



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

APRIL 2, 2023 – PALM SUNDAY - YEAR A

Email: [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Website: [www.holyfamilymh.ca](http://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

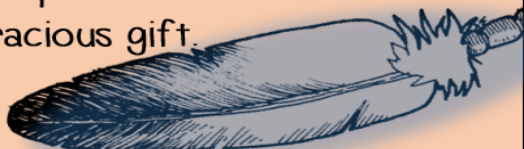
Knights of Columbus - Kirby Peterson

Catholic Women's League – Cathy Koch

Parish Pastoral Council Chair - Gary Heinbecker

Parish Finance Council 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.



## Being Humble

Jesus Christ shows us how to be humble today. So humble, that he “emptied himself”. This brought on entry into Jerusalem, passion, death, burial, and risen life.

- How will I, an empty and humble self, do some mercy work this Holy Week?
- How will I be a sign of humility to the elect preparing for Baptism at week's end?
- Let me save the times and come to be Church for the celebrations of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter.

## † Masses & Mass Intentions †



Saturday, April 1

8:30am ~ Ed Friedt †

5:00pm ~ Barney Zubot †

Sunday, April 2

8:30am ~ Marc Potvin †

10:30am ~ Theresa Streifel †

6:00pm ~ Holy Family Parish

Monday, April 3

9:00am ~ Karen Cook

Tuesday, April 4

9:00am ~ Ralph Immel †

6:30pm ~ Healing Mass

Wednesday, April 5

9:00am ~ Mary Buscholl †

Thursday, April 6

7:00pm ~ Byron Martin †

Friday, April 7

12:00pm ~ Passion of the Lord

3:00pm ~ Passion of the Lord

# APRIL 2, 2023 – PALM SUNDAY - YEAR A

## OPERATING FINANCES

### FEBRUARY 1-28, 2023

Operating Budget 2022	\$ 63,984
General Envelope Collection	\$ 44,155
Loose Collections	\$ 3,207
Future Development	\$ 3,233
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 7,523
<b>\$ 58,118 - Budget Vs Actual</b>	<b>\$ 5,866</b>

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,720
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 4,085
World Mission	\$ 25
Clergy Retirement	\$ 95
Mission Mexico	\$ 210
Seminary Fund	\$ 35
Ukrainian Relief	\$ 110
CARO	\$ 80

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

Average Weekly Attendance	912
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## Mark your Calendars!

- April 1 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Hall  
That Man is You!
- April 1 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Church  
Centen Mass
- April 1 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room  
Benedictine Group Meeting
- April 3 ~ 6:00pm ~ HFP Church  
Stations of the Cross ~ Filipino Community
- April 4 ~ 6:30pm ~ HFP Church  
Healing Mass
- April 5 ~ 8:00am ~ Faith Room  
Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
- April 5 ~ 9:00am ~ Faith Room  
Bible Study
- April 5 ~ 6:00pm ~ HFP Hall  
RCIA
- April 6 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Church  
Morning Prayer
- April 6 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room  
Grief Share Meeting
- April 6 ~ 7:00pm ~ HFP CHURCH  
Mass of the Lord's Supper
- April 7 ~ 12:00pm & 3:00pm HFP Church  
Passion of the Lord Service
- April 8 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Church  
Morning Prayer
- April 8 ~ 11:00am ~ HFP Church  
Blessing of the Easter Food
- April 8 ~ 8:00pm ~ HFP Church  
Easter Vigil
- April 9 ~ 8:30am & 10:30am ~ HFP Church  
Easter Mass ~ The Resurrection of the Lord
- April 10 ~ 8:30am ~ NO MASS TODAY



Year to Date: \$12,742.66  
only 18% of total needed!

The amount needed before end 2023 is \$70,938.

The more we can get into this fund early in the year,  
the less we must scramble and beg at the end of the  
year. Please give what you can to meet our goal!

*Your Generosity is Appreciated!*

**PALM SUNDAY MASS**  
**APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**  
**STARTS 5 MINUTES EARLY**

**Palm  
Sunday**





# HEALING MASS

"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY  
AND BURDENED..."

FIRST TUESDAY EACH MONTH AT 6:30PM

APRIL 4, 2023



## First Saturday Mass

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each Month

8:30 AM

## GriefShare



Are you or someone you know grieving the  
loss of a loved one?

Grief Share meets at Holy Family Parish,  
Thursdays at 2:00pm in the Hope Room...

Call Karen at 403-487-4893

## Sacramental Preparation

**Confirmation Class - HFP Faith Rm**

**Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

**1st Communion Parent Meeting**

**Holy Family Parish Hall**

**Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

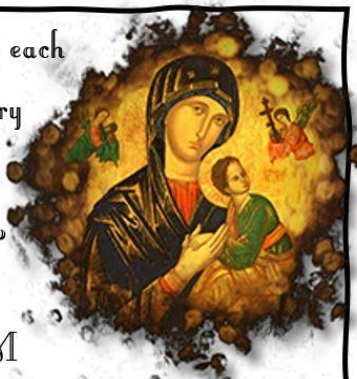
**1st Communion Class**

**Holy Family Parish Faith Room**

**Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:15am**



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



## THAT MAN IS YOU!

Holy Family Parish Hall

Breakfast 7:30am

Presentation

8:30 – 9:30 am

April 8, 2023

Theme:

The Pathway to Paradise

Presenter:

Mark Hartfiel



### "DEEPENING OUR FAITH IN GOD"

## BIBLE CAMP JULY 10 – 14, 2023

8:00 AM – 12:15 PM DAILY – \$25.00 INCLUDES A T-SHIRT TO KEEP  
AND A "BIG" HEALTHY SNACKS!

