

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 <u>marjoriembowlby@gmail.com</u>

Knights of Columbus

Kirby Peterson ktlpete@shaw.ca

Parish Pastoral Council – Chair Gary Heinbecker, <u>heinbecker@telus.net</u> Parish Finance Committee – Chair Cheryl Pocsik, <u>gpocsik@shaw.ca</u>



LOG IN WWW.FORMED.ORG

- · Go to Formed.org
- Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**Create a personal account with your personal username/email and password.
- Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

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

Sunday 10:30am Mass

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Live Stream

https://www.youtube.com/channel/U CG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut Q



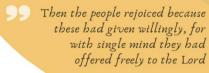
We acknowledge that Treaty 7 territory, on which we stand, is the ancestral land of the Indigenous peoples and is common home to everyone in virtue of God our Creator's gracious gift.

Listen to Mass on your phone...

Download the "Audio Fetch" app.

Our Network is: HFP_LIVE

The Password is: Liv3HFP*

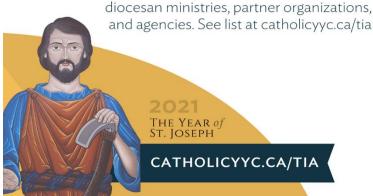


1 CHRONICLES 29:9



1.4 MILLION of the Diocesan goal will financially support the approved

diocesan ministries, partner organizations,



<u>OPERATING FINANCES</u>	
September 1-30, 2021	
Operating Budget 2021	\$ 55,019
General Envelope Collection	\$ 35,987
Loose Collections	\$ 867
Future Development	\$ 3,683
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 4,837
Other Ministries	\$ 440
Government Subsidy	\$ 1,528
Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 7,677
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 3,540
Clergy Retirement	\$ 25
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,866
Seminarian Fund	\$ 55
Mission Mexico	\$ 225
CARO	\$ 35
Needs of the Cdn. Church	\$ 712
World Missions	\$ 50
Thank You for your Generous Contributions	

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 \$ *32,604.40* = 66%

† Masses Intentions † October 30 to November 5, 2021

Saturday, October 30

5:00pm - Wilbert Zinger

Sunday, October 31

8:30 am - Joe & Amelia Weimer † 10:30am - Edgar, Orlando & Martin Gamboa †

6:00pm - Holy Family Parish

Monday, November 1

9:00am - Allan Hoffman †

Tuesday, November 2

9:00am - Ida Greenwold †

6:30pm - All Souls †

Wednesday, November 3

9:00am - Gerry Nadeau †

Thursday, November 4

9:00am - Peter & Mildred Braat

Friday, November 5

9:00am – Johanna Van Dam

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6.2-6

Hear, O Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 18.1-2, 3+6b, 46+50ab (2.1)

 \mathcal{R} I love you, O Lord, my strength.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 7.23-28

Jesus holds his priesthood permanently because he continues forever.

Gospel: Mark 12.28-34

This is the first commandment. And a second is like it.

WHAT MATTERS THE MOST TO GOD?

The answer is simple: love God and love your neighbor as yourself. The practice is harder. Recall the Good Samaritan who cares for the beaten man on the roadside (Luke 10:29-37). A neighbor is not just a friend or relative or part of the tribe. A neighbor is anyone. We are to love everyone. That kind of loving keeps us near the Kingdom of God.

- † What of my actions show that I am loving God?
- † What of my actions show that I am loving myself?
- † What of my actions show that I am loving my neighbor, that is, everyone?







1st Reconciliation Classes

Sessions for both children and parents, Children in Hall & Parents in the Church...

Thursday October 28, 2021 – 6:30-7:30pm Thursday November 18, 2021 – 6:30-7:30pm Thursday December 2, 2021 – 6:30-7:30pm 1st Reconciliation Penitential Service - TBA

Confirmation

All Sessions in the Hall...
Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 6:30-7:50pm
Wednesday, February 2, 2022 – 6:30-7:30pm

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 – 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday, February 23, 2022 – 6:30-7:30pm

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 – 6:30-7:30pm

Retreat, Saturday April 50, 2022 - 10:00am-3:00pm





Call Ron for info: 403-528-1848



November 6, 2021

8:30 – 9:30 am St. Patrick's Parish Hall

Theme

The Men We Need to Build the Kingdom Presenter

Kevin Wells





Eucharist Adoration

Friday November 5th 9:30am – 9:30pm "Our Lord in the blessed sacrament has his hands full of graces, and He is ready to bestow them on anyone who asks for them"

All parishioners welcome and encouraged to attend





* TRIUMPH: FREEDOM THROUGH HEALING – Nov. 4-12, 2021 at the FCJ Retreat Centre,

The *triumph: Freedom Through Healing* program, facilitated by Jerry and Donna Kristian, is a nine-day Christ-centered journey of inner healing and discovery equipping and empowering people with the tools needed to make meaningful and lasting changes in their lives — a path to true freedom through healing in Christ. Cost is \$1,395 and includes program registration, meals, facility, single occupancy bedroom and all retreat materials and resources. For more information or to register call Harriet at **403-813 6759** or visit http://www.triumphretreat.com.

How have you experienced

WALKING TOGETHER

AS THE CHURCH?



People of God throughout the world are invited by the Holy Father and the Bishops to examine the way the Church has carried forward her work and mission in the world

In the Diocese of Calgary, you will be able to participate in the Synod through your involvement in parish committees or groups, lay associations, Catholic schools, or online.

GET INVOLVED IN THE SYNODAL PROCESS

We are in the early stages of the local Synodal process. For more information and to sign up for updates on the Synod on Synodality in our Diocese



The Pastoral Discernment Advisory
Committee (PDAC) has been established
by the Bishop to facilitate and sustain the
pathways for consulting the People of God
during the Diocesan Phase of the Synod and
for the continuing renewal of the Diocese

Bishop William T. McGrattan | Bishop of Calgary Rev. Wilbert Chin Jon, V.G. | Moderator of the Curia Rev. Kevin Tumback, V.G. | Pastor, All Saints, Lethbridge Huy Nguyen | Director of Pastoral Ministry Dr. Bonnie Annichiarico | Facilitator, GrACE Dorothy Burns | Facilitator, Catholic Education Rev. Fabio Desouza | Pastor Rev. Daniel Wilson, LC | Religious Priest Deacon Stephen Robinson | Deacon Sister Dianna Turner, OSE | Religious Sister Judy Look | Catholic Women League Lorand Szojka | Knights of Columbus Gabriel Maglatang | Lay Associations

What is a Synod?

"Synod" is an ancient and venerable word in the Tradition of the Church which indicates the path along which the People of God walk together. Synodality denotes the particular style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel.

#ListeningChurch



Synod 2021 2023 For a synodal Church communion 1 participation 1 mission

Heather Irvine | Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
Philip Mack | Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, Lethbridge
Dr. Peter Baltutis | St. Mary's University
Kathleen Boskill | Young Adults
Larz Duch Chief | Indigenous Community
Fernando Tinoco | Fr. Naphin Deanery
Shelley Kehrig | Bishop Grandin Deanery
Sandra Will-Krile | St. John Paul II Deanery
Sarah Stamp | Lethbridge Deanery
Mona Patterson | Medicine Hat Deanery
Doug Leeds | Crowsnest Pass Deanery

Chelsea Marshall | Calgary Catholic School District

Tomas Rochford | Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools

"Coats on Finlay" will take place again this year, on Saturday, November 13th, commencing at 2:00 pm and continuing until Sunday morning (9:00 am)

If you have a new or gently used winter coat, please consider coming down and hanging it on the bridge.

(Wire hangers will be available)

We will also be accepting mittens, winter hats and scarfs) No footwear or summer or lighter attire please.

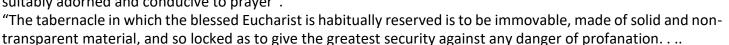
If you need a winter coat, come and 'shop' at the bridge! See you Saturday, Nov 13th.

THE PLACE OF TABERNACLE IN THE CHURCH

The tabernacle is the center of our Faith as we believe in the true presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Where Tabernacle should be? Many Catholics raise the same question as they enter into the Church and don't see Tabernacle in its traditional place. Let me answer that question.

Both the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the 1983 Code of Canon Law, as well as the constant Tradition of the Church, affirm that the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life" and "all the works of the apostolate are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it." Accordingly, Church regulations pertaining to the Holy Eucharist call us to hold the Blessed Sacrament in the highest honor and give it the greatest care. A review of the documents regulating the tabernacle renders the following:

Code of Canon Law (1983): "The tabernacle in which the blessed Eucharist is reserved should be sited in a distinguished place in the Church or Oratory, a place which is conspicuous, suitably adorned and conducive to prayer".



"The person in charge of a Church or Oratory is to see to it that the key of the tabernacle in which the blessed Eucharist is reserved is in maximum safekeeping" (Canon 938).

According to **Catechism of the Catholic Church** "The Tabernacle is to be situated 'in churches in a most worthy place with the greatest honour.' The dignity, placing and security of the Eucharistic Tabernacle should foster adoration before the Lord really present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar" (CCC1183). "...It is for this reason that the Tabernacle should be located in an especially worthy place in the church and should be constructed in such a way that it emphasizes and manifest the truth of the real presence o Christ in the Blessed Sacrament" (CCC1379).

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal: "In accordance with the structure of each church and legitimate local customs, the Most Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a Tabernacle in a part of the Church that is truly noble, prominent, conspicuous, worthily decorated, and suitable for prayer".

"The tabernacle should usually be the only one, be irremovable, be made of solid and inviolable material that is not transparent and be locked in such a way that the danger of profanation is prevented to the greatest extent possible. Moreover, it is appropriate that before it is put into liturgical use, the tabernacle be blessed according to the rite described in the Roman Ritual".

"It is more appropriate as a sign that on an Altar on which Mass is celebrated there not be a Tabernacle in which the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved. Consequently, it is preferable that the tabernacle be located, according to the judgment of the Diocesan Bishop:

- "a) either in the sanctuary, apart from the altar of celebration, in an appropriate form and place, not excluding its being positioned on an old altar no longer used for celebration (cf. No. 303);
- "b) or even in some chapel suitable for the private adoration and prayer of the faithful and organically connected to the church and readily noticeable by the Christian faithful" (Nos. 314-315).

I hope this will help many people to understand that "Why do we have Tabernacle in Church" at Holy Family Church. "Blessed be the Lord in his most Sacred Sacrament of the Holy Altar"





31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Sunday, October 31, 2021

LOVE: A CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Once a man climbed an inaccessible mountain, there he saw a woman. Man was surprised to see her. He got curious, went to her, and asked, "what are doing in this deserted place?" Woman replied, "I have a lot of work to do here". Man asked, "What kind of work of work do you have because I can't see anyone around you here". Woman replied, "I have to train two hawks, two eagles, assure two rabbits, work with a donkey, discipline a snake and tame a lion". Man looked around and saw nothing. He said, "But where are they all, I don't see any of them?"

Woman smiled and replied, "All these are within me". Seeing man confused, she explained "two hawks who look at everything I find, good or bad, I have to work on them, so that they only see good; these are my eyes. Two eagles that only hurt and damage with their claws must be trained, not to hurt; they are my hands. Rabbits roam here and there and do not want to face difficult situations; I must teach them to remain calm even when I suffer or stumble; they are my feet. Donkey is always tired, stubborn, whenever I walk, I don't want to carry burden, I want to get out of that situation of laziness, this my body.

She continued to explain "you know the hardest part is disciplining a snake, while it is locked in cage with 32 bars, it is always eager to bite, pour out poison on those who come near. I must discipline it too; this is my Tongue. I have a lion too; it is futile boosting. Lion thinks that he is king, I must subdue him; that's my ego.

This story speaks to us as Christians to examine ourselves if we are able to control ourselves from any evil intentions and become witness to God's love for other. "Let us love, since that is what our hearts were made for." -Saint Therese of Lisieux and Mother Teresa confirms it "Love to be real, it must cost- it must hurt-it must empty us of self".

The whole Bible is full of love which started with the creation of universe and human beings, and it continues to be witnessed today as Mother Teresa said, "Intense love does not measure it just gives", and "do small things with great love". Venerable Fulton Sheen explains the mystery of love and reminds all of us to be worthy of that love which God shows everyday in our lives

"When a man loves a woman, he has to become worthy of her. The higher her virtue, the more noble her character, the more devoted she is to truth, justice, goodness, the more a man must aspire to be worthy of her. The history of civilization could actually be written in terms of the level of its women."

The Sacred Scripture for this Sunday present two type of love: Love of God and Love of neighbour. First one may be easy to show but second one is the most difficult as we see people with our own eyes as Mother Teresa said "It is easy to love the people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us. It is easier to give a cup of rice to relieve hunger than to relieve the loneliness and pain of someone unloved in our own home. Bring love into your home for this where our love for each other must start".

As a Christian I believed we are valued according to the love we show to other people because love according to Holy Bible means "complete surrender to God and listening to him". We must remember the words of God at the Baptism of Jesus "He is my Beloved Son, listen to him". By loving God and our neighbors, we give example of Christian love and thus we witness the one who died on the Cross. However sometimes we are tempted and distracted by our personal feelings and emotions, and we fail to show our Christian witness of love to other people by judging and putting them down. St. Peter does remind us in these words "Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen" (1Peter 5:8-11). We read in the Gospel of John that "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Begotten Son..." that sums up everything for us to understand that God is the first one who sacrificed his Son for the love of us all. Our value as Christian depends on the love we show to other.

A father said to his daughter "You have graduated with honors, here is a car I bought many years ago. It is pretty old now. But before I give it to you, take it to the used car lot downtown and tell them I want to sell it and see how much they offer you for it."

The daughter went to the used car lot, returned to her father, and said, "They offered me \$1,000 because they said it looks pretty worn out."

The father said, now "Take it to the pawn shop." The daughter went to the pawn shop, returned to her father, and said," The pawn shop offered only \$100 because it is an old car."

The father asked his daughter the last time to go to a car club now and show them the car. The daughter then took the car to the club, returned and told her father," Some people in the club offered \$100,000 for it because "it's an iconic car and sought by many collectors."

Now the father said this to his daughter, "The right place values you the right way," If you are not valued, do not be angry, it means you are in the wrong place. Those who know your value are those who appreciate you.

In the First Letter of John, we read "whoever loves has been born of God" (4:7) this is huge mystery of God's love. Just think what St. John is saying because he doesn't say that we are born of God and are able to love rather he says because of love we are born of God. The whole chapter of First Corinthians (13) is all about love and concludes with these words "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love".

How can we be the witness of love? First Reading gives us the following tools:

- 1. Fear the Lord your God
- 2. Keep all his commandments
- 3. Hear, O Israel
- 4. Observe them diligently

I believe all these tools are very important to show our Christian witness to others. If we keep these in our hearts and minds then we can Love God with our all heart, soul and might and our days on earth will prolong. What kind of love is this? This is a love of sacrifice and full commitment to God and if we carry these two values then we can love our neighbours to show our Christian witness. However, we do need strength from the Lord to love as the Psalmist "I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer....". We do need love to be our witness as Christians to change not only the world but ourselves as well. St. Mother Teresa is one of the saints who placed her life on the Gospel of Love and for that love she looked after the poorest, marginalized and rejected people of the society because she believed "Hurt people, hurt people. That's how paint patterns get passed on, generation after generation. Break the chain today. Meet anger with sympathy, contempt with compassion, cruelty with kindness. Greet grimaces with smiles, forgive and forget about finding fault. Love is the weapon of the future".

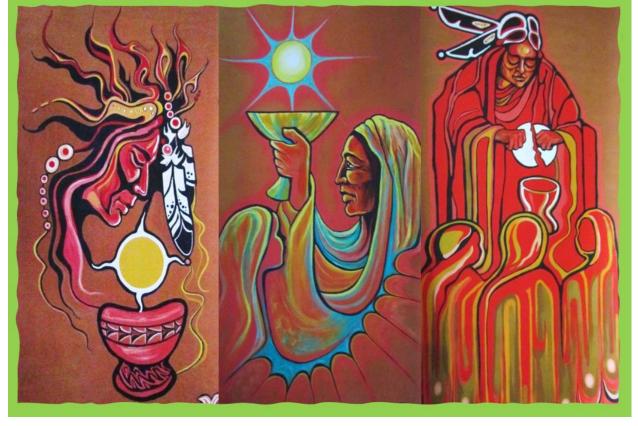
Since this command to love God and neighbors is given such emphasis, it is very important that we have a good understanding of what it means to love. What exactly is Jesus asking us to do when he tells us to remember the commandment of love God and neighbors? God doesn't leave us in the dark about this. He provides us with a perfect picture of love, and we are asked simply to copy that picture. It is the love of God for us through Jesus. If we want to know what love is, we will need to see the love of God, because "God is love." It is God's essence to be a loving God. I suppose there is less disagreement today about this statement "God is love" than any other statement in the Bible. But what does it mean? That means that he doesn't just do loving things, but that his love shines through in all he does. So, when he judges, he judges in love. But since he is a consuming fire of judgment, he is also holy and just in all he does. And since he is light, his love and judgment are always in complete truth. God doesn't show us his love by giving

