



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021, 2021 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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...

Friday 9:30am–10:30am. & Saturday 3:30–4:45pm.
Or by Appointment

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30am - 4:00pm
ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 – 10:30am

*MASS TIMES... MONDAY to FRIDAY at 9:00AM
FIRST SATURDAY OF MONTH at 8:30AM, SATURDAY at 5:00PM
SUNDAY at 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 6:00PM*



Catholic Women's League

Marjorie Bowlby marjoriembowlby@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus

Kirby Peterson ktlpete@shaw.ca



Parish Pastoral Council – Chair

Gary Heinbecker, heinbecker@telus.net

Parish Finance Committee – Chair

Cheryl Pocsik, gpocsik@shaw.ca

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Sunday 10:30am Mass

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

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

You Tube

Listen to Mass on your phone...
Download the "Audio Fetch" app.
Our Network is: HFP_LIVE
The Password is: Liv3HFP*



Thursday, September 30th, the office will be closed in the afternoon in honor of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Please take some time for prayer in support of our Indigenous People.



We acknowledge that Treaty 7 territory, on which we stand, is the ancestral land of the Indigenous peoples and is common home to everyone in virtue of God our Creator's gracious gift.

E-Transfer Donations accounting@holyfamilymh.ca



“ 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

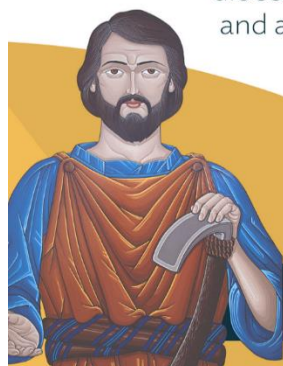
OUR PARISH GOAL

\$ 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 \$ **25,403.20** = 51%



2021
THE YEAR of
ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLICYC.CA/TIA

OPERATING FINANCES

August 1-31, 2021

Operating Budget 2021	\$ 55,019
General Envelope Collection	\$ 46,955
Loose Collections	\$ 1,252
Future Development	\$ 2,746
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 2,209
Other Ministries	\$ 492
Government Subsidy	\$ 1,577
Budget Vs Actual	\$ 212

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 2,609
Clergy Retirement	\$ 20
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,206
Seminarian Fund	\$ 65
Mission Mexico	\$ 225
CARO	\$ 66
Needs of the Cdn. Church	\$ 50
World Missions	\$ 50

Thank You for your Generous Contributions

† Masses Intentions †

September 25 – October 1

Saturday, September 25

5:00pm – Jacob Bischoff †

Sunday, September 26

8:30 am – Darren Sears †

10:30am – Ray Bosch Family

6:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Monday, September 27

9:00am – Chuck Love †

Tuesday, September 28

9:00am – Kiril & Helena Mudri

Wednesday, September 29

9:00am – Brooks 25 Years of
Catholic Education

Thursday, September 30

9:00am – Amelia Mackie

Friday, October 1

9:00am – Pisoni Family

Saturday, October 2

8:30am – The Sehn Kids

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, September 19, 2021

1st Reading: Numbers 11.25-29

Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were Prophets!

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 19.7, 9, 11-12, 13 (*R. 8a*)

R. **The precepts of the Lord are right, and give joy to the heart.**

2nd Reading: James 5. 1-6

Your riches have rotted.

Gospel: Mark 9.38-43, 45, 47-48

Whoever is not against us is for us. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off.

"THE MORE THE MERRIER."

Who cares if other Christians are also doing the good things that Catholics do? Or other believers? Or even non-believers? The kingdom of heaven is not an exclusive club. By God's design, everyone belongs. Jesus says: "Whoever is not against us is for us."

† What good can I affirm that someone else is doing this week?

† How can I foster others to do good work?

† How can I help others to care for "little ones"?

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021

**Intentions... the unborn
children and expectant
mothers and their families.**

**Everyone is welcome and
encouraged to attend**



**First Friday of
each Month**

**Knights of
Columbus**

ADORATION

9:30 AM

to

9:30 PM



**Knights of
Columbus®**

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our proceeds from 9502 go to
Project Racheal and Elizabeth
House.

Vincentian Corner

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul assists people in need right here in our own community and surrounding area.

From July 1 – August 31, we were able to help in 45 different situations where people called in for assistance. The ways in which we were able to help were varied: security deposit, rent, medication, moving expenses, transportation to name just a few of the most requested types of assistance.

We spent an average of just over \$600 per person/family assisted.

The gratitude expressed by those receiving help was overwhelming. The volunteers working for 'St. Vincent de Paul' wanted to share this with you because you make it all possible through your generosity. We are blessed!

Thank you and may God bless you!



Become a member of the Board's Audit Committee!

The Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education is requesting applications from members of the public to fill two positions on the Board's Audit Committee as public members.

If you are interested in serving on the Audit Committee please visit www.mhcbe.ab.ca or call 403-527-2292 to learn more.

41408944

St Patrick's Church is Looking for a casual Book Keeper

For more information & to apply go to ...

<https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/careers.html>

St. Patrick's Church

CWL is holding their annual Clothing Sale:

Thursday October 21 to Saturday October 23.

