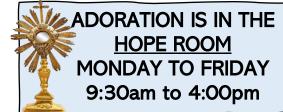


Email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca ~ Website: www.holyfamilymh.ca ~ Facebook: Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish

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



#### **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.



#### 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



# **MASS TIMES**

This weekend Saturday

8:30am & 5:00pm

Sunday

8:30am, 10:30am & 6:00pm

Monday to Friday

Back to 9:00am

Mass only

**CAPACITY 200 PEOPLE** 

PLEASE USE FRONT
DOORS FOR WEEKEND
MASSES ONLY



Confirmation Mass
Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am
St. Patrick's Parish &
Holy Family Parish

- 1. Use main doors.
- 2. <u>Candidate and Sponsor</u> MUST arrive by 10:30am so we can get everyone signed in, seated, and have a little practice.
- 3. Masks are mandatory.
- 4. No pictures please during mass. You are welcome to take pictures at the end. Priests will be available.

  Stay in Pews until it is your turn.
- 5. Social Distancing in Required.
  Please DO NOT linger in the church foyer before or after mass.
- 6. Mass will NOT be livestreamed.

IF you have conflicts with June 19<sup>th</sup> and need to pick another date please contact your parish priest to make other arrangements.

Any questions feel free to call or email me or Fr. Iqbal at 403-527-6933 or Fr. Roque 403-526-2265.

## **COVID 19 - STAGE 1 RESTRICTIONS**

All protocols dealing with the use of masks, contact tracing, sanitizing, proper physical distancing with individuals from different household, etc. remain in place.

#### **MASS**

The capacity limit for in-person attendance is 15% of the fire code occupancy. Communion on the tongue is still temporarily not allowed in Stage 1.

#### WEDDINGS

- Wedding ceremonies may have up to 10 people, including the officiant, bride/groom, witnesses, and any photographers/videographers.
- NOTE: The government has now included photographers and videographers to the 10 people.
- The Diocese does not consider the sacristan, soloist, and the instrumentalist as one of the 10 people allowed.
- Receptions remain prohibited.

#### **FUNERAL MASSES**

- Funeral Mass may have up to 20 people, not including facility staff, funeral clergy or organizers not considered guests.
- Receptions remain prohibited.

#### **BAPTISMS**

- The Diocese continues to limit the attendees to 10 people for Baptisms.
- The celebrant and the sacristan are not included in the 10 attendees.
- The use of masks and proper physical distancing are required during the celebration of the rite.

#### **ADORATION**

• The capacity limit for the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is 15% of the fire code occupancy.

#### **FAITH BASED MEETINGS**

- In-person faith group meetings and other religious gatherings are not permitted in private homes while these measures are in effect.
- Permitted when conducted at a place of worship as long as physical distancing and public health measures are followed.

#### **SOCIAL GATHERINGS**

- Outdoor social gatherings, with proper distancing, allowed up to 10 people.
- Indoor social gatherings are not permitted



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

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 \$ 16,361 = 33% OF THE WAY

	<u> </u>
OPERATING FINANCES	
May 1-31, 2021	
Operating Budget 2021	\$ 55,019
General Envelope Collection	\$ 39,628
Loose Collections	\$ 453
Future Development	\$ 4,002
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 6,968
Other Ministries	\$ 480
Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 17,424
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 3,094
Holy Land	\$ 25
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$ 850
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 2,514
World Missions	\$ 45
Seminarian Fund	\$ 1,000
Mission Mexico	\$ 305
CARO	\$ 90
Thank You for your Generous Contributions	

† Masses Intentions June 5<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> † Saturday, June 5 8:30 am - Steven Rollheiser Family 5:00pm - Mary Bogner Family Sunday, June 6 8:30 am - Holy Family Parish 10:30am - Allen Kaupp † 6:00pm - Christine Resch Monday, June 7 9:00am - Carol Jangula † Tuesday, June 8 9:00am - John Bosch † Wednesday, June 9 9:00am - Rose Stein † Thursday, June 10 9:00am - Milton Kerpan † Friday, June 11 9:00am - Jim Buscholl †

You Asked for it... so now here it is...

E-Transfer Donations accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

# The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Sunday, June 6, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 24.3-8

See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116.12-13, 15+16bc, 17-18 (2.13)

 $\mathcal{R}$  I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 9.11-15

The blood of Christ will purify our consciences.

Gospel: Mark 14.12-16, 22-26

Take; this is my Body. Drink; this is my Blood.

#### TAKE EAT DRINK

Oh, some of us still long to gather with the Church on Sunday to do Eucharist, to give thanks. Some of us still yearn to come to Mass and share in Communion. We long to both eat and drink the Lord Jesus Christ. This holy dining tells us who and whose we are. Soon, pray.

ceil If I can come to the church on Sunday, for what do I give thanks?

How can I help those who still cannot come because of Covid 19 mitigations?

If I cannot come to the church on Sunday, how will I still choose to give thanks?

"We must always have courage and if some spiritual languor comes upon us, let us run to the feet of Jesus in the blessed sacrament, and let us place the heavenly perfumes, and will undoubtedly regain our strength." St. Padre Pio

12-hour Eucharist Adoration

Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>
Faith Room
9:30 am - 9:30 pm

If you can spare to help cover an hour email Darrell at <a href="mailto:d\_gofsky@shaw.ca">d\_gofsky@shaw.ca</a>.

