



Welcome to

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

APRIL 6- 9, 2023 – HOLY WEEK 2023 - YEAR A

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 – 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.



Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) Who Would Be So Obedient?

Jesus would ~ even unto death! This high priest ~ the mediator between God and all humanity ~ is not remote. He is near. He is close. He is one like us in all things but sin. He knows what our lives are like. He teaches us that obedience to God is to do whatever it takes to be faithful. Therein lies our salvation ~ doing what it takes, rooted in God's saving grace.

Following this Good Friday, what good work will I do?

Thursday of the Lord's Supper Who Washes Feet During Supper?

Jesus did it first ~ something only servants and slaves did. Jesus did it because it was both important to him and model for us. What do we learn? Nothing is too menial for Christians. No act of hospitality is foreign to Christian behavior. No service is beneath our stature. In fact, because of Baptism into him, service is our mission. We spend time before the Eucharist tonight to remind us that in receiving him as Communion, we are nourished to be like him.

After this Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, whom will I stoop down and serve?

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Acts of the Apostles.

All during Easter Time, we read and hear the Acts of the Apostles. Those many acts are not mere history. They launch us into Church life today. This Risen Lord, present among us, is so astounding, we cannot remain our old selves. We, too, are new ~ because of Baptism, because of this new Easter Day, because Christ is within and around us. We, too, act in new ways.

How will I shine new life into another's life today?

How will I bear witness to Christ among us by some word or deed?

How will I rejoice?

APRIL 6- 9, 2023 – HOLY WEEK 2023 - YEAR A

† Masses & Mass Intentions †



Thursday, April 6

7:00pm ~ Byron Martin †

Friday, April 7

12:00pm ~ Passion of the Lord

3:00pm ~ Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 8

5:00pm ~ Maria Gladys Garo †

Sunday, April 9

8:30am ~ Leslie McLennan

10:30am ~ Leonard & Loretta Oddan

6:00pm ~ NO MASS TODAY

Monday, April 10

9:00am ~ NO MASS TODAY

Tuesday, April 11

9:00am ~ Leonard & Loretta Oddan

Wednesday, April 12

9:00am ~ Ben Schafer

Thursday, April 6

9:00am ~ Maggie Wilk

Friday, April 7

9:00am ~ Trey Weimer

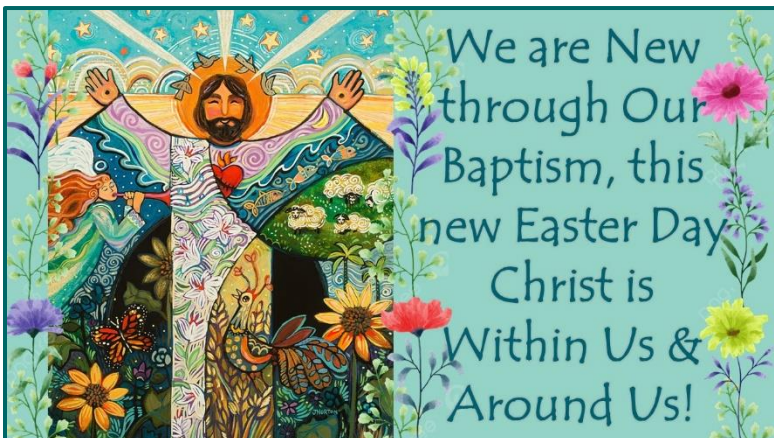
Together IN ACTION
Annual Bishop's Appeal

Year to Date: \$14,595.82
only 21% 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!



Mark your Calendars!

April 6 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Church

Morning Prayer

April 6 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room

Grief Share Meeting

April 6 ~ 7:00pm ~ HFP Church & Faith Rm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

April 7 ~ 12:00pm & 3:00pm HFP Church

Passion of the Lord Service

April 8 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Hall

That Man is You!

April 8 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Church

Morning Prayer

April 8 ~ 11:00am ~ HFP Church

Blessing of the Easter Food Baskets

April 8 ~ 8:00pm ~ HFP Church

Easter Vigil

April 9 ~ 8:30am & 10:30am ~ HFP Church

Easter Mass ~ The Resurrection of the Lord

10:30am will be live streamed.

April 10 ~ 8:30am ~ NO MASS TODAY

April 10 ~ 1:00pm-4:00pm ~ HFP Hall

Schuler St. Joseph Church Come & Go Tea

April 10 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room

Knights of Columbus General Meeting

April 11 ~ 6:30pm ~ Faith Room

Catholic Women's League General Meeting

April 13 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room

Grief Share Meeting

April 15 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room

Benedictine Group Meeting


April 16 ~ 3:00pm ~ HFP Church & Hall


Divine Mercy Chaplet & Reception

Incense will be used on
Holy Thursday & Easter Vigil



Knights of Columbus
General Meeting
April 10 at 7:00pm
Faith Room



 **Catholic Women's League (CWL)**
General Meeting
April 11 at 6:30pm
Faith Room

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



1st Holy Communion Mass
Friday, April 21st at 6:30pm
Followed by Reception in Hall
Confirmation Class Retreat
Saturday, April 21st at 1:00am
Confirmation Mass
Rehearsal – Friday, May 5 at 6:30pm
Mass - Saturday, May 6th at 11:00am
Followed by Reception in Hall



Hello to all!
Just a reminder that
we will be taking a
short break from
children's liturgy!
See you back on
April 16th!