BIBLE THEMES, ANCHORED HABITS, DAILY CRAFT,  
CONFIDENCE / SELF ESTEEM, EXERCISE ETC.

MASS EVERY DAY AT 11:30 AM ~ THE COMMUNITY IS WELCOMED!  
REGISTRATION FORMS IN THE FOYER @ HOLY FAMILY PARISH  
CONTACT MJ 403-581-8004 OR MJ.RATH@YAHOO.COM



Hello to all!

Just a reminder that we  
will be taking a short break  
from children's liturgy!

We look forward to seeing  
the kids after the 10:30  
Palm Sunday Mass for an  
Easter Goody Bag.

See you back on April 16th!







**Loonies  
to date  
\$8,602.**



## 40 LOONIES FOR LENT



This year's theme for our 40 Loonies for Lent is Leave No Neighbor. Your donations will go to Medicine Hat Food Bank or what is now called the Root Cellar, Mustard Seed, Saint Vincent De Paul, 5th Avenue and Saint Barnabas Meal Programs.



**PALM SUNDAY MASS  
APRIL 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
STARTS 5 MINUTES EARLY**



*Divine Mercy Chaplet  
Daily after Morning Masses  
or 9:30am  
Up to Divine Mercy Sunday  
April 16 at 3:00pm*

*Stations of the*  
**CROSS**  
**6:00PM**  
**Friday, March 31 – ST. PAT'S SCHOOL**  
**GRADE 4 SHADOW PLAY IN HFP HALL**  
**Monday, April 3 – FILIPINO COMMUNITY**

*Lenten Masses  
Saturdays  
8:30am*



**Baptismal Font will be emptied  
during Holy Week**



**House Blessings can  
be booked during  
Easter Season.**

**HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>th</sup>  
MORNING PRAYER, 8:30AM**

**MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, 7:00PM FOLLOWED BY ADORATION  
UNTIL MIDNIGHT IN THE FAITH ROOM, AND RECONCILIATION IN  
CHARITY ROOM**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>**

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES, 12:00 NOON AND 3:00PM**

**SATURDAY APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>**

**MORNING PRAYER, 8:30AM**

**BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD, 11:00AM**

**EASTER VIGIL, 8:00PM**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>**

**EASTER SUNDAY MASS, 8:30AM, 10:30AM\***

**\*LIVESTREAM@ Youtube – Medicine Hat Holy Family Church**

# Holy Week 2023

*Incense will be used on Holy Thursday & Easter Vigil*







Save the Date Saturday,  
April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

A Celebration in Honor of  
Father Greg Coupal's  
50 years in the Priesthood  
St. Gerard's Parish in Calgary

More details as we get  
them!

50 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

To all former Schuler parishioners who were members of St Joseph's Parish in Schuler at the time that Fr Nestor Gregoire was parish priest and Fr Mike Dechant helped at Operation Sonlight Camp (mid 70's), you are invited to attend a reunion to visit and reminisce. The Come and Go Tea will be held at Holy Family Parish (enter through the hall doors) on Monday, April 10 from 1-4 pm. Please call Sandra Seitz (Schafer) to get more information at 403-529-5187 or email [csseitz58@gmail.com](mailto:csseitz58@gmail.com)



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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- 1 Scan this with your phone camera
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- 3 Enjoy the content you want

Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) for more information

**EMAIL SCAMS AGAIN FROM  
PREISTS, CHURCH, STAFF, ETC.  
NOBODY** is going to ask you for gift  
cards, or bit coins! **NOBODY!!!**  
If you get an email or a text, **PLEASE**  
**DO NOT RESPOND** to it,  
**JUST DELETE IT!**

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



E-transfer  
ONLINE GIVING



[accounting@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:accounting@holyfamilymh.ca)

*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

[catholiccyc.ca/Faithfully](http://catholiccyc.ca/Faithfully)

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



**Walk the Stations of the Cross  
Good Friday beginning at 10 am  
Covenant Health St. Joseph's Home  
156 3rd St. NE.**

**Entrance at Rear Driveway**

**Dress for the Weather**

**If the weather is poor, the Stations will be  
held indoors at St. Patrick's Church.**

**Everyone is Welcome.**



**The Catholic Women's League**

**We will be celebrating our 20th Anniversary  
& Our Lady of Good Counsel Feast Day  
Wednesday April 26, 2023  
Mass at 6:00 pm followed by a Social in HFP Hall.**



**The Catholic Women's League**

**CWL Annual Spring Bottle Drive  
Saturday April 22 & Sunday April 23**

**Thank you SO VERY MUCH  
for all you support**

**FUNDRAISING**



**Questions? Call MJ at 403-581-8004**

### **Holy Communion to the Hospital**

**Volunteers are needed to bring Holy Communion to  
parishioners, in hospital, who desire to receive Jesus in  
the Eucharist. Training will be provided.**

**If you have a family member or friend who is in hospital  
and is requesting Holy Communion, please phone the  
Parish Secretary with the name and room number of the  
parishioner. The information will be forwarded to  
Pastoral Care. Thank you!**



### **Mother Teresa School**

**Mother Teresa School has a total population of  
approximately 240 children in K-6 and we also  
have an Early Learning Program on site for our  
littlest learners.**

**Our school offers a full range of academic  
subjects and programs. We offer Music at all  
levels, Choir, Daily Physical Activity, and an  
Out of School Care program that can be**

**accessed by our K-6 students for all their before and after school care  
needs. We have an active Student Council to promote student leadership  
in and out of the school and this year we've added a Student Faith  
Leadership Committee as well as a Student Health & Wellness Leadership  
Committee. There are a variety of ways for students to become involved at  
the school and take an active leadership role in our building.**