Donations can be dropped off at church hall on Wednesday, October 20. Thank you for your support.



K of C #1732 is having a pumpkin sale on Sunday October 3rd from 9am to 1pm

in the St. Patrick's parking lot.

\$5 each



Sacramental Preparation



1st Reconciliation Classes

***CHANGE of SCHEDULE

Sessions for both children and parents will be offered on Thursdays only. There will be NO sessions offered on Saturday due to pandemic restrictions.

September

Session 1 – Thursday September 30th Holy Family Parish Hall 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Parent Meeting – Thursday September 30th 6:30pm Holy Family Parish sanctuary

October

Session 2 – Thursday October 28th Holy Family Parish Hall 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Parent Meeting – Thursday October 28th 6:30pm Holy Family Parish sanctuary

Confirmation

Parent Meeting/Registration –

Thursday October 14th 6:30pm – 7:30pm at Holy Family Parish Hall OR

Saturday October 16th 10:30am-11:30am at St. Patrick's Church Hall.

PLEASE bring a copy of your child's baptism and 1st Communion Certificates. If your child was born out of the country we also require copy of their Canadian Residency card. A fee of \$15.00 is requested as a donation to help pay for resources however not mandatory. A schedule will be handed out with a brief presentation of the program we will be using.

MASKS ARE MANDATORY.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

MASKS ARE NOW MANDATORY

To help bend the curve and save lives, wearing a mask is now mandatory in all indoor public spaces and workplaces across Alberta.

Whether you're inside or outdoors, wearing a non-medical mask is an effective way to protect yourself and others when physical distancing may not be possible.

alberta.ca/covid19



catholiccyyc.ca/blog/covid19



WILLIAM T. MCGRATTAN

BISHOP *of* CALGARY

September 22, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 being reported each day has significantly increased in our province. This brings to the forefront of our consciousness the need to safeguard the common good, and in charity to promote the safety of others by protecting our individual health and that of society. In some provinces, the sectors of healthcare, education and social services, public agencies and corporations have begun to announce mandatory vaccination as requirement for their employees and the public. This has resulted in the Diocese and the parishes receiving from members of the faithful the request for letters of exemption from the mandatory vaccination based on the grounds of religious belief.

While the Diocese respects the freedom of a person's individual conscience as the Church teaches, the Church and her ministers cannot objectively attest to or endorse a person's process of discernment in coming to their decision of conscience. Therefore, the Diocese and the parishes will not be issuing any letters of exemption from vaccination.

The clergy has been strongly encouraged instead to accompany and assist those requesting such letters to know and understand the teachings of the Church on vaccination during this pandemic through statements released by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB), and the pastoral letter provided by the Bishop of Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

As stated by my brother Bishops and in communion with the Holy Father, it is morally permissible to receive a vaccine approved for use in Canada against COVID-19, and while there are many possible reasons for one to struggle in their conscience with such a vaccine being mandatory, the Diocese will not take the position or role of endorsing an individual's conscience and decision.

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY

Catholic Pastoral Centre | 120 17 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2S 2T2

Phone: 403-218-5526 | Fax : 403-264-0272

If vaccination will be mandated, there must also be on the part of legitimate authorities, the necessary provisions of reasonable accommodation which respects and promotes the dignity of the individual conscience and the decision of conscientious objection. However, those who choose not to be vaccinated for whatever reason must do their utmost to ensure that they take all precautionary measures possible to avoid places and circumstances where they and others would be most vulnerable. They must also follow the health and safety measures not only to prevent contracting the virus for themselves but also preventing others from becoming sick. This is everyone's moral responsibility.

Much prayer is needed in this time, in this polarized society, for those who have suffered so much and for those who continue to suffer from the reality of the pandemic. As Christians and people of goodwill, we must grow in our love and concern for others and use the gift of our freedom responsibly to help others especially those who are in most need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



+William T. McGrattan
Bishop of Calgary

Note from Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

<https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CDF-Note-on-COVID-19-vaccines.pdf>

Note from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

<https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/CLARIFICATION-CCCB-Statement-on-COVID-19-Vaccine-Choice-9-March-2021-EN.pdf>

The Statement of the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories

https://mcusercontent.com/b94c6c43263afb74033548543/files/e954e256-4a36-4044-95fd-685de8fd01bf/2020_11_30_Letter_to_the_faithful_on_Vaccines.pdf

FEATURING NEW, DYNAMIC PRESENTERS,
INCLUDING:



DR. DAVE PIVONKA
PRESIDENT, FRANCISCAN
UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE
CREATOR, "HE WILD GOOSE"



DR. RALPH MARTIN
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,
RENEWAL MINISTRIES



DR. LENNY DELORENZO
DIRECTOR OF
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
MCGRAW HILL INSTITUTE



FR. LEO PATALINGHUG
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,
PLATING GRACE



MICHAEL GORMLEY
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,
LAY EVANGELIST



JOHN EDWARDS
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,
JUST A GUY IN THE PEW



KEVIN WELLS
BEST SELLING AUTHOR AND
CATHOLIC SPEAKER
(FORMER SPORTS WRITER)



JEFF JOAQUIN
TMIY CORE TEAM LEADER,
FLORIDA



MARK HARTFIEL
VICE PRESIDENT,
PARADISUS DEI



STEVE BOLLMAN
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,
PARADISUS DEI

TMIY

THAT MAN IS YOU!