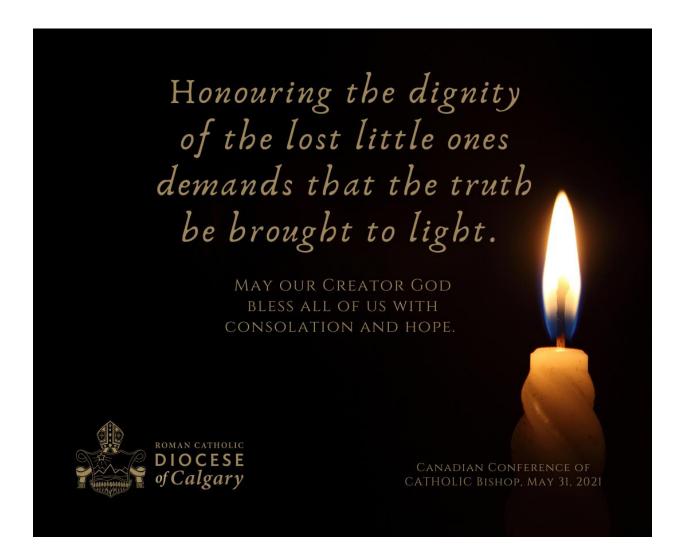
# Memorial Mass for souls of the Children of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 @ 6:30pm

You may bring a pair of children's shoes to place around the Altar before Mass.

The shoes will be donated to the children of Holy Trinity Church - Siksika Nation, Cluny AB





Statement from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops following the recent discovery at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation

On behalf of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), I express our deepest sorrow for the heartrending loss of the children at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation.

The news of the recent discovery is shocking. It rekindles trauma in numerous communities across this land. Honouring the dignity of the lost little ones demands that the truth be brought to light.

This tragedy profoundly impacts Indigenous communities, with whom many people across this land and throughout the world now stand in solidarity.

As we see ever more clearly the pain and suffering of the past, the Bishops of Canada pledge to continue walking side by side with Indigenous Peoples in the present, seeking greater healing and reconciliation for the future.

We lift up prayers to the Lord for the children who have lost their lives and pledge our close accompaniment of Indigenous families and communities.

May our Creator God bless all of us with consolation and hope.

+ Richard Gagnon

Archbishop of Winnipeg and President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, 31 May 2021



# **Vincentian Corner**

In the words of our executive director, "We have all been impacted by COVID-19, but for some it hurts more...Our volunteers need to continue providing food, shelter, and hope to those at risk". As an essential service we are continuing to meet the needs of those in our local community. Although, we are currently unable to do home visits, we continue to meet clients in need at our parish offices. If you know of someone in need, please have them contact either the St. Patrick or Holy Family parish office. Our meetings during the month of June will be held at St. Patrick's Parish.

For those wishing to donate by e-transfer our email address is <a href="mailto:ssypmedhat@gmail.com">ssypmedhat@gmail.com</a> We thank you for your prayers and continued financial support. God bless you!

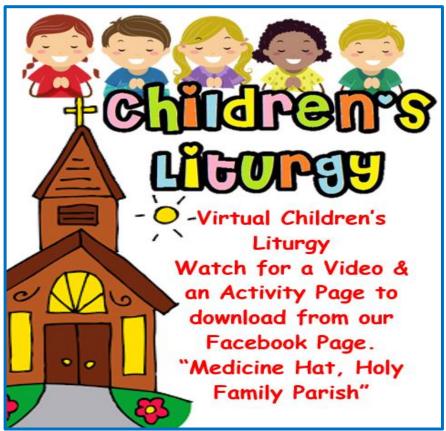
Attention <u>McCoy High School Class of 1971!</u> If you or someone you know was a part of our 'aging but AMAZING' Class of '71! Our 50-year Reunion is being planned for Sept 17-19, 2021. All graduates/former teachers please 'Save the Dates'.

More details to follow... Stay Tuned!

#### THE BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH WHILE STRENGTHENING OUR PARISH INITIATIVE

The Knights of Columbus seeks to strengthen family life through its <u>Building the Domestic Church</u> <u>While Strengthening Our Parish</u> initiative. Through this initiative, the Order endeavors to support Christian family life and encourages councils and families to more fully integrate with the sacramental and social life of their parish. We thereby hope to not only help each family participate in the Church's mission of evangelization, but to also strengthen our members and revitalize our parish.

Most recently our kiosk located at the office side entrance doors has been refilled, there a total of 15 books entitled: Lord teach us how to Pray, Prayer Time, Letter to Families, The Good Life Gods way, The Family in the Modern World, A Scriptural Rosary, Becoming a Man of God, Saint Benedict for Busy Parents, Saint Joseph Our Father in Faith, Gods Plan for Love and Marriage, Into the Breech, Faith, The Family Fully Alive, the Gift of Fatherhood. I know you will not be disappointed they are all excellent tools to faith formation and coming to a better understanding about your faith.



# 2021 Summer Bible Camp COMING THIS JULY



St. Patrick's Church & Holy Family Parish

Watch for more information!





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/.../ca
tholic-schools.../

Link to online 50/50 raffle:

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

# PPC June Letter Bulletin 2021. By Pat Ries. Parish Pastoral Chair

Greetings. Thank you to Fr. Iqbal for allowing me to address you.

