



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

JANUARY 8, 2023 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR A

Email: contact@holymfamilymh.ca ~ Website: www.holymfamilymh.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: Isaiah 60.1-6

The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: 72.7-8, 10-13 (R. see 11b+Ps 98.3c)

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

Now the mystery has been revealed: now the Gentiles have become fellow heirs of the promise.

Gospel: Matthew 2.1-12

We have come from the East to pay homage to the King.

Travelers

The Magi brought gifts with them. Although King Herod was greatly troubled, Jesus and his parents did not fear these travelers. God was with them all. And God is with us and everyone even to this day.

- ★ Whom do I fear?
- ★ How can I be like Jesus and his parents and the Magi to accept everyone?
- ★ What will I do to assure pathways of peace for migrants, travelers, refugees, and aliens?

January 8, 2023 – The epiphany of the Lord - Year A

OPERATING FINANCES	
NOVEMBER 1-30, 2022	
Operating Budget 2022	\$ 59,708
General Envelope Collection	\$ 45,506
Loose Collections	\$ 2,391
Future Development	\$ 2,817
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 9,374
Budget Vs Actual	\$ 380
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 3,576
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,624
World Mission	\$ 95
Clergy Retirement	\$ 150
Mission Mexico	\$ 185
CARO	\$ 90
Seminary Fund	\$ 20
Catholic Education	\$ 1,730
Gift Sharing Sunday	\$ 2,485
<i>Thank You for your Generous Contributions</i>	
Average Weekly Attendance	771

December 31, 2022, Deadline

Goal \$70,938

total to date \$ 53,605.08



which is only 75%

Short \$ 17,332.92

Please Give Generously ~ Thank You!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- January 9 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room
Horizons of Hope Palliative Care Workshop
- January 9 ~ 7:00pm ~ HFP Hall
Knights of Columbus Meeting
- January 10 ~ 6:00pm ~ Faith Room
Catholic Women's League Meeting
- January 11 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room
RCIA
- January 12 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room
Grief Share
- January 12 ~ 6:00pm ~ Faith Room
Confirmation Class
- January 12 ~ 6:30pm ~ HFP Hall
1st Communion Parents Meeting
- January 13 ~ 9:30am ~ HFP Hall & Church
Notre Dame Academy Grade 6 Retreat
- January 14 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room
Benedictine Group Meeting
- January 15 ~ 9:30am & 11:30am ~ HFP Hall
Parish Breakfast after both Morning Masses
- January 15 ~ 10:15am ~ Faith Room
1st Communion Class
- January 16 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room
Horizons of Hope Palliative Care Workshop
- January 18 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room
RCIA
- January 19 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room
Grief Share

† Masses & Mass Intentions †

Saturday, January 7

8:30am ~ Joan Standish
5:00pm ~ Janice Bonar †

Saturday, January 8

8:30am ~ Tillie Krassman †
10:30am ~ John Kopp †
6:00pm ~ Holy Family Parish

Monday, January 9

9:00am ~ Jack Risling

Tuesday, January 10

9:00am ~ Elise Krooshoop †

Wednesday, January 11

9:00am ~ Allen Kaupp †

Thursday, January 12

9:00am ~ Lois Schantz †

Friday, January 13

9:00am ~ Ernie Weimer



We wish you a peaceful, blessed Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of God's only son, our Savior. May God bless you and remain close to you always. Thank you for your prayers and generous support throughout the year.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

(Email address for E transfers:
ssvpmehat@gmail.com)



Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation Class - HFP Faith Rm

Thursday, January 12 at 6:00pm

1st Communion Parent Meeting

Holy Family Parish Hall

Thursday, January 12 at 6:30pm

1st Communion Class

Holy Family Parish Faith Room

Sunday, January 15 at 10:15am



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools'
Education Foundation AGM



January 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
at Medicine Hat Catholic Board Office

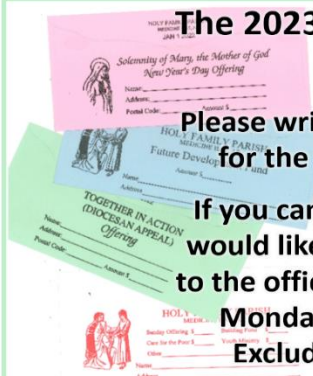
All public welcome to attend!

The 2023 Donation Envelopes are in
the Foyer

Please write your names on the envelopes
for the first few times you use them!

If you can't find your envelopes or if you
would like new envelopes for 2023, come
to the office during regular business hours.

Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm
Excluding Noon Hour and Holidays



Medicine Hat Pro-Life Association Notice of Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2023

7:30 pm

St. Patrick's Church Hall

For more information: George Ibach, 403-527-7434



A good chocolate bar \$3+
A good bottle of wine \$20+
A good meal dining out \$40+

Membership in The Catholic Women's League =
PRICELESS



"If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go
together". African Proverb

We are reminded that together we can make a difference.

A reminder to please pay your 2023 League membership
of \$40.00 as soon as possible.

HEALING & GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKSHOP

Friday, January 27th (6:30 p.m.) & Saturday, January 28th
(8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

Assumption Hall -2405 - 12 Avenue South, Lethbridge

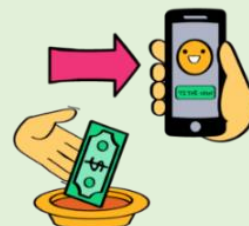
Friday Workshop: Receiving the infusion of the Holy Spirit.

Saturday Workshops: Tongues, Prophecy, Wisdom,
Knowledge, Resting in the Spirit & Intro to Healing.

Registration:

Email kfabbi@gmail.com or Ken 403-331-8923

E-Transfer Donations



accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

Sunday 10:30am Mass on YOUTUBE

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXddHj79rV6ut> Q



HORIZONS of HOPE

A TOOLKIT FOR CATHOLIC PARISHES ON PALLIATIVE CARE



Horizons of Hope is an educational resource to help understand and reflect upon end-of-life issues and to promote the need for excellent palliative care. It will assist in clarifying misinformation, and reverse the deceptive messaging found in this increasing culture of death. We invite you to attend the 4-module workshop program being offered in January 2023.

The Horizons of Hope program has been designed for:

- People seeking to learn more about palliative care and Catholic Church teaching on end-of-life;
- Individuals recently diagnosed with serious and/or terminal illness;
- Family members and friends seeking guidance and access to resources as they accompany the loved one faced with a serious or terminal illness;
- Medical professionals, caregivers;
- Members of pastoral care teams and other parishioners; and
- Parishes seeking to form a Compassionate Community program.

SCHEDULE

- **Monday, Jan 9 (7 to 9 pm)**
Module 1: Understanding the Human Experience of Dying and Death
- **Monday, Jan 16 (7 to 9 pm)**
Module 2: Discerning and Making Decisions at the End of Life
- **Monday, Jan 23 (7 to 9 pm)**
Module 3: Accompanying Those at the End of Life
- **Monday, Jan 30 (7 to 9 pm)**
Module 4: Supporting and Integrating Within the Wider Community

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

Pick from the following sites:

- Catholic Pastoral Centre
(120 17 Ave SW, Calgary)
- Ascension Parish, Calgary
- St Gerard Parish, Calgary
- St. Martha's Parish, Lethbridge
- Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat
- St James' Parish, Okotoks

FOR MORE INFORMATION
[CATHOLICYC.CA/
HORIZONSOFHOP](http://CATHOLICYC.CA/HORIZONSOFHOP)

REGISTRATION

To attend, register online at
catholiccyc.ca/horizonsofhope



Or call 403-218-5500



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

FORMED.org

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

LOG IN WWW.FORMED.ORG

- Go to Formed.org
 - Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**
Create a personal account with your personal username/email and password.
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- IMPORTANT: Do not sign up as an individual. Our parish access code provides more content than an individual subscription and it costs you nothing!**

Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

catholiccyc.ca/Faithfully

Faithfully keeps you updated with
what's happening in and around our
Diocese!



WILLIAM T. MCGRATTAN

BISHOP of CALGARY

December 14, 2022

St. John of the Cross, Memorial

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we prepare for the Solemnity of Christmas our focus is drawn to the mystery of the Incarnation, Jesus, the Word made Flesh. This taking on of our humanity by God in the Person of Jesus, serves to remind us of the inherent dignity of every human life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2258) states:

"Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains for ever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being."

The Government whose role is to protect our basic human rights, including the fundamental right to life from conception to natural death, has sought instead to expand access to physician-assisted suicide. This new legislation would now include those suffering with forms of mental illness and disabilities.

In responding to this current moral and social issue, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) formed a Joint Ad hoc Committee on Palliative Care. It was comprised of medical, theological, ethical, and pastoral experts who were united in addressing this culture of death. They developed **Horizons of Hope: A toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care**, an educational resource to help understand and reflect upon the many end-of-life issues we will face.

The **Horizons of Hope** program has been designed for:

- People seeking to learn more about palliative care and Catholic Church teaching on end-of-life;
- Individuals recently diagnosed with serious and/or terminal illness;
- Family members and friends seeking guidance and access to resources as they accompany the loved one faced with a serious or terminal illness;
- Medical professionals, caregivers;
- Members of pastoral care teams and other parishioners; and
- Parishes seeking to form a Compassionate Community program.

This program will allow parishioners to learn and reflect upon end-of-life issues and to promote the need for excellent palliative care. It will assist in clarifying misinformation, and reverse the

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY

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

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

deceptive messaging found in this increasing culture of death. This 4-module program is being offered simultaneously to all the faithful in our Diocese at several locations:

- **Module 1:** Understanding the Human Experience of Dying and Death - January 9 (7 to 9 pm)
- **Module 2:** Discerning and Making Decisions at the End of Life - January 16 (7 to 9 pm)
- **Module 3:** Accompanying Those at the End of Life - January 23 (7 to 9 pm)
- **Module 4:** Supporting and Integrating Within the Wider Community - January 30 (7 to 9 pm)

To register, please visit catholicyc.ca/horizonsofhope to participate in one of the following six sites:

- Catholic Pastoral Centre (120 – 17th Avenue SW, Calgary)
- Ascension Parish, Calgary
- St Gerard Parish, Calgary
- All Saints, Lethbridge
- Holy Family, Medicine Hat
- St James, Okotoks

The program will also be offered in February 2023 for the clergy and religious. It will address the specific pastoral and sacramental considerations they face in their ministry regarding end-of-life issues.

The Catholic Church remains opposed to euthanasia and as such stands for the dignity of every human life from conception to natural death. It will continue to support the conscience rights of health care professionals and all organizations in our society that protect and defend human life. Through this diocesan initiative it is my sincere hope that we can work together in bringing about a renewed culture of life that respects the inherent dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death.

May our Lord, who comes into this world as a humble and defenseless child, teach us to receive and protect the precious gift of life in every person.

Yours in Christ,



+William T. McGrattan
Bishop of Calgary

Monsignor McCoy High School

Monsignor McCoy High School is the only high school in the Medicine Hat Catholic School Division. We are privileged to be able to work with our Division's students who are closest to realizing their goal of achieving their High School Diploma and the completion of high school. This year, we have become home to a large number of international students, as well. Their involvement at our school has brought a wonderful dynamic of energy and diversity as they become a part of the fabric of our school and community. As a school community, our students are involved in charitable activities throughout the year, including donating turkey hampers to our families in need during the Christmas season.

Our school provides a wide variety of high-interest curricular and extracurricular programming that provides them with a transcript of experiences that better prepares them for their transition to work and post-secondary education. Along with traditional, in-class programming, Monsignor McCoy High School offers an array of online programming and a Learning Centre to support students who prefer to work outside of the classroom, or at home. St. Joseph's Education Centre, which runs out of our school, provides many different pathways for students to complete high school.

Our school also provides a full slate of extracurricular programming, including a Fine Arts Academy with eight different fine arts courses. All of our students also have the opportunity to take part in an annual musical production. We offer a Baseball Academy, and our students also participate in many different sports throughout the school year with great success, including provincial appearances by our golf and volleyball teams this fall. We look forward to your continued support of Monsignor McCoy High School with your prayers, your attendance at our events, and your financial support of our different projects.

UNDER SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE OF FR. IQBAL KHURSHID

MAY 13 – MAY 27, 2023 - 15 DAYS

\$5,290.00 INCLUDING TAXES AND TIPS (CALGARY DEPARTURE)

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN & FRANCE

CONNAISSANCE TRAVEL AND TOURS

3852 FINCH AVE EAST, SUITE #306, TORONTO ON, M1T 3T9, TEL: 416 291 2676

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT

Agnes: 416-418-3599 agnes@cttour.ca or Maria: 905-334-0559 maria@cttour.ca



Solemnity of Epiphany of the Lord ~ Year A

January 8, 2023

OUR DESIRE TO SEE THE LORD

Saint Leo the Great, Pope says “The loving providence of God determined that in the last days he would aid the world, set on its course to destruction. He decreed that all nations should be saved in Christ. A promise had been made to the holy patriarch Abraham in regard to these nations. He was to have a countless progeny, born not from his body but from the seed of faith. His descendants are therefore compared with the array of the stars. The father of all nations was to hope not in an earthly progeny but in a progeny from above. Let the full number of the nations now take their place in the family of the patriarchs. Let the children of the promise now receive the blessing in the seed of Abraham, the blessing renounced by the children of his flesh. In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judea only, but in the whole world, so that his name may be great in all Israel. Dear friends, now that we have received instruction in this revelation of God’s grace, let us celebrate with spiritual joy the day of our first harvesting, of the first calling of the Gentiles. Let us give thanks to the merciful God, who has made us worthy, in the words of the Apostle, to share the position of the saints in light, who has rescued us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. As Isaiah prophesied: the people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned. He spoke of them to the Lord: The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you.

He continues to reflect “This is the day that Abraham saw, and rejoiced to see, when he knew that the sons born of his faith would be blessed in his seed, that is, in Christ. Believing that he would be the father of the nations, he looked into the future, giving glory to God, in full awareness that God is able to do what he has promised. This is the day that David prophesied in the psalms, when he said: All the nations that you have brought into being will come and fall down in adoration in your presence, Lord, and glorify your

name. Again, the Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations, he has revealed his justice. This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ.

Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

The Magi travel towards Bethlehem. Their pilgrimage also speaks to us who are called to journey towards Jesus, for he is the North Star that lights up the sky of life and guides our steps towards true joy. Yet where did the Magi's pilgrimage to encounter Jesus begin? What made these men of the East set out on their journey? They had excellent reasons not to depart. They were wise men and astrologers, famous and wealthy. Having attained sufficient cultural, social, and economic security, they could have remained content with what they already knew and possessed. Instead, they let themselves be unsettled by a question and by a sign: "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star..." (Mt 2:2). They did not allow their hearts to retreat into the caves of gloom and apathy; they longed to see the light. They were not content to plod through life but yearned for new and greater horizons. Their eyes were not fixed here below; they were windows open to the heavens. As Benedict XVI said, the Magi were "men with a restless heart... They were filled with expectation, not satisfied with their secure income and their respectable place in society... They were seekers after God"

Where did it originate, this spirit of healthy restlessness that led them to set out on their journey? It was born of desire. That was their secret: the capacity to desire. Let us think about this. To desire means to fuel the fire that burns within us; it drives us to look beyond what is immediate and visible. To desire means embracing life as a mystery that surpasses us, as an ever-present cranny in the wall that beckons us to look into the distance, since life is not just our here and now, but something much greater. It is like a blank canvas that cries out for colour. A great painter, Vincent Van Gogh, once said that his need for God drove him to go outside at night to paint the stars. For that is the way God made us: brimming with desire, directed, like the Magi, towards the stars. With no exaggeration, we can say that we are what we desire. For it is our desires that enlarge our gaze and drive our lives forward, beyond the barriers of habit, beyond banal consumerism, beyond a drab and dreary faith, beyond the fear of becoming involved and serving others and the common good. In the words of Saint Augustine, "our entire life is an exercise of holy desire"

Brothers and sisters, as it was for the Magi, so it is for us. The journey of life and faith demands a deep desire and inner zeal. Sometimes we live in a spirit of a "parking lot"; we stay parked, without the impulse of desire that carries us forward. We do well to ask: where are we on our journey of faith? Have we been stuck all too long, nestled inside a conventional, external, and formal religiosity that no longer warms our hearts and changes

our lives? Do our words and our liturgies ignite in people's hearts a desire to move towards God, or are they a "dead language" that speaks only of itself and to itself? It is sad when a community of believers loses its desire and is content with "maintenance" rather than allowing itself to be startled by Jesus and by the explosive and unsettling joy of the Gospel. It is sad when a priest has closed the door of desire, sad to fall into clerical functionalism, very sad.

The crisis of faith in our lives and in our societies also has to do with the eclipse of desire for God. It is related to a kind of slumbering of the spirit, to the habit of being content to live from day to day, without ever asking what God really wants from us. We peer over earthly maps but forget to look up to heaven. We are sated with plenty of things but fail to hunger for our absent desire for God. We are fixated on our own needs, on what we will eat and wear (cf. *Mt* 6:25), even as we let the longing for greater things evaporate. And we find ourselves living in communities that crave everything, have everything, yet all too often feel nothing but emptiness in their hearts: closed communities of individuals, bishops, priests or consecrated men and women. Indeed, the lack of desire leads only to sadness and indifference, to sad communities, sad priests, or bishops.

Let us look first to ourselves and ask: How is the journey of my faith going? This is a question that we can ask ourselves today, each one of us. How is the journey of my faith going? Is it parked or is it on the move? Faith, if it is to grow, must begin ever anew. It needs to be sparked by desire, to take up the challenge of entering a living and lively relationship with God. Does my heart still burn with desire for God? Or have I allowed force of habit and my own disappointments to extinguish that flame? Today, brothers and sisters, is the day we should ask these questions. Today is the day we should return to *nurturing our desire*. How do we do this? Let us go to the Magi and learn from their "school of desire". They will teach us in their school of desire. Let us look at the steps they took and draw some lessons from them.

In the first place, they set out at the rising of the star. The Magi teach us that we need to set out anew each day, in life as in faith, for faith is not a suit of armour that encases us; instead, it is a fascinating journey, a constant and restless movement, ever in search of God, always discerning our way forward.

Then, in Jerusalem the Magi ask questions: they inquire where the Child is to be found. They teach us that we need to question. We need to listen carefully to the questions of our heart and our conscience, for it is there that God often speaks to us. He addresses us more with questions than with answers. We must learn this well: God addresses us more with questions than with answers. Yet let us also be unsettled by the questions of our children, and by the doubts, hopes and desires of the men and women of our time. We need to entertain questions.

The Magi then defy Herod. They teach us that we need a courageous faith, one that is unafraid to challenge the sinister logic of power and become seeds of justice and fraternity in societies where in our day modern "Herods" continue to sow death and slaughter the poor and innocent, amid general indifference.

Finally, the Magi return “by another way”. They challenge us to take new paths. Here we see the creativity of the Spirit who always brings out new things. That is also one of the tasks of the Synod we are currently undertaking: to journey together and to listen to one another, so that the Spirit can suggest to us new ways and paths to bring the Gospel to the hearts of those who are distant, indifferent or without hope, yet continue to seek what the Magi found: “a great joy”. We must always move forwards.

At the end of the Magi’s journey came the climactic moment: once they arrived at their destination, “they fell down and worshiped the Child”. They worshiped. Let us never forget this: the journey of faith finds renewed strength and fulfilment only when it is made in the presence of God. Only if we recover our “taste” for adoration will our desire be rekindled. Desire leads us to adoration and adoration renews our desire. For our desire for God can only grow when we place ourselves in his presence. For Jesus alone heals our desires. From what? From the tyranny of needs. Indeed, our hearts grow sickly whenever our desires coincide merely with our needs. God, on the other hand, elevates our desires; he purifies them and heals them of selfishness, opening them to love for him and for our brothers and sisters. Therefore, we should not neglect adoration, that prayer of silent adoration which is not so common among us. Please let us not forget adoration. In this way, like the Magi, we will have the daily certainty that even in the darkest nights a star continues to shine. It is the star of the Lord, who comes to care for our frail humanity. Let us set out on the path towards him. Let us not give apathy and resignation the power to drive us into a cheerless and banal existence. Let our restless hearts embrace the restlessness of the Spirit. The world expects from believers a new burst of enthusiasm for the things of heaven. Like the Magi, let us lift our eyes, listen to the desire lodged in our hearts, and follow the star that God makes shine above us. As restless seekers, let us remain open to God’s surprises. Brothers and sisters, let us dream, let us seek and let us adore. In this Christmas season now drawing to its close, let us not miss the opportunity to offer a precious gift to our King, who came to us not in worldly pomp, but in the luminous poverty of Bethlehem. If we can do this, his light will shine upon us.



Our Desire to see the Lord...

Solemnity of Epiphany of the Lord

DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

Epiphany of the Lord | Jan 8



Epiphany means “manifestation”, that moment when we suddenly understand something that previously was hidden from us. Christmas is about the Incarnation, the coming down of the Son of God to become human, one of us. Epiphany is the showing of the Christ Child’s divinity, which is beginning to manifest itself in the world.

- **Blessing of Homes**

The tradition of blessing doorways on Epiphany is inspired by the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, who followed the star to a manger in Bethlehem where the Messiah was made manifest for them in the person of a newborn child. The Magi showed great hospitality when they came to honour the Messiah.

- Here is a [simple prayer service](#) to use at home when blessing the doorway. Or [download it as PDF here](#)

- **Resources for individuals, families and children: Epiphany of the Lord**

- Prayer: [Gracious Lord, Child of Bethlehem](#)
- [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
- [Sunday Connection for the Epiphany of the Lord](#) (Gr. 1-8)

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: [CCCC 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](#)

Resources

- [Sacraments & Liturgies](#)
- [Spiritual Resources](#)
- [Sacrament Preparation](#)
- [Online Formation Opportunities](#)

[Children's Liturgy of the Word with Miss Heidi](#) (Catholic TV)

I am Blessed Campaign action items this year:

1. [Pray now](#) - Supporting others with prayer by praying in solidarity with them; ideas on what prayers to pray and what to do if others ask to pray for them.
2. [Act now](#) - Offering tips on how to be a good friend especially to those who are in need; getting familiar with services available in our midst as we may need to lead others to seek help.
3. [Give now](#) - Providing financial assistance online to programs and initiatives that empower others.
4. For Advent resources for individual, families or children, [visit our Advent Page](#)



One more reason to be thankful...

Since the beginning of October, over 100 school faith leaders and administrators from 91 CCSD schools have responded to the Bishop's call to accompany and prepare children and their families for the reception of the sacraments. During this season of Advent, over 1500 children in grade 3-9 have been brought to experience the depth of God's love in the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Thank you to all parents, pastors, catechists, schools and parish staff, volunteers, and all participating students with your involvement in the Extraordinary Sacrament Preparation Program (ESPP)! You have blessed us with your support and participation, and we could not have

reached these milestones without you!

- [Read our brief report on the Extraordinary Sacrament Preparation Program](#) (ESPP)

Worth sharing

The War in Ukraine

Ukraine and its people are still in crisis. Let us renew our efforts to pray, fast, and act. Together we can make a difference in the millions of lives of the children, men and women who are counting on us. Read the [Pastoral Letter from The Ukrainian Catholic Bishops of Canada](#) and kindly donate through your local parish or online at www.cnewa.org/c and www.devpo.org

Subscribe to Faithfully

If you haven't already, please subscribe to the [Diocesan publication Faithfully](#) - to keep you updated with what's happening in our Diocese. Faithfully gives a snapshot of faith at work in the lives of everyday people in our Diocese and provide us with opportunities to spread the Good News of Christ beyond the walls of our churches. New release is coming up this Monday! Subscribe at catholiccyc.ca/faithfully

National Synodal Report

We invite everyone to read the Synod on Synodality reports.. To read the Diocesan, Western Region and National reports, visit catholiccyyc.ca/synod

World Youth Day 2023

For information re: SFXC group that will be travelling to Lisbon, Portugal for [World Youth Day in 2023](#), contact SFXC at sfxc@calgarydiocese.ca

Pastoral Care: Accompanying in Conflict and Complicated Situations

Join Fr. Timothy Boyle in a monthly reflection on ministry, pastoral care, and the art of accompaniment, inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis. When: Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 10:30 am at St. Martha's Church in Lethbridge, or join via livestream: stmarthasparish.ca

Pastoral Letter for Young People (CCCB)

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has issued a Pastoral Letter to Young People in honour of the anniversary of the death of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the first beatified millennial. Read now at catholiccyyc.ca/blog.

Marriage Preparation Courses

Next course: Weekend of 12/14 at Ascension Parish, Calgary. For more dates, visit our Diocesan website where couples can choose the course date with access to registration and payment catholiccyyc.ca/marriageprep

Bishops of Canada deepen commitments for healing and reconciliation

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), gathered in the Plenary Assembly last week, agreed upon a series of next steps related to the painful legacy of residential schools. This work builds on previous commitments to promote access to records, educate clergy on Indigenous cultures and spirituality, and contribute \$30 million to healing and reconciliation initiatives across Canada. Read more at cccb.ca

National Synodal Report

We invite everyone to read the Synod on Synodality reports, which is the culmination of a sincere listening exercise that occurred in every diocese across the country. To read the Diocesan, Western Region and National reports, visit catholiccyyc.ca/synod

Faith Formation Courses

These formation opportunities will help you with your faith journey and to help you grow closer to Christ. Find a list of webinars and courses on our diocesan website [here](#).

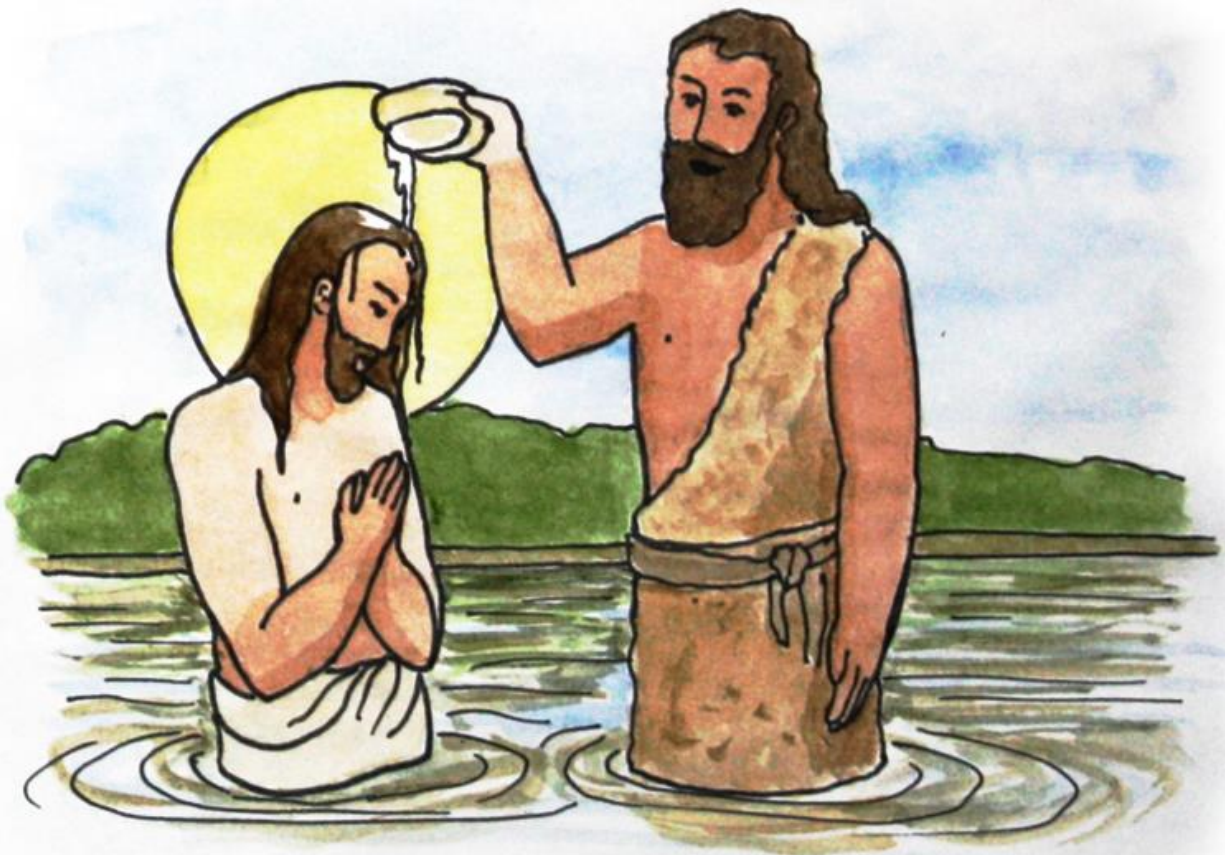
Catechesis webinar recordings from CCCB

The webinar recordings, PowerPoint presentations and guides for reflections are available [here on the CCCB website](#). They represent a rich collection of resources that can be used in diocesan/eparchial and parish settings for the formation of catechists and leaders in evangelization. Past Webinars:

- [Directory for Catechesis](#)
- [Nurturing Friendship: The Directory for Catechesis in Dialogue with the Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti*](#)
- [Encounters of Hope: The Process Of Evangelization In Our Daily Lives](#)
- [For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission](#)

The Kids' Bulletin

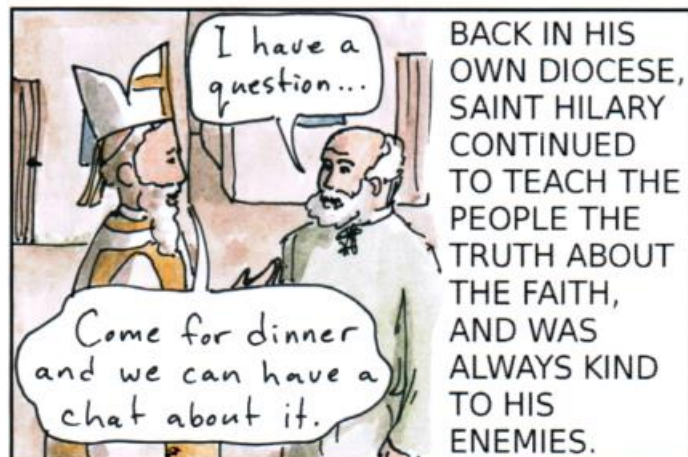
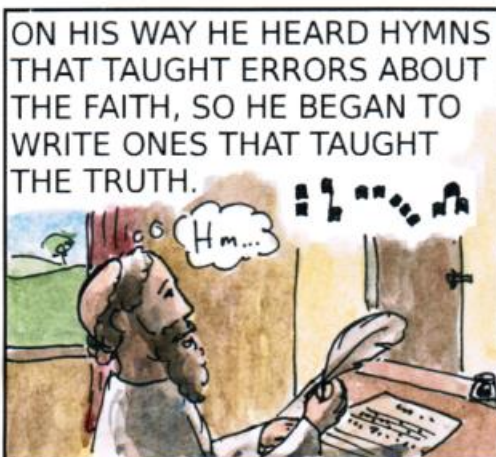
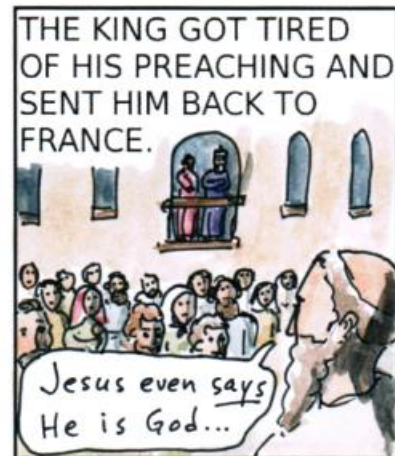
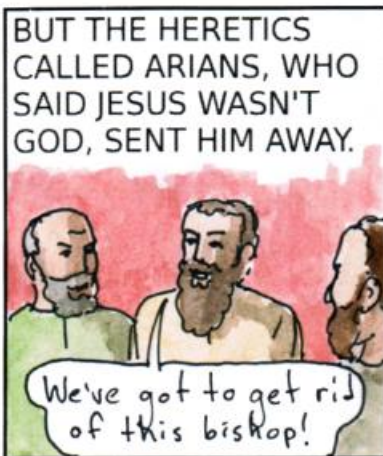
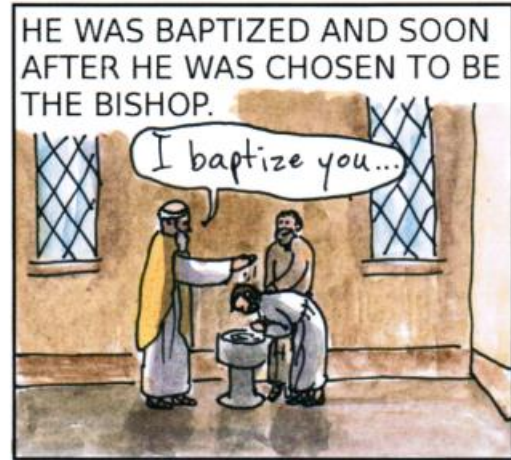
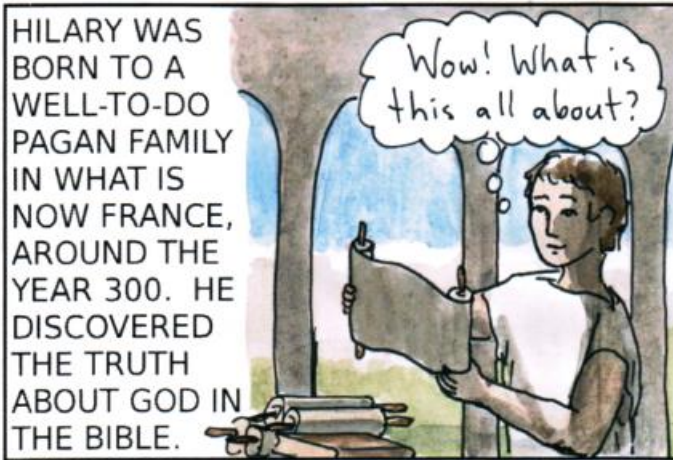
Epiphany Sunday January 8th, 2023
Baptism of the Lord January 9th, 2023



*What did Saint John the Baptist see
that showed him that Jesus was the Son of God?
Connect the dots to find out!*

Saint Hilary of Poitiers

January 13

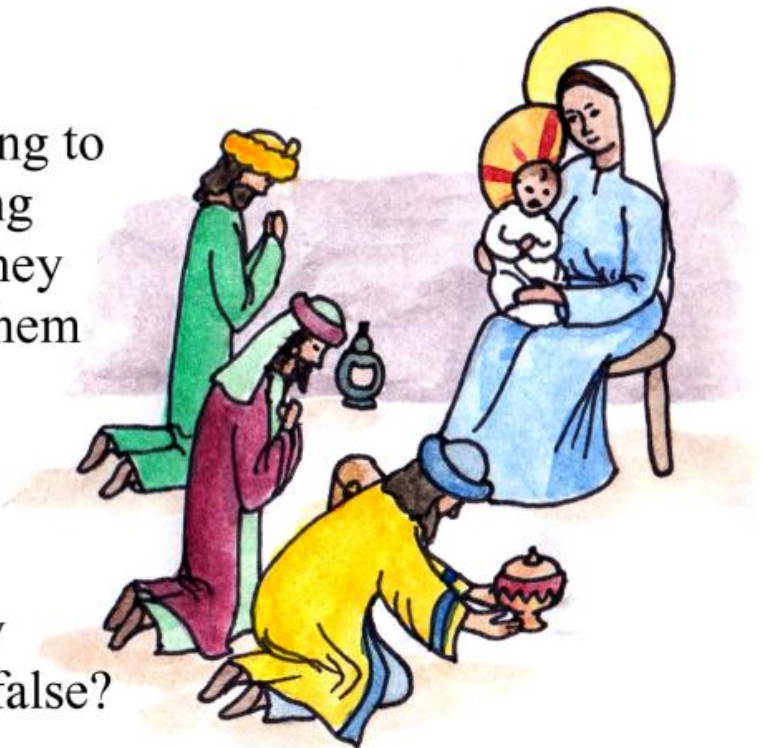


SAINT HILARY DIED AROUND THE YEAR 368. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIM THAT IT IS GOOD TO STUDY THE FAITH AND LEARN ABOUT GOD IN HARD TIMES. WE CAN ALSO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE BY SPEAKING THE TRUTH EVEN WHEN PEOPLE BOTHER OR PERSECUTE US BECAUSE OF IT.

Epiphany: True or False?

*How well do you know the story of the wise men?
Which of these are true and which are false?*

1. Wise men came from the West to find the Baby Jesus. True or false?
2. The wise men went and asked King Caesar where the Messiah would be born. True or false?
3. The king told them to come back and tell him where the Baby was once they had found Him so that he could go and worship Him. True or false?
4. When the wise men found the Child and His mother they bowed down and gave Him gifts. True or false?
5. The gifts they gave were gold, frankincense and myrrh. True or false?
6. When they were going to go back and tell the king where the Baby was, they had a dream that told them not to. True or false?
7. The wise men went back to their land by the same road that they had come on. True or false?



THE EPIPHANY AND BAPTISM OF JESUS

This week we celebrate both the Epiphany of our Lord and His baptism in the Jordan river. Today (Sunday) is the Epiphany, which is the day that we remember the wise men from far away in the East coming to worship the newborn baby Jesus. God let them know that His Son was coming and gave them a special star in the sky to follow to find Him. When they found Jesus with His mother Mary they knelt down and gave Him their precious treasures of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Tomorrow (Monday) we celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river. Jesus went to Saint John the Baptist, who was baptizing people and helping them repent from their sins. John knew that Jesus hadn't sinned but Jesus asked him to baptize Him anyway. This was the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Until this time He had been living a life hidden from the rest of the world.



Like the wise men, we can give Jesus our best treasure: ourselves! If we decide to live our lives for Jesus then we will show the love of Jesus by our love for others.

Answers to True or False: 1.false 2.false
3.true 4.true 5.true 6.true 7.false

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.



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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.

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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.





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.