



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 – THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca ~ Website: www.holyfamilymh.ca ~ Phone 403-527-6933

Facebook: Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish ~ YouTube: Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Office Hrs. Monday to Friday - 8:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Closed on Holidays.

CLERGY AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Fr. Iqbal Khurshid & Fr Naveed Arif
& Deacon Robert Risling

RECONCILIATION...

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

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

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

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

Knights of Columbus - Kirby Peterson

Catholic Women's League - Marjorie Bowlby

Parish Pastoral Council Chair - Gary Heinbecker

Parish Finance Committee Chair - Cheryl Pocsik

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.



Sunday's Readings

1st Reading: Exodus 32.7-11,13-14

If there are factions among you, then it is not the Lord's
supper you eat.

Responsorial Psalm: 51.1-2,10-11,15+17 (R. Lk15.18)

R. I will get up and go to my Father.

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 1.12-17

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Gospel: Luke 15.1-32

There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

Why Hang Around with the Lost Ones?

We can read Luke Chapter 15 as parables of lost sheep, lost coin, and lost child. But basically, they are stories of joy resulting in lavish parties for what is found: a full flock, a complete dowry, a returned relationship of parent and child. Ultimately, they show God's desire to be reunited with anyone who becomes lost in little or big ways. It needs to be our desire, too.

- † For whom will I go looking who needs to be found?
- † Who am I called to hang around (I may be surprised)?
- † How will I be like the generous father standing on the porch awaiting the return of _____?

Sacrament Classes Registration

St. Patrick's Parish

Wednesday, September 14th

6:30pm to 7:30pm

Holy Family Parish

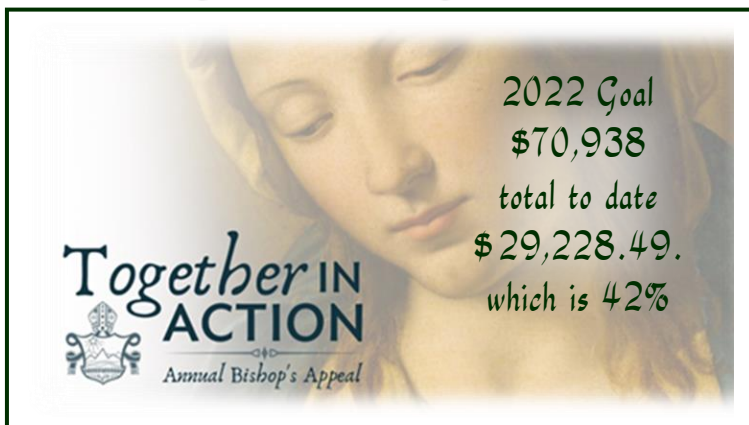
Thursday, September 15th

6:30pm to 7:30pm



September 11, 2022 – The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time


OPERATING FINANCES	
JULY 1-31, 2022	
Operating Budget 2022	\$ 59,708
General Envelope Collection	\$ 45,656
Loose Collections	\$ 1,114
Future Development	\$ 4,240
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 3,217
Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 5,481
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 2,793
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,558
Clergy Retirement	\$ 55
Mission Mexico	\$ 275
CARO	\$ 110
World Missions	\$ 20
Seminary Fund	\$ 125
Ukraine Relief YTD	\$ 21,665
<i>Thank You for your Generous Contributions</i>	
Average Weekly Attendance	715



2022 Goal
\$70,938

total to date
\$29,228.49.

which is 42%



Together IN ACTION
Annual Bishop's Appeal

Mark Your Calendars

- September 12, 2022 - 6:30pm - Chapel
Prayer & Praise - Everybody Welcome
- September 12, 2022 - 7:00pm - Faith Room
Knights of Columbus General Meeting
- September 13, 2022 - 6:00pm - Faith Room
Catholic Women's League General Meeting
- September 14, 2022 - 9:00am - Faith Room
Wednesday Bible Study Starting Up.
- September 14, 2022 - 6:30pm in the Church
Funeral Ministry Workshop & Fellowship
- September 15, 2022 - 6:30pm in the Faith Room
Sacramental Prep Class Registration
- September 15, 2022 - 7:00pm in the Church
Altar Server's Practice for new & existing servers
- September 14, 2022 - 9:00am - Faith Room
Wednesday Bible Study Starting Up.
- September 17, 2022 - 8:00am HFP Hall
That Man is You - Breakfast & Presentation
- September 18, 2022 - 2:00 pm
Annual Blessing of the Pets
- September 21, 2022 - 7:00pm in the Faith Room
RCIA starts up for a new year
- September 25, 2022 - Baptism Class
You must register at the office, both parents to attend.
- October 1 -2, 2022 - After all Masses
Parish Ministry Fair
- November 6, 2022 -
CWL Fall Supper
- November 12-13 - After all Masses
Parish Art Show

† Mass Intentions †



Saturday, September 10

5:00pm - Louise Dennehy †

Sunday, September 11

8:30am - Ben Lockert †

10:30am - John & Veronica Bosch †

6:00pm - Holy Family Parish

Monday, September 12

9:00am - Italo Dal Molin †

Tuesday, September 13

9:00am - George Hoffart †

Wednesday, September 14

9:00am - Derrick Risling †

Thursday, September 15

9:00am - Brian Dobek Family

Friday, September 16

9:00am - Allen Kaupp †

Funeral Ministry

There will be a training for the Funeral Ministry on Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm in the Church. A get together for socializing with coffee and donuts will follow. See you there!!!

Knights of Columbus
General Meeting
September 12 at 7pm Faith Room



Catholic Women's League (CWL)
General Meeting
September 13 at 6pm Faith Room

Annual Parish Corn Roast

Sunday, September 18
11:30 AM

Everyone is Welcome!

ANNUAL BLESSING OF PETS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 AT 2:00PM

Pets of all religious backgrounds and their owners are welcome!