THAT MAN IS YOU!



Holy Family Parish Hall
Breakfast 7:30am
Presentation
8:30 – 9:30 am
April 15, 2023
Theme:
Hidden In The Mystery
Presenter:
Steve Bollman



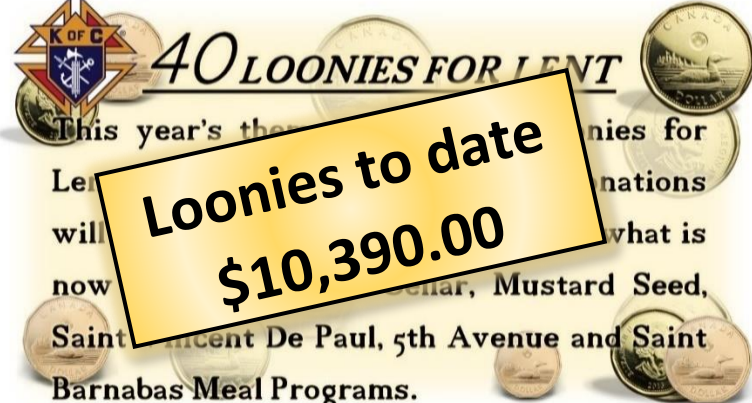

Divine Mercy Chaplet
Daily after Morning Masses
or 9:30am
Up to Divine Mercy Sunday
April 16 at 3:00pm



40 LOONIES FOR LENT


This year's total donations for Lent will now be **\$10,390.00**

Loonies for Lent donations will now be accepted at Saint Vincent De Paul, 5th Avenue and Saint Barnabas Meal Programs.

House Blessings can
be booked during
Easter Season.

12-hour adoration will be cancelled for April and the next one will be Friday, May 5th ~ 9:30am to 9:30pm





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



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.

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!

Journeying Together

Hope & Healing

FOR THOSE MOURNING
THE LOSS OF A CHILD
THROUGH MISCARRIAGE
OR STILLBIRTH

*Before I formed you in the womb
I knew you, before you were born
I set you apart.*
JEREMIAH 1:5



DATES

Day 1:
Adoration and
Healing Prayer
Ministry

Friday, May 5
7 pm to 9 pm

All are welcome

Day 2:
All Day Workshop

Saturday, May 6
9:30 am to 3:30

MAIN SPEAKERS

- Keynote: Eunice Peterson, MA, RPsych
- Fr. Adrian Martens
- Dr. Ivan D'Souza
- Rikka Borrás
- Mike Franco

LOCATION

ASCENSION
CATHOLIC PARISH
1100 Berkshire Blvd NW,
Calgary, AB

FEE

\$10 Per Person
\$15 Per Couple

CHILDCARE

Available
Saturday only



REGISTER at
tinyurl.com/3wcavkf6

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Please complete your
registration by May 1st

For more information,
contact Anthony
403-218-5548



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

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

ANCHORED "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

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.

[Sunday 10:30am Mass on YOUTUBE](#)

[Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream](#)

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

You Tube

FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

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1 Scan this with your phone camera
2 Enter our parish name or zip code
3 Enjoy the content you want

Visit 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


Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

catholiccyc.ca/Faithfully

[Faithfully](#) keeps you updated with what's happening in and around our Diocese!



Coming in June – Watch for more Information



Passionate about Catholic Education?
Join us to continue our journey of advocating for Catholic education!

April 17th at 7:00 p.m.
at Holy Family Parish

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' EDUCATION FOUNDATION

21st ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY JUNE 9th, 2023

Registration Fee: \$150 per golfer

1:00 p.m - Shotgun Start
Cottonwood Coulee Golf Course
Medicine Hat, Alberta

Register by calling 403-502-8351

Registration closes June 1, 2023

Register Early! Only 120 spots!

Entries will be accepted on a first come, first paid basis

Together in support of community children and the education process!



Please join us for a relaxing afternoon of golf with other business and community participants!

Cost is \$150/person

Info. Call (403) 502-8351

This is a wonderful opportunity to support Catholic Christian education in your community.



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!



