the life of Blessed Pier Giorgio, whose example of chastity is a powerful one for today's men and women. How can young adults practice the virtue of chastity? What do Pier Giorgio's personal letters tell us about his struggles? What's a person to do if he or she keeps failing at chastity? How can a dating couple strive together to be saints? Listen here Jason Evert's podcast on ["Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati and Chastity"](#)

6. The survival of St. Kateri portrait after church fire in Manitoba

Amidst the rubble left by the fire that consumed St. Theresa Point Catholic Church in Manitoba on Easter Sunday, laid a picture of St. Kateri Tekakwitha almost completely intact. Her image on canvas somehow survived the blaze that melted the metal frame, charred the edges of the nature scene she's depicted in and left ashes on everything else in its surroundings. [Read more](#)

7. **ACN reports serious threats to religious freedom**

The pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need (CAN) has released its 15th annual Report on Religious Freedom in the World, noting serious threats worldwide to this fundamental right, and that religious freedom is severely violated in one out of every three countries. [Read more](#)

8. **Pope appeals for peace and reconciliation in eastern Ukraine**

Tensions between Russia and Ukraine have been rising amid a build-up of Russian troops along the border of eastern Ukraine as well as in Crimea with renewed clashes between the army and pro-Russian separatists. Thousands of people have been killed in the violence and hundreds of thousands have been displaced. Pope Francis expresses his hope for a decrease in military activities and tension in eastern Ukraine and prays for the suffering population. [Read more](#)

9. **Police fire tear gas into Haitian bishops' Mass for freedom**

A Catholic Mass in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince ended in violence last Friday when police fired teargas into the crowded church. The Mass was led by bishops to draw attention to the surge in violence and kidnapping that have besieged the impoverished country. According to a United Nations report, there have been 234 reported kidnappings in 2020, compared to 78 the year before. Homicides also increased by 20% in that time. [Read more](#)

10. **A blog from Bolivia: How are families affected by the pandemic?**

CIDSE is a community of Catholic agencies, including Development and Peace – Caritas Canada, which seeks to serve the poor, promote justice, and harness the power of global solidarity. In this particular post, CIDSE shares how the pandemic affected families in Bolivia, and how transcendental role women have in their survival. [Read more](#)

To get involved with Development & Peace in the Diocese of Calgary, contact devpyyc@gmail.com

What to pray this week?

1. For the work of all who serve the poor and promote justice, especially when they are marginalized, bullied, and threatened for doing so.
2. For those who are affected by the pandemic worldwide, especially where there is no social safety net nor adequate protection against the virus and its impacts.

11. **Seven reasons why being a Catholic priest is awesome**

The Catholic Talk Show discuss the best parts of being a Catholic priest and why it's an awesome vocation. You will learn: why celibacy is actually a great thing, how celebrating the Sacraments changes you, how the priesthood compares to fatherhood, and if priests get out of speeding tickets. [Watch show](#)

12. **Arise: Put on the Armour of Light - Retreat for Women**

Arise, in partnership with the Diocese of Saskatoon, is hosting a virtual retreat for women aged 18-101 called *Arise: Put on the Armour of Light!* The aim of this retreat is for women to encounter Jesus through powerful talks, small group discussion, prayer and praise and worship while building community among women. The Arise retreat also provides a unique opportunity for a 5 week follow up with our Armoured Series, included in both the Parish and Individual Packages. This past year has been a trying time and our goal is for women to come together whether virtually or in person within the local Covid-19 guidelines to strengthen community and support one another. The retreat includes talks from the following speakers: Bishop Scott McCaig, Heather Khym, Mary Bielski, Debbie Herbeck, Rachel Herbeck and the bishop of Diocese in Saskatoon, Bishop Mark Hagemoen. To register, visit arisecatholicmovement.ca

13. **Pope's Prayer Intention for April 2021**

Let us pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis, that they may see their sacrifice and their work bear abundant fruit. [Watch video here](#)

14. **Six Inspiring ways to feel the joy of Easter**

This year, Christian families across the world will be celebrating Easter with joy in their hearts and hope for a brighter future. Whether you're filled with joy, need a little inspiration, or you're a little down, look to the ways Easter joy can be found [here](#)

15. **Theology of the Body Virtual Conference**

Last year, more than 77,000 men and women from 160 countries registered for the inaugural TOBVC, making it the largest Catholic Conference in 2020! Hosted by [Theology of the Body Institute](#), the TOB Virtual Conference April 30-May 2 will feature dozens of prominent speakers and artists — showing how Theology of the Body applies to everyday life, how it will transform your prayer life, how it can bring healing of the deepest wounds in yourself and with others, and how it will bring your Catholic faith alive in new and brilliant ways. For more information or to register, [click here](#)