St. Francis gave special consideration to all of God's creatures, calling them sisters and brothers.

Pets must be leashed or in a crate.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Do you have a desire to learn about the traditions and teachings of the Catholic faith?

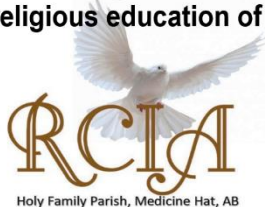
Do you feel a need for a deeper understanding of our faith beliefs in order to keep up with the religious education of your child(ren)?

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 –

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

7:00-9:00 pm.

Call Pat at 403-878-6073



[Sunday 10:30am Mass on YOUTUBE
Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live
Stream](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q)

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



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The Password is: Liv3HFP*



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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!

**ALTAR SERVERS
PRACTICE**
Thursday
September 15
7:00pm



NEW ALTAR SERVERS ARE WELCOMED

THAT MAN IS YOU!

Holy Family Parish Hall
Breakfast 7:30am

Presentation

8:30 – 9:30 am

September 17, 2022

Theme:

Radiate and Illuminate

Presenter:

Mark Hartfiel



PRAYER & Praise

Mondays at 6:30pm

In the Holy Family Parish Chapel

Medicine Hat Pro-Life Association

Annual General Meeting

Monday, September 12/22, 7:00 pm

St. Patrick's Church Hall

We cannot abandon the struggle and must continue
to promote RESPECT for ALL LIFE!

Please join us at the:

RALLY for LIFE - LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 2, 2-3 pm

2948 Dunmore Rd. SE

See you there!



Ministry Fair

October 1st & 2nd
after each Mass



All Legion of Mary Members, both Active and Auxiliary or Praying members, as well as those interested in learning more about the Legion of Mary, are invited to our Annual Praesidium Function on September 11th from 7 pm to 8:30 pm in St. Patrick's Church Hall. In addition to praying the Legion of Mary prayers and learning more about the Legion, we will have a chance to visit and celebrate Mary's Nativity with birthday cake and light refreshments.

Everyone is welcome.

Understanding, Forgiveness and Healing on both sides... Date: Saturday, September 24th Time: 8:30am – 3:30pm at St. Martha's Church, Lethbridge. Please come and take part in a day to learn about the History of Alberta's Indigenous Peoples. There will be a "Blanket Ceremony" hosted by a Knowledge Keeper and testimonies from Residential School survivors. A Keynote speaker will focus on "Unity in the body of Christ". Healing Prayer teams will be available to pray with participants. Love offering is Greatly accepted and lunch is provided.

To Registration Contact:

Katie.lindsay51@gmail.com

or call (403)382-1235

Coffee & Fellowship
Will Restart After the
10:30 Mass Starting
September 25



BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10TH & 11TH
THE OFFERTORY BASKET WILL RESUME
BEING PASSED AROUND





Scams Alert

There are many scams going around masquerading as your clergy (priests, deacons or lately, the bishop).

Please exercise caution when responding to email messages. If you receive unusual emails, check the sender's email address to see whether it is the person's genuine address. Even if the sender's address looks correct, always verify suspicious emails by phoning the sender. There have been many similar scams reported by several parishes in our diocese and across Canada.

Note that these scams do not stop at emails. Those in social media should stay vigilant when responding to friend requests or to other compelling posts requiring a response. There are many fake Twitter, Facebook and other social media accounts trying to impersonate people you know and our church leaders. Some scammers may take the time to build a relationship with you to gain your trust, before trying to extort money or other things like gift cards.

Please exercise vigilance when you are being charitable. Use the channels you are most familiar with and avoid becoming victims of a scam.

NOBODY is going to ask you for gift cards, or bit coins from the church! NOBODY!!!

All our email addresses only end in @holyfamilymh.ca never a @gmail account.

If you get an email or a text, PLEASE DO NOT RESOND to it, you can forward it to contact@holyfamilymh.ca so it can be sent to the diocese.



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

September 11, 2022

Consequences of our Actions

For the last three Sundays we have been reflecting on our struggles to enter through the narrow gate to have eternal life and understand our way of living with humility which leads us to salvation because pride kills, but humility makes us rise from nothing to discipleship where we learn to deny ourselves and carry our Cross and to follow our Saviour who died on the Cross to save us. This Sunday we are invited to reflect and examine our actions which always follow consequences. These consequences in the material world and spiritual world have caused lots of problems and suffering. Our actions always remind us to be careful about what we wish for or desire as Bernard Shaw said “There are two tragedies in life. One is not to get your heart’s desire, the other is to get it” And the Book of Ecclesiastes is full of wisdom about it. Let me share a story with you to understand the consequences of our desires and actions.

A young aspirant was sitting at the foot of a tree in the summer heat. Fortunately, or unfortunately, the tree he happened to be sitting under was the Kalpataru tree, (*Kalpavriksha* also known as *kalpataru*, *kalpadruma*, *kalpapāḍapa* or *karpaga vriksham*, is a wish fulfilling divine tree in Indian-origin religions, like Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism. It is mentioned in Sanskrit literature from the earliest sources. It is also a popular theme in Jain cosmology and Buddhism), the tree that fulfils all desires, but he did not know this. After a while the heat became scorching and he said, “How I wish somebody would come and fan me!” Right away a young boy came and started fanning him. First, he was very surprised. Then he began to think that whatever he wished for would be granted. So, he said, “This is a young boy. I don’t want him. Let me have a beautiful girl.” Immediately a beautiful girl came and started fanning him.

After a while he said, “Now I would like to have food here. I am very hungry.” The young girl went and fetched food for him. He ate his fill and then said, “Oh, how beautiful this place is. But I don’t see any animals here. I am in a forest, but how is it that there are no animals? A forest should always be alive with animals. How I wish to see at least one tiger in front of me!” In no time a tiger appeared—only to devour him!

