



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

OCTOBER 3, 2021, 2021 – 27TH 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

CONDOLENCES to Fr. Iqbal
We Pray for the repose of the soul of
your brother Yaqoob Khurshid



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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IMPORTANT: Do not sign up as an individual. Our parish access code provides more content than an individual subscription and it costs you nothing!

Sunday 10:30am Mass
Medicine Hat Holy Family Church
Live Stream

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

You Tube

We Pray for the repose of the soul of
Deacon Bill Schnitzler
1941 to 2021

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.



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



E-Transfer Donations accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

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

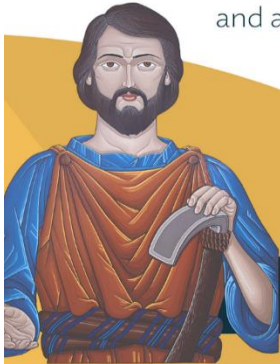
OUR PARISH GOAL

\$ 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 \$ **25,566** = 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 †

October 2- 8, 2021

Saturday, October 2

8:30am – The Sehn Kids

5:00pm – Alleen Eirich

Sunday, October 3

8:30 am – Addison Foley †

10:30am – Theresa Streifel †

6:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Monday, October 4

9:00am – George Lewans

Tuesday, October 5

9:00am – Marlene Thares †

Wednesday, October 6

8:00am – Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena

9:00am – Frank Tarnoczi †

Thursday, October 7

9:00am – Don Cannon †

Friday, October 8

9:00am – Bryan Delwo †

1st Reading: Genesis 2.7ab, 15, 18-24

The two became one flesh.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (*R.* 5)

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2.9-11

For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.

Gospel: Mark 10.2-16

What God has joined together, let no man separate.

MAKING, TESTING, AND DECIDING

There are at least three take-aways from the readings today. In the making of man and woman in this second creation story, God builds them up from the same stuff. In the first creation story, read during the Easter Vigil, they are made into God's own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27). Made as equals. In the testing of Jesus, the Pharisees try to trip him up with legal loopholes. Jesus does not play that game. In deciding who belongs to the Kingdom of God, it is Jesus and not his handlers who choose. Children are important. So is everyone else.

- † How will I foster the equality of both women and men?
- † How will I avoid loopholes and, instead, tell the truth?
- † Just like Jesus, how will I treat everyone the same as equal members of God's Kingdom?

kind hearts and empty bottles

BOTTLE DRIVE

Mark your calendars **October 16th and 17th** C.W.L. bottle drive.

Call on neighbors & friends who would like to help us.

In need of your kind hearts and empty bottles.

See you all in the church parking lot.

God Bless you.

Holy Family Parish

Catholic Women's League.





You're Invited to meet the Knight of Columbus Vice Supreme Master 4 Masters of the 4th degree and State Deputy.

On the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of October the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus are honored that the Vice Supreme Master Andy Sambrielaz will be at Holy Family Parish for meetings on Saturday, with the Masters from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Alberta North and myself Andy Hamel for Alberta South and the State Deputy Ferdie Mendita. If you would like to meet any of these guests they will be available before or after the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday. There will also be a 4th degree uniform display in the foyer of the church before and after all the weekend Masses. A Sir Knight will be available to answer questions, and there will be some 3rd Degree Knights to do recruitment.

The First Wednesday of each
Month the Legion of Mary
will host the
Mother of Perpetual Help
Novena
Before Mass at 8:00 AM



Knights of Columbus®

ALBERTA/NWT STATE COUNCIL
CHARITIES APPEAL
ONLINE 50/50 FUNDRAISER

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/kocab/101/?cid=61366af47d24eb001df9bd58>

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!



TMIY
THAT MAN IS YOU!
BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

October 9, 2021

8:30 – 9:30 am

**St. Patrick's Church
Hall**

Theme

Christ the King

Presenter

Fr. Dave Pivonka

St. Patrick's Church



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

**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.



PRO-LIFE'S annual LIFE CHAIN Sunday, October 3 2:00-3:00 pm
In front of the Community Health Building on Dunmore Road Come and take a stand for ALL LIFE!

JOB POSTING for

Sacrament Preparation Coordinator (Part-time)

Holy Family Parish & St. Patrick's Church, Medicine Hat



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

To learn more about this position and to apply go to...

https://www.catholicyc.ca/uploads/6/5/5/7/65570685/sacrament_preparation_coordinator_st._pats_holy_family_sept_2021.pdf

OVERVIEW

The Sacrament Preparation Coordinator is called to share in the Church's teaching on the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. The Coordinator is responsible to ensure that all necessary requirements have been carefully minded and arranged for all individuals and families preparing to celebrate one of the aforementioned Sacraments at St. Patrick's and Holy Family.



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.

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.



Knightly News

October 2021

Knights of Columbus Council #9502

The Joe McKenna Council 9502 Knights of Columbus are proud to support Holy Family Parish. In conjunction with Fr. Iqbal, our Faith in Action team is coordinating activities available to all parish members. In this newsletter you will find the schedule for the activities we have planned for October to December 2021. On the back you will also see some reasons to consider joining the Knights, or re-joining if you are not active right now.