16. **Confession resources**

Here are some resources that might help individuals and family in your community when you promote your parish confession schedule:

1. [Diocesan printable Confession card for children](#) (includes examination of conscience, step-by-step and simple act of contrition)
2. [Printable examination of conscience for children](#)
3. [Goodconfession.com](#)
4. [In depth examination of conscience](#)
5. [Printable guide to Confession for adults](#) (provided by Knights of Columbus)
6. Video: [Making a good confession \(Fr. Mike Schmitz\)](#)
7. Video: [Bringing the same sins to confession? Try this](#)

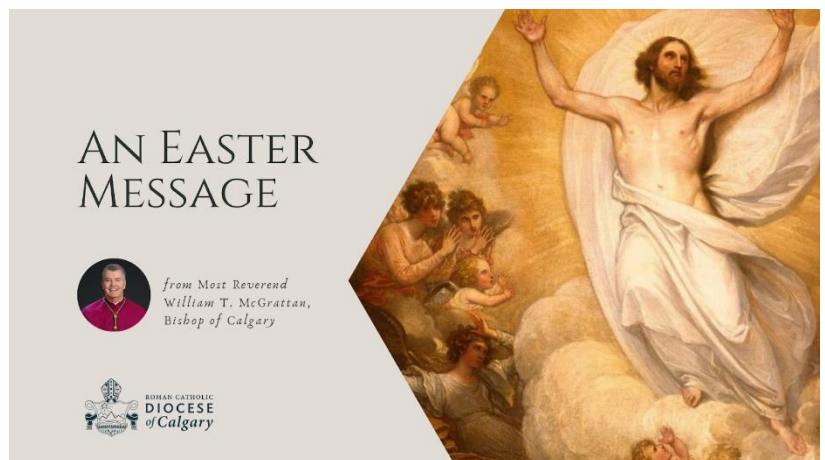
17. **Children's Corner page from St. Joseph's Calgary** | St. Joseph's Parish has started a living page online for Children. *Children's Corner* - featuring faith and Catholic resources (videos, audios, books, groups), best practices and tips for family with young children. The page is updated weekly - you are welcome to link to it from your website or share with your parishioners. Here is the [page link](#).

An Easter Message from the Bishop

[Read the Bishop McGrattan's 2021 Easter Message here.](#)

Watch Reflection #8 from the Bishop: *The Holy Eucharist* - [Youtube](#) | [Website](#)

Watch the full series [here](#)





Vatican's new document on climate crisis



The climate crisis has a very human face. It is already a reality for multitudes of vulnerable people worldwide. Climate warming of merely 1.5°C would cause global sea levels to rise by 0.77 metres by 2100, threatening cities and crop and pasture land around the world. Projections based on current data predict a global temperature increase of 3-4°C by 2100.

The Vatican's Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has recently published and presented a resource document entitled, [Pastoral Orientations on Climate Displaced People](#). The resource highlights the new challenges posed by climate disruption and displacement and suggests pastoral responses to the global situation and crisis.