All our actions have their own consequences depending on what and how we do. In the First Reading we could see the unfaithfulness of Israelites towards God who brought them out of Egyptian slavery to Promised Land. They provoke God by setting up a golden calf but still God is merciful and forgiving. The wisdom of God bestowed greatly on his Church made her to preach mercy. Mercy is a virtue that many people de-emphasize as we live our lives and relate with others who offend us. Mercy is kindness shown to someone at a time when offence is committed, and a severe punishment is expected. Mercy

cannot be exercised when there is no offence or sin committed by someone. Who does not commit an offence or sin against God and fellow humans even against our nation? Throughout our salvation history we could see people offending God and going on their ways, but God keep showing his love and mercy. The action done by Adam and Eve had their own consequences by depriving themselves from the Garden of Eden and toiling for their living. The Sacred Scripture is full of such stories where people did things against the commandment of the Lord and paid the price. God who is always faithful kept his part while Israel representing the unfaithful humanity provoked God greatly by the worship of handmaid golden calf which God forewarned that he is a jealous God who would not like to share his glory with another.

One of the young monks in a Greek monastery committed a serious fault, and the oldest hermit, who was living alone in a shack far from the monastery, was summoned to judge him and decide his punishment. The hermit refused, but the other monks insisted, and he eventually gave in and answered their call.

He arrived at the monastery carrying on his back a heavy bucket with a hole in it, out of which sand was spilling behind him. "I have come to judge the young brother" he said to the monastery leaders. "My own sins, errors and faults are spilling behind me like the sand from this bucket, but since I don't look at what I leave behind me and don't see my own mistakes, I come to judge my brother for his own!"

The monks dropped their heads. They understood the wisdom of the hermit and gave up the idea of punishment, humbled in their hearts for their judgement against a child whom God wants to forgive. Isn't it an amazing story to speak about the love, joy and forgiveness of the Lord who carried our sins and iniquities onto him to grant eternal life? Although the House of Israel made God upset and God called them stiff-necked people and he wanted his anger to consume them, but Moses intervened by reminding God that he brought them out of Egypt for a purpose and that he made covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And God the Father showed his mercy by forgiving them. This is because the people sinned, and great punishment was expected.

This is what St. Paul was speaking about in the second reading that he received mercy from God. It was the mercy of God that qualified him as the greatest of sinners to become an apostle of Christ and the Church he was blasphemed and persecuted. In his case, great punishment was also expected. He acknowledges the mercy God had shown him and confessed ignorance of what he was doing in the past. The mission of Christ to save sinners is the greatest act of mercy shown to the world. We must rejoice in the Lord because he loved us and died for us so that we may not be trapped in the evil around us. St. Paul writes in the letter to Philippians, "rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, again I say rejoice in the Lord" it is a beautiful invitation to come out of our doubts, faults and sins and believe he has the power to forgive. St. Augustine reflects the same element in this way "Those who have been freed and raised up follow the light. The light they follow speaks to them: I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness. The Lord gives light to the blind. Brethren, that light shines on us now, for we have had our eyes anointed with the eye-salve of faith. His saliva was mixed with earth to anoint the man born blind. We are of Adam's stock, blind from our birth; we need him to give us light. He mixed saliva with earth, and so it was prophesied: Truth has sprung up from the earth. He himself has said: I am the way, the truth, and the life. We shall be in possession of the truth when we see face to face. This is his promise to us. Who would dare to hope for something that God in his goodness did not choose to promise or bestow? We shall see face to face. The Apostle says: Now I know in part, now obscurely through a mirror, but then face to face. John the apostle says in one of his letters: Dearly beloved, we are now children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be. We know that when he is revealed, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. This is a great promise. If you love me, follow me. "I do love you," you protest, "but how do I follow you?" If the Lord your God said to you: "I am the truth and the life," in your desire for truth, in your love for

life, you would certainly ask him to show you the way to reach them. You would say to yourself: "Truth is a great reality; life is a great reality; if only it were possible for my soul to find them!"

How wonderful it is to see that God loves us and blesses us with every blessing we need in our lives. The Psalmist says, "if you remember iniquities and transgression, who could be saved? but with you is found mercy and forgiveness". Even today's responsorial speaks about the love, mercy and forgiveness as King David accepts his sin and trusts in the Lord. We too read in the Book of Prophet Ezekiel that God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked "But if the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all my statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die. None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them; for the righteousness that they have done they shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord God, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live? But when the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity and do the same abominable things that the wicked do, shall they live? None of the righteous deeds that they have done shall be remembered; for the treachery of which they are guilty and the sin they have committed, they shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?" (18:21-29).

In the Gospel today the scribes and the Pharisees who studied Jesus' actions were scandalised by the things that Jesus did and murmured against him: "This man is dangerous!" What scandalised them most was the fact that "Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners, that he talked with them". Hence their reaction: "this man offends God; he desecrates the ministry of the prophet which is a sacred ministry" and "he desecrates it in order to draw close to these people". The music of their murmuring is the music of hypocrisy, and "Jesus responds to this murmuring hypocrisy with a parable of "Prodigal Son" in which he shows the unconditional love of the Father and his heart of mercy.

Here I found interesting feelings of God about the world and people living in it and Satan's reaction at the end who is not willing to accept that people can be forgiven.

God sees how the world is.

God: I made them with the ability to choose to do good or evil, and they chose to do evil...

God looks off into the distance with a disappointed look on His face.

God: Being perfectly just, I cannot ignore their blatant evilness.

God: In my infinite wisdom, I know the only suitable punishment is death. Justice must be served.

God looks sternly ahead with a clenched fist.

God: But...

God's expression becomes troubled.

God: How can I give them death? I LOVE them. The penalty must be paid. But how can their penalty be paid when the cost is so high?

God hangs His head and a single tear falls. He then raises His head and looks ahead with conviction through tears.

God: ***I*** will pay the penalty.

And so Jesus was born into this world, to do something for us, something big, something we couldn't do ourselves... Jesus wiped the slate clean.

Satan sees how the world is.

Satan: Haha! All these people are sinners! Not a single one is good! They'll all be thrown into the unquenchable fire!

God: You're wrong, Satan. They're square with the house. Their penalty has been paid in full.

Father and Son, Spirit and Human. Jesus died for us, and it's not just a short bout of pain and suffering to be compared with aeons of the comforts of heavenly realms. God is eternal. He's outside of time. Everything He's ever done is part of Him every "instant" for eternity. From God's perspective, Jesus is on the cross forever for us. To speak metaphorically using the concept of time, Jesus' physical pain and suffering and God's heartache of seeing His innocent son crucified are such a vivid "memory" to God, it's as if the crucifixion is happening right now. He made this a part of Himself forever for us even though He knew even the "best" of us would often spit in His face and say, "I don't need your ways. I don't need your love. I can take care of myself."

The story of prodigal son not only highlights some features of the father who is a man always ready to forgive and to hope against hope but also it exposes our human nature and understanding of others. First of all we see is tolerance of the father before the younger son's decision to leave home: he could have opposed it, knowing that he was still immature, a youth, or sought a lawyer not to give him his inheritance, as the father was still living. Instead, he allows the son to leave, although foreseeing the possible risks. (Please read Sirach 30:1-13). God works with us like this: He allows us to be free, even to making mistakes, because in creating us, He has given us the great gift of freedom. It is for us to put it to good use. This gift of freedom that God gives us always amazes me! St. Paul says "The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself" (2Timothy 2:11-13).

Secondly Father is though the son has left him but the separation from his son is only physical; for the father always carries him in his heart; trustingly, he awaits his return; the father watches the road in the hope of seeing him. And one day he sees him appear in the distance. But this means that this father, every day, would climb up to the terrace to see if his son was coming back! Thus, the father is moved to see him, he runs toward him, embraces him, kisses him. So much tenderness! And this son got into trouble! But the father still welcomes him so.

Thirdly father is ready to forgive and forget what his son has done to him. He has forgotten his own pain and hurt but rejoices that his son has come back. (Please read Psalm 51...a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise). God the Father has the same heart to forgive us even if we turn away from him but he "I have seen the misery of my people and have heard their cries and have come down to save them". How wonderful to see his heart in times when we become prodigal.

The figure of the Father in the parable reveals the heart of God. He is the Merciful Father who, in Jesus, loves us beyond measure, always awaits our conversion every time we make mistakes; he awaits our return when we turn away from him thinking, we can do without him; he is always ready to open his arms no matter what happened. As the father of the Gospel, God also continues to consider us his children, even when we get lost, and comes to us with tenderness when we return to him. He addresses us so kindly when we believe we are right. The errors we commit, even if bad, do not wear out the fidelity of his love. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we can always start out anew: He welcomes us, gives us the dignity of being his children and tells us: "Go ahead! Be at peace! Rise, go ahead!"

A Zen master was given a beautifully crafted crystal cup. It was a gift from a former student. He was very grateful. Every day, he enjoyed drinking out of his glass. He would show it to visitors and tell them about the kindness of his student.

But every morning, he held the cup in his hand for a few seconds and reminded himself: "This glass is already broken." One day, a clumsy visitor toppled the glass on its shelf. The cup fell down. When it hit the floor, it was smashed into thousands of tiny pieces. The other visitors gasped in shock, but the Zen

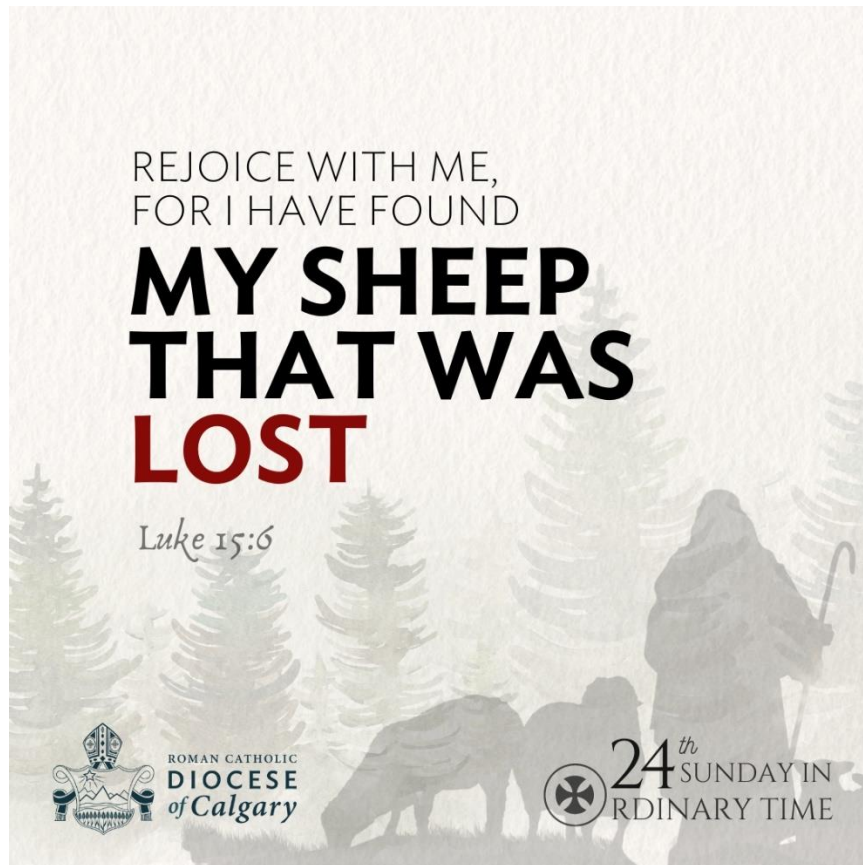
master remained calm. Looking at the mess in front of his feet, he said: “Ah. Yes. Let’s begin.” He picked up a broom and started sweeping.
Every action has consequences, but the act done in the Lord brings peace, love, forgiveness, and mercy of God. Let us take action against our actions to avoid consequences which may result in a weak relationship with the Lord.