Holy Triduum Year A

April 6-9, 2023

HIS SACRIFICE RAISES US TO ETERNAL LIFE

Today we begin Holy Triduum which brings us to the solemn celebrations of the Holy Week. These three days are holiest days for all of us Christians to remember what Jesus did, and how it was done? On Holy Thursday we learn the aspect of service. Pope Francis explains it this way; "On this Thursday, Jesus was at the table with the disciples, celebrating the feast of Passover. And the passage of the Gospel which we heard contains a phrase that is the very core of what Jesus did for us: "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end". Jesus loved us. Jesus loves us. Without limit, always, to the end". Jesus' love for us knows no limits: always more and more. He never tires of loving anyone. He loves us all, to the point of giving his life for us. Yes, giving his life for us; yes, giving his life for all of us, giving his life for each one of us. And every one of us can say: "He gave his life for me". Everyone: He gave His life for you, for you, for you, for you, for me, for him... for each person, by their first and last name. His love is like that: personal. Jesus' love never disappoints, because He never tires of loving, just as He never tires of forgiving, never tires of embracing us. This is the first thing that I wanted to say to you: Jesus loves us, every one of us, to the end. St. Bruno says, "While the world changes, the Cross stands firm". His sacrifice being shown in the Holy Eucharist reminds us that we must learn to break and share ourselves. St. John Vianney reflects this way "What does Jesus Christ do in the Eucharist? It is God, who, as our savior, offers himself each day for us to his Father's justice. If you are in difficulties and sorrows, he will comfort and relieve you. If you are sick, he will either cure you or give you strength to suffer to merit Heaven. If the devil, the world, and the flesh are making war on you, he will give you the weapons with which to fight, to resist, and to win victory. If you are poor, he will enrich you with all sorts of riches for time and eternity. Let us open the door to his sacred and adorable Heart and be wrapped about for an instant by the flames of his love, and we shall see what a God who loves us can do. O my God, who shall be able to comprehend?"

And then, He does something that the disciples didn't understand; washing their feet. It was not done by the master of the house but by the slaves. That was the task of a slave. And like a slave, Jesus washes our feet, the feet of his disciples, and that is why He says: "What I am doing you do not know now, but afterward you will understand". Jesus' love is so great that He became a slave to serve us, to heal us, to cleanse us. He washes us entirely, He purifies us, He lets us feel his love yet again. There is a very beautiful phrase in the Bible, the prophet Isaiah says: "Can a mother forget her child? But even if a mother could forget her child, I will never forget you". God's love for us is like this. How are we serving the Lord and his people?

We need to have the attitude of Ruth: "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die—there I will be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!" (Ruth 1:16-17).

Six-year-old Dan decided one Saturday morning to fix his parents pancakes. He found a big bowl and spoon, pulled a chair to the counter, opened the cupboard, and pulled out the heavy flour canister, spilling it on the floor. He scooped some of the flour into the bowl with his hands, mixed in most of a cup of milk and added some sugar, leaving a floury trail on the floor which by now had a few tracks left by his kitten. Dan was covered with flour and getting frustrated. He wanted this to be something very good for his Mom and Dad, but it was getting very bad.

He didn't know what to do next, whether to put it all into the oven or on the stove, and he didn't know how the stove worked! Suddenly, he saw his kitten licking from the bowl of mix and reached to push her away, knocking the egg carton to the floor. Frantically, he tried to clean up this monumental mess but slipped on the eggs, getting his pajamas white and sticky. Just then he saw his Dad standing at the door. Big crocodile tears welled up in Dan's eyes. All he'd wanted to do was something good, but he'd made a terrible mess. He was sure a scolding was coming, maybe even a spanking. But his father just watched him. Then, walking through the mess, he picked up his crying son, hugged him and loved him, getting his own pajamas white and sticky in the process. That's how God deals with us. We try to do something good in life, but it turns into a mess. Our marriage gets all sticky, we insult a friend, we can't stand our job, or our health goes sour.

Sometimes, we just stand there in tears because we can't think of anything else to do. That's when God picks us up and loves us and forgives us, even though some of our mess gets all over Him. But just because we might mess up, we can't stop trying for God or for others. Sooner or later, we'll get it right, and then they'll be glad we tried.

To clear that mess of our sins and short comings, he picked up the Cross to die a shameful death for our sins and iniquities. He taught us that without service there is no sacrifice and Jesus has given us the best example of sacrifice as we celebrate Good Friday to commemorate Jesus' death on the cross. Pope Francis has beautiful reflection for Good Friday, " Lord Jesus, help us to see in your Cross all the crosses of the world: The cross

of those who hunger for bread and for love; The cross of those who are alone or abandoned even by their own children and family members; The cross of those who thirst for justice and peace; The cross of those who do not have the comfort of faith; The cross of the elderly who are bowed down under the weight of years and loneliness; The cross of migrants who find doors closed because of fear, and hearts sealed by political calculations; The cross of the little ones, wounded in their innocence and purity; The cross of humanity that wanders in the darkness of uncertainty and in the darkness of the culture of the fleeting moment; The cross of families broken by betrayal, by the seductions of the evil one or by murderous lightness and by selfishness; The cross of consecrated persons who tirelessly seek to bring your light into the world and feel rejected, mocked and humