



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

MAY 2ND, 2021 – 5TH 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

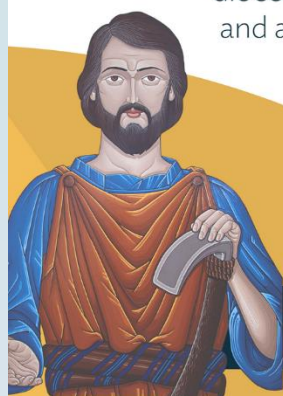
OUR PARISH GOAL

\$ 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 \$ 13,053 = 26% 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 May 1st – 7th †

Saturday, May 1

8:30 am – Madeleine Riffel †

5:00pm – Joseph †

Sunday, May 2

8:30 am – Holy Family Parish

10:30am – Justin Delwo

6:00pm – Prayers to St. George

Monday, May 3

9:00am – Wayne Riffel †

Tuesday, May 4

9:00am – Peter & Mildred Braat

Wednesday, May 5

9:00am – Scott Krooshoop

Thursday, May 6

9:00am – Allen Kaupp †

Friday, May 7

9:00am – Lillian Lewans †

5th Sunday of Easter - Sunday, May 2, 2021

1st Reading: Acts 9.26-31

Barnabas described for them how on the road Saul had seen the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: 22.25b-26,27+29,30-31 (R. 25)

R. Lord, from you comes my praise in the great congregation.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3.18-24

This is the commandment: we should believe in Jesus and love one another.

Gospel: John 15.1-8

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in them bears much fruit.

BEARING MUCH FRUIT

It is the start of May and, in the northern hemisphere, some of us are about spring planting. The tasks today look to future fruit and vegetables. By analogy, God is the gardener. We are the branches, the seeds, the fruit. To be healthy, we let ourselves be tilled around, watered, weeded.

- † Because of how I behave now, how will I be tomorrow and in the future?
- † What tending work will I let God do to me?
- † What can I do to be a more fruitful Christian?

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 are 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>

Light Weigh ONE KING

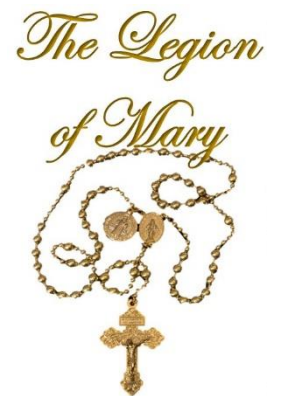
Light Weigh One King is coming back to Holy Family Parish. This 12-week DVD Bible Study program is designed to enrich our relationship with Jesus Christ and improve health through weight loss and healthy eating. New research shows church-based meetings increase people's weight loss success. There are no weigh-ins. Let Our LORD and King help you break free from all things keeping you chained! 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!



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.



Prayers for our Departed Loved Ones - Once again, due to social distancing requirements, the Legion of Mary will not be able to facilitate the annual prayers on Mother's Day at the Cemetery to pray for our departed loved ones and the souls of all the faithful departed. Therefore, we encourage everyone to keep up this practice on their own. Please visit the graves of loved ones and pray for them on the Mother's Day weekend. Hopefully, next year we will be able to resume this tradition. Thank you, Mystical Rose Praesidium, Legion of Mary



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

BEARING FRUIT

Once upon a time there was a huge old tree which was not only provide shade to people and animals but producing good fruit as well. Everything seemed normal but one day the branches were talking to each other. One branch said I feel miserable for not having leaves, flowers or fruit and I feel I am useless to stay with the tree. The second branch said I am useless too as I have only leaves but not flowers or fruits. The third branch said I feel happy to have leaves and flowers, but I wish I could bear fruit as well and this makes me to consider cutting myself off the tree. The fourth branch said I am happy that I have leaves, flowers, and fruit but I have a huge problem. “What problem” other branches asked her, and she replied in a very sad way “the fruit I produce, bend me so much that I get backache and people and animals damage me while eating my fruit and I too feel I should cut myself off the tree”. The tree kept listening to them and then he said, “All of you must remember that you are attached to me and if you cut yourself from me, there will be no life in you”.

Last Sunday we reflected on the qualities of Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep and meditated on the invitation that we are called by him. This Sunday we are called to examine our Christian life to see how are we bearing fruit that will last forever?