Consecration to Saint Joseph

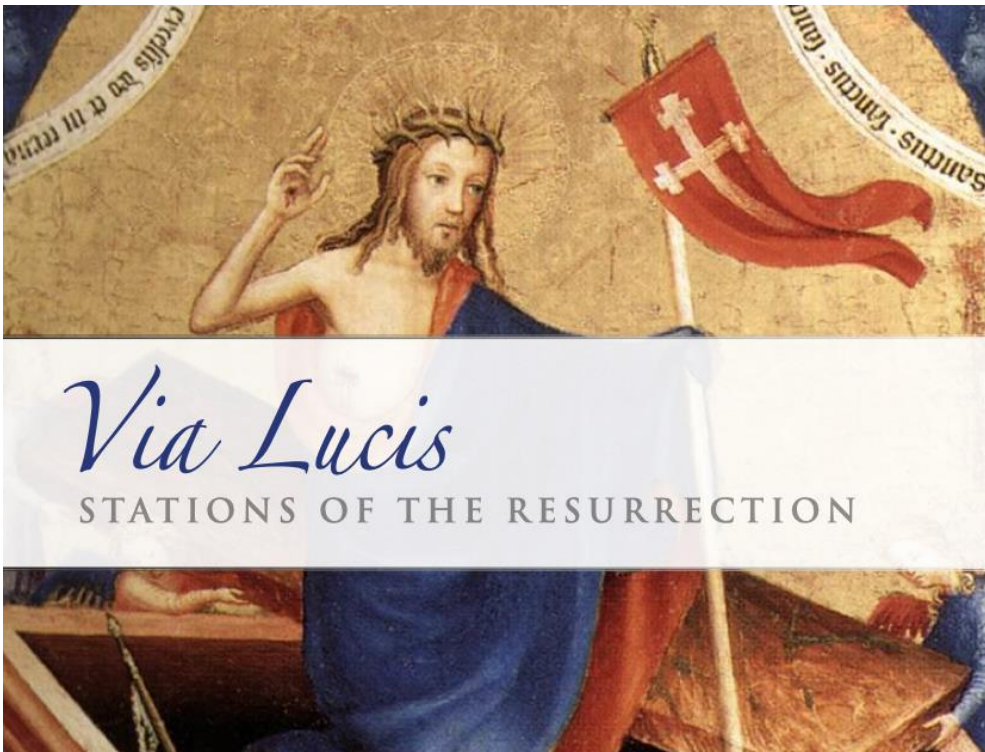
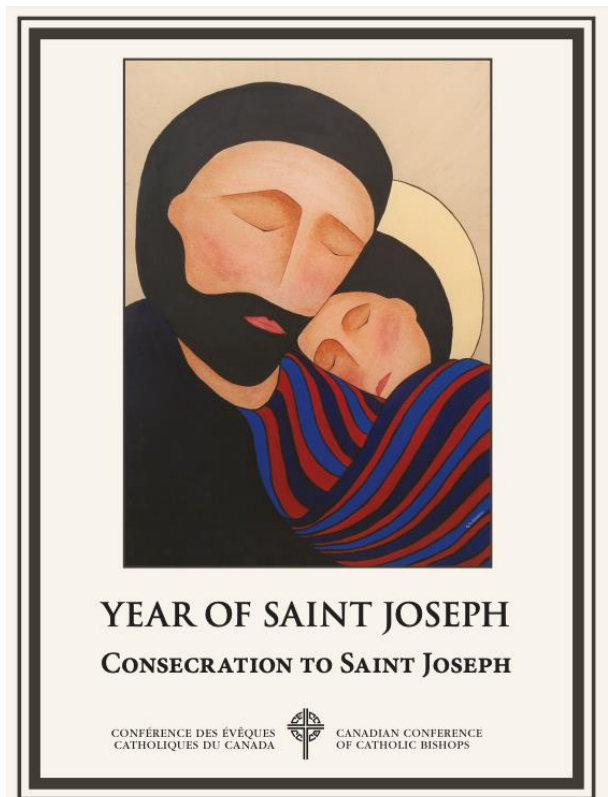
The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) invites all group and families to deepen their Christian commitment through the act of consecration to Saint Joseph. By entrusting ourselves completely to the fatherly care and powerful intercession of the Church's patron saint, we are beseeching his help in living out those same virtues he did and so grow in the likeness of Christ evermore.

This ritual of Consecration to St. Joseph can be used in parishes, religious communities and families, on a date chosen by the individual groups or families. Download the ritual:

[Consecration to Saint Joseph \(PDF\).](#)

The Year of *Amoris Laetitia* Family

Through a series of 10 videos, the Holy Father, with the help of several families, invites us to journey together to rediscover the family as a gift, despite every problem, obstacle and challenge that families have to face today. In the first video "[Walking Together](#)" Pope Francis and a family share about the beauty of being a family and how each person is called to lovingly care for the life of the family. Never a problem, families are always a gift and, in terms of the future, they are an opportunity. Each video is accompanied by a [guide](#).



Stations of the Resurrection

The Stations of the Light is a spiritual journey with Christ through 14 of the most inspiring events of His post-Resurrection life on earth. In the early Church this practice was known as the *Via Lucis*, or Way of the Resurrection. Walk along a path of transforming joy by following in the footsteps of the Risen Christ and his friends. Find resources for praying *Via Lucis* [here](#):

catholiccyyc.ca/blog/stations-of-the-light

Development & Peace

Development and Peace (*The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace*, or D&P) is the official international development organization of the [Catholic Church in Canada](#) and the [Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis](#). Development and Peace is a membership led organization supported by parish collections, individual donations and government grants, principally from Global Affairs Canada.



For over 50 years, Development and Peace has supported 15,200 local initiatives in fields such as agriculture, education, community action as well as the consolidation of peace and advocacy for human rights in 70 countries. Inspired by Gospel values and in particular the preferential option for the poor, Development & Peace is to support the actions of people in the Global South so that they can take control of their destiny and educate Canadians on issues related to North-South imbalance.