With the ongoing pandemic it is important for us to feed our faith through whatever means possible. I hope that some of these activities will provide some much needed spiritual rejuvenation. Even if you are not associated with the Knights, I encourage you to think of the Joe McKenna Council as your council. Please feel free to contact us with any questions, suggestions, comments or concerns. My email is gk9502@kofc.ab.ca

Hopefully my friends, this pandemic will soon be over. Perhaps in the next calendar there will be breakfasts, barbeques and celebrations!

Vivat Jesus!

Kirby Peterson,

Grand Knight — Joe McKenna Council 9502 Knights of Columbus

Calendar of Events

October

Date	Time	Event
Friday, October 1	9:30am to 9:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel
Saturday, Oct. 2	5:00pm	K of C Membership Drive
Sunday, Oct. 3	8:30am, 10:30am & 6:00pm	
Sunday, October 3	10:30am	Knights Mass
Sunday, October 3	2:00pm to 3:00pm	Pro-Life Life Chain (Health Unit Dunmore Road)
Saturday, October 16	12:00pm	Canada Needs Our Lady Rosary in Holy Family Parish parking lot

November

Friday, November 5	9:30am to 9:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel
Sunday, November 14	10:30am	Knights Mass – Service Recognition
Friday, November 19	6:30pm	Knights Memorial Mass

December

Friday, December 3	9:30am to 9:30pm	Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel
Saturday, December 4 to Sunday, December 12	Weekdays 8:30am Saturdays 4:30pm Sundays 8:00am, 10:00am, 5:30pm	Novena for Life to Our Lady of Guadalupe
Monday, December 13	6:30pm	Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Sunday, December 26	10:30am	Consecration to the Holy Family

Why join the Knights of Columbus?

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you have access to a wealth of spiritual resources to help you become a better Catholic man, husband and father.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you get exclusive access to our top quality portfolio of financial products, backed by ethical and Catholic business practices, that can help secure your family's future and give you peace of mind.

SERVE OTHERS

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you can be a part of our unmatched charitable outreach, supporting local and international charities.

DEFEND YOUR VALUES

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you receive resources to stay informed on local, national and international issues important to you, acting with 1.9 million fellow members defending the Catholic faith.

Holy Family Parish Knights of Columbus Joe

McKinnon Council #9502

2021- 2022 Officers

Chaplain	Father Iqbal
Grand Knight	Kirby Peterson
Deputy Grand Knight	Greg Martin
Chancellor	Lindsay Heier
Financial Secretary	Pat Ries
Recorder	Rick Brown
Treasurer	Ron Pisoni
Trustee 1 Year and Lecturer	Ted McIntosh
Trustee 2 Years	Larry Leismeister
Trustee 3 Years	Herb Durda
Advocate	Mike Lewans
Warden	Walter Pratt
Inside Guard	Dale Maddaford
Outside Guard	Gary Heinbecker



If you are interested in joining our council, have any questions or concerns about your membership, or general inquiries, please contact our membership director, Gary Lux at (403) 580-9168 (cell) or email hubylux@gmail.com

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.

catholiccyc.ca/blog/covid19

alberta.ca/covid19

Alberta



Sisters of Divine Mercy, SDM

"I desire that you make an offering of yourself for sinners and especially for those souls who have lost hope in God's mercy." (Diary 308)

Blessings to you and your family! We pray that you and your loved ones are doing well physically as well as spiritually.

It is our tradition that every month in October, we have a Rosary Crusade- Rosary Chain, that is every hour daily in October someone is praying the Rosary. If you would like to join us in praying the Rosary daily about the same hour, please email or call us (587)755-1019 and let us know your Rosary hour for the month of October. Thank you and the Lord bless and protect us all! with prayer, Sr. Katrina

Intentions of the Rosary: Conversion of Sinners, Deliverance of those who are enslaved by the evil one, Souls in Purgatory, end of the Pandemic, God's mercy upon the whole world, and for each of our special intentions

Our Lord to Catalina:

"Each decade of the Holy Rosary that you repeat, the angels gather and place as an offering at the feet of My Holy Mother." and

"When you pray the Rosary for someone, every bead is a drop of My blood and those drops fall on the person for whom it is offered. That is the reason why the souls in Purgatory are saved with your Rosaries, because they implore My saving blood."
Sisters of Divine Mercy, SDM - Calgary

www.sistersofdivinemeracy.org

"Keep me, O Lord, in a recollected spirit."

Divine Mercy Centre Schedule:

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8am-8pm Adoration, 6pm Holy Mass. 1st Fridays: 6pm Holy Mass & Stations of the Cross, overnight adoration till 1st Saturday midnight. 1st Saturdays: All Day Adoration, 10:30am Rosary, 11am Holy Mass.



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

Sunday, October 3, 2021

MARRIAGE: A NEVER-ENDING LOVE JOURNEY

According to Catechism of the Catholic Church “Christ instituted the sacraments of the new law. There are seven: Baptism, Confirmation (or Chrismation), the Eucharist, Penance, the Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony. The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life: they give birth and increase, healing, and mission to the Christian's life of faith. There is thus a certain resemblance between the stages of natural life and the stages of the spiritual life.”. Furthermore, CCC continues to explore the real meaning of the marriage for the faithful in this way: “The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves, a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament. Sacred Scripture begins with the creation of man and woman in the image and likeness of God and concludes with a vision of “the wedding-feast of the Lamb.” Scripture speaks throughout of marriage and its “mystery,” its institution and the meaning God has given it, its origin and its end, its various realizations throughout the history of salvation, the difficulties arising from sin and its renewal “in the Lord” in the New Covenant of Christ and the Church.