Today’s Gospel shows us Jesus during the Last Supper, in the moment He knows His death is close at hand. His ‘hour’ has come. For it is the last time He is with His disciples, and now He wants to impress firmly a fundamental truth in their minds: even when He will no longer be physically present amid them, they will still be able to remain united to Him in a new way, and thus bear much fruit. Everyone can be united to Jesus in a new way. If, on the contrary, one should lose this unity with Him, this union with Him, would become sterile, or rather, harmful to the community. And to express this reality, this new way of being united to Him, Jesus uses the image of the vine and the branches: Just “as a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches”. With this image He teaches us how to abide with Him, to be united to Him, even though He is not physically present.

Jesus is the vine, and through Him like the sap in the tree the very love of God, the Holy Spirit is passed to the branches. Look: we are the branches, and through this parable, Jesus wants us to understand the importance of remaining united to him. The branches are not self-sufficient, but depend totally on the vine, in which the source of their life is found. So, it is with us Christians. Grafted by Baptism in Christ, we have freely received the gift of new life from Him; and thanks to the Church we are able to remain in vital communion with Christ.

The Holy Bible is full of images of trees: Tree of Good and Evil and Tree of wisdom in the Book of Genesis. The encounter of Abraham with the angels took place under the tree. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane which is called the Garden of Olive Trees (which are still alive). People are compared with the trees who trust in the Lord or do not (Psalm 1 & Jeremiah 17). The Book of Revelation 22 is full of imagery of healing from a tree.

During the Season of Easter, we are asked to understand that by remaining with the Lord, we can bear fruit. St. Maximus explores this mystery in this way “Christ is risen! He has burst open the gates of hell and let the dead go free; he has renewed the earth through the members of his Church now born again in baptism and has made it blossom afresh with men brought back to life. His Holy Spirit has unlocked the doors of heaven, which stand wide open to receive those who rise from the earth. Because of Christ’s resurrection the thief ascends to paradise, the bodies of the blessed enter the holy city, and the dead are restored to the company of the living. There is an upward movement in the whole of creation, each element raising itself to something higher. We see hell restoring its victims to the upper regions, earth sending its buried dead to heaven, and heaven presenting the new arrivals to the Lord. In one and the same movement, our Savior’s passion raises men from the depths, lifts them up from the earth, and sets them in the heights”.

He continues to say “The light of Christ is an endless day that knows no night. Christ is this day, says the Apostle; such is the meaning of his words: Night is almost over; day is at hand. He tells us that night is almost over, not that it is about to fall. By this we are meant to understand that the coming of Christ’s light puts Satan’s darkness to flight, leaving no place for any shadow of sin. His everlasting radiance dispels the dark clouds of the past and checks the hidden growth of vice. The Son is that day to whom the day, which is the Father, communicates the mystery of his divinity. He is the day who says through the mouth of Solomon: I have caused an unfailing light to rise in heaven. And as in heaven no night can follow day, so no sin can overshadow the justice of Christ. The celestial day is perpetually bright and shining with brilliant light; clouds can never darken its skies. In the same way, the light of Christ is eternally glowing with luminous radiance and can never be extinguished by the darkness of sin. Therefore, John the evangelist says: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to overpower it”.

Holy Father Pope Francis says, “When one is intimately united to Jesus, he enjoys the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are — as St Paul tells us — “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (Gal 5:22). These are the gifts that we receive if we remain united in Jesus; and therefore, a person who is so united in Him does so much good for neighbour and society, is a Christian person. In fact, one is recognized as a true Christian by this attitude, as a tree is recognized by its fruit. The fruits of this profound union with Christ are

wonderful: our whole person is transformed by the grace of the Spirit: soul, understanding, will, affections, and even body, because we are united body and soul”.

We receive a new way of being, the life of Christ becomes our own: we can think like Him, to act like Him, to see the world and the things in it with the eyes of Jesus. And so, we are able to love our brothers and sisters, beginning with the poorest and those who suffer the most, as He did and love them with His heart, and so bear fruits of goodness, of charity, and of peace in the world. Each one of us is a branch of the one vine; and all of us together are called to bear the fruits of this common membership in Christ and in the Church.

When we are intimate with the Lord, as the vine and branches are intimate and joined, we can bear the fruits of new life, of mercy, of justice and peace, derived from the Lord’s Resurrection. It is what the Saints did, those who lived Christian life in fullness and lived the witness of charity, because they were true branches of the vine of the Lord. But “to be holy does not require being a bishop, a priest or a religious.... We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. We are all called to be holy as St. Luke writes “Be holy as your heavenly Father is Holy”; we must be holy with this richness we have received from the Risen Lord. Every activity, whether small or great, if lived in union with Jesus and with the attitude of love and of service, is an occasion to live Baptism and Gospel holiness to the fullest.

By abiding in the Lord, we not only bear fruit but also, we learn to give ourselves to others as the following story sums up everything: Once there was a tree and she loved a little boy. And every day the boy would come, and he would gather her leaves and make them into crowns and play king of the forest. He would climb up her trunk and swing from her branches and eat apples. And they would play hide and seek. And when he was tired, he would sleep in her shade. And the boy loved the tree very much. And the tree was happy.

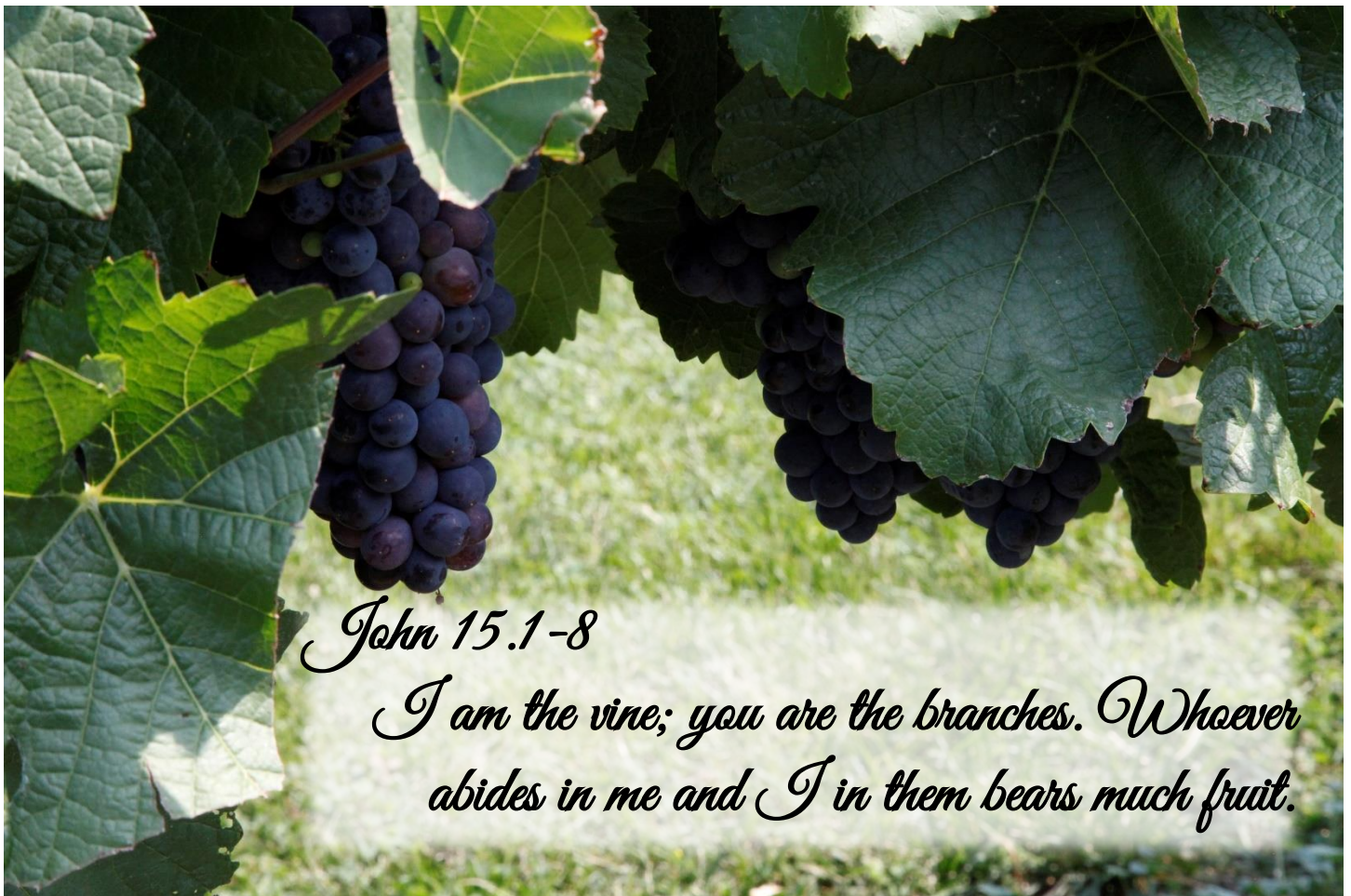
But time went by. And the boy grew older. And the tree was often alone. Then one day the boy came to the tree and the tree said: “Come, Boy, come and climb up my trunk and swing from my branches and eat apples and play in my shade and be happy.” “I am too big to climb and play,” said the boy. “I want to buy things and have fun. I want some money. Can you give me some money?” “I’m sorry,” said the tree, “but I have no money. I have only leaves and apples. Take my apples, Boy, and sell them in the city. Then you will have money and you will be happy.” And so, the boy climbed up the tree and gathered her apples and carried them away. And the tree was happy.

But the boy stayed away for long time and the tree was sad. And then one day the boy came back and the tree shook with joy and she said, “Come, Boy, climb up my trunk and swing from my branches and be happy.” “I am too busy to climb trees,” said the boy. “I want a house to keep me warm,” he said. “I want a wife and I want children, and so I need a house. Can you give me a house?” “I have no house,” said the tree. “The forest is my house, but you may cut off my branches and build a house. Then you will be happy.” And so, the boy cut off her branches and carried them away to build his house. And the tree was happy.

But the boy stayed away for a long time. And when he came back, the tree was so happy she could hardly speak. "Come, Boy," she whispered, "come and play." "I am too old and sad to play," said the boy. "I want a boat that will Take me far away from here. Can you give me a boat?" "Cut down my trunk and make a boat," said the tree. "Then you can sail away... and be happy."

And so, the boy cut down her trunk and made a boat and sailed away. And the tree was happy . . . but not really. And after a long time, the boy came back again. "I am sorry, Boy," said the tree, "but I have nothing left to give you, my apples are gone." "My teeth are too weak for apples," said the boy. "My branches are gone," said the tree. "You cannot swing on them" "I am too old to swing on branches," said the boy. "My trunk is gone," said the tree. "You cannot climb" "I am too tired to climb," said the boy. "I am sorry," sighed the tree. "I wish that I could give you something... But have nothing left. I am just an old stump. I am sorry...". "I don't need very much now," said the boy, "just a quiet place to sit and rest. I am very tired." "Well," said the tree, straightening herself up as she could, "well, an old stump is good for sitting and resting. Come, Boy, sit down. sit down and rest." And the boy did. And the tree was happy . . .

Let us entrust ourselves to the intercession of the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, so that we might be able to be living branches in the Church and witness to our faith in a consistent manner.



John 15.1-8

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever
abides in me and I in them bears much fruit.*

Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

LIVESTREAM

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

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

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.

Sunday 10:30am Mass

**Medicine Hat Holy Family
Church Live Stream**

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



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THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