us everything we want, but by giving us what we need, and what we need is the incarnation and atonement of Jesus.

At the heart of this Sunday's Gospel passage, there is the commandment of love: love of God and love of neighbour. A scribe asks Jesus: "Which commandment is the first of all?". He responds by quoting the profession of faith with which every Israelite opens and closes his day and begins with the words "Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord" (Deut 6:4). That shows that he loved us, loves us, and will love us for ever. It is from this source, this love of God, that the twofold commandment comes to us: "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.... You shall love your neighbour as yourself".

Remember the question of Jesus to the blind beggar from last Sunday's Gospel "What do you want me to do for you?" is very crucial question in our current situation as people are divided over the Covid-19 pandemic. There is so much division, hatred, and misinformation out there that people have forgotten to love God and neighbors. In choosing these two Words addressed by God to his people and by putting them together, Jesus taught once and for all that love for God and love for neighbour are inseparable; moreover, they sustain one another. Even if set in a sequence, they are two sides of a single coin: experienced together they are a believer's strength! To love God is to live of him and for him, for what he is and for what he does. Our God is unmitigated giving; he is unlimited forgiveness; he is a relationship that promotes and fosters. Therefore, to love God means to invest our energies each day to be his assistants in the unmitigated service of our neighbour, in trying to forgive without limitations, and in cultivating relationships of communion and fraternity.

Our Christian witness of love is under time any frame, but we are called to carry this witness till we die. If we practice seeing with Jesus' gaze, we will always be listening and be close to



those in need. Of course, our neighbour's needs require effective responses, but even beforehand they require sharing. With one look we can say that the hungry need not just a bowl of soup, but also a smile, to be listened to and a prayer, perhaps said together. God, who is love, created us to love and so that we can love others while remaining united with him. It would be misleading to claim to love our neighbour without loving God; and it would also be deceptive to claim to love God without loving our neighbour. The two dimensions of love, for God and for neighbour, in their unity characterize the disciple of Christ. St. John in his First Letter sums our Christian witness in this way "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be, has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure" (3:1-3).

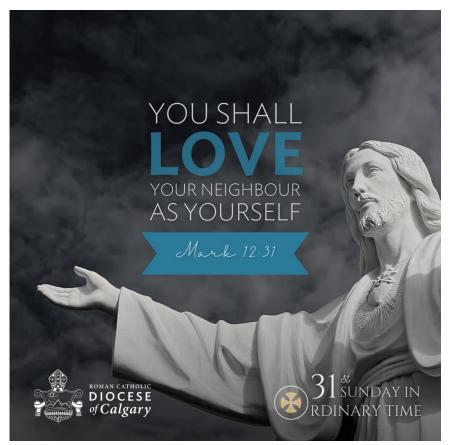
Today as we also end the month of October, which is the month of the Holy Rosary, Blessed Virgin Mary is a perfect example of witness of love who always listens and obeys the Lord even when she saw him dying on the Cross. Can we be the same example of witness of love to the world?

A man who traveled and sold toys arrived at a kingdom where he came to know the King of that Kingdom liked to see new toys. He went to the King's palace where court was being held, he said to the King "O King today I would like to show you toys which you have never seen before". King allowed him to present his toys. The man took out three toys which looked like human figures from his box and placed them in front of King and said, "These toys are very special in themselves. Although they look alike, they are actually very different." He pointed at toys one by one and spoke. "Value of first one is one hundred thousand gold coins, second is for one thousand and third will cost only one gold coin". King was surprised to hear that and looked very carefully at the toys but couldn't find any difference and then invited his ministers to check if they could find any difference and the response from the ministers was negative.

Finally, King invited the holy monk to see if he could find any difference. The monk looked at each toy very carefully and ordered to bring three straws. Now, he put the straw in the ear of the first toy and everyone saw that straw went straight into the stomach and after a while the lip of toy opened and then closed. He did the same thing to the second toy, and everyone saw that straw went out straight the other ear. Then he did the same to the third one and it opened it's mouth at once and kept moving it's lips as if it wanted to say something. Everyone in the court was shocked to see. However, upon the inquiring of the King, the monk explained the difference. He said "a person of character always keeps to himself what he has heard. And only after confirming, he opens his mouth." That is the greatness. This is the knowledge we get from the first toy which price is way higher than the other two that likes to ignore what they have heard and speak without realizing what they are speaking.

Do we share our Christian Witness of Love with other?

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time



Children Resources for the 31st in Ordinary Time

- Gospel Reflection: This is Jesus' Great Commandment, his teaching that we are to both love God and love our neighbour as ourselves. Our neighbours aren't just the people who live close to us. Everyone is our neighbour. (Loyola Press)
 - o Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday
 - o Colouring page this Sunday
 - Sunday Connection for 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gr. 1-8)
 - Video: <u>Studio 3:16</u> | Your Faith Can Save Comedy for kids (new episode on Wednesdays)
- Children's Sunday Liturgy for the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 - 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:

<u>Vatican News | The Sunday Website</u> <u>Sunday Connection | CCCB Reflection</u> (new link)

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

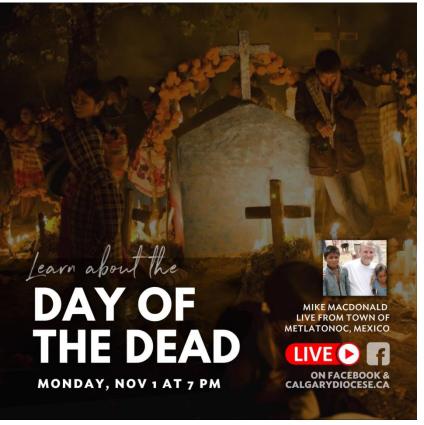
Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses:

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

COVID-19 Resources

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

The Day of the Dead



Join Mike MacDonald, Onsite Coordinator of Mission Mexico, on location in the Town of Metlatonoc in the home of a good friend of Mission Mexico, Celso Guevara, to join in the celebration of the Day of the Dead.

Celso's balcony overlooks Metlatonoc's main cemetery. His home gives us a glimpse of the cemetery at night, brightened by the burning candles of the families that gather in prayer and in communion with the souls of their departed loved ones. Both Mike and Celso will share with us the significance of this celebration not only for the people and their culture but also for

the Church. The session will be hosted by Fr. Wilbert Chin Jon.

Metlatonoc is one of the poorest municipalities in the country, and Mission Mexico has been active there in three ways: providing university bursaries to several students from that area; supporting the Champagnat High School of the Mountain, where hundreds of students from Metlatonoc have studied in the past fifteen years; providing health care, clothing, food, etc., to families during emergency situations.

One of the interesting details about Metlatonoc is that the town has grown, and what used to be a cemetery above the town is now a cemetery within the town (although a fair distance from the town center).

Celso works in Oxnard, California for more than half of the year as a fieldworker. Every year he returns to Mexico to be with his mother for the Day of the Dead. He is of the Na Savi culture.

Na Savi means "people of the rain," and their language is tu'un savi. The people are more popularly known as "Mixtecos," but that was a name given to them by the Aztec Empire, so the people themselves prefer their own designation; "Mixteco" comes from a nahuatl expression meaning "people of the clouds" (and yes, they are high up).

- Livestream available on <u>Facebook</u> & <u>Diocesan website</u> | Monday, Nov. 1 at 7 pm
- Graphic resources (Photo credit for the graphic: Fr. Fred Monk)

Pope Francis' visit to Canada

The Catholic Bishops of Canada are grateful that Pope Francis has accepted their invitation to visit Canada on a pilgrimage of healing and reconciliation. The Holy Father's full statement on the matter can be found here.

In anticipation of this the planned visit, delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders. knowledge keepers and youth will travel to the Holy See, where they will have the opportunity to speak to Pope Francis about the timing, focus. and themes in preparation for his future pilgrimage to Canada.

We pray that Pope
Francis' visit to
Canada will be a
significant milestone
in the journey toward
reconciliation and
healing.

CANADIAN CONFERENCE
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
OCTOBER 2021

ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

"The Bishops of Canada

have been engaged in meaningful discussions with Indigenous Peoples, especially those affected by Residential Schools who have shared stories about the suffering and challenges that they continue to experience," said CCCB President, the Most Rev. Raymond Poisson. "We pray that Pope Francis' visit to Canada will be a significant milestone in the journey toward reconciliation and healing."

The Canadian Bishops recently pledged to work with the Holy See and Indigenous partners on the possibility of a pastoral visit to Canada by the Pope. Following this pledge and informed by three years of ongoing dialogue between the Canadian Bishops, the Holy See, and Indigenous Peoples, the President and former-President of the CCCB met in Rome with the Secretary of State of the Holy See to discuss next steps on the reconciliation journey earlier this month and in preparation for the delegation.

This delegation to the Holy See will take place from December 17-20, 2021, and is being planned in close collaboration with National Indigenous Organizations and other partners.

"We will invite the delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders, knowledge keepers, and youth who will meet with Pope Francis to open their hearts to the Holy Father and share both their suffering as well as their hopes and desires for his eventual visit to Canada," added Bishop Poisson.

Additional details about Pope Francis' pilgrimage to Canada, as well as the Rome delegation will be announced by the CCCB as details are confirmed.

Celebrating All Saints & All Souls

The Solemnity of All Saints, Nov. 1

All Hallows' Day, the Solemnity of All Saints, or All Saints' Day is a celebration of all Catholic saints held on November 1 each year. "On this solemnity, we recall the holy men and women who, having completed their earthly journeys, now live forever with God. These saints, though not canonized, offer us models of abiding faith and love of God and neighbour" (Essential Guide to Seasons and Saints, 109).

The Church teaches that by imitating the virtues lived by the saints, the saints brings us closer to Christ. When we ask the saints to pray for us, we ask them to join their wills with the will of God and intercede for us here on earth. This is the Communion of Saints which we profess every Sunday in the Creed. (Source: USCCB)

Some resources for celebrating All Saints Day with your family:

- Attend the Solemnity of All Saints Mass at your parish church
- Children's & family Liturgy of the Word for All Saints
- All Saints Colouring Page
- Celebrating All Saints' Day at home Crafts & Projects (Catholic Icing)
- Have everyone at the dinner table pray to their confirmation saint and discuss why they chose that saint. Then read the Gospel from Matthew 5:1-12a
- Pray the Litany of Saints (CCCB, CWL Canada)
- More ideas for celebrating All Saint's day with your family (Catholic Mom)
- Download graphic

The Solemnity of All Souls, Nov. 2

All Souls' Day, also known as "The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed" is observed on Tuesday, Nov. 2 this year. This is when we remember people who were more like us – the souls of the faithful departed in purgatory or in process. The faithful on earth can assist these purgatorial souls in attaining heaven through prayer, good work and the offering of Mass. At Mass on All Souls' Day, we pray that through Christ's loving mercy, God's "departed servants...may be granted pardon and peace, and be brought to the joy of God's eternal home. All Souls Day is an especially rich cultural experience for Hispanic/Latino Catholics, who call it "Día de los Muertos" or "The Day of the Dead."

Some resources for commemorating All Souls Day with your family:

- Attend the All Souls Mass at your parish church
- <u>Learn about the Day of Dead</u> with Mike MacDonald live from Mexico on Nov. 1 at 7 pm. Livestream will be available from Facebook & Diocesan website.
- Say a prayer for the dead in your family and community:
 - o In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters. In this life you embraced them with your tender love; deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest. The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. R/. Amen.
- Pray especially for those who died of COVID-19 in this time of pandemic. Due to world wide pandemic protocols, many have died without the Sacrament of the Sick. Let us offer our prayers for them:



- O Lord God Omnipotent, I beseech You by the Precious Blood Your Divine Son Jesus shed in the garden, deliver the souls in Purgatory, especially the most forsaken soul. Bring these souls into your glory where it may praise You and Bless You forever. Amen. Eternal Rest grant unto them Oh Lord (Source: Oremus, Let Us Pray, Come Close to God in Daily Prayer, pg. 98. Oremus are available at Holy Name Parish Office for purchase).
- How to gain a plenary indulgence for the souls in purgatory (Relevant Radio)
- <u>Visit a cemetery</u> and pray for the dead during the Octave of All Saints Day. This gains a plenary indulgence that can be applied only to the souls in purgatory. On other days, this work gains a partial indulgence.
- Prayers for death and dying (USCCB)
- Praying for the dead with Kids (Catholic Icing)
- All Souls: A Celebration of Life (Catholic Mom)
- Download graphic

Catholic Education Sunday - Nov 6/7



In anticipation of Catholic Education Sunday on Nov. 6/7, please see below the following resources:

- <u>Bishops' Letter Regarding Catholic Education</u> <u>Sunday</u>
- Prayer of the Faithful petitions for Catholic Education Sunday
- That our Catholic schools may be inspired by the example of the many great saints who have gone before them and who intercede for them, we pray to the Lord...
- $_{\odot}$ That our Catholic schools may reveal the glory of

God in all that they do, we pray to the Lord...

- Poster for Catholic Education Sunday (ENG | FR)
- Novena for Catholic Education (ENG | FR)
- GRaCE Catholic Education Sunday newsletter (PDF)
- Online collection for Catholic Education Sunday is available at: catholicvyc.ca/catholiceducationsunday

Resources & Announcements

Reminder | Upcoming Events

- . <u>Opening Mass for Diocesan Phase of Synod</u> at St. Mary's Cathedral on Oct. 31 at Noon
 - a. <u>Eucharistic Transformation Workshop for Lay Ministers</u> | Online/Webinar | Nov 8-10, 2 to 4 pm
 - b. Rediscover God's Love with Couples for Christ Lay Association at St. James' Church in Calgary | Nov. 6
 - c. Submit your parish events <u>here</u> click "Submit Event" in the <u>Calendar</u>

Pope reiterates appeal for protection of migrants in Libya

"It is necessary to end the practice of returning migrants to countries that are insecure and to give priority to life-saving operations in the sea," Pope Francis. The Holy Father's says his thoughts never stray from the predicament of the thousands of men, women and children stranded in Libya as they search to reach Europe in the hope of a better life. "I express my closeness to the thousands of migrants, refugees and others who are in need of protection in Libya: I never forget you. I hear your cries and I pray for you." Read more

Why the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed?

Bishop McGrattan speaks about this universal day of prayer within the life of the Church where those who mourn the death of a loved ones are comforted and strengthened in faith and hope. Read more

All Hallow's Eve

Not that the Mass of the day has mention of black cats, or the Divine Office of witches, but for so long Halloween meant nothing but parties and vandalism that when someone first proposed that it came out of the liturgy, I asked: "Are you sure?" Mary Reed Newland learns that one of the nicest surprises of living around the year with the Church is to find that Halloween is part of it. Read more

Can Halloween be Christianized Again?

The modern focus of Halloween is increasingly focused on a fascination with evil, horror, and gore. Finding a Christian way to celebrate Halloween is a problem for many parents. Read more

St. Charles Borromeo: The "provocative" reformer

What saint became an abbot at 19, was a cardinal before he was a priest, founded the seminary system as we know it today, required bishops to reside in their diocese, and heroically climbed a pile of corpses to give a man the last rites before he died? St. Charles Borromeo (Feast day: Nov. 4) is the answer. Learn about this giant of the Catholic Reformation. Read more

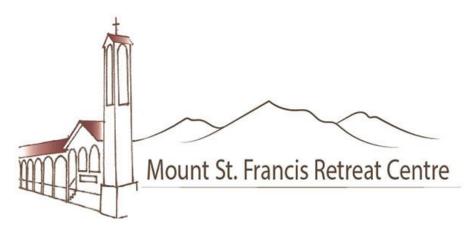
A schooling in Solidarity

In 2020, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada piloted a new <u>Schools Program</u> in Ontario designed to encourage students to embody their faith through solidarity. Participating schools earned <u>badges</u> for taking on social justice challenges ranging from inverting maps to planting a tree. Looking back a year later, the program has not only proven successful and ready for wider rollout, but also led to surprising innovations from students going above and beyond anything the program envisaged. Read more



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.