**Change is on the horizon for 2023-2024 where our goal will be to shift gears  
towards the implementation of a comprehensive Health and Wellness  
program. As a school team, we will be diving deep into this idea throughout  
the course of the 2022-2023 school year so that we are adequately prepared  
for full implementation next fall. This Health and Wellness program will  
involve students, staff, and school community members with a goal of  
promoting better overall health for all.**

**Mother Teresa School would not be what it is without the support of our  
parents, community members and, of course, our parish. We encourage all  
stakeholders to continue to communicate with us at school. Your opinions  
matter!**







Palm Sunday (6th Sunday of Lent) Year A

March 26, 2023

### LET US WALK WITH HIM

Today we begin our Holy Week: a solemn celebration of our Lord's Passion, death, and Resurrection. All four gospels mention the triumph entry of the Lord to Jerusalem. Is it the only time Jesus has come to Jerusalem? If not, then why does this entry have importance for the Evangelists? The Gospel according to St. Luke mentions that Jesus was in Jerusalem when He was 12 in accordance with the custom of his parents who used to come every year to participate in the solemn celebration of Passover. If so, then what is the importance and significance of Jesus's entry to Jerusalem? The Psalmist is inviting everyone to "Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory" (Psalm 24:7-10). Palm Sunday is a day where we all come together to rejoice in the Lord that he has taken the journey of our salvation as Prophet Zechariah says "Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey: (Zechariah 9:9).

Today as Lord takes on the important journey of his life to suffer and die for us, he wants to understand that he is Emmanuel who is not with us but also keeps encouraging us: "Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord. Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst. And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. The Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem. Be silent, all people, before the Lord; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling" (Zechariah 2:10-13). His triumphant entry to Jerusalem is helping us to understand that in our pain and suffering, he is there to console us "Do not let your hearts be troubled, believe in God and believe also in me" (John 14:1). He keeps calling us "Come to

me all that are weary and crying heavy burden and I will give you rest". Prophet Zephaniah encourages us to rejoice in the Lord who has the power to restore everything back: "Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more on that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing" (3:14-17).

There was a father who left 17 camels as an asset for his three sons. When the father passed away, his sons opened the will. The Will of the father stated that the eldest son should get half of 17 camels while the middle son should be given  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> (one-third). The youngest son should be given  $\frac{1}{9}$ <sup>th</sup> (one-ninth) of the 17 camels.

As it is not possible to divide 17 into half or 17 by 3 or 17 by 9, three sons started to fight with each other. How can they divide their father's inheritance?

Do you have any thoughts about how to divide 17 camels among three sons as prescribed in their father's will?

You may take your time to think before reading further...

So, three sons decided to go to a wise man.

The wise man listened patiently about the whole matter i.e. dividing 17 camels as follows:  $\frac{1}{2}$  to the eldest son,  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> to the middle son and  $\frac{1}{9}$ <sup>th</sup> to the youngest – How is it possible? So, the wise man, after giving this thought, brought one camel of his own and added the same to 17. That increased the total to 18 camels.

Now, he started reading the deceased father's will.

Half of 18 = 9. So, he gave the eldest son 9 camels.

$\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of 18 = 6. So, he gave the middle son 6 camels.

$\frac{1}{9}$ <sup>th</sup> of 18 = 2. So, he gave the youngest son 2 camels.

Now add this up: 9 plus 6 plus 2 is 17 and this leaves one camel, which the wise man took away.

This journey of our Lord is one of inheritance left behind us to have our own share in his death and resurrection. There are many aspects related to his journey towards Jerusalem. He is riding on the donkey (shows his humility) and people are spreading their clothes on the ground and shouting Hosanna, Hosanna... However, there are some very important aspects to remember. This entry of Jesus to Jerusalem has exposed the real faces of people. First, it has exposed the faces of his own disciples who used to claim that even if they must die with him or for him, they will, but when the time came, what did they do? One of them sold him for 30 pieces of silver, other denied him completely by saying he doesn't know him at all. Some of them ran away when he was arrested by the Roman Authorities. Don't we do the same? We do because we have no guts to stand for him. We like to serve both; him and the world. The world is divided into two with the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem. Why so? I believe this is the final moment of Jesus' life before



he will be arrested, mocked, derided, beaten, crucified and die. In Jerusalem, the conflict started right with the birth of Jesus as the whole Jerusalem was shocked and shaken to hear about a new king was born. The leaders of the nation did not like what Jesus was doing and they always stood against him. But with the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem, as Gospels narrate that they plotted against him how to kill him as the Psalmist says, "For I hear the whispering of many— terror all around! —as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life" (Psalm 31:13, and please read Wisdom 4:10-15; Jeremiah 18:18-23).

We betray him when we refuse to stand for our faith because we don't want to offend others. Secondly, there is a test for people who are shouting Hosanna, Hosanna. The same crowd because of the fear will be shouting Crucify him, Crucify him. Are we not doing the same thing right now? I believe we do because we have failed to understand what is right and what is wrong. Since we don't want to be excluded from our relationships, we continue to join the society and do what others are doing. People who are advocating immoral things, Right has become Wrong and Wrong and has become Right and unfortunately, we have fallen into the same trap.

This journey in which we walk with the Lord, should have become the source of unity and love but it became the journey of tests for everyone. Is it easy to walk with the world when we asked to shut down our voices and not to speak about Jesus. Vatican II reminds us that See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah... I will plant my law within them and inscribe it in their hearts. I will be their God and they shall be my people... All shall know me, from the least to the greatest, says the Lord. It was Christ who established this new covenant, the New Testament in his blood, calling into being, from Jews and Gentiles, a people that was to form a unity, not in human fashion but in the Spirit, as the new people of God. Those who believe in Christ, reborn not of corruptible but of incorruptible seed through the word of the living God, not from the flesh but from water and the Holy Spirit, are constituted in the fullness of time as a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people God has made his own, once no people but now the people of God. This messianic people has Christ as its head: Christ who was given up for our sins and rose again for our justification; bearing now the name that is above every name, he reigns in glory in heaven. His people enjoy the dignity and freedom of the children of God, in whose hearts the Holy Spirit dwells as in a temple. They have as their law the new commandment of loving as Christ himself has loved us. They have as their goal the kingdom of God, begun on earth by God himself and destined to grow until it is also brought to perfection by him at the end of time, when Christ, our life, will appear, and creation itself will be freed from slavery to corruption and take on the freedom of the glory of God's children. This messianic people, then, though it does not in fact embrace all mankind and often seems to be a tiny flock, is yet the enduring source of unity, hope and salvation for the whole human race. It is established by Christ as a communion of life, of love and of truth; it is also used by him as an instrument for the redemption of all and is sent out into the world as the light of the world and the salt of the earth. The Israel of old was already called the



Church of God while it was on pilgrimage through the desert. So, the new Israel, as it makes its way in this present age, seeking a city that is to come, a city that will remain, is also known as the Church of Christ, for he acquired it by his own blood, filled it with his Spirit, and equipped it with appropriate means to be a visible and social unity. God has called together the assembly of those who in faith look on Jesus, the author of salvation and the principle of unity and peace, and so has established the Church to be for each and all the visible sacrament of this unity which brings with it salvation”.

We must understand as we begin our Holy Week with Palm Sunday that our lives have been bought by the Blood of Christ and must walk with him everyday in the midst of our persecutions because St. Paul says, “no one can separate us from the Love of Christ”. St. Andrew of Crete keep encouraging us; “Let us run to accompany him as he hastens toward Jerusalem, and imitate those who met him then, not by covering his path with garments, olive branches or palms, but by doing all we can to prostrate ourselves before him by being humble and by trying to live as he would wish. Then we shall be able to receive the Word at his coming, and God, whom no limits can contain, will be within us”.

In his humility Christ entered the dark regions of our fallen world and he is glad that he became so humble for our sake, glad that he came and lived among us and shared in our nature to raise us up again to himself. And even though we are told that he has now ascended above the highest heavens—the proof, surely, of his power and godhead—his love for man will never rest until he has raised our earthbound nature from glory to glory and made it one with his own in heaven. So, let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him. We who have been baptized into Christ must ourselves be the garments that we spread before him. Now that the crimson stains of our sins have been washed away in the saving waters of baptism and we have become white as pure wool, let us present the conqueror of death, not with mere branches of palms but with the real rewards of his victory. Let our souls take the place of the welcoming branches as we join today in the children’s holy song: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel.

Lastly a test for the bandits who are with him on the cross. One of them knows what he did was absolutely wrong however the other was not ready to accept or repent from what he had done wrong. He was accusing and mocking Jesus. Isn’t it our own story? I guess so, because we have learned to blame others rather than accepting our failures and sins. Whatsoever, the conclusion of this journey is so powerful, in spite of the unfaithfulness of the people, he showed his love for us by dying on the Cross. He has reminded us “There is no greater love than to lay your own life for the sake of one’s friend”.

One Easter Sunday morning, a pastor came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Several eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, the pastor began to speak.



"I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me, swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright. I stopped the lad and asked, "What you got there, son?"

"Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you gonna do with them?" I asked.

"Take 'em home and have fun with 'em. I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time."

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?"

"Oh, I got some cats. They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?"

"Huh??!!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing - they ain't even pretty!"

"How much?"

The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten-dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone.

The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free.

Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story.

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting.

"Yes, sir, I just caught the world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other. How to hate and abuse each other. How to drink and smoke and curse. How to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you get done with them?", Jesus asked.

"Oh, I'll kill 'em."

"How much do you want for them?"

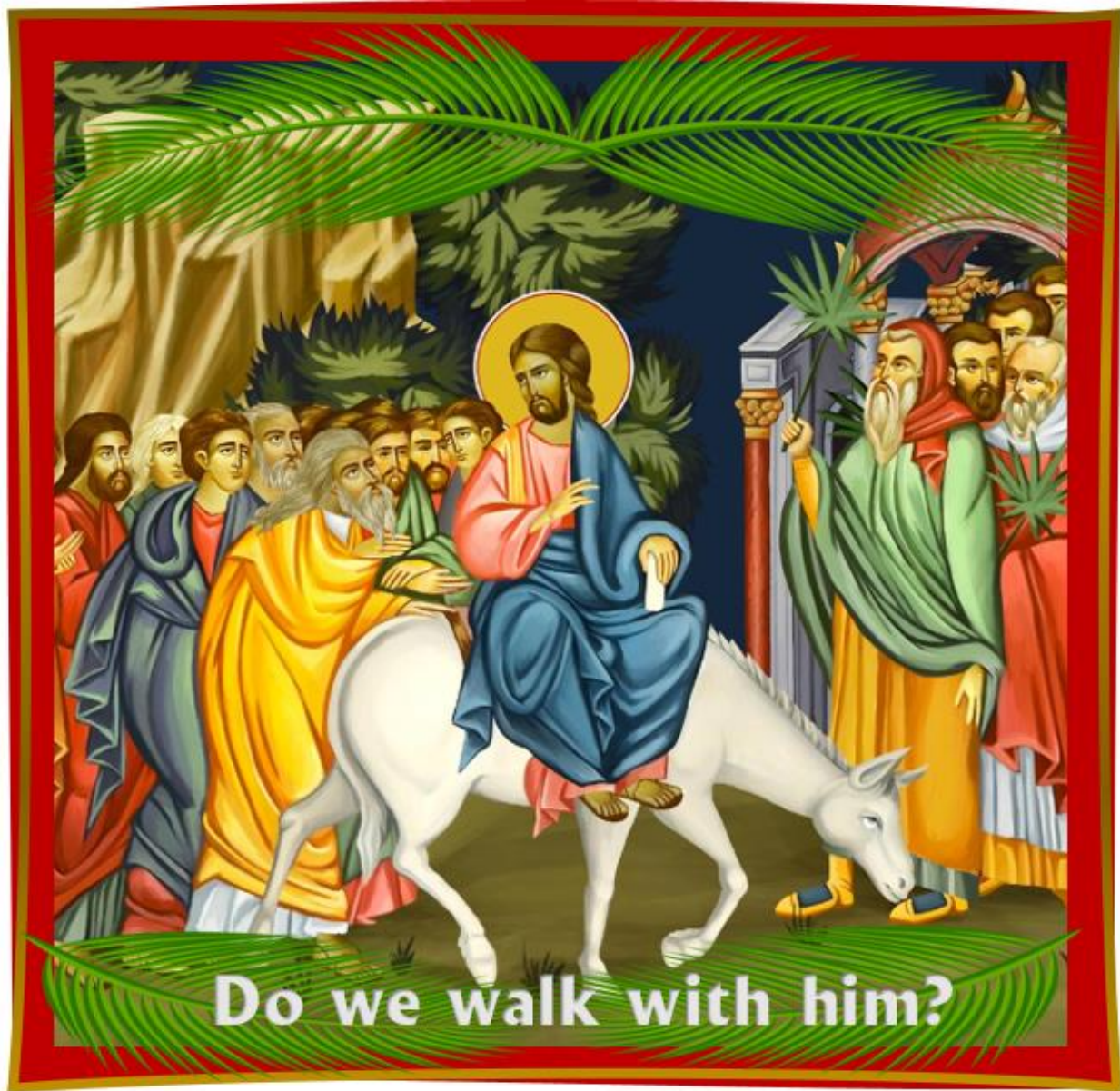
"Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, if you take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you!! You don't want those people!!!"

"How much?"

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your tears, and all your blood." Jesus paid the price. The pastor picked up the cage he opened the door and he walked from the pulpit.

That's why Palm Sunday invites us to walk with him because "he will take all our iniquities and infirmities onto him" as Prophet Isaiah says. He has saved us from the fear of death and have given us new life to rejoice in him. May the Loving Saviour who died and suffered for us, help us to journey with him so that we may bear fruit for everlasting life. Amen





We are looking for 4 members to join Parish Pastoral Council. If anyone is interested, please contact Fr. Iqbal or Mr. Gary Heinbecker (PPC Chair) via office or email. Following are the requirements to join PPC: Must be baptized catholic and registered member of the parish at least for 1 year or more. A person appointed as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council holds office for a three-year term from the date he or she is appointed.

A member of the Parish Pastoral Council may be reappointed for a second three-year term. At the conclusion of the second three-year term, the Parish Pastoral Council member will not sit on the Council for a period of two years. Following the two-year Sabbath, s/he may be appointed for another three-year term.

A member ceases to serve as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council if s/he is convicted of an indictable offence or is absent from three consecutive meetings without authorization by motion, contravenes the Code of Conduct in this Guideline or fails to support Catholic teaching and tradition. Any one of these circumstances shall lead to disqualification as determined by the Pastor and the sitting Parish Pastoral Council member will forfeit their membership.

# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

## PALM SUNDAY/EASTER SUNDAY

### Holy Week & Triduum with Bishop McGrattan

All are welcome! Bishop McGrattan will celebrate the following liturgy at St. Mary's Cathedral:

- Chrism Mass, Monday, April 3 at 7 pm (Doors open at 6 pm)
- Holy Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm
- Good Friday, April 7 at Noon and 3 pm
- Easter Vigil, April 8 at 8pm
- Easter Sunday, April 9 at Noon

### Pastoral Centre hours during Easter break

- Holy Thursday, Apr 6, 8:30 am to Noon
- Good Friday, Apr 7- Closed
- Easter Monday, Apr 10- Closed
- Tuesday, Apr 11 open as usual

### Braiding Together: Bishop McGrattan's reflections on Pope Francis' pilgrimage to Canada

On His pilgrimage to Canada in July of 2022, the Holy Father engaged with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples in a very direct and intimate manner, offering his apology and learning from each encounter. Bishop McGrattan was instrumental in the preparations for the visit and accompanied the Holy Father during his time in our country. He has distilled his own reflections into ten key messages which he will present and discuss with us. Please join us at St. Peter's Parish, 541 Silvergrove Drive NW, Calgary on **Saturday, April 15th** as we walk together on the journey of healing, truth-telling and reconciliation. Bishop McGrattan will celebrate the 8:30 am Mass, followed by his presentation.

### Holy Family Conference

**April 28th & 29th**

### Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies

**Theme: *"It Takes a Family to Heal a Family"***

All are welcome to attend this two day conference at Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore, beginning with Mass at 7 pm on Friday, April 28th and continuing on Saturday, April 29th.



**Facilitator:** Lyle Thorne

**Speakers:** Father Paul Moret, Chief Wilton Littlechild, Karen Wildcat, and Deacon Ed Mending

**Topics:** Holy Cloak of St. Joseph, Truth & Reconciliation, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Works of Mercy, Prison Ministry.

**Cost:** \$40.00/adult or \$50.00 for family of four (\$10.00 for each additional child)

**Contact:** Lyle Thorne at 1-780-915-6091 or [ourhope@telus.net](mailto:ourhope@telus.net) to register

## Priestly Ordination of Santiago Torres

Rev. Mr. Santiago Torres, a transitional deacon currently completing studies at St. Joseph Seminary, Edmonton, has been called to ordination to the Holy Priesthood at St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary, on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, **Friday, June 16, 2023 at 7 pm**

## Career opportunities

### **Catholic Pastoral Centre:**

- Bookkeeper (Full-time)
- Senior Accountant (Full-time)

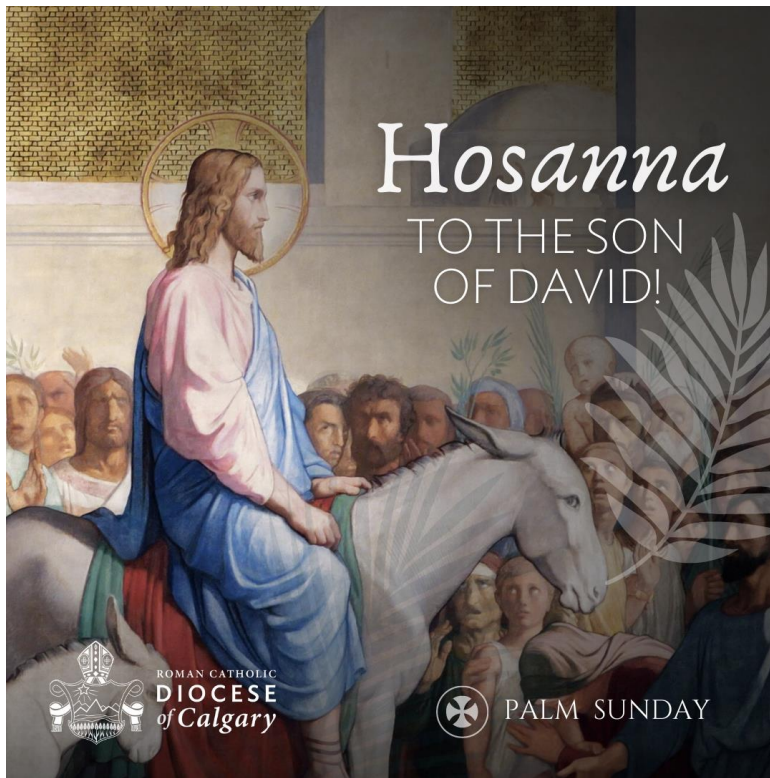
### **Parishes in the Diocese of Calgary:**

- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - St. Pius X, Calgary
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Calgary
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - Sacred Heart, Strathmore
- Children's Liturgy Coordinator (Casual) - St. Michael Catholic Community, Calgary

Please visit [catholiccyyc.ca/careers](https://catholiccyyc.ca/careers) for more information and application details.

## Subscribe to Faithfully

If you haven't already, please subscribe to the [Diocesan publication Faithfully](https://catholiccyyc.ca/faithfully) - to keep you updated with what's happening in our Diocese. Get a snapshot of faith at work in the lives of everyday people in our Diocese and find opportunities to spread the Good News of Christ beyond the walls of our churches. Subscribe at [catholiccyyc.ca/faithfully](https://catholiccyyc.ca/faithfully)



Today we hear about an amazing thing that Jesus does when his friend Lazarus becomes sick and dies. Jesus tells Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Lazarus walks out. He is brought back to life. God gives life to us all. God created us and wants every single one of us to live a happy life, with all the things that we need to grow and be the best people we can be. This week, say a special prayer for all people who are sick throughout the world, that they may get the care and help that they need and find strength in the love of those around them.

- [Colouring page](#) this Sunday
- [Kid's Bulletin](#) for this Sunday
- [Sunday Connection for this Sunday](#) (Gr. 1-8)
- 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)

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.catholicyc.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](#)

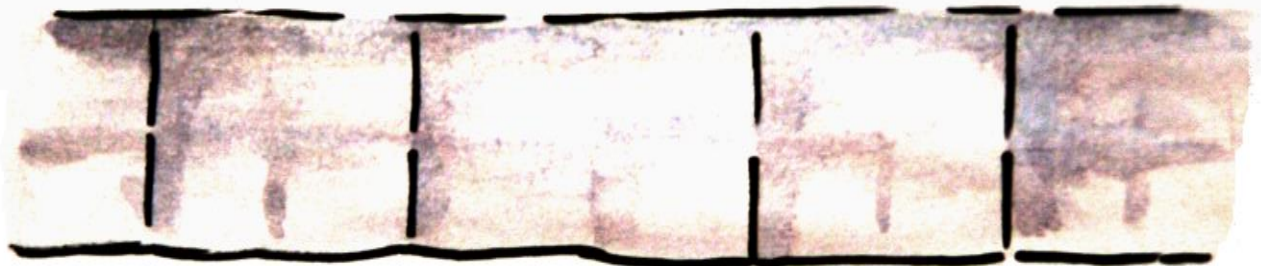


# The Kids' Bulletin

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday

April 2nd, 2023

T A H B I C S D I E S F M G Y H B I L J  
O K O L D M O N F O T P H Q E R N S  
E T W U C W O X V Y E Z N A A B N C T  
D W E H F I G C H H I W J I K L L L M  
B N E O S P H Q E R D S F T O U R V  
M W A X N Y Y Z



Use every second letter to fill in the blanks.

T H

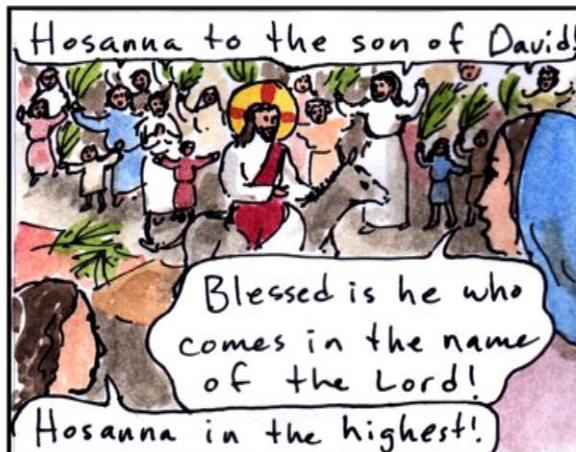
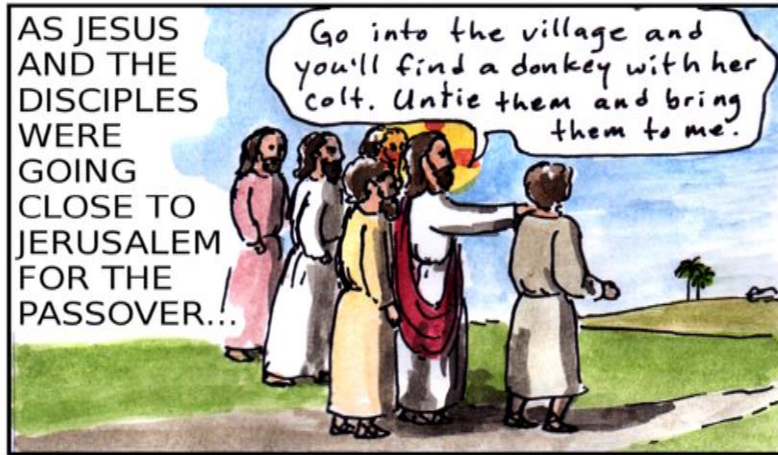
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# Palm Sunday



ON PALM SUNDAY EVERYBODY CHEERED FOR JESUS, BUT A FEW DAYS LATER THEY SHOUTED AT HIM AS HE WAS LED TO HIS DEATH. WE MUST BE FAITHFUL TO JESUS WHEN IT'S EASY AND EVERYONE AROUND US IS, AND WE MUST ALSO BE FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S REALLY HARD AND EVERYONE ELSE IS AGAINST HIM.





# Good Friday Word-Find

H H W E D B H E A V Y  
 D I E D M U E S J I V  
 J L P C A R R I E D E  
 O L T A R I O M S N R  
 S E D L Y E D O U I O  
 E S A V E D F N S C N  
 P I L A T E O F R O I  
 H S C R O S S E S D C  
 I N C Y R E N E T E A  
 N E H A N D S T O M B  
 N A I L S J O H N U R  
 M A G D A L E N E S S

*See if you can  
find all the words  
in CAPITALS in  
the puzzle.*

*Use the leftover  
letters to fill in  
the blanks:*

**What did Jesus  
do on the cross?**

— — — — —  
 — — —  
 — — — — —

On Good Friday JESUS was taken before King HEROD and the governor, PILATE. Even though He had not committed any crime He was scourged and condemned to die on the CROSS. He CARRIED the cross as far as He could up CALVARY hill, but when He got too weak a man named SIMON of CYRENE was forced to help Him. On the way He met His mother, MARY, who WEPT at seeing her Son in such pain. A woman named VERONICA wiped the blood and sweat from His face with a cloth. At the top of the HILL Jesus was thrown onto the cross and His HANDS and FEET were fastened to it with NAILS. They raised the cross, where Jesus hung for three hours before He DIED. He did all this to SAVE us from Hell. At the cross were JOHN, Mary MAGDALENE, His mother, and some other women. At the moment He died the curtain of the old Temple was TORN in half. When His body was taken down from the cross JOSEPH of Arimathea and NICODEMUS BURIED Him in a new TOMB and rolled a HEAVY STONE in front of the door.



# Holy Week

Did you know that this week is the most important one in the whole year? Holy Week has Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On these days we remember and celebrate the most important things that Jesus did before His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

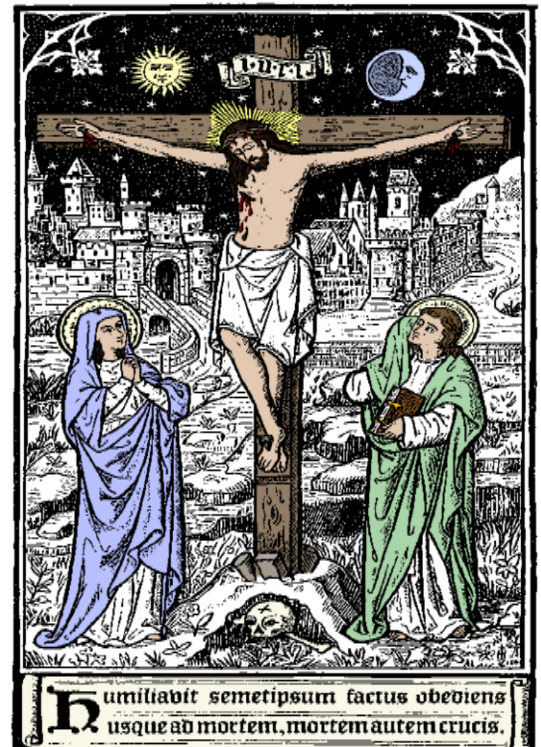
On Holy Thursday Jesus said the first Mass and made his apostles the first priests. Go to Mass on Thursday if you can, and think about what Jesus did- He made bread and wine into Himself so that He could still be with us after He went back into Heaven.

On Good Friday Jesus suffered terribly and then died on the cross because of our sins. He offered up His life, even though He had never sinned, so that all of us could go to Heaven. That's why we call it "Good" Friday. Can you offer some sacrifice to Jesus in return for what He did for you?

On Holy Saturday Jesus' body was in the tomb. His friends were all shocked by what had happened and were afraid and sad. They did not remember what was going to happen next... Do you remember what happened after Holy Saturday?



Answer to Puzzle on Front: This is my Blood of the  
New Covenant which will be shed for many.  
Answer to Word-Find: He died for sinners.





# Child Development Check-Ups

Coming soon!

Friday, April 28, 2023  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Our child development check-up event provides parents with the opportunity to discuss their child's development with members of our early learning team.

**We can help answer your questions about your child's development in:**

- Areas of speech and language skills
- Social and emotional development
- Fine and gross motor skill development

Contact our Early Learning Department by  
April 26, 2023 to book your appointment  
403-502-8365 or [earlylearning@mhcbe.ab.ca](mailto:earlylearning@mhcbe.ab.ca)



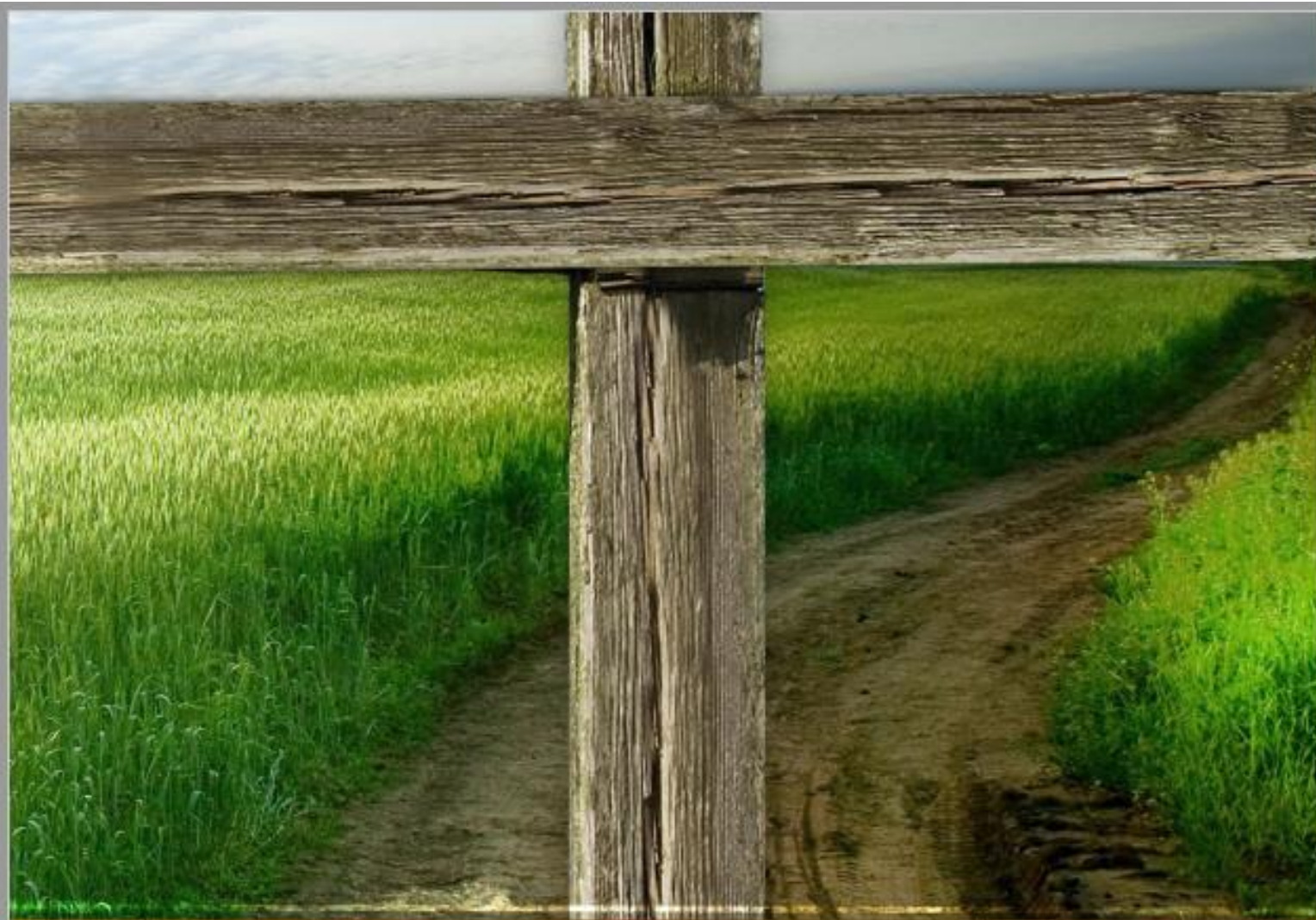
**For littles ones  
ages 3-5**

**Explore our  
programs**



Medicine Hat Catholic  
Board of Education





# Crossroads

Charity of the Cross - A Retreat During Holy Week

April 5 | 9am - 3 pm or 5:30 - 9 pm

Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre

41160 Retreat Road

To Register: 403-932-2012 ~ [mtfrancis@shaw.ca](mailto:mtfrancis@shaw.ca)

Includes either noon meal or supper, presentation, quiet time,  
prayer resources and ritual.

**\$30**

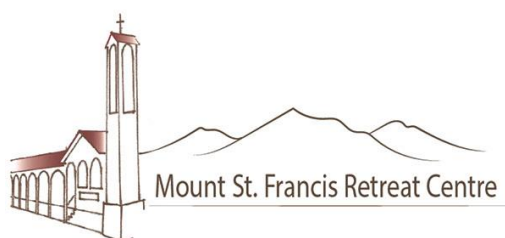


# Retreat Centers in Southern Alberta

## 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 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.





# 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](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) so it can be sent to the diocese.**