LOG IN WWW.FORMED.ORG

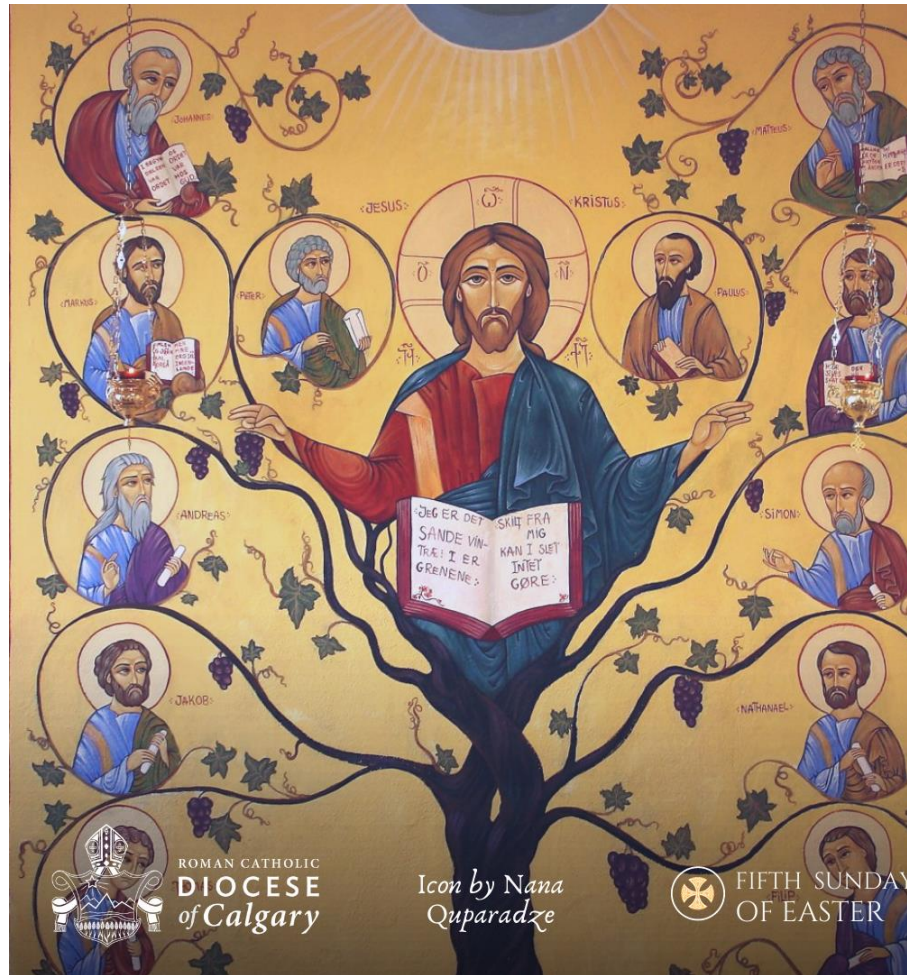
- Go to Formed.org
- Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**

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!

Fifth Sunday of Easter



COVID-19 Resources

- [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- [Spiritual Resources](#)
- [Sacrament Preparation](#)
(First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation)
- [Online Formation Opportunity](#)

Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

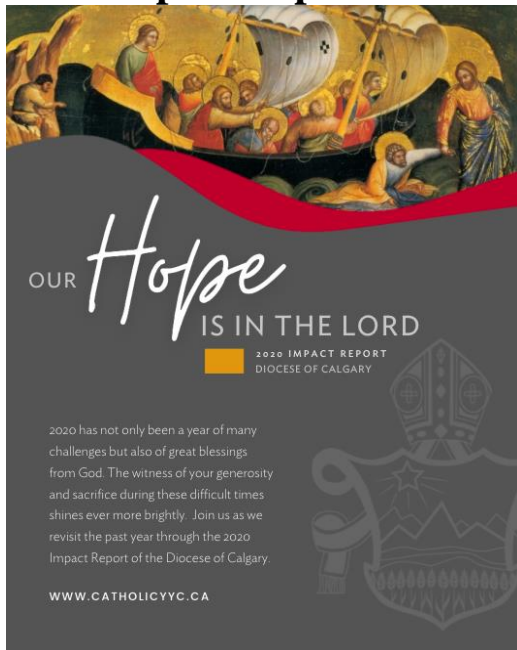
Follow us on Social Media
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

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)

2020 Impact Report of the Diocese of Calgary



2020 has not only been a year of many challenges but also of great blessings from God. The witness of your generosity and sacrifice during these difficult times shines ever more brightly.

Join us as we revisit the past year through the 2020 Impact Report of the Diocese of Calgary. The Impact Report is available at [catholiccycc.ca](https://www.catholiccycc.ca) (starting Thursday, Apr. 28).

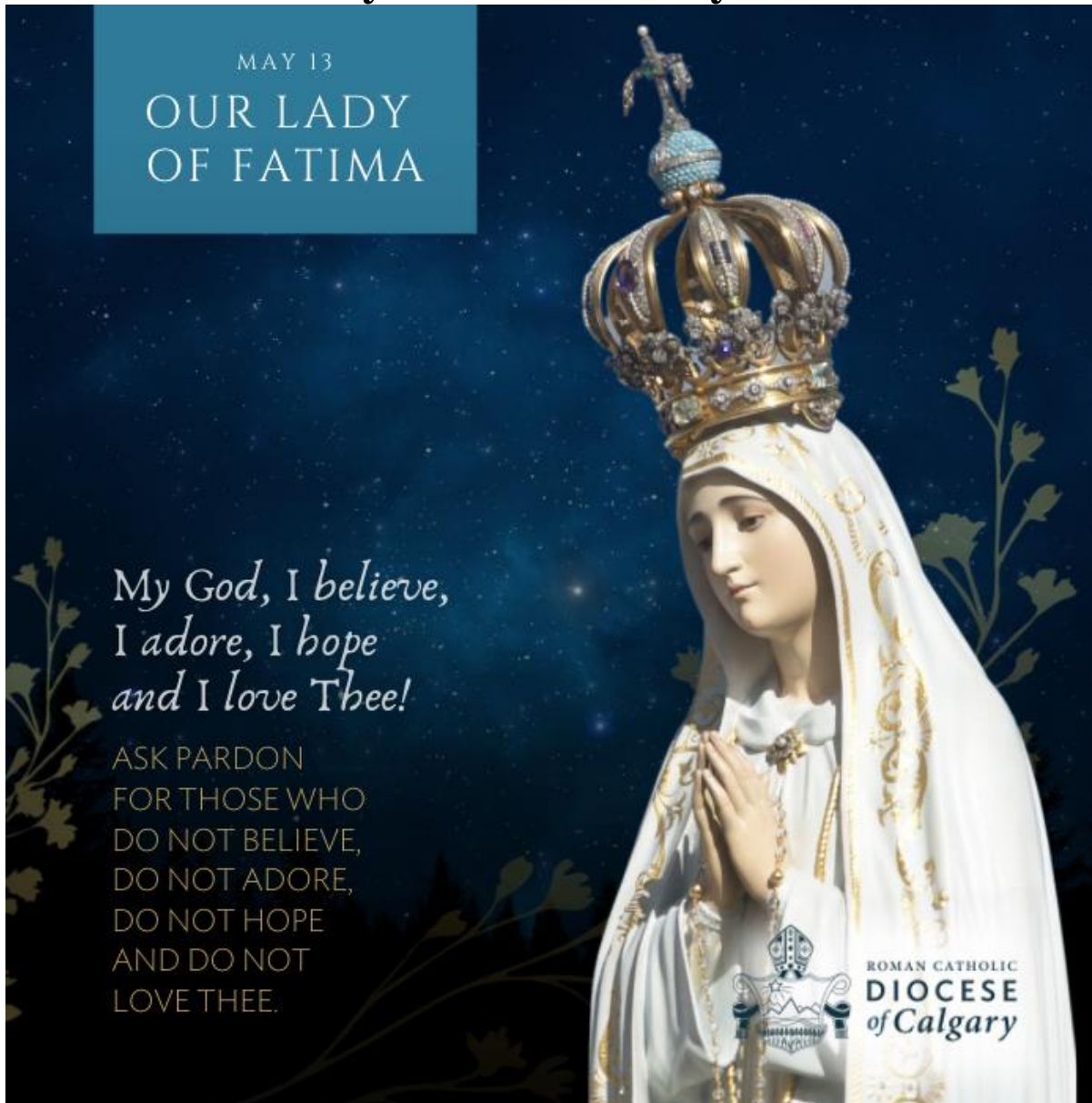
Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses: <https://www.catholiccycc.ca> | TE LUS Optik TV Ch. 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#)

April Edition of *Faithfully*

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

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

Feast of Our Lady of Fatima - May 13



The Diocese of Calgary invites you to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on **Thursday, May 13, 2021** with your community. The message of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima pleaded with an urgent call to conversion of heart, penance and repentance. Please consider joining these events:

1. **Mater Fatima for the World - Mass & Worldwide Rosary**

On May 13, Colombia will host the worldwide rosary, which will be held at the National Marian Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Chiquinquirá, the Patron Saint of Colombia. The worldwide rosary will be held within the framework of the 450th anniversary of the Battle of Lepanto's victory, in which the Blessed Virgin Mary in Fatima heard the appeal made by the Church and the people. Holy Mass, Exposition, Rosary, Consecration to Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and Procession will be available livestreamed, **starting at 10 am** (Calgary time). Livestream links: [Youtube](#) | [Facebook Live](#)

2. **Our Lady of Fatima Parish - Mass & Rosary**

On May 13, Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Calgary invites all the faithful to participate in the day's celebration through Mass and Rosary at 6 pm. Livestream links: [Facebook Live](#) or watch on TELUS Optik TV Ch. 877

Download Our Lady of Fatima graphic [here](#)

Widening the Circle - FCJ Bicentennial

A message from the Faithful Companions of Jesus Sisters:

Join us virtually, at the FCJ Christian Life Centre in Calgary, in the global tribute of the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Society of the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Let's honour the service and contributions of FCJ Sisters to the city of Calgary and Southern Alberta since 1885. You will be delighted with the engaging entertainment, testimonials, prizes and fundraising activities. [Details here](#)

When: **May 16, 2021 at 3 pm to 5 pm**

Livestream link: fcjcentre.ca/bicentennial



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

Pentecost with CCCRS

[Calgary Catholic Charismatic Renewal Society](#) (CCCRS) invites you to prepare and celebrate Pentecost this year with the following prayer events:

- **[Novena to the Holy Spirit - Online](#)**

Join 9 days of Novena with CCCRS, priests and Catholic communities around the Diocese. When: **May 13 to May 21, 2021, starts at 6:30 pm. For more details and to join Zoom meetings, [click here](#)**

- May 13 – *Humility against pride* with Fr Jarek Dziuba
- May 14 – *Kindness against envy* with Fr. Rodel Abanto
- May 15 – *Abstinence against gluttony* with Fr. Gabriel Arihi
- May 16 – *Chastity against lust* with Fr. Ben Croix

- May 17 – *Patience against anger* with Fr. Julian Studden
 - May 18 – *Generosity against greed* with Fr. Shibu Kallarakkal
 - May 19 – *Diligence against sloth* with Deacon Norm Dumais
 - May 20 – *Holiness, a call to repentance* with Fr. Jerry D'Souza
 - May 21 – *Rejoice in Hope* with Fr. Cristino Bouvette
- **[Pentecost Vigil Mass & Reflection with Bishop McGrattan](#)**
 When: **Saturday, May 22 at 7 pm (Mass), followed by Eucharistic Adoration and reflection.** Registration is required for those attending in person. To register, contact Beata at 403-397-6124 or email beatabanka@shaw.ca. If you are not able to attend, watch livestreams with these links ([Mass](#) | [Eucharistic Adoration and Reflection](#))

Worth Sharing

1. Spiritual Direction Training Program

The FCJ Centre offers a two-year spiritual direction training program that meets on Wednesday evenings and includes four-weekend retreats. It is open to men and women who believe that God is calling them to the ministry of one-on-one companioning with people who are seeking a deeper relationship with God through the integration of faith and life. For more information, visit fcjcentre.ca/sdtp or contact Sr. Madeleine Gregg, fcJ at 403-228-4215. The application deadline is June 30, 2021.

2. Freedom through Healing Retreat

The *Triumph: Freedom Through Healing* program, facilitated by Jerry and Donna Kristian, is a nine-day Christ-centered journey of inner healing and discovery equipping and empowering people with the tools needed to make meaningful and lasting changes in their lives – a path to true freedom through healing in Christ. Cost is \$1,395 which includes program registration, meals, facility, single occupancy bedroom and all retreat materials and resources. When: June 3-11, 2021. For more information or to register call Harriet at 403-239-6885 | triumphretreat.com | [Brochure](#)

3. Jesus, save me!

"On February 2, 2001, the most tragic and miraculous incident of my life took place. I was shot by a rebel group in India who fights against the Indian army for the separation of Manipur from the Indian federation." But a series of miracles kept Fr. Tomy Manjaly alive. Fr. Tomy is the Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Strathmore, AB. [Read his story here.](#)

4. Devoted to the Precious Blood

Founded in Quebec in 1861, the Sisters of the Precious Blood was the first contemplative community established in Canada. As well as praying for the people in the communities where they live, the Sisters of the Precious Blood monastery in Calgary plays a tangible role in supporting parishes across the diocese. While the Calgary convent stopped baking altar breads several decades ago, the sisters still receive regular truckloads of hosts baked in the order's Hamilton house. [Read more](#)