“The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws.... God himself is the author of marriage.” The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution despite the many variations it may have undergone through the centuries in different cultures, social structures, and spiritual attitudes. These differences should not cause us to forget its common and permanent characteristics. Although the dignity of this institution is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. “The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life.” “God who created man out of love also calls him to love the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being. For man is created in the image and likeness of God who is himself love. Since God created him man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with

which God loves man. It is good, very good, in the Creator's eyes. And this love which God blesses is intended to be fruitful and to be realized in the common work of watching over creation: "And God blessed them, and God said to them: 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it'".

"Holy Scripture affirms that man and woman were created for one another: "It is not good that the man should be alone." The woman, "flesh of his flesh," i.e., his counterpart, his equal, his nearest in all things, is given to him by God as a "helpmate"; she thus represents God from whom comes our help. "Therefore, a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh." The Lord himself shows that this signifies an unbreakable union of their two lives by recalling what the plan of the Creator had been "in the beginning": "So they are no longer two, but one flesh."

As a priest I have attended many weddings ceremonies and officiated as well. It always surprises me to see the reactions of the grooms and brides on their wedding day, how happy they are and the love they have each other is beyond expression. I always ask one question whenever I officiate any wedding: "What was the most important aspect of his/her life that you decided to marry him/her? This week I want all the married couples to reflect on this question. And I guarantee you, you will fall in love again with your spouse. After reflecting on the question, read the following story to each other. I can assure you that you will never fail in your love journey which never ends like the wedding ring you wear.

"When I got home that night as my wife served dinner, I held her hand and said, I've got something to tell you. She sat down and ate quietly. Again, I observed the hurt in her eyes. Suddenly I didn't know how to open my mouth. But I had to let her know what I was thinking. I want a divorce. I raised the topic calmly.

She didn't seem to be annoyed by my words, instead she asked me softly, why?

I avoided her question. This made her angry. She threw away the chopsticks and shouted at me, you are not a man! That night, we didn't talk to each other. She was weeping. I knew she wanted to find out what had happened to our marriage. But I could hardly give her a satisfactory answer; she had lost my heart to Jane. I didn't love her anymore. I just pitied her!

With a deep sense of guilt, I drafted a divorce agreement which stated that she could own our house, our car, and 30% stake of my company.

She glanced at it and then tore it into pieces. The woman who had spent ten years of her life with me had become a stranger. I felt sorry for her wasted time, resources, and energy but I could not take back what I had said for I loved Jane so dearly. Finally, she cried loudly in front of me, which was what I had expected to see. To me her cry was a kind of release. The idea of divorce which had obsessed me for several weeks seemed to be firmer and clearer now.

The next day, I came back home very late and found her writing something at the table. I didn't have supper but went straight to sleep and fell asleep very fast because I was tired after an eventful day with Jane.

I woke up, she was still there at the table writing. I just did not care so I turned over and went back to sleep again.

In the morning she presented her divorce conditions: she didn't want anything from me but needed a month's notice before the divorce. She requested that in that one month we both

struggle to live as normal a life as possible. Her reasons were simple: our son had his exams in a month's time, and she didn't want to disrupt him with our broken marriage.

This was agreeable to me. But she had something more, she asked me to recall how I had carried her into our bridal room on our wedding day.

She requested that every day for the month's duration I carry her out of our bedroom to the front door every morning. I thought she was going crazy. Just to make our last days together bearable I accepted her odd request.

I told Jane about my wife's divorce conditions. She laughed loudly and thought it was absurd. No matter what tricks she applies, she must face the divorce, she said scornfully.

My wife and I hadn't had any body contact since my divorce intention was explicitly expressed. So, when I carried her out on the first day, we both appeared clumsy. Our son clapped behind us, "daddy is holding mommy in his arms". His words brought me a sense of pain. From the bedroom to the sitting room, then to the door, I walked over ten meters with her in my arms. She closed her eyes and said softly; don't tell our son about the divorce. I nodded, feeling somewhat upset. I put her down outside the door. She went to wait for the bus to work. I drove alone to the office.

On the second day, both of us acted much more easily. She leaned on my chest. I could smell the fragrance of her blouse. I realized that I hadn't looked at this woman carefully for a long time. I realized she was not young anymore. There were fine wrinkles on her face, her hair was graying! Our marriage had taken its toll on her. For a minute I wondered what I had done to her. On the fourth day, when I lifted her up, I felt a sense of intimacy returning. This was the woman who had given ten years of her life to me.

On the fifth and sixth day, I realized that our sense of intimacy was growing again. I didn't tell Jane about this. It became easier to carry her as the month slipped by. Perhaps the everyday workout made me stronger.

She was choosing what to wear one morning. She tried on quite a few dresses but could not find a suitable one. Then she sighed, all my dresses have grown bigger. I suddenly realized that she had grown so thin, that was the reason why I could carry her more easily.

Suddenly it hit me... she had buried so much pain and bitterness in her heart. Subconsciously I reached out and touched her head.

Our son came in at that moment, and said, "Dad, it's time to carry mom out". To him, seeing his father carrying his mother out had become an essential part of his life. My wife gestured to our son to come closer and hugged him tightly. I turned my face away because I was afraid, I might change my mind at this last minute. I then held her in my arms, walking from the bedroom, through the sitting room, to the hallway. Her hand surrounded my neck softly and naturally. I held her body tightly; it was just like our wedding day.

But her much lighter weight made me sad. On the last day, when I held her in my arms, I could hardly move a step. Our son had gone to school. I held her tightly and said, I hadn't noticed that our life lacked intimacy.

I drove to office... jumped out of the car swiftly without locking the door. I was afraid any delay would make me change my mind... I walked upstairs. Jane opened the door and I said to her, Sorry, Jane, I do not want the divorce anymore.

She looked at me, astonished, and then touched my forehead. Do you have a fever? She said. I moved her hand off my head. Sorry, Jane, I said, I won't divorce. My marriage was boring probably because she and I didn't value the details of our lives, not because we didn't love each other anymore. Now I realize that since I carried her into my home on our wedding day I am supposed to hold her until death do us apart.

Jane seemed to suddenly wake up. She gave me a loud slap and then slammed the door and burst into tears. I walked downstairs and drove away.

At the floral shop on the way, I ordered a bouquet of flowers for my wife. The salesgirl asked me what to write on the card. I smiled and wrote... I'll carry you out every morning until death do us apart.

That evening I arrived home, flowers in my hands, a smile on my face, I run up stairs, only to find my wife in the bed – dead.

My wife had been fighting CANCER for months and I was so busy with Jane to even notice. She knew that she would die soon and she wanted to save me from the whatever negative reaction from our son, in case we push thru with the divorce –At least, in the eyes of our son— I'm a loving husband...

The small details of your lives are what really matter in a relationship. It is not the mansion, the car, property, or the money in the bank. These create an environment conducive for happiness but cannot give happiness in themselves. Find time to be your spouse's friend and do those little things for each other that build intimacy. Have a real happy marriage! The Sacred Scriptures do help us to know the secret of the happy marriage.

Today's Sacred Scripture Readings bring us together to reflect on the Sacrament of Marriage where people join to become husband and wife and later father and mother as they enjoy the company of their children. God has sketched his original plan for the marriage in the First Reading today "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall be one flesh". How amazing is the sketch where husband and wife are depicted as one? According to the Holy Bible marriage is not a contract or agreement between people but it's a covenant which each couple makes with God. They not only say yes to each other but give themselves to the Lord as well. Prophet Malachi highlights the covenant of marriage in this way "Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors? So, look to yourselves, and do not let anyone be faithless to the wife of his youth. For I hate divorce, says the Lord, the God of Israel" (2:10-16).

In the Gospel our Lord reconfirms the sacrament of marriage which was instituted by God who created Adam and Eve and blessed them. The words of Jesus "Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate" put seal to any division in the marriage. The real marriage is compared with the love of Jesus to Church. The Letters of St. Paul and St. Peter emphasize on the importance of marriage which is the source of bringing nonbeliever spouses to the Lord through Christian way of life. Holy Father Pope Francis once reflecting on the Sacrament of Marriage showed his frustration and sadness "today we experience the paradox of a globalized world filled with luxurious mansions and skyscrapers, but a lessening of the warmth of homes and families; many ambitious plans and projects, but little time to enjoy them; many

sophisticated means of entertainment, but a deep and growing interior emptiness; many pleasures, but few loves; many liberties, but little freedom... The number of people who feel lonely keeps growing, as does the number of those who are caught up in selfishness, gloominess, destructive violence and slavery to pleasure and money”.

Today we can see that marriages are falling apart for two main reasons: First love is being replaced by lust. For many people marriages have become mere piece of paper, entertainment, and party. Secondly couples are failing to understand one another. Everyone wants to go his/her own way without supporting and caring each for other. People are less and less serious about building a solid and fruitful relationship of love: in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, in good times and in bad are the promises couple make before the Lord on the day of with wedding. But how many keep these promises? I have counselled many couples and help them realize and recognize each other's presence. Following are a few suggestions, I place before them:

1. Recall the memories of your first date/meeting.
2. What attracted you to say, “Will you marry me?”
3. Remember the word “Yes” and break into Your love in my life always bring Excitement which helps me to Say you are mine.
4. Before you go to bed, hold hands together and pray for each other and thank the Lord for your love, support, and care.
5. Share your love story with your children to let them know the real meaning of marriage and the journey of love you are on.
6. If you are upset or angry, open your heart to each other and share your heart out and feelings.
7. Learn to ignore minor faults and forgive one another before you go to sleep
8. Learn to respect one another in a time when one is showing weakness or trouble.
9. Give all your worries to the Lord and place weak moments of your marriage under the foot of the Cross.
10. Keep asking this question “why did I marry him/her and am I doing everything right to support him/her?”

There are so many other aspects of marriage we can discuss or say but let's ask the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary as we begin the month of October to honour her, to help all the married couples to realize the presence of the Lord in their lives so that their love journey help their children to be strong in their lives. St. Paul says, “Love never ends”.



Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid



SEPTEMBER 2021



www.mhcbce.ab.ca

NEXT CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 4:30pm ([agenda](#))

Hosted online via Google Meet.

[Click here to access the YouTube live stream.](#)

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD BULLETIN

FAITH FORMATION DAY

We are thrilled to welcome new faces to our MHCBE Family! This year we had the pleasure of meeting and acknowledging staff in person (following COVID-19 safety guidelines) at Holy Family Parish on August 26.

Thank you to our special guest speaker, Father Cristino Bouvette, who shared his experience growing up in the Medicine Hat Catholic school division and entering into priesthood.

The Board of Trustees will recognize our Long Term Service Employees in the spring of 2022.

RETIREE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Due to the continued restrictions around large events, the Board has sent each 2020-2021 MHCBE Retiree a \$100 restaurant gift card to celebrate with their loved ones, in lieu of the traditional retirement banquet. **The Board extends their best wishes to the 2020-21 retirees! [List of retirees.](#)**



Ms. Kathy Glasgo, Mr. Peter Grad, Mr. David Leahy, Mr. Dick Mastel (Board Chair), Rev. Mr. Robert Risling (Vice-Chair)

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION UPDATE

MHCBE's International Program has 30 students and 22+ coming in January!

Our program is always looking for new and welcoming homestay families, please contact 403-527-2292 ext. 1028 to learn more. If you want to talk to someone about their experience as a homestay, we are happy to connect you with a family.



[Follow their adventures on social media!](#)

SCHOOL START-UP!



Back to school has been very exciting in our division. September has been a busy month full of activities. It is wonderful to see our staff and students back in our hallways again!

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION - SEPT. 30, 2021

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools dedicate September 30 as a day of reflection and education.

The week of September 27-20, schools will be participating in activities related to truth and reconciliation and learning about the history of residential schools.



On September 30, students will watch a virtual assembly featuring guest speakers, explaining the significance and intention of the day.

Each class will then participate in a ribbon tying ceremony. Plaques to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation have been mounted on each school fence. Staff and students will journey to the plaque and each tie a piece of orange ribbon onto the fence surrounding the plaque at their school. A moment of silence will be held across the division at 2:15 p.m. [Learn more.](#)



ST. JOSEPH'S EDUCATION CENTRE

An outreach school has been established at Monsignor McCoy High School.

This outreach program will provide an alternative option to high school students utilizing a variety of instructional delivery models and scheduling opportunities. St. Joseph's Education Centre continues the mission of Monsignor McCoy High School to meet the needs of all the students it serves. For more information, please contact Monsignor McCoy High School.



Statement of Apology by the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of This Land

We, the Catholic Bishops of Canada, gathered in Plenary this week, take this opportunity to affirm to you, the Indigenous Peoples of this land, that we acknowledge the suffering experienced in Canada's Indian Residential Schools. Many Catholic religious communities and dioceses participated in this system, which led to the suppression of Indigenous languages, culture and spirituality, failing to respect the rich history, traditions and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the grave abuses that were committed by some members of our Catholic community; physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and sexual. We also sorrowfully acknowledge the historical and ongoing trauma and the legacy of suffering and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples that continue to this day. Along with those Catholic entities which were directly involved in the operation of the schools and which have already offered their own heartfelt apologies¹, we², the Catholic Bishops of Canada, express our profound remorse and apologize unequivocally.

We are fully committed to the process of healing and reconciliation. Together with the many pastoral initiatives already underway in dioceses across the country, and as a further tangible expression of this ongoing commitment, we are pledging to undertake fundraising in each region of the country to support initiatives discerned locally with Indigenous partners. Furthermore, we invite the Indigenous Peoples to journey with us into a new era of reconciliation, helping us in each of our dioceses across the country to prioritize initiatives of healing, to listen to the experience of Indigenous Peoples, especially to the survivors of Indian Residential Schools, and to educate our clergy, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful, on Indigenous cultures and spirituality. We commit ourselves to continue the work of providing documentation or records that will assist in the memorialization of those buried in unmarked graves.

Having heard the requests to engage Pope Francis in this reconciliation process, a delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders/knowledge keepers, and youth will meet with the Holy Father in Rome in December 2021. Pope Francis will encounter and listen to the Indigenous participants, so as to discern how he can support our common desire to renew relationships and walk together along the path of hope in the coming years. We pledge to work with the Holy See and our Indigenous partners on the possibility of a pastoral visit by the Pope to Canada as part of this healing journey.

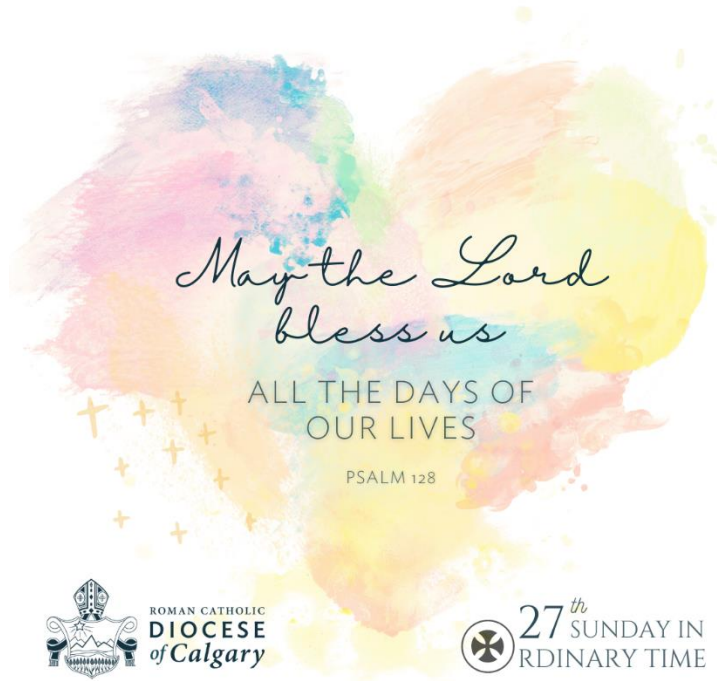
We commit ourselves to continue accompanying you, the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples of this land. Standing in respect of your resiliency, strength and wisdom, we look forward to listening to and learning from you as we walk in solidarity.

24 September 2021

¹ [Indian Residential Schools and TRC - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops \(ccc.ca\)](https://www.cccb.ca/)

² [The CCCB website has a link to several apologies previously offered by Catholic bishops, including those offered by bishops at national TRC events](#)

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Children Resources for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- [Gospel](#) Reflection: In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us about the importance of families and about trusting and depending on God. Jesus teaches us that, because families are important, men and women are to keep their marriage promises. Every member of the family is to keep their commitments to one another. When we make a promise, we are to keep it. (Source: Loyola Press)
 - [Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday](#)
 - [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
- [Sunday Connection for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (Gr. 1-8)
Children's Sunday Liturgy for the **27th 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

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](#)

Canadian Bishops announce \$30M National Financial Pledge

The Bishops of Canada, as a tangible expression of their commitment to walk with the Indigenous Peoples of this land along the pathway of hope, are making a nation-wide collective financial commitment to support healing and reconciliation initiatives for residential school survivors, their families, and their communities. With a target of \$30 million over up to 5 years, this will include initiatives in every region of the country. The commitment will be achieved at the local level, with parishes across Canada being encouraged to participate and amplify the effort.

[Read News Release](#) (Sep. 27)

2021 World Youth Day Message

This year's World Youth Day, will be held at the diocesan level on the Solemnity of Christ the King (21 November) with the theme: *"Stand up. I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen"* (cf. Acts 26:16).

- [Read Pope Francis' Message for the XXXVI World Youth Day](#)



St. Joseph Summit



Spirit Filled Hearts Ministry invites you to an online conference on Saint Joseph: **Saint Joseph Summit: Our Spiritual Father** on Sep. 30 to Oct. 3, 2021.

The **Saint Joseph Summit** features nearly 60 of the Church's most authoritative voices including one of the largest assembly of senior clergy and religious at a public event. Presenters include: Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley, Archbishop Jose Gomez, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, Fr. Chris Alar, MIC, Dr. Scott Hahn, Patrick E. Kelly, Peter Herbeck, Leah Darrow, Sr. Helena Burns and many more.

Join them and discover:

- How to have St. Joseph as a spiritual father and protector

- How to develop a consistent devotion to St. Joseph that transforms your daily life
- Learn how to call upon St. Joseph as a protection against evil and temptation
- The keys to bringing St. Joseph into the life of your family and the Church
- The keys to overcoming doubt, hesitation and fear
- How to hear God's voice throughout your day

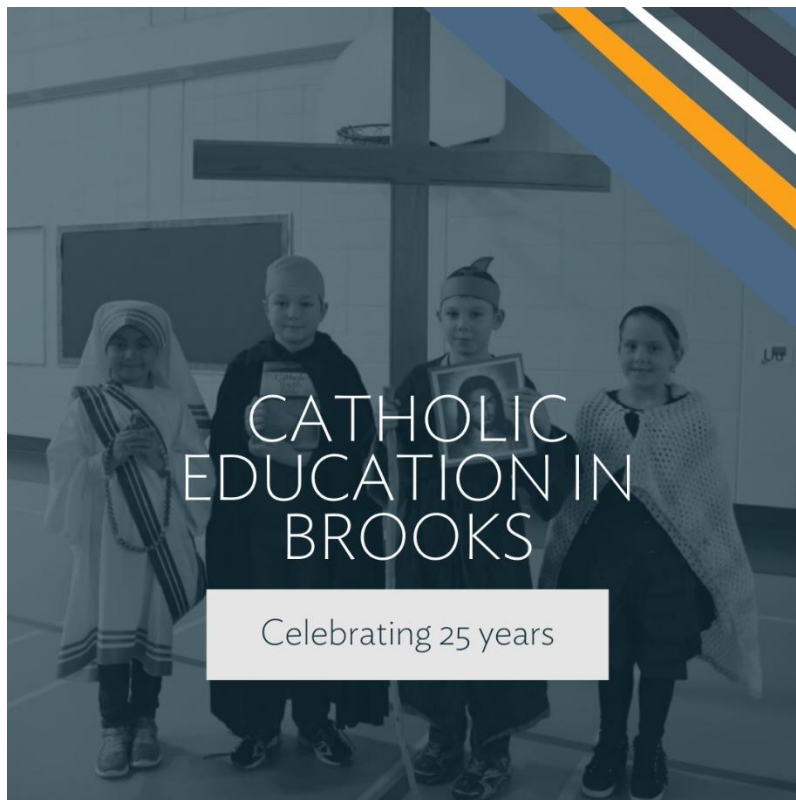
[Register for free here](#)

Parish and Group offers are available: [Learn more.](#)

GrACE Newsletter

A message from Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico, Director of Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE):
Welcome back to another school year and to a renewed movement in support of Catholic education across Alberta. Despite the many challenges and the exhaustion this pandemic presents, our hope lies in God who knows our worries and has plans for our future. He has entrusted us with His most precious gift, our children, and all who serve and support Catholic education will do our utmost to ensure that our Catholic schools continue to uphold that sacred trust. May God watch over us all.

- [September newsletter for GrACE](#)
- [Prayer intentions for Catholic education created for 2020-2021](#)



25 years of Catholic Education in Brooks

The Catholic Schools in Brooks are celebrating 25 years of Catholic education in their community by looking back through interviews and story sharing. Here are some celebratory resources for you to share:

- Video series of Catholic Education in Brooks, bringing the voices of alumni, teachers, parents and leaders together in reflection. [Watch here](#)
- Letter from Bishop McGrattan: *Growing stronger, growing deeper and reaching higher.* [Read now](#)
- Article: *25 years of Catholic Education in Brooks* by Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico, president of GrACE. [Read now](#)
- Article: *God is so good* by Lynne Stevens, parent and educational assistant for Christ the Redeemer School Division. [Read now](#)

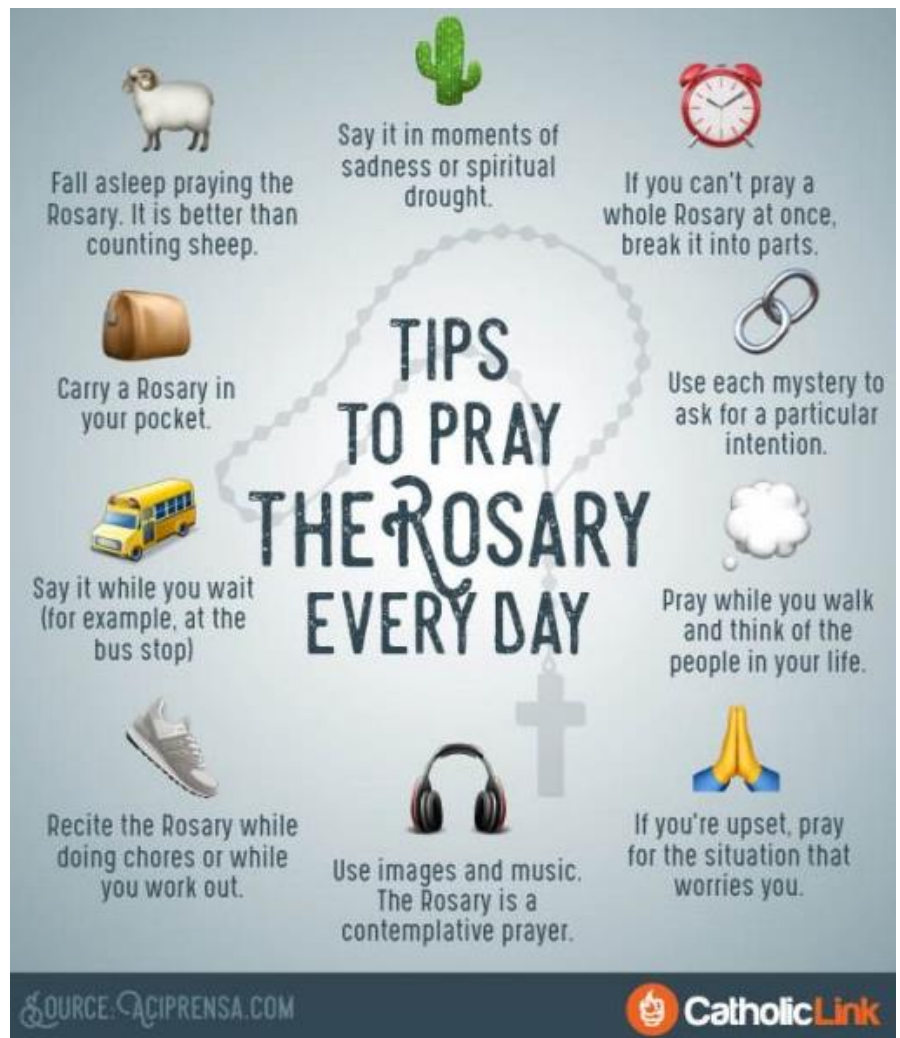
October – Month of the Holy Rosary

Some attribute the association between October and Mary to the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. On October 13, 1917, in Cova de Iria outside of Fatima, Portugal, the last of six monthly Marian apparitions to three shepherd children is said to have taken place. October 7 is the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary. It began as the feast of Our Lady of Victory, instituted in 1571 after a Christian military victory in the Battle of Lepanto. In 1573, this feast day was renamed Our Lady of the Rosary by Pope Gregory XIII, and in 1716, Our Lady of the Rosary was celebrated as a feast of the universal Church for the first time.

In October, in a special way, we remember Mary both as Mother of God and as our mother. This month includes the feasts of Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7), as well as those of St. John Paul II (Oct. 22), and of a Canadian Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher (Oct. 6), both great devotees of Mary.

- Fr Mark-Mary: Praying the Rosary with St. Joseph ([Ascension Press](#))
- 12 ways to make the Rosary a life-saver this October ([Aleteia](#))
- Rosary resources, activities, and crafts For Catholic Kids ([Catholic Incing](#))
- Dr. Edward Sri: Praying the Rosary Like Never Before ([Formed.org](#))
- Rosary in songs with [Harpa Dei](#)

<https://catholic-link.org/images/infographic-tips-to-pray-the-rosary-every-day/>



For couples preparing for marriage:

[Rosary for Engaged Couples](#) in the Light of *Amoris Laetitia* | During this year dedicated to St. Joseph, engaged couples, even young people who are dating, are invited to pray together turning with trust and love to Mary, recreating the atmosphere of communion, love and friendship that was experienced in the family of Nazareth. Mary and Joseph were first engaged and then married, and they show us a specific tangible example of humanity and holiness, that can be achieved in our relationship with God and with those we love.

Until December 8, 2021, engaged couples will be able to obtain the Plenary Indulgence by reciting the Holy Rosary and fulfilling the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Holy Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father: Our Father, Hail

Mary). Note to Parish Staff – please share with parishioners, especially couples in marriage preparation and young adult groups.

Employment Opportunities

If you have the skills, talent and inspiration to take on the challenge, we invite you to consider these exciting opportunities in the Diocese of Calgary:

- **Project Assistant - Archives** (Contract: 6 months) - Pastoral Centre, Calgary
- **Receptionist (weekends)** - St. James, Okotoks
- **Sacrament Preparation Coordinator** (part time) - Holy Family & St. Patrick's, Medicine Hat

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

Like a Mighty River Conference

Calgary Catholic Charismatic Renewal Society (CCCRS) invites you to their annual *Like a Mighty River Conference* with speaker Fr. Mathias Thelen from the Diocese of Lansing in Michigan. Fr. Mathias is a young priest who experienced and has been gifted in charisms of the Holy Spirit especially evangelization and healing. He is the founder of *Encounter* ministries, bringing the Good news out into the streets with signs and wonders as Christ has commanded us. When: Friday, Nov. 19 at 7 pm to 9 pm.

- For general admittance: Individual rate: \$35 (early bird), \$40 after Oct. 31; Family rate: \$70 (early bird), \$80 after Oct. 31. [Register here](#)
- Special track for priests. Cost: Free. [Register here](#)

Worth Sharing

1. **Pope prays for residents of La Palma island after volcanic eruption**

Pope Francis appeals for residents of La Palma who have fled their homes following a volcanic eruption, with local authorities struggling to bring back some sense of normality to the Spanish Canary island. [Read more](#)

2. **Catholic leaders call on US to reassess treatment of migrants**

Bishop Mario Dorsonville, the chair of the USCCB's Committee on Migration; and Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA issue a statement calling on the US government to reassess the treatment of Haitian and other migrants on the border between Mexico and the United States. [Read more](#)

3. **23 million children under 5 suffer from acute malnutrition**

A UNICEF report shows the reality and the effects of the acute malnutrition children and infants around the world are suffering from. [Read more](#)

4. **These words of wisdom from St. Francis are startlingly relevant today** | Eight hundred years after his death, the pearls of wisdom of St. Francis of Assisi (Feast day: Oct. 4) remain astonishingly relevant to our modern lives. If he were given the chance to speak to us today, there's no doubt that the holy friar would encourage us to love God above all else, and to be full of gratitude for the gifts we receive from God every day. [Read more](#)

5. **10 ways to honour Our Lady of the Rosary in October**

In preparation for the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7), here are 10 ways you can more closely align your life and home to the Rosary. Perhaps some of these wonderful devotions will stick around your domestic church even after October is over. [Read more](#)

6. **Thanksgiving and Eucharist mean the same thing**

The word used for the Catholic Mass and sacrament have a special meaning, not just for one holiday. The Greek-derived word for thanksgiving is "eucharist," the same word that refers to both the Catholic Mass and the sacrament of Holy Communion. [Read more](#)

7. **Why, What, Where, God? Finding meaning in suffering**

If there's one question that holds people back from believing in the loving God that we worship it looks like this: "If God is so good, then why is there so much suffering in this world?" Of course the question takes many forms, but at its core is the apparent irreconcilability of the notion of a good and loving God with a fallen and often disappointing world. [Read more](#)

8. **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](#)

9. **Totus Tuus - Rosary Making**

Totus Tuus lay association group (home parish at Holy Spirit, Calgary) makes and distributes rosaries all around the world. If you are interested in getting involved with this activity, please contact Marta at totustuus@shaw.ca | More information [here](#)

10. **Confession resources**

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

- [Diocesan printable Confession card for children](#) (includes examination of conscience, step-by-step and simple act of contrition)
- [Printable examination of conscience for children](#)
- Goodconfession.com
- [In depth examination of conscience](#)
- [Printable guide to Confession for adults](#) (provided by Knights of Columbus)
- Video: [Making a good confession \(Fr. Mike Schmitz\)](#)
- 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.