THY KINGDOM COME

CLAIM YOUR ROYAL DIGNITY AND INHERITANCE

THY KINGDOM COME

CLAIM YOUR ROYAL DIGNITY AND INHERITANCE



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"THIS IS A SIGN OF THE
NEW EVANGELIZATION."

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop, Galveston-Houston

TMIY
THAT MAN IS YOU!
THE EVANGELIC CODE

A program of:
PARADISUS DEI

THAT MAN IS YOU!

is an interactive men's program focused on the development of male leadership in the modern world. It combines the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society.

Jesus did not say to the Jews, "I've come to save you from Roman oppression and taxation." Christ did not promise a worldly kingdom. In fact, He said, "In the world you will have tribulation ... yet I have overcome the world ... My kingdom is not of this world ... My kingdom is in your midst ... My kingdom is within you!" The kingdom of God is among us. Indeed, it is here now. For where the King is, there is His Kingdom. Let us live with an eternal perspective. May we become the men we need to rebuild the kingdom!

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF TRANSFORMATION AS YOU DISCOVER:

- Confront the worldly kingdoms and spiritual evils of our day.
- Discover exactly what it takes to overthrow an empire and inherit the kingdom of God.
- Discover a new way, a new outlook, and a new perspective on this life and the next.
- Wrestle with the mysteries of a kingdom "not of this world" yet simultaneously "within you".
- Learn to acquire the taste for the kingdom of heaven with food for both the body and the soul.
- Contemplate a powerful, modern day prophecy and discern its profound implications.
- Experience the transformation of God through personal testimonies that will touch the hardest of hearts.
- Embrace the God of mercy and experience His superabundant compassion and love.
- Discover Jesus Christ present as the true King of your heart and claim your royal inheritance.
- Live with an eternal perspective.
- Become the man we need to rebuild the kingdom!

THAT MAN IS YOU!

THE KINGDOM COME

FALL SEMESTER

- Week 1: Thy Kingdom Come
- Week 2: The Kingdom is Like Leaven
- Week 3: Christ The King!
- Week 4: The Overthrow of Satan
- Week 5: How to Overthrow an Empire
- Week 6: Word - Witness - Walk
- Week 7: The Men We Need to Build the Kingdom
- Week 8: The Kingdom of Comfort
- Week 9: Acquiring A Taste For Heaven
- Week 10: Blinded By The Kingdom
- Week 11: On Earth As It Is In Heaven
- Week 12: My Son, Jonathan
- Week 13: The Kingdom is Like Weeds Among the Wheat

OBJECTIVES: Discover that the kingdom of God is not of this world yet within your midst and your heart. Overthrow the power of sin and usher in a new way of living. Cultivate an eternal perspective as a prerequisite for kingdom living. Boldly proclaim the kingdom in both word and deed. Become the authentic Catholic leader our world, our church and our families so desperately need. Discover the greatest treasure of the human heart and allow the reign of Jesus Christ to permeate every aspect of your life.

SPRING SEMESTER

- Week 14: Resilience and Perseverance
- Week 15: Son of Man, Do You See?
- Week 16: The Time of Purification
- Week 17: The Kingdom is Like a Dragnet
- Week 18: Just a Guy in the Pew
- Week 19: The Narrow Gate
- Week 20: A Tale of Two Cities
- Week 21: The Darkness of Modern Culture
- Week 22: A Civilization of Love
- Week 23: A Life of Dissipation
- Week 24: Working in Redemption
- Week 25: The Kingdom is Like a Great Banquet
- Week 26: A Royal People

OBJECTIVES: Set your eyes on the ultimate prize of eternal life with perseverance and precision. Experience a journey into the heart of the kingdom and heart of the Father. Together with a band of brothers, embark upon the narrow road to salvation as opposed to the superhighway of perdition. Experience the joy and the feast awaiting within the Father's house. Claim your royal dignity and inheritance. The spring semester is practical, profound and even prophetic.



TESTIMONIALS

"Fr. Dave Pivonka... honest, humorous, practical and always truthful. Father Pivonka takes you by the hand and walks you right to Jesus." - Mark Hart, author, *Blessed Are the Bored in Spirit and Ask the Bible Geek*

"Fr. Leo Patalinghug... The Master himself did a lot of his teaching over meals and identified himself and his enduring love for his people with bread and wine. Catechetics-through-cooking might seem new, but it's as old as the Gospels, and in Father Leo, this ancient craft has an engaging 21st-century practitioner."

- George Weigel Distinguished Senior Fellow, Ethics and Public Policy Center

"Ralph Martin is one of the most reliable analysts of the state of the Church. He is brave and bold, outspoken but never snarky or alarmist...(He) sheds fresh light on some of the most debilitating confusions of our age." - Dr. Janet Smith, Author of *Self-Gift: Humanae Vitae and the Thought of John Paul II*

"John Edwards is quickly becoming one of the top Catholic speakers in the country... Firmly rooted in the teachings of the Church, John will both challenge and motivate those who hear him to strive for deeper intimacy with the Lord." - Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers

"Mark Hartfiel's talks have been incredible! The content is awesome and the delivery is perfect. Many of our men comment after his talks as being "some of the best." - Core Team Leader, Michigan

"Steve Bollman's unique abilities allow him to synthesize the teachings of the Catholic faith and human sciences and present them in an impactful way to men, especially as it relates to their roles as husbands and fathers." - Fr. Peter Towsley, pastor



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

Sunday, September 26, 2021

SHARING JESUS WITH OTHER

In our present times maybe we're afraid to share our faith because we don't know what to say. Or maybe we're sharing the Gospel, but nothing is happening; people aren't committing their lives to Christ. St. Paul appreciates the faith of Philemon by saying "When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother". Are we doing something wrong about sharing Jesus with other?

We can't open someone's heart to the truth of the Gospel—but God can, by His Spirit. The Apostle Paul wasn't eloquent, but God used him because he depended on the Holy Spirit to guide him (1 Corinthians 2:1-5). God guided many others in the Bible as well—like Moses, who at first asked God to get someone else to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land, or Jonah, who didn't think the wicked Ninevites deserved God's mercy and tried to run the other way.

Remember that God does not call the equipped; He equips the called or he does not call the qualified but qualifies the called—and as Christians, we are all called to share what Christ has done. Christ's last words on earth were, "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). Sharing our faith isn't just a suggestion, it's a command. And God is with us when we obey Him.

One day, a man walked into his doctor's office complaining..." Doctor, I have this awful headache that won't go away. Please, could you give me a prescription for it?"

"I will," murmured the doctor, pondering what had set off his usually calm patient. "But first, I want to check out a few things and ask you a few questions... Tell me, do you drink a lot of alcohol?" "Alcohol?" the man shouted back indignantly. "I never touch that filthy stuff. Nor do I go near people who drink it. All filthy!"

"How about smoking?" the doctor calmly inquired. "I think smoking is disgusting. I've never touched tobacco in my life." "Okay," the doctor continued, "I'm a bit embarrassed to even ask this, but... Do you run around at night seeking dangerous pleasures?" "Of course not! What do

you take me for? I'm a highly spiritual and disciplined man, and I'm in bed by 10 o'clock every night." The man spat back.

"Then, tell me..." said the doctor, "This pain in your head, is it a sharp, shooting kind of pain?" "Yes, yes!" The man eagerly replied, his eyes lighting up... "It is... a sharp, shooting kind of pain." "Well, that's simple, my dear fellow!" the doctor replied with a smile on his face. "The trouble is that your halo is on too tight. All we need to do for you is loosen it up a bit; loosen you up a bit! Avoid the bad habits I mentioned earlier and enjoy some innocent pleasures in life – Create some balance. Let go of the rigidity. Live and share yourself with other and you will enjoy your life and there will be no headache at all."

We get sick of people; we get headaches by thinking negative about others and sometimes we lose sleep because we are too concerned about the well being of others rather than looking deep into our own lives. What should we do then? One of the best ways to share our faith is to live a godly life. Non-Christians often look at Christians as hypocritical because we say one thing but do another. Show those close to you that you care—spend time with them, help meet their needs and offer to listen when they have problems. As St. Paul says in the Letter to Philippians "Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel". We might not be able to answer all questions, but they can't deny the reality of what Christ has done in our life. If we find this is hard to do, perhaps God is speaking to us about our own need to walk more closely with Him every day.

Another important part of sharing our faith is to pray for those we interact with. If we can't think of anyone who isn't a Christian, pray for God to place someone in our life who needs Him. Also make a habit of reading the Bible, praying, and going to church. These things shouldn't be done for attention or for the sake of doing them, but to help us grow in our own faith. Being passionate about Christ will help others see that there's something different about us, and they will want to know what it is. We can also reflect Christ through kind words, patience, a gentle temperament, choosing to love even difficult people, carefully monitoring what we watch or listen to, and treating others with respect.

In the First Reading we read that Spirit is being shared with seventy elders to prophesy. God gives us his spirit not only to live but proclaim his presence among the nations. Jesus before his passion, promised his disciples that they would be advocates or helpers who would teach them what to say and do. In his epistles St. Paul speaks a lot about the Holy Spirit who not only pray or intercede for us but also helps us to call God "Abba" Father. We must always pray with King David "Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me" so that we may always learn to witness him.

In the Second Reading St. James encouraging all of us to share what God has given us with other people. God has blessed us only with worldly blessings but also with a lot of gifts and talents to share with other people. Once Carol S. Wimmer (1998) wrote that our role as Christian must be like:

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting, "I'm saved"
I'm whispering, "I get lost!"
"That is why I chose this way"

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride
I'm confessing that I stumble,
and need someone to be my guide

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong,
I'm professing that I'm weak,
and pray for strength to carry on

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success,

I'm admitting that I've failed,
and cannot ever pay the debt

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
my flaws are way too visible
but God believes I'm worth it

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartaches
which is why I seek His Name

When I say ... "I am a Christian"
I do not wish to judge
I have no authority,
I only know I'm loved!

Do we see ourselves in the poem to examine our lives? But sometimes we act in a non-Christian way like in the following story:

Once upon a time, there was a painter who had just completed his course. He took three days and painted beautiful scenery. He wanted people's opinion about his caliber and his painting skills. He displayed his creation at a busy street crossing. Next to it was a caption, which read – "I have painted this piece. Since I'm new to this profession I might have committed some mistakes in my strokes. Please put a cross wherever you see a mistake."

When he came back in the evening to collect his painting, he was completely shattered to see that the whole canvass was filled with Xs (crosses). Some people had even written their comments on the painting! Disheartened and completely broken, he ran to his master's place and burst into tears. The young artist was breathing heavily, and master heard him saying, "I'm useless. And if this is what I have learnt to paint, I'm not worth becoming a painter. People have rejected me completely. I feel like dying,"

The Master smiled and suggested, "My Son, I will prove that you are a great artist and have learnt flawless painting. Do as I say without questioning it. It WILL work." The young artist reluctantly agreed. Two days later, early morning he presented a replica of his earlier painting to his master. The Master took it gracefully and smiled. "Come with me." the Master said. They reached the same street square and displayed the same painting exactly at the same place. Now the Master took out another board, which read –

"Gentlemen, I have painted this piece. Since I'm new to this profession I might have committed some mistakes in my strokes etc. I have put a box with colors and brushes just below. Please do me a favor. If you see a mistake, kindly pick up the brush and correct it."

The Master and disciple walked back home. They both returned in the evening. The young painter was surprised to see that there was not a single correction made so far. Again, the next

day they came back and found the painting untouched. The painting was kept there for a month. No correction came in!

This Sunday's Gospel presents us with one of those characteristics that are very instructive about Jesus' life with his disciples. They had seen a man who did not belong to the group of Jesus' followers casting out demons in Jesus' name, and thus they wanted to forbid him to do so. With the zealous enthusiasm typical of young people, John refers the matter to the Teacher, seeking his support. However, quite to the contrary, Jesus replies: "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us". Don't we act sometimes like John to stop people to do good?

John and the other disciples display a 'closed' attitude when faced with a circumstance that does not fit with their programme, in this case the action, although good of a person 'outside' the circle of followers. Jesus on the other hand, appears very free, fully open to the freedom of the Spirit of God, whose actions are not limited by any confines nor boundaries. Jesus wants to educate his disciples and us today on this inner freedom.

It is good for us to reflect on this episode and to perform a small examination of conscience. The disciples' attitude is very human, very common, and we can observe this in Christian communities throughout history, probably in ourselves as well. In good faith, indeed with zeal, one would like to protect the authenticity of a certain experience, safeguarding the founder or leader from false impersonators. But at the same time, there is a sort of fear of 'competition' — and this is bad: the fear of competition, that someone may steal new followers, and we are thus unable to appreciate the good that others do: it is not good because he is 'not one of us', they say. And the Church, Pope Benedict used to say "does not grow through proselytism; it grows by attraction, that is, it grows by bearing witness to others with the strength of the Holy Spirit.

God's great freedom in giving himself to us represents a challenge and an exhortation to modify our behaviours and our relationships. It is the invitation which Jesus addresses to us today. He calls us not to think according to the categories of 'friend/enemy', 'us/them', 'those who are in/those who are out', 'mine/yours', but rather to go beyond, to open our heart to be able to recognize God's presence and action, even in unusual and unpredictable environments that are not part of our circle. It is a matter of being more attentive to the authenticity of the good, the beautiful and the true that is done, rather than to the name and the origin of the one who does it. And as the remaining part of the Gospel suggests to us today instead of judging others, we must examine ourselves and 'sever', without compromise, all that can scandalize those persons who are weakest in faith.

Jesus stresses on the act of charity that we must be open to share and regard people who share their blessings with us. Also, on the other hand warns us to be careful from becoming a stumbling block for other. The lives of saints in our catholic faith are examples of sharing Jesus with others without putting other people down. The instructions of Jesus in the Gospel come with hard applications to learn that God has called us to share his love with other to attain eternal life. Jesus visits us everyday in different ways, but do we recognize him? An unknown author has written the following story to open our hearts and minds to welcome Jesus.

Ruth looked at the envelope again. There was no stamp, no postmark, only her name and address. She read the letter one more time...

Dear Ruth,

I'm going to be in your neighborhood Saturday afternoon, and I'd like to stop by for a visit.

Love Always,
Jesus

Her hands were shaking as she placed the letter on the table. "Why would the Lord want to visit me? I'm nobody special. I don't have anything to offer."

With that thought, Ruth remembered her empty kitchen cabinets. "Oh, my goodness, I really don't have anything to offer. I'll have to run down to the store and buy something for dinner."

She reached for her purse and counted out its contents. Seven dollars and forty cents. "Well, I can get some bread and cold cuts, at least." She threw on her coat and hurried out the door.

A loaf of French bread, a half-pound of sliced turkey, and a carton of milk...leaving Ruth with a grand total of twelve cents to last her until Monday. Nonetheless, she felt satisfied as she headed home, her meager offerings tucked under her arm.

"Hey lady, can you help us, lady?" Ruth had been so absorbed in her dinner plans; she hadn't even noticed two figures huddled in the alleyway. A man and a woman, both of them dressed in little more than rags.

"Look lady, I ain't got a job, ya know, and my wife and I have been living out here on the street, and, well, now it's getting cold and we're getting kinda hungry and, well, if you could help us, lady, we'd really appreciate it."

Ruth looked at them both. They were dirty, they smelled bad and, frankly, she was certain that they could get some kind of work if they really wanted to. "Sir, I'd like to help you, but I'm a poor woman myself. All I have is a few cold cuts and some bread, and I'm having an important guest for dinner tonight and I was planning on serving that to Him."

"Yeah, well, OK lady, I understand. Thanks anyway." The man put his arm around the woman's shoulders, turned and headed back into the alley.

As she watched them leave, Ruth felt a familiar twinge in her heart. "Sir, wait!" The couple stopped and turned as she ran down the alley after them. "Look, why don't you take this food. I'll figure out something else to serve my guest." She handed the man her grocery bag.

"Thank you, lady. Thank you very much!" "Yes, thank you!" It was the man's wife, and Ruth could see now that she was shivering.

"You know, I've got another coat at home. Here, why don't you take this one." Ruth unbuttoned her jacket and slipped it over the woman's shoulders. Then smiling, she turned and walked back to the street . . .without her coat and with nothing to serve her guest. "Thank you, lady! Thank you very much!"

Ruth was chilled by the time she reached her front door and worried too. The Lord was coming to visit, and she didn't have anything to offer Him. She fumbled through her purse for the door key. But as she did, she noticed another envelope in her mailbox. "That's odd. The mailman doesn't usually come twice in one day." She took the envelope out of the box and opened it.

Dear Ruth,

It was so good to see you again. Thank you for the lovely meal. And thank you too, for the beautiful coat.

Love Always,
Jesus

The air was still cold, but even without her coat, Ruth no longer noticed.
Do we share Jesus with other? Are we with Jesus or against him?



Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid



THE DIOCESE OF CALGARY IS IN
TREATY 7 TERRITORY



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

We acknowledge that Treaty 7 territory, on which we stand, is the ancestral land of the Indigenous peoples and is common home to everyone in virtue of God our Creator's gracious gift.

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

Follow us on Social Media

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

Weekly reflections can be found here:

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

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

Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses:

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

COVID-19 Resources

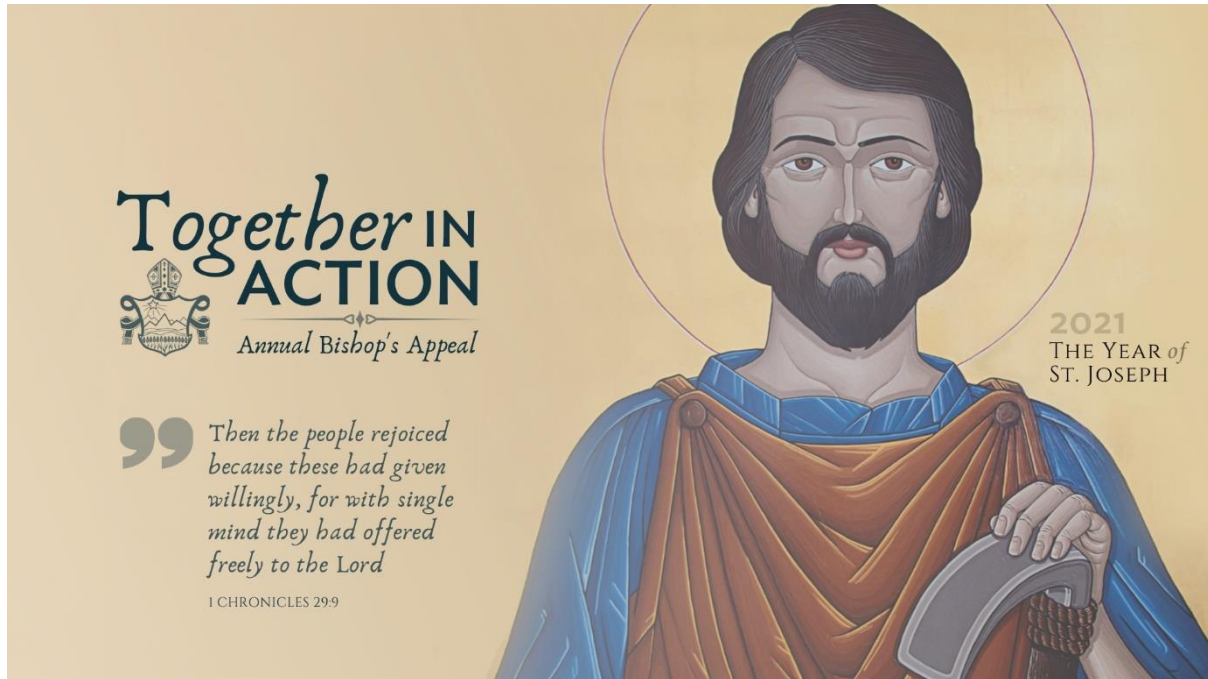
- [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- [Spiritual Resources](#)
- [Sacrament Preparation](#) (First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation)
- [Online Formation Opportunity](#)