I will try and highlight some parish concerns and activities. Normally we have our Annual General meeting in June but unfortunately due to COVID we were unable to do this for 2020 or for the present 2021 year. Our Parish Pastoral Council over the last 14 months has only missed 3 meetings. As a Parish Pastoral Council, it is rather difficult to get engaged and plan for the future when the pandemic and government restrictions controls what we can or can not do.

Thank you to Bishop William and the Calgary Diocese for their direction and guidance on how to deal with this pandemic. This roller coaster pandemic has certainly made us resilient. Please pray for our Bishop and all the clergy in our Diocese that they would be empowered by the Holy Spirit and be the Good Shepherd. I encourage every parishioner to go to Calgary Diocese website or through our Church bulletin and read the **2020 Impact Report**, it contains information of what has transpired over the last few years, and what is happening in Holy Family Parish is very similar to what is happening in the entire Calgary Diocese. Our parish has been blessed by the example and leadership of Fr. Iqbal, Fr. Rodel and Deacon Robert, please thank them daily for the sacrifice they make to lead us.

As per the Calgary Diocese Guidelines it states that the Pastoral Council should be a positive influence on the parish and provide encouragement and support. Have you ever studied our Mission Statement?

Holy Family is a welcoming community of faith called together by Christ's love and strengthened by the Holy spirit, the word, and the Sacraments. Spreading the message of the Gospel by work and action; developing the dignity of human life and the rights of all persons; sharing our time, talent, and treasure; extending Christ's peace and compassion to all; building community and strengthening the Parish Family. As a community of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, we faithfully carry out our mission to help build the Kingdom of God.

I have no idea who developed this, but I think you must agree we have work to do, and the last 5 words say it all "build the Kingdom of God." As a pastoral Council we are to be the eyes and ears of the Parish. With that in mind I would like to thank all the members of our Parish Pastoral Council for their dedication to our parishioners, this monster they call a pandemic has been to say the least a real challenge in our daily operations of our church, our faith development, and the ways we worship. It has required extra effort to be positive and offer encouragement. As one person put it "be positive and test negative". As you might expect we are a diverse parish and our council is also diverse, and we do not always agree on every issue, but it is hoped that through our prayer, discussions, and dialogue we end up building up the kingdom of God. I also need to thank **Fr. Iqbal** for bringing our Parish Pastoral Council up to speed on what our role is

in the parish, the guidelines have been studied, read, and reviewed numerous times and it is obvious this will simplify future concerns in our parish.

Despite our pandemic we have much to be thankful for, our parish has just completed year five of our Knights led 40 Loonies For Lent program. The Council has promoted to our Parish, Lenten spiritual discipline of reading the Gospels, prayer, fasting, abstinence, and almsgiving and encouraged families to establish a daily program to pray for the less fortunate. Since conception in 2017 and despite recent lock down and local restrictions over \$40,000 has been raised and donated to District Food Bank, and former Champion Centre which is now The Mustard Seed and Saint Vincent De Paul Society. Thank you for your generosity and prayers and thanks to the many Knights of Columbus Council for promoting faith life in our parish and promoting the Faith In Action programs of Faith, Family, Life and Community. If any men in our parish would like to assist the order to build the Lord's kingdom, join the Order they need your help. Thank you to the **Knights of Columbus** members for your leadership in our parish. If you wonder who the Knights are, attend our Masses and various activities. The Knights are being of service not only to our parish but our community. They are ushers, readers, Eucharist Ministers, Feeding the Needy, building a culture of life, handy helpers, visiting the sick, praying together. If you would like to know more about the Knights or join the Order, see any brother Knight, it may make you a hero to your Family.

I would also like to thank the **C.W.L.** for your many good works, service, support, and prayers. In so many ways you show us what it is like to be a true Christian. You have always supported life and respected the unborn, and have been strong advocates to human life, something the world desperately needs. The past year has been a challenge regarding meetings and fundraising efforts, but you are resilient and will be more united than ever.

Not everyone from our parish appreciates or understands what is involved in running a parish and in simple terms, to proclaim the Gospel. Attending Mass on Sundays and the odd occasion is only seeing a glimpse of life. Thank you to our **office staff**, you have had a big challenge, involving layoffs, changes in work hours, and you have had to deal with situation which was not the best. COVID has brought out the worst and the best in people, let us always pray for one another, and I think Jesus knew how difficult this can be when he asked us to love one another, as he loved the Father.

I commend the cooperation of Fr. Iqbal and our **Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education** in adapting to our restrictions by going with livestream masses. It should be pointed out that our Pastoral council has a representative from the School Board to increase the communication between our schools and our parish. St. Pat's Church is likewise. If I recall correctly this was a Board recommendation several years ago that has proven to be very successful.

I would be rude if I did not thank Karen Melle and the Parish Finance Council for the tough decisions you have had to make over the last few years, countless hours consultation with our Diocese. It should be pointed that Holy Family operates under the guidance and direction of the

Diocese. To make it simple, we do not run the show. One struggle at present is our decline in church attendance and this already began before our pandemic, this is nothing new in our parish but is becoming a norm for most churches. It could be said that the role of clergy is to promote the spiritual life of the parish, the role of the pastoral council is to support the clergy in promoting the spiritual life of the parish, and even if the parish increases or decreases in numbers, at the end of each day you still must show a profit, the government will not bail us out.

Thanks to George Kambeitz and his Planning and Maintenance Committee and their expertise, patience, and guidance. Even if the church is in lockdown mode, everything still must be maintained, heating, cooling, cleaning, etc. The duty of this committee is to assist the Facility Manager, in daily operation of the facility and to save the Parish money and not spend it. Often, I hear the words, we have a new church, well believe it or not the new church is 17 years old, it is well used, and it is showing signs of use and wear, rugs need to be replaced, pews need to be refurbished, equipment needs to be replaced.

To all our Ministries, at last count I think we were around 40, thank you for the sharing of your time and talents. The musical talents in our parish can't even be measured, it is priceless, for me personally my relationship with Jesus is made whole by singing, Sister Vickey was right "it is praying twice over". I am always amazed by how much we can accomplish when no one must take the credit. At times you may feel no one appreciates your service or efforts, your reward will be in heaven, seven times. Please remember the words of St. Teresa many people will say do not do that, people will take advantage of you, but do it anyway.

As many of you know loving someone at difficult times is a prove of love, and during this pandemic we are certainly getting a taste of difficult times, but it will also proof our love for another. Remember Jesus constantly preached loving one another, and to love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater teaching.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the parish for their generosity in financial contributions but also in time, talents, and prayers during this pandemic. Holy Family Parish has always shown me they are rich in care and compassion, and someone defined love as being rich in care and compassion, and love is what enters the grave into the way to eternal life.

In closing, let us never forget the eternal reward that awaits us, keep safe, let us be patient, and thank the Lord for his many Blessings.

Yours In Christ,
Patrick Ries
Pastoral Council Chair



The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Sunday, June 6, 2021

BROKEN & SHARED

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Corpus Christi): a heavenly banquet which is a priceless gift from our Lord Jesus to us. During this pandemic, this feast is a beautiful reminder to be ready to share ourselves with everyone who is in need. In the words of Prophet Nehemiah his gift is beyond comparison and explanation: "For their hunger you gave them bread from heaven, and for their thirst you brought water for them out of the rock, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you swore to give them" (Nehemiah 9:15). In the Book of Wisdom, we read: "Instead of these things you gave your people food of angels, and without their toil you supplied them from heaven with bread ready to eat, providing every pleasure and suited to every taste. For your sustenance manifested your sweetness toward your children; and the bread, ministering to the desire of the one who took it, was changed to suit everyone's liking. Snow and ice withstood fire without melting, so that they might know that the crops of their enemies were being destroyed by the fire that blazed in the hail and flashed in the showers of rain; whereas the fire, in order that the righteous might be fed, even forgot its native power. Therefore, at that time also, changed into all forms, it served your all-nourishing bounty, according to the desire of those who had need, so that your children, whom you loved, O Lord, might learn that it is not the production of crops that feeds humankind but that your word sustains those who trust in you" (16:20-26). It is amazing to see how our Lord breaks himself everyday and shares with us without any difference. In the words of Psalmist, we are eating the bread of angles; "Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven; he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven. Mortals ate of the bread of angels; he sent them food in abundance" (Psalm 78:23-25).

Pope Francis explains this feast like this: "Only the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the food of life, can satisfy the hunger of hearts for love, a universal experience. In life, we constantly need to be fed: nourished not only with food, but also with plans and affection, hopes and desires. We hunger to be loved. But the most pleasing compliments, the finest gifts and the most advanced technologies are not enough; they never completely satisfy us". "The Eucharist is

simple food, like bread, yet it is the only food that satisfies, for there is no greater love," he added. "There we encounter Jesus really; we share his life and we feel his love."

St. Thomas Aquinas had personal encounter with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of Holy Eucharist, and he wrote some classical hymns to adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. "Since it was the will of God's Only Begotten Son that men should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh, he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. What could be more wonderful than this? No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift. It is offered in the Church for the living and the dead, so that what was instituted for the salvation of all may be for the benefit of all. Yet, in the end, no one can fully express the sweetness of this sacrament, in which spiritual delight is tasted at its very source, and in which we renew the memory of that surpassing love for us which Christ revealed in his passion. It was to impress the vastness of this love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful that our Lord instituted this sacrament at the Last Supper. As he was on the point of leaving the world to go to the Father, after celebrating the Passover with his disciples, he left it as a perpetual memorial of his passion. It was the fulfillment of ancient figures and the greatest of all his miracles, while for those who were to experience the sorrow of his departure, it was destined to be a unique and abiding consolation".

We can see two main elements in the Readings today which highlight this feast this way: on one hand they speak about the physical hunger/need but on the other hand they do invite us to examine ourselves to see if we hunger for spiritual food and personal encounter with the Lord in the Precious Body and Blood. According to the Vatican II Eucharist is the "source and summit of our liturgy" where we see Jesus being broken and shared. Through his Body and Blood, we can receive eternity; "anyone who eats my body and drinks my blood will live forever".

A Jew was amusing himself in a public square when there passed a priest, who, accompanied by a crowd, carried the most holy Viaticum to a sick person. All the people on bended knees rendered due homage of adoration to the most Holy Sacrament; the Jew alone made no movement, nor gave any token of reverence. This being seen by a poor woman, she exclaimed, "O miserable man, why do you not show reverence to the true God present in this Divine Sacrament?" "What true God?" said the Jew sharply. "If this was so, would not there be many gods, since on each of your altars there is one during Mass?" The woman instantly took a sieve, and holding it up to the sun, told the Jew to look at the rays which passed through it, and then

added, "Tell me, Jew, are there many suns which pass through the openings of this sieve, or only one?" And the Jew answering that there was but one sun, "Then," replied the woman, "why do you wonder that an incarnate God, veiled in the Sacrament, though one, indivisible, and unchangeable, should, through excess of love, place Himself in His true and Real Presence on different altars?" By means of this illustration, he was led to confess the truth of the Real Presence.

In the First Reading Moses is sprinkling blood on the people and reminding them to remember the covenant "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words." However, in the Gospel Jesus is establishing covenant with his own blood. Jesus does this by saying "this is my body, and this is my blood" sharing himself and he wants this sacrifice to always be remembered. Jesus is the Bread of Life which came down from Heaven. He invites people to receive him as the Bread of Life to have eternal life. What a precious gift; Jesus in His Body and Blood. The sequence after the second reading is so powerful, it reminds us of the beauty of this feast:

"What he did at supper seated, Christ ordained to be repeated, His remembrance not to cease. And his rule for guidance taking, Bread and wine we hallow, making, thus, our sacrifice of peace".

Pope Francis in explaining the mystery of the Holy Eucharist, "Jesus prepares a place for us here below, because the Eucharist is the beating heart of the Church. It gives her birth and rebirth; it gathers her together and gives her strength. But the Eucharist also prepares for us a place on high, in eternity, for it is the Bread of heaven. The Eucharist is our 'reservation for the heavenly banquet'. "It is Jesus himself, as food for our journey towards eternal life and happiness." When Catholics worship Jesus in the Eucharist, they receive the Holy Spirit and find peace and joy, he said. "Jesus became bread broken for our sake; in turn, he asks us to give ourselves to others, to live no longer for ourselves but for one another. In this way, we live "eucharistically," pouring out upon the world the love we draw from the Lord's flesh." "Let us choose this food of life! Let us make Mass our priority! Let us appreciate the Precious Gift of Jesus to us and implore the grace to hunger for God, with an insatiable desire to receive what he has prepared for us."

There is always protection and healing in the Holy Eucharist because even if he will say the word our souls will be saved. There are too many miracles of the Eucharist that have taken place in the world that everyone admires and believes. One of them is the following:

Frederick II was attacking the town of Assisi, with an army composed of the lowest ranks of society, and many were infidels. Near the gate of the city stood a convent of nuns, governed by the holy abbess St. Clare. This was the first place these ruffians attacked. They placed ladders against the walls and prepared to ascend, and it seemed as if in a few moments the spouses of Christ would fall into the hands of those wicked men. But Jesus was there to help His servants. In this extremity St. Clare called together her nuns, and going into the chapel, she, by an inspiration from Heaven, caused the ciborium containing the Sacred Body of Our Lord to be carried to the place where the men were already beginning to ascend; then with her eyes raised up towards it, she said: "O my beloved Jesus, save Thy servants whom Thou hast brought hither to serve Thee, and whom Thou dost so often nourish with Thy precious Body." Her prayer ended;

she was interiorly admonished that the protection of Heaven was over her. The soldiers were struck blind, and a panic arose amongst them; they all took to flight as though pursued by an immense army.

St. John Marie Vianney said "There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us".

Pope Pius X said, "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven".

In the words of Pope Benedict XVI "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host. Be assiduous in the prayer of adoration and teach it to the faithful. It is a source of comfort and light, particularly to those who are suffering".

Let us examine ourselves to see how we break and share ourselves like our Lord to witness that he is our living Bread of Life?



# LIVESTREAM

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 Salt+Light TV, Shalom World TV, EWTN and Vision TV.

# **EMAIL SCAMS**



Several reports of email scams have

Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

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.

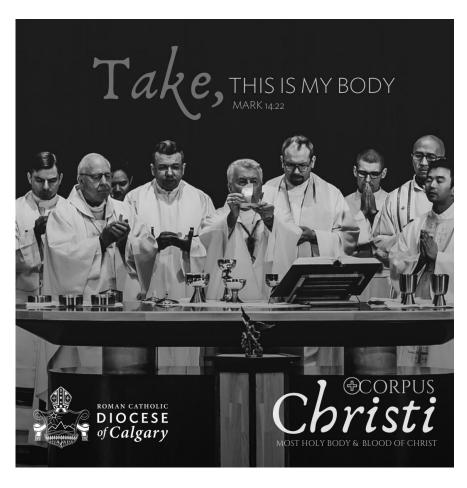


## LOG IN WWW.FORMED.ORG

- Go to Formed.org
- Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**Create a personal account with your personal username/email and password.
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# **Corpus Christi Sunday**



# **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:

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

# **Updated Liturgical Guidelines - Stage 1**

Beginning June 1:

The capacity limit for in-person attendance is 15% of the fire code occupancy. All protocols dealing with the use of masks, contact tracing, sanitizing, proper physical distancing with individuals from different household, etc. remain in place.

For more details on guidelines re: Weekday and Sunday Masses, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms etc. please visit <a href="https://www.catholicyyc.ca/blog/covid19">https://www.catholicyyc.ca/blog/covid19</a>

Daily and Sunday Mass Prayers & Readings: <a href="CCCB Daily Readings">CCCB Daily Readings</a> (pick the desired date)

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses:

https://www.catholicyyc.ca | TEL US 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

## May Edition of Faithfully

The May edition of Faithfully will be released on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

- Read May Faithfully
- Subscribe to Faithfully

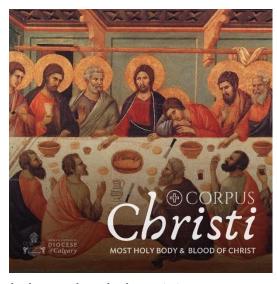


The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) published a statement on behalf of all Canadian bishops on the recent discovery of children's graves at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation.

- Read Message here
- Please pray these petitions:
  - For the children whose death in Kamloops Residential School were undocumented and whose passing has now been recognized, may they be welcomed into the light and peace of your kingdom, and may they find the fullness of your charity and love, and live in the joys of eternal life.
  - o For the families of the deceased children in Kamloops residential school, may they be lifted from the depths of their grief and strengthened in faith and hope.
  - For our current leaders and all of us, may God give us the courage to face our shared history and the desire to continue and forge new paths of justice and healing. May our respect for one another lead to acts of human solidarity and bring about spiritual and social change for the good of all.

# **Celebrating Corpus Christi Sunday**

The Church draws her life from the Eucharist. This truth does not simply express a daily experience of faith, but recapitulates the heart of the mystery of the Church. In a variety of ways she joyfully experiences the constant fulfilment of the promise: "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20), but in the Holy Eucharist, through the changing of bread and wine into the body and blood of the Lord, she rejoices in this presence with unique intensity. Ever since Pentecost, when the Church, the People of the New



Covenant, began her pilgrim journey towards her heavenly homeland, the Divine Sacrament has continued to mark the passing of her days, filling them with confident hope.

Proclaiming the death of the Lord "until he comes" (1 Cor 11:26) entails that all who take part in the Eucharist be committed to changing their lives and making them in a certain way completely "Eucharistic". It is this fruit of a transfigured existence and a commitment to transforming the world in accordance with the Gospel which splendidly illustrates the eschatological tension inherent in the celebration of the Eucharist and in the Christian life as a whole: "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev 22:20)

- Corpus Christi Sunday Resources
  - o This is what the feast of Corpus Christi all about
  - 10 amazing facts about the power of the Eucharist
  - Corpus Christi reading reflections with Jeff Cavins
  - The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist | Keynote video at RE Congress
  - Watch: <u>PRESENCE: The Mystery of the Eucharist</u> (Augustine Institute) The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and her members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation. <u>Watch on Youtube | Watch the whole series at Formed.org</u>
  - o Corpus Christi Morning Prayer | Evening Prayer
  - o Resources for Family & children:
    - Kid's Bulletin for Corpus Christi Sunday
    - Talk to your kids about Eucharist
    - Corpus Christi Craft for kids from Catholic Icing
    - Activity download: Which one is the Real Presence?
    - For ages 7-14 Mass Worksheets
    - A visual guide to how to go to Adoration

# **Employment Opportunities**

There are new employment opportunities in the Diocese of Calgary.

- Receptionist Catholic Pastoral Centre, Calgary
- Relief Support Staff Elizabeth House, Calgary
- Office Manager Sacred Heart Parish, Calgary
- Sessional Instructor (Sacraments & Moral Theology) St. Mary's University, Calgary
- Choral Director St. John Choir Schola, Calgary

For more information and application details, please visit <a href="mailto:catholicyyc.ca/careers">catholicyyc.ca/careers</a>

# **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**



The Calgary Elder Abuse Awareness Collective invite you to the following workshops:

- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day | Tuesday, June 15, 2021, from 10 am to 11:50 am. Learn about supports and resources for older adults experiencing elder abuse. Find out about different kinds of elder abuse, the common signs, and how bystanders can support and protect victims. Speakers: Sgt. Susan Westenberger (Calgary Police Service), Katie Mitchell (Carya), Katharina Zacharias (Kerby Centre). Zoom ID: 817 7906 8480. No registration is required, use ZOOM ID to join.
- It's not right | Learn about different kinds of elder abuse, the common signs, and how bystanders can support and protect victims.
  - In Farsi: Monday, June 14, 2021, 10 am 11:30 am. Speaker: Fauzia Khedri, Volunteer, CSRS. ZOOM ID: 856 3271 8025 - Passcode: 1234
  - In Gujarati: Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 10 am to 11:30 am. Speaker: Rossbina Nathoo, Senior Connector, CSRS. ZOOM ID: 897 5400 6404 - Passcode: 1234
- **Cyber Safety**. Learn about the ways to protect against cyber fraud and how to report them. Speaker: Michael Kim, YouthLink Calgary Police Interpretive Centre.
  - o In English: Monday, June 14, 2021, 2 pm to 3:30 pm. ZOOM ID: 813 7093 4565
  - o In Cantonese: Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 2 pm to 3:30 pm. ZOOM ID: 875 977 9955
- Financial Frauds/Scams | Wednesday, June 16, 10 am to 11:30 am. In this presentation the presenters will talk about different kinds of financial frauds/scams going on around to rob people of their money and financial IDs. It will also talk about tips on how to stay safe and be careful in order to avoid this kind of scams. The presenters will give some contact information to call and report the incidents. Speaker: Kathy Roe, Senior Connector, CSRS. ZOOM ID: 828 9169 2988. Passcode: 1234.

#### **Resources for mental health**

"Physically healthy should also include a focus on our mental and spiritual well-being." says Sr. Donna Marie Perry, psychotherapist and social worker in the Diocese of Calgary. "Not all families are healthy," says Sr. Perry. She urges people who see others struggling to reach out with kindness. Where appropriate, you can also recommend they access support from community-based organizations. (Mental health matters, Faithfully).

Have you encountered anyone in need of access to help with mental health? Below is a list of handy mental health resources for you to share:

- Calgary Counselling Centre: 403-691-5991 + online counselling
- Catholic Family Service: 403-205-5295. Rapid Access Counselling: 403-233-2360 or email intake@cfs-ab.org
- Distress Centre: 403-266-4357 available 24/7.
- Eastside Family Centre: 403-299-9696 telephone and e-therapy.
- Kid's Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868
- Mental Health Help Line: 1-877-303-2642
- Access Mental Health: 403-943-1500

For other barrier free consultation sessions (Calgary area), you may consider referring those in need with this online service: <a href="mailto:communityconnectyyc.ca">communityconnectyyc.ca</a>



# **Grandparents' Faith Cafe**

This is an online social and spiritual space for grandparents worldwide. Join the next Grandparents' Faith Cafe with guest speaker Peggy Stanton, a news correspondent, author, illustrator and painter, who served ABC-TV as the first woman news correspondent in Washington, DC. Peggy presents 'A Place of Peace' on Ave Maria Radio. When: Tuesday, June 8 at 12:30 pm (MST) - via Zoom. To register, email info@catholicgrandparentsassociation.com

## **Worth Sharing**

#### 1. Corpus Christi Sunday - Bulletin Shorts, free to use

<u>Mass Readings</u> | Take. Eat. Drink. Oh, some of us still long to gather with the Church on Sunday to do Eucharist, to give thanks. Some of us still yearn to come to Mass and share in Communion. We long to both eat and drink the Lord Jesus Christ. This holy dining tells us who and whose we are. Soon, pray.

- 1. If I can come to the church on Sunday, for what do I give thanks?
- 2. How can I help those who still cannot come because of Covid 19 mitigations?
- 3. If I cannot come to the church on Sunday, how will I still choose to give thanks? Source: Diocese of Springfield

#### 2. Catholic Education newsletters

Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) shared Catholic Education newsletters for you and your community.

- 1. Download GrACE May Newsletter
- 2. Download Faith Formation Monthly from CCSD

#### 3. Why is June dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

June has become known as the Month of the Sacred Heart, due to the fact that the feast of the Sacred Heart is celebrated each year during it. It all started when St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received private revelations from Jesus Christ. Read more

#### 4. Pope's June prayer intention: on the beauty of marriage

Pope Francis is praying that we make our own "God's dream" of love, and especially for young people preparing for marriage. The beauty of marriage and the family as something more than a "social" act: "it's a vocation that's born from the heart; it's a conscious decision for the rest of one's life that requires specific preparation." Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience. Watch Pope's Video

#### 5. Help India through Canadian Jesuits International

Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) has launched an emergency appeal focused on India to support their Jesuit partners and communities they work with. CJI's partners continue to accompany marginalized people affected by COVID-19, even at great risk to their own health and safety. The urgency and magnitude of the need remains enormous in India where there is a severe shortage of medical equipment, hygiene items and basic food provisions. To learn more and to support CJI and their Jesuit partners, click here

- 6. **5 ways your parish can share your community experience on social media** | Many parishes are looking for ways to draw new members or engage current ones. There are many ways that social media can help with that. This webinar will provide five easy ways to create posts that capture your unique parish culture and community experience. Examples that have worked for parishes will be shared. Watch now
- 7. Webinars to support those who accompany youth

Racism. The Pandemic. Political division. These issues have impacted all of us this year, and they will continue to have a significant impact on the lives of our young people. Grounded in his faith and starting with the core Catholic value of the dignity of every person, Chris Ballard, NFL GM, offers his insights and experiences for how to work effectively and justly to achieve unity within a diverse organization. Join this moderated conversation between Chris, Indianapolis Chaplain Fr. Douglas Hunter, long-time youth minister Mike Patin plus Darius Villalobos, NFCYM's Director of Cultural Diversity to learn practical tips for how our Catholic faith can help you engage in difficult conversations with young people about topics of supreme importance in our society. When: Tuesday, June 8 at 11 am to 1 pm MT. Register here

#### 8. What do we do in Adoration?

There are many things we can do during Eucharistic Adoration, but to make the time most effective there are certain things we should do. Fr. Josh Johnson puts forth some simple guidelines you can use to help you improve your relationship with God in the Blessed Sacrament. Read/Listen now

#### 9. Pray for Myanmar

On Monday, Myanmar's military fired artillery shells at a Catholic Church in eastern Myanmar, killing four civilians sheltering there. More than 300 people from at least 60 families had taken refuge in the church compound due to fighting over the weekend between the military and an anti-coup resistance group known as the Karenni People's Defense Force (PDF). Read more

#### 10. The ultimate guide to Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time isn't ordinary. It's much more than that. This season celebrates a very specific time in the life of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Do you need a refresher on Ordinary Time? Check out this short article that answers all those questions and even has some ideas on how to get the most out of this celebration of Jesus' life.

#### 11. Rescuing fallen away family members

"My child or grandchild has fallen away from the faith, what should I do?" Brandon Vogt from Word on Fire discuss his approach rescuing fallen away family members. He speaks about the cultural roadblocks in evangelization we face today, and gives us practical ways to engage in conversations with our loved ones who have turned away from Christ. Read/Listen now

#### 12. The Real Presence is real

The Jesus who walked the streets of Galilee giving sight to the blind, raising the dead, and making the paralyzed walk, is the same Jesus who is present to you in the Eucharist longing to work miracles in your life. Dr. Sri reminds us that the God of the universe is dwelling among us in all the tabernacles of the world. How do we live a Eucharistic faith so that we may draw near to Jesus who longs to be close to us? Read/Listen now

#### 13. Pray for Israel-Palestine with the escalation of violence

The Pope and the Holy See are very concerned about what is happening in the Holy Land where the escalation of violence between Israel and Hamas is continuing. Cardinal Parolin reiterated the urgency of a truce and expressed deep concern over the explosive situation, which, he said, continues despite the efforts of the international community to bring about a ceasefire. Read more

#### 14. 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 <a href="fcjcentre.ca/sdtp">fcjcentre.ca/sdtp</a> or contact Sr. Madeleine Gregg, fcJ at 403-228-4215. The application deadline is June 30, 2021.

#### 15. Confession resources

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

- 1. <u>Diocesan printable Confession card for children</u> (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

# 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 May issue of Faithfully
- Subscribe to Faithfully here







# Bishop's Message – May 2021

It is important to acknowledge the human and social issues impacting women in our society, mothers and families during this pandemic. This month, Bishop McGrattan speaks of domestic violence and its impact upon women and mothers, and ways to

respond in the true spirit of Christian renewal. Read his message here.

# **Virtual Eucharistic Conference - June 4-6**

"What hidden mystery does God still wish to reveal to me about Himself?"

Join the FREE virtual Eucharistic Conference by Virtual Catholic Conference™ this Corpus Christi weekend June 4-6. Experience being a part of the universal Body of Christ in this global gathering of prayer, learning, and celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

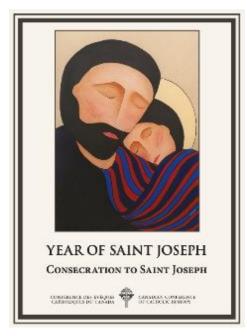
Conference presenters include Dr. Denis McNamara, Fr. Donald Calloway, Dr. Peter Kreeft, Tim O'Malley and many more! Register here



# **Webinars for Temporary Foreign Workers**

Below is a list of webinars for Temporary Foreign Workers. Please contact contact Myla at Calgary Catholic Immigration Society (CCIS) - 403-470-9132 or email rignacio@ccisab.ca for more information or to register.

June 16, 2021, Wednesday, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM: **Emotional Wellness (English)** by Alberta Health Services June 22, 2021, Tuesday, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM: **Emotional Wellness (Spanish)** by Alberta Health Services



#### **Consecration to Saint Joseph**

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) 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: <a href="Consecration to Saint Joseph">Consecration to Saint Joseph</a> (PDF).

## St. Joseph's Year catechesis for youth

The CCCB has created online resources offering various prayers, devotions, catechetical resources for adults and children, as well as Church documents, all of which are dedicated to Saint Joseph.

This week we are highlighting the resources for catechetical activities for

#### children and youth

- Ages 6-8 Catechetical Activity | St. Joseph: A loving and caring father
- Ages 9-11 Catechetical Activity | St Joseph: The worker
- Youth Catechetical Activity

## 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.

## **Development & Peace**



Development and Peace (The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, or D&P) is the official international development organization of the <u>Catholic Church in Canada</u> and the <u>Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis</u>. 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 <a href="here">here</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:catholicyyc.ca/donatednp">catholicyyc.ca/donatednp</a>

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 catholicyyc.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.

#### **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 <u>divinemercy.edu</u> | 703-416-1441

#### **Online Faith Formation Courses**

#### **Certificate in Catholic Studies**

The Benedict XVI Institute for New Evangelization offers a 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 <a href="newman.edu/ccs">newman.edu/ccs</a> 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 <u>here</u>.

## 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: <a href="https://www.catholicvyc.ca">https://www.catholicvyc.ca</a>.

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 <u>Salt+Light TV, Shalom World TV, EWTN</u> and <u>Vision TV</u>.

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 <a href="https://www.catholicyyc.ca/donatetoparish">https://www.catholicyyc.ca/donatetoparish</a> [or contact your Parish to set up a direct debit deposit].



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.

June 11-13: Men's Weekend July 17: Brother Sun-Sister Moon

June 14-19: Outside Group – Private Booking July 18-25: 7 Day Directed Retreat

June 21-27: 6 Day Preached Retreat