5. Students, teachers and parents have faith in the future of Catholic education

A record 250 key players in Alberta's publicly funded separate system gathered in the Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) Virtual Summit on April 19, to renew their hope for the future of Catholic education. The delegates included all Alberta bishops, trustees from across the province, administrators, teachers, students and parents. [Read more](#)

6. In-vitro embryos safe from sex-based death, but unborn babies aren't

Cathy Wagantall (MP) is seeking to prohibit abortions done on the basis of the sex of the unborn child is being accused of opening a back door for more further abortion restrictions in Canada. There are no protections for a child, conceived naturally or through assisted reproductive technology, from discrimination on the basis of sex in the womb. [Read more](#)

7. Latest on Covid-19 in India

India's Health Ministry registered 323,144 fresh Covid-19 infections Tuesday morning, slightly below Monday's record of 352,991 cases. Meanwhile, 2,771 new deaths took the toll to 197,894, closing in on the 200,000th mark. India's Catholic bishops have expressed their closeness with the suffering people. Cardinal Alencherry as well as other Church leaders criticized the government's toll figures saying they are low, as many, who are dying at home, in private hospitals and in villages, go unreported. Please keep the people in India in your prayers. [Read more](#)

8. Pope praying for Bishop-elect of South Sudan after shooting attack

Unknown armed men have shot and wounded the Bishop-elect of South Sudan's Rumbek Catholic Diocese. The Italian-born Fr. Christian Carlassare, a Comboni Missionary, was attacked on Sunday night in Rumbek. The gunmen went to his residence, and shot him on both legs. Pope Francis was aware of the shooting and praying for Fr. Carlassare and the people of South Sudan. [Read more](#)

9. Asia Bibi challenges Pakistan leader on blasphemy laws

Asia Bibi, who was on death row for years after being accused of besmirching the name of the founder of Islam, called the laws a "sword" in the hands of the Muslim majority against the country's Christian minority. Speaking from her

home in Canada, Bibi addressed part of her remarks to Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, saying, "Abolish the blasphemy law or prevent its abuse." Bibi also asked "the international community" to "enforce the right to religious freedom." [Read more](#)

10. **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

11. **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](#)

12. **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"](#)

13. **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](#)

14. **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

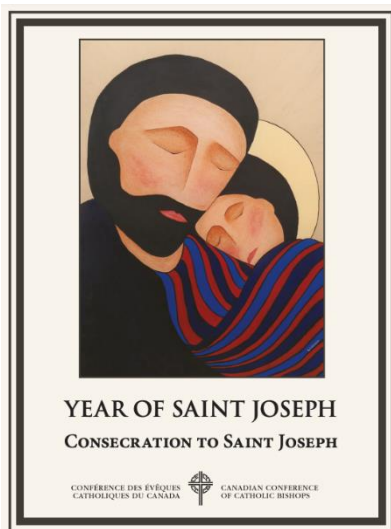
family with young children. The page is updated weekly - you are welcome to link to it from your website or share with your parishioners. Here is the [page link](#).

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

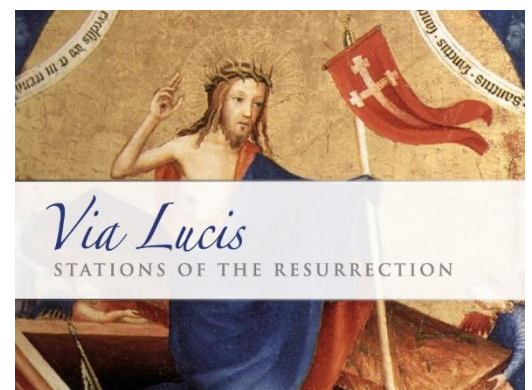
The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) invites all group and families to deepen their Christian commitment through the act of consecration to Saint Joseph. By entrusting ourselves completely to the fatherly care and powerful intercession of the Church's patron saint, we are beseeching his 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](http://catholiccyyc.ca) and the [Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis](http://catholiccyyc.ca). 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](http://catholiccyyc.ca).

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 catholiccyyc.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 devpyyc@gmail.com
- To donate to Development & Peace, visit catholiccyyc.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](http://catholiccyyc.ca)

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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](#).

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Follow us on Social Media

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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/donatetoparish> [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 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.

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](#)