Representing the west region in the Development and Peace National Council is Bishop William McGrattan. Read more about the National Council for Development and Peace [here](#).

We are excited to announce that you can now give directly to Development and Peace-Caritas Canada from the Diocese of Calgary's Giving page at catholiccycc.ca/donatednp

We ask that you consider joining Development & Peace in their work for the poor and vulnerable.

- To learn more about Development & Peace, visit devp.org
- To join the local council in the Diocese of Calgary, contact devpycc@gmail.com
- To donate to Development & Peace, visit catholiccycc.ca/donatednp.html

Patris Corde Guided Video Reflections

In the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* (With a Father's Heart), Pope Francis identifies the extraordinary attributes of St. Joseph as a "beloved, tender and loving, obedient, accepting, creatively-courageous, working father hidden in the shadows." (cf. No 1-7). We have prepared a series of guided reflections on each of the seven attributes. They may be used by individuals who wish to focus on only one or two of the attributes from home or in groups gathered in person or online. [Video reflections & guide here](#)

Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.



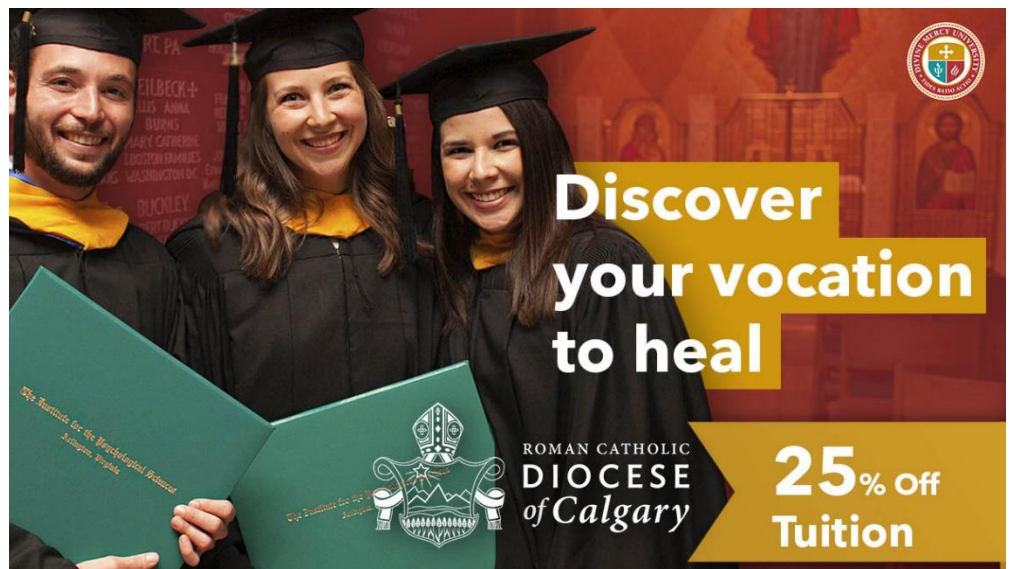
Have you subscribed to Faithfully?

Faithfully gives a snapshot of faith at work in the lives of everyday people. Get inspired with faith stories, our Bishop's message, and find out what's happening in our Diocese.

- [Read the April issue of Faithfully](#)
- [Subscribe to Faithfully here](#)

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 divinemercury.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. Each course runs five weeks and costs \$85. Take an individual course for interest, or work toward one or all of the twenty two specialized Certificates in Catholic Studies. 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](#).

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.catholicyc.ca>.

You can also watch parish Sunday Masses via TELUS Optik TV Ch. 876 and 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#).

Our parishes rely on your Sunday offerings for maintenance and growth. 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.catholicyc.ca/donateparish> [or contact your Parish to set up a direct debit deposit].



FCJ RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE

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!](#)



Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre is nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains where all are 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.

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](#)

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS'
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

50/50 RAFFLE

FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2021

- Minimum \$2,000 prize
- 1 entry for \$10
- 4 entries for \$20
- 20 entries for \$50
- 100 entries for \$100
- Enter before June 9



[rafflebox.ca/raffle/MHCSEF](https://www2.rafflebox.ca/raffle/mhcsef)

[Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education](#)

“People in Medicine Hat are very generous, they’ve certainly supported us in the past and they’ve always come through. So, we’re hoping for their support again,”
- Rob Stroh, Education Foundation Chair

Full news article:

<https://medicinehatnews.com/.../catholic-schools.../>

Link to online 50/50 raffle:

<https://www2.rafflebox.ca/raffle/mhcsef>