Photo by Fr. Iqbal Khurshid, Dead Sea 2020

Sunday Updates

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Visit the [Diocesan Event Calendar](#)

Follow us on Social Media

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

Weekly reflections can be found here:

[Vatican News](#) | [The Sunday Website](#)
[Sunday Connection](#)

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](#)
- [Online Formation Opportunities](#)

Resources for children

- **Kid's challenge this week:** Colour this [illustration](#) of a shepherd finding a lost sheep and on the back to write or draw what you will do in the coming week to share God's love with other people at school or at home. (CAFOD)
 - [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
 - [Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday](#)
 - [Sunday Connection](#) - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gr. 1-8 & family)
 - **Children's Liturgy of the Word this Sunday**
 - [Children's Liturgy sheet for leaders/parents](#) (CAFOD) | [Illustration](#)
 - [Children's Liturgy of the Word with Miss Heidi](#) (Catholic TV)

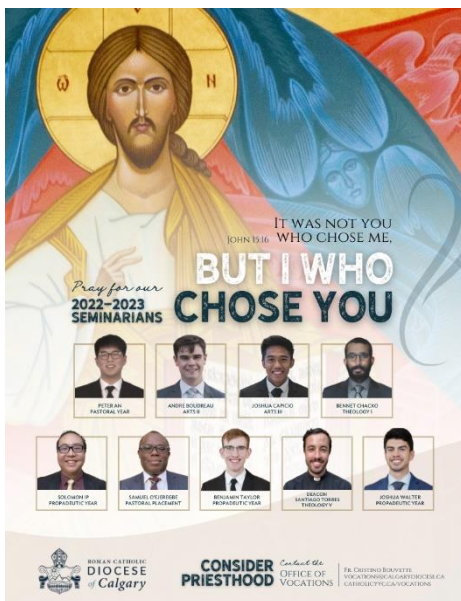
National Synthesis for Canada

The [first phase of the "Synod on Synodality," listening at the diocesan level](#), has concluded. Synthesis Reports were prepared by each of Canada's four Regional Episcopal Assemblies - Western, Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic regions. These four regional reports were then received by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) and used to draft a national synthesis, which has been submitted to the General Secretariat of the Synod of the Holy See on 15 August 2022.



We invite everyone to read the reports, which is the culmination of a sincere listening exercise that occurred in every diocese across the country.

- Download the [Western Region Synod Synthesis](#)
- Download [National Synthesis](#)



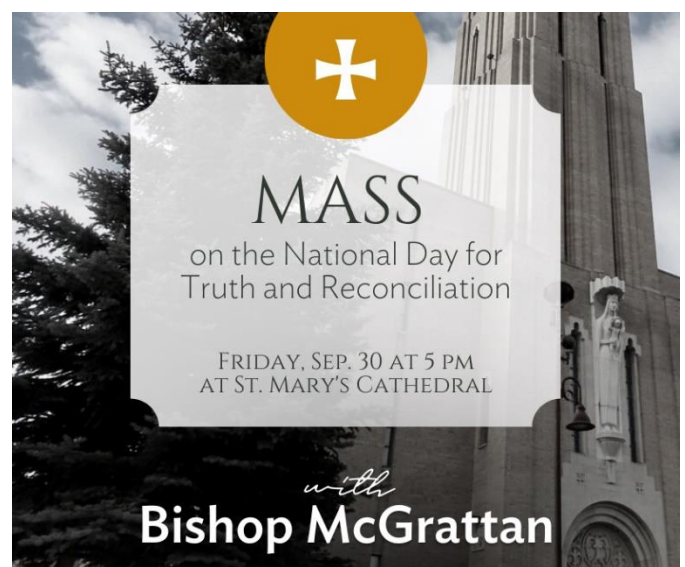
Seminarians 2022/2023

Let us pray for our 2022/23 Seminarians for the Diocese of Calgary. May God grant them the grace to grow closer to Him through their daily prayers and studies.

- Download Poster [8.5x11](#) | [11x17](#) | [Wide/PPT](#)
- Come and listen to Bishop McGrattan speak about his vision for promoting and supporting religious and priestly vocations in the diocese on **Saturday, Sep. 17**. Mass at 9 am followed by breakfast & talk in St. Mary's Cathedral Parish Hall. Zoom available. [More info](#)

National Day of Truth & Reconciliation

All are invited to join the Eucharistic Celebration with Bishop McGrattan on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, **Friday, Sep. 30 at 5 pm** at St. Mary's Cathedral.



Pastoral message from Bishop McGrattan

Bishop McGrattan marks the anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa, canonized Saint Teresa of Calcutta in 2016 by Pope Francis during the Holy Year of Mercy. In his message, the Bishop invites the faithful to follow in St. Teresa's footsteps, to be witness to the Gospel through the diocesan initiative of Feed the Hungry.



Enrichment Day with Bishop Emeritus Henry | Sep 17

The Divine Mercy Centre invites you to an outdoor event (free) with Bishop Emeritus Henry starting at 11 am on **Saturday, Sep 17** at Divine Mercy Centre. There will be Adoration, Confession, Holy Mass (at noon), talks, and Q&A.

An evening of reconciliation and openness with Fr. Cristino Bouvette | Sep 22

The FCJ Centre invites you to an evening with Fr. Cristino as he shares his story of reconciliation, openness, vulnerability, suffering and reconciling his identities as an indigenous and a priest. When: Thursday, Sep. 22 at 7 pm

- [More info](#) & [registration](#)

The death penalty is inadmissible

This month, Pope Francis invites us to pray "that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country". Although some 170 countries have abolished the death penalty, have imposed a moratorium on its implementation in legislation or in practice, or have suspended executions for more than 10 years, capital punishment continues to be applied in 55 countries on various continents.



**FOR THE
ABOLITION OF
THE DEATH PENALTY**

["Let us pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country."]

- Pope Francis -

This month, may we, the Body of Christ, answer the Holy Father's call to unite ourselves in prayer and prophetic action — not only for the abolition of capital punishment worldwide, but for the advancement of forms of justice that enable healing and transformation."

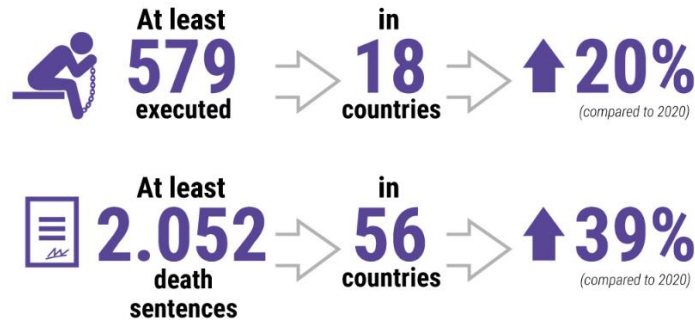
Today,
there are

28,670

people on death row around the world
(without counting the cases in countries where
there are no official statistics).

The death penalty in **2021**

Due to a lack of official statistics in countries such as China and North Korea, these numbers do not encompass the entirety of executions and death sentences, but rather those that are publically reported.



Bereavement: Support & Care Training

The Diocese of Calgary is offering a training opportunity in providing bereavement support and care. This workshop is offered to those who are involved in the Pastoral Care Ministry in their parishes, and/or for those desiring to be better equipped in accompanying those dealing with grief and loss.

- When/where: **Saturday, Oct. 1 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm** at **St. Luke's** (1566 Northmount Drive NW, Calgary).
- [Register online here](#) or by contacting Sr. Mariflor at 403-218-5521. Please register by **Sep. 26**.
- For more information, visit: catholiccy.ca/pastoralcare

Pastoral Care reflections with Fr. Tim

All are invited to a monthly reflection on ministry with Fr. Timothy Boyle at St. Martha's Parish in Lethbridge. Reflection will be inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis. When: **Tuesdays at 10:30 am, starting Sep. 20**. Online participation via livestream will be available from St. Martha's [Youtube Live page](#).

- [Download poster](#)
- [More info](#)

Serra Club meeting with the Bishop | Sep 17

Come hear from Bishop McGrattan about his vision for promoting and supporting religious and priestly vocations in the Diocese of Calgary. Those who are called to support the work of vocations are invited to join Serra Club of Calgary meeting this month on **Saturday, Sep. 17 at 9 am** (Mass), followed by breakfast and talk in the Parish Hall.

- [Download poster](#) from Serra Calgary (organizer)
- [More info](#)

World Day of Migrants & Refugees | Sep 25

On September 25, the Church will mark the 108th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. It is an occasion to express our concern for the many vulnerable people on the move, to pray for them as they face many challenges, and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers.

Since 1979, private sponsors have resettled over 350k refugees to Canada. This is a remarkable accomplishment for Canadians. Eighteen Catholic organizations (Dioceses, Religious congregations, and other groups) across Canada currently work as Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs).

It is estimated that there are currently over 89 million people who have been forced from their homes, of which over 36 million have fled their homelands. This terrible situation is made even worse in recent months with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, forcing millions of Ukrainians to flee their home country.

As Pope Francis has said, "In turbulent times we are to re-commit to the journey of building the kingdom".

- Click [here](#) for a series of pastoral suggestions from the Catholic Refugee Sponsors' Council (CRSC), as well as a resource list which includes bulletin announcements and prayers of the faithful.

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples | Dec. 12

"This year, we have been blessed to have had a delegation of Indigenous people visit Pope Francis in Rome in order to receive his apology on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church, and again to welcome the Holy Father to this land to hear his words of sorrow as he embarked on his, self described, "Pilgrimage of Penance". Let us take this opportunity to build on the reflections offered by Pope Francis."

The National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples will be celebrated on December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas.

- Download/print [this reflection](#) from the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council

Papal Visit Updates

Pope Francis completes his Apostolic Journey to Canada from July 23-29, 2022. On this pilgrimage of penance the Holy Father made a series of public statements regarding Indigenous reconciliation and healing. Find all links to the Pope's messages, news, photos and livestream of the events here: www.catholiccyyc.ca (front page)

Marriage Preparation Courses

- For marriage preparation courses in the fall, see our Diocesan page where couples can choose the appropriate date, register and pay for the course: catholiccyyc.ca/marriageprep

Employment opportunity

There are a number of employment opportunities that are currently available in the Diocese of Calgary and beyond.

- **NEW:** Volunteer Screening Coordinator/Office Assistant (PT) - St. James, Calgary
- Caretaker (FT) - St. Bonaventure, Calgary
- Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper (FT) - St. Mary's, Brooks
- **NEW:** Research & Resource Development Assistant - CCCB, Office of Family & Life

Please visit catholiccyyc.ca/careers for more information and application details.

Other Resources & Events

1. Pastoral Care: The Art of Accompaniment

Join Fr. Timothy Boyle in a monthly reflection on ministry, pastoral care, and the art of accompaniment,

inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis. Starts: **Tuesday, Sep. 20 at 10:30 am** at St. Martha's Church in Lethbridge, or join via livestream. [Download Poster](#)

2. **Bereavement: Support & Care Training**

The Diocese of Calgary is offering a training opportunity in providing bereavement support and care. When/where: **Saturday, Oct. 1 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm** at **St. Luke's** (1566 Northmount Drive NW, Calgary). [Register online here](#) or by contacting Sr. Mariflor at 403-218-5521. Please register by **Sep. 26**. For more information, visit: catholiccyyc.ca/pastoralcare | [Download poster](#)

3. **Angels on High Hike & Camping Weekend**

[Angels on High](#) is an exciting outdoor adventure (in Kananaskis) consisting of priests and community members with a goal to raise funds used to help build St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church building in Chestermere. When: Sep. 16 to 18 (hike on Sep. 17). [Sign up for the journey to camp and /or hike](#) or [Make a donation](#)

4. **8 Prayers from John Chrysostom (Feast Day: Sep. 13) that get right to God's heart** | These short prayers attributed to St. John Chrysostom are known as "arrow" prayers: little reminders during the day that we are always in the presence of the Father. [Read more](#)

5. **Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (Sep. 14)**

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross may appear at first glance to be a strange celebration on September 14. It is entirely removed from the season of Lent and located near the end of Ordinary Time. Why is that? [Read more](#)

6. **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows (Sep. 15)**

We make a mistake if we think that because Mary is the Mother of God that this somehow meant that she escaped the more painful experiences of life. The presentation of the Mother of God as Our Lady of Sorrows is a dramatic display to us of the full implications of the Incarnation for the woman who loved him most in all the world. [Read more](#)

7. **St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian (Feast Day: Sep. 16)**

Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian were contemporaries and friends who supported one another in a time of ecclesial divisions and imperial persecution. [Read more](#)

8. **August/September 2022 Calendar Highlights**

- **Sep 10** | [Come & See with Poor Clares](#)
- **Sep 15, 19 & 26** | [Mary: A Biblical Walk](#) - Bible Study online
- **Sep 16** | [Angels on High Hike & Camping Weekend](#)
- **Sep 17** | [Enrichment Day with Bishop Henry](#) at the Divine Mercy Centre
- **Sep 17** | [Hunger: A Collaborative Response Conference](#) at STMU
- **Sep 17** | [Serra Calgary club meeting](#) with special guest Bishop McGrattan
- **Sep 17** | [Used Book Sale](#) at Holy Spirit Parish, Calgary
- **Sep 19** | [Spiritual Direction](#): What is it and how it helps at FJC Centre
- **Sep 20** | [Pastoral Care: The Art of Accompaniment](#) (online & at St. Martha's Lethbridge)
- **Sep 22** | [An evening of Reconciliation and openness](#) with Fr. Cristino at FCJ Centre
- **Sep 23** | [Marriage Preparation](#) (virtual) weekend
- **Sep 25** | [World Day of Migrants & Refugees](#)
- **Sep 25** | [Secular Franciscan Information Session](#)
- **Sep 30** | [Mass for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#) with Bishop McGrattan - St. Mary's Cathedral
- To **submit your parish/lay association events** - go to catholiccyyc.ca/news and click "Add Event"

The Kids' Bulletin

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 11th, 2022

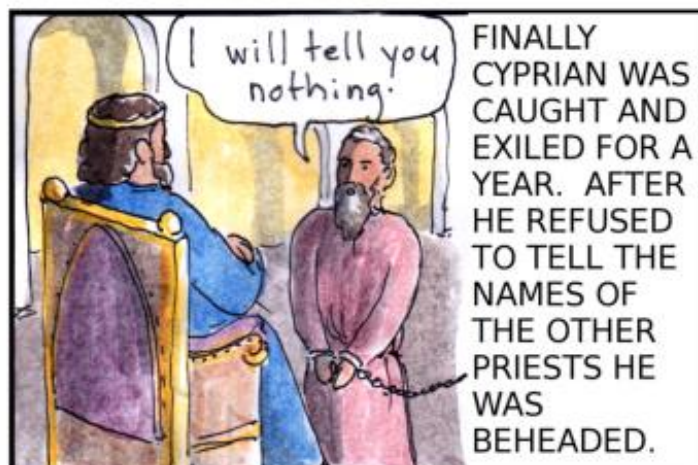
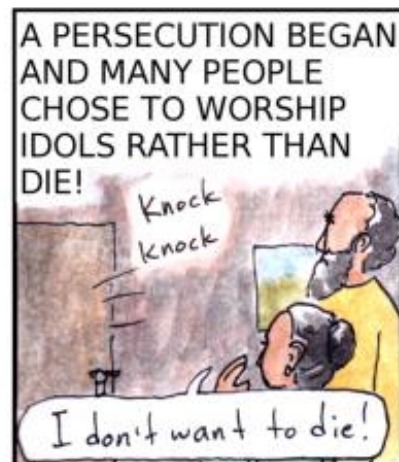
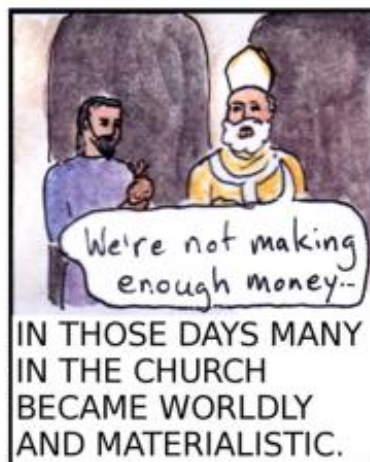
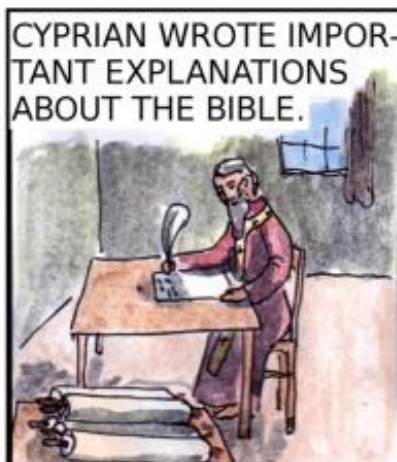
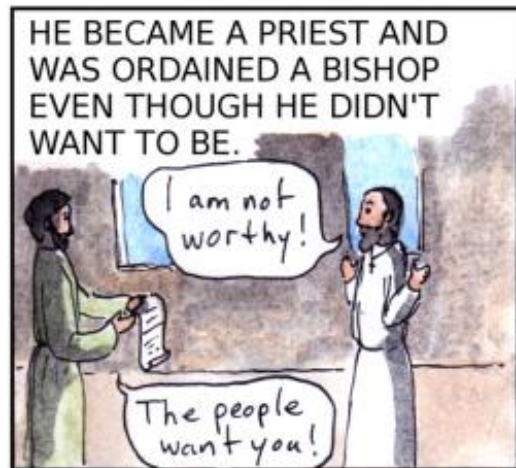
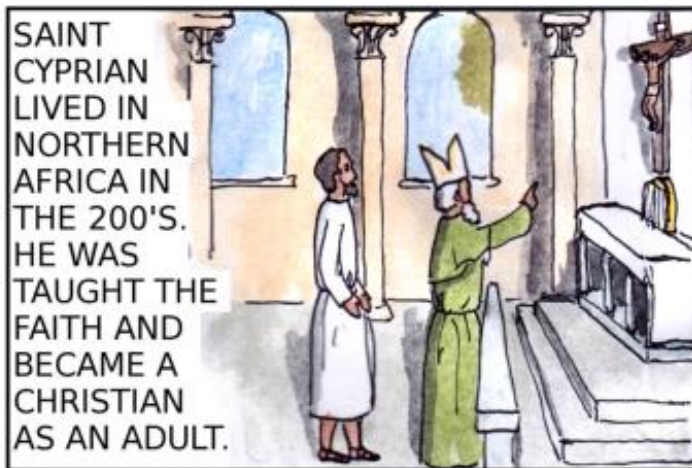


Luke 15:1-32

*Jesus told us that God is like a shepherd
that cares for every one of His sheep.
There are some sheep lost in this picture.
Can you find them?
Then you can colour in the rest of the picture.*

Saint Cyprian

September 16



SAINT CYPRIAN TAUGHT MANY PEOPLE WITH HIS LETTERS AND EXPLANATIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE. THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD, SO WE CAN LEARN A LOT ABOUT HIM BY READING IT. TRY TO READ SOME OF THE BIBLE EVERY DAY. PRAY TO ST. CYPRIAN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD IS TEACHING US IN IT.

Fill in the Blanks:

The Lost Coin

Here is part of today's Gospel reading. See if you can fill in the blanks and use the marked letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she — — — — one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

And when she has — — — — it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I — — — — found the coin which I had lost.'

Just so, I — — — — you, there is joy before the angels of God over one — — — — — — who repents."

This parable helps to show us how much God *each of us.*



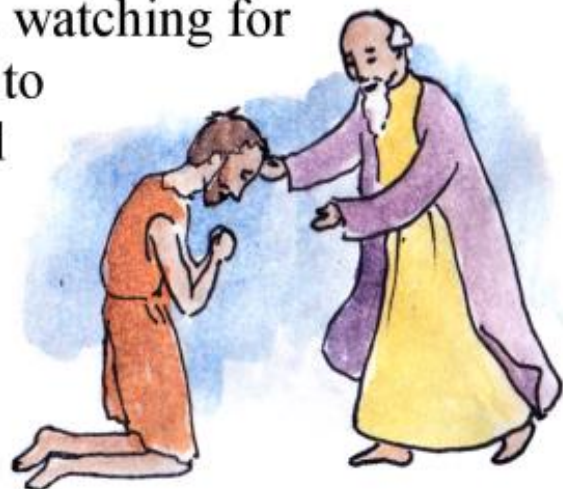
God Wants Everyone to Come Back to Him



In today's Gospel we hear three parables. In the first Jesus tells about the shepherd who lost one of his hundred sheep. But even though he had so many, he still cared about the one that was lost and went out to find it. God is like that too: even though He has so many people to look after He still cares about you in particular.

The next parable is similar, with the woman searching all over her house when she loses one of her special coins. She rejoices when she finds it, just like the angels rejoice in Heaven when a sinner turns back to God.

The last parable that Jesus tells is the story of the prodigal son. We are like the son in that story when we run away from God by sinning. But like the father, God is waiting and watching for us to be sorry and come back to Him. All we have to do is tell Him we are sorry for our sins in Confession and He will be so happy to have us back!



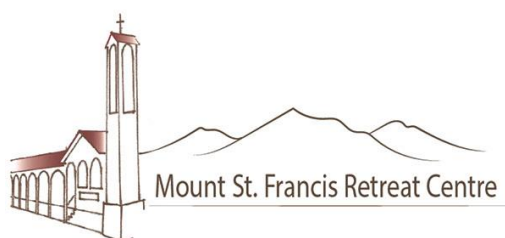
Answers: Front page: there are 5 sheep.
Fill in the blanks: loses, found, have, tell, sinner.
LOVES

Retreat Centers in Southern Alberta

AN "OASIS" IN THE HEART OF CALGARY

FCJ Retreat & Conference Centre is seen by many as a spiritual home where God feels very present both in the building and the surrounding landscape, and every year welcomes thousands of visitors to a unique experience of warm hospitality and deep spirituality.

Our hope is that those who come to the FCJ Centre will encounter God, whether in prayer, in the Word, in the silence and the beauty; and that this encounter will touch many other lives too.



Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre is nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains where we 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.

Martha Retreat Centre, situated on the edge of the beautiful Lethbridge coulees, is a ministry of the Martha Retreat Centre Society, which was established in 2018. Originally founded by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha of Antigonish, Nova Scotia in 1968, the Centre continues to be supported by and aligned with the mission of the Sisters of St. Martha: inspired by God's graciousness, we strive to hear, embrace and respond to the cry for gospel hospitality.