Children Resources for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- [Gospel](#) Reflection: There may be times in our lives when we feel like we have little faith or that our faith is weak and insecure. Jesus will not judge us for this. In this Gospel we find encouragement for these times of doubt. If we continue to pray and act on our faith during these times, Jesus will help our faith grow stronger. (Source: Loyola Press)
 - [Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday](#)
 - [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
 - [Sunday Connection for 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (Gr. 1-8)
- Children's Sunday Liturgy for the **26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 - [Children's Liturgy weekly leaflet](#) for leaders or parents by CAFOD, with gospel reflection, intercession & activity suggestions)
 - [Children's Liturgy at home for leaders or parents](#) - by Catholic Children's Liturgy
 - [Children's Liturgy of the Word with Miss Heidi](#) (Catholic TV)
 - Does your parish have online Sunday program for children? If so, please share it with communications@calgarydiocese.ca

The Needs of the Church in Canada



Do you know that your donation to Together in Action (TIA) contributes to the needs of the Church in Canada through the works of the Canadian Bishops and their pastoral ministry? To contribute this weekend, please donate through Together In Action (TIA) envelopes in your parish, or on the diocesan website at catholiccyc.ca/tia - your online donation will be added to your parish's collective TIA contribution.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees – Sep 26

The 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) will be celebrated this Sunday, **Sep. 26, 2021**. The theme chosen by the Holy Father for WDMR 2021 is [*Towards an ever wider "we"*](#). In response to his call to ensure that "after all this, we will think no longer in terms of 'them' and 'those', but only 'us'", we are sending you some materials to help build this "we" together.

Consider praying the petitions below during Mass this weekend:

- *For all Catholics, that God inspire them to take action in their local communities to support and protect migrants and to advocate on their behalf, we pray to the Lord...*
- *For our neighbours, coworkers, friends, fellow Christians, and all people, that they may grow in their awareness of the issue of migration and become a voice in the public square calling for greater protections for these populations, we pray to the Lord...*
- *For migrants, refugees, and all other strangers in our midst, that they may find strength in our concern for justice and feel the warmth of our love, we pray to the Lord...*

In his new video, the Holy Father calls upon everyone to take part in a 'we' who care for our Common Home. [Link to video here](#)

Employment opportunity

New employment opportunity in the Diocese of Calgary:

- [Bookkeeper \(casual\) - St. Patrick's, Medicine Hat](#)

For more information and job application details, please visit catholiccyc.ca/careers

Pray, hope & don't worry

St. Padre Pio (St. Pius of Pietrelcina) was a Capuchin friar who worked tirelessly for the salvation of souls. People flocked to him as they saw how his unique relationship with God was manifested in all sorts of spiritual gifts. Fr. Cristino remarks, "I wish everyone knew that he was a saint not because of his stigmata but because he loved Jesus with his whole life." Angela Blach, a member of the St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy, writes a special feature on Padre Pio this week. [Read now](#)

Thursday, Sep. 23

is the feast of
St. Pio of
Pietrelcina

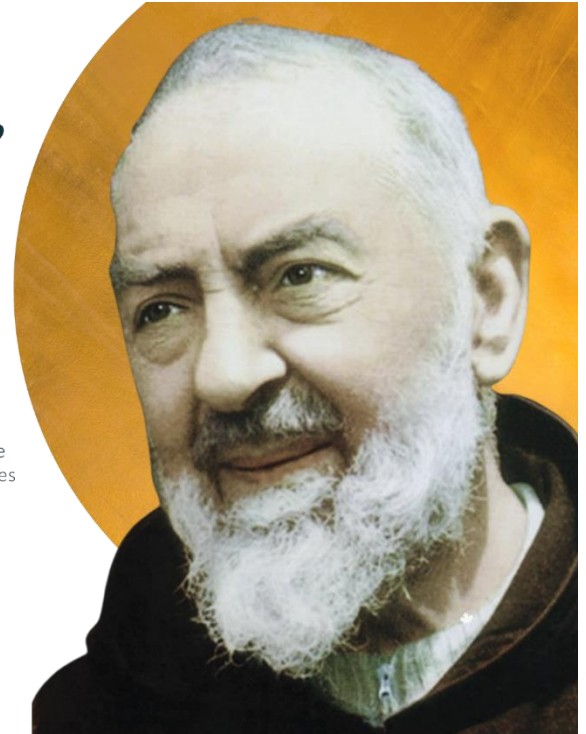


Pray, hope &
don't worry

A closer look at St. Padre
Pio's life reveals the riches
of this attitude of
abandonment.

Angela Blach
WRITER

Read now



An environmentally sustainable lifestyle

The need for urgent action to combat the social and environmental crisis isn't anything new; there are more and more global alerts to try to raise the awareness of humanity that something must change. But as **Pope Francis** wrote in *Laudato si'*, "It would hardly be helpful to describe symptoms without acknowledging the human origins of the ecological crisis." This is why it is imperative, first of all, that we reflect on the lifestyle we lead, to see to what extent our actions harm the planet: "Especially during these moments of health, social and environmental crisis," Holy Father says in The Pope Video, let us "reflect on our lifestyle. Let us reflect on how the way we eat, consume, travel, or the way we use water, energy, plastics, and many other material goods, is often harmful to the Earth."

Keep praying the Holy Father's intention this month: "Let us pray that we all will make courageous choices, the choices necessary for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, taking inspiration from our young people who are resolutely committed to this."

- [Link to Pope's Video in September](#)
- [Link to full infographic](#) | [Short infographic](#)

Worth Sharing

1. Rosary Coast to Coast Canada 2021

Please join the world in prayer, for world peace, by praying the Rosary Coast to Coast on October 10, 2021 (Sunday), at 1 pm MT. To get involved: become a prayer captain by organizing an event in your parish or neighbourhood, or light a candle and pray the Rosary at home, organize a prayer cenacle at 1 pm MT, united with the rest of the world. For more information, visit rosarycoasttocoast.ca for more information. [Download poster](#)

2. Pope Francis prays for Mexico flood victims

Flood waters swept through streets and into buildings in Hidalgo State, including the hospital of the Mexican Institute of Social Security. Flooding also knocked out power in the area including the hospital which was caring for several COVID-19 patients, where over 17 patients died. Pope Francis prays for victims of flooding in Mexico as well as for all those unjustly held in foreign countries. [Read more](#)

3. **Catholic doctors oppose AMA's call to remove sex ID from birth certificates** | The American Medical Association said the new policy would recognize that every individual "has the right to determine their gender identity and sex designation on government documents." [Read more](#)
4. **Protect your family with this prayer to the Archangels**
God created angels to be our protectors and guides in this life. While we may not see them with our physical eyes, they surround us and protect us from many hidden dangers. Ask St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael (feast day: Sep. 29) to surround your family with their heavenly protection. [Read more](#)
5. **3 Lessons from the life of St. Jerome to help you stay calm in an argument** | Anger is the door by which all other vices get a hold of us. Next week, we're celebrating the feast day of St. Jerome (feast day: Sep. 30), a famously curmudgeonly saint. What lessons can the life of St. Jerome teach us about how to remain calm during an argument? [Read more](#)
6. **24 quotes to inspire you in St. Therese's 'Little Way' to sainthood**
St. Therese of Lisieux (feast day: Oct. 1) was a beautiful, simple soul! Pope Pius X considered her "the greatest saint of modern times." She is also known as "The Little Flower," St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, and "The Little Flower of Jesus." [Read more](#)
7. **The mystical life of Guardian Angels, revealed by the saints**
How often do you call on the Holy Guardian Angels (feast day: Oct. 2)? The Catholic Church teaches that God assigns every person with at least one Guardian Angel. Several saints, including St. Padre Pio, St. Gemma Galgani, and St. Faustina had mystical encounters with their guardian angels. [Read more](#)
8. **Pope Francis tackles debate over Communion for politicians who support abortion** | Answering questions aboard the papal plane from Bratislava, Slovakia, to Rome on Sept. 15, the pope said that abortion ends a human life and that human life must be respected. Pope Francis said Wednesday that the Catholic Church is firm in its stance on abortion because "abortion is murder," and urged priests to be pastoral rather than political when faced with the question of who can receive Communion. [Read more](#)
9. **Haitians remain 'people of hope'**
Despite earthquake and political turmoil, a Felician sister says Haitians remain people of hope. "It is a troubling reality for Haitians that their struggle seems to be brought to wider attention only in the aftermath of catastrophes like the August earthquake." Sister Marilyn and other Felician sisters began working in Haiti in response to the devastation it experienced in 2010. They have been providing medical, social and employment assistance ever since. [Read more](#).
10. **5 reasons your parish should have a bereavement ministry**
If your parish is hoping to meet people where they are, then implementing a bereavement ministry program is a good starting point. Here are five reasons to include bereavement ministry, or grief ministry, in your parish. [Read more](#)
11. **Confession resources**
Here are some resources that might help individuals and family in your community when you promote your parish confession schedule:
 - o [Diocesan printable Confession card for children](#) (includes examination of conscience, step-by-step and simple act of contrition)
 - o [Printable examination of conscience for children](#)
 - o [Goodconfession.com](#)
 - o [In depth examination of conscience](#)
 - o [Printable guide to Confession for adults](#) (provided by Knights of Columbus)
 - o Video: [Making a good confession \(Fr. Mike Schmitz\)](#)
 - o Video: [Bringing the same sins to confession? Try this](#)

FCJ RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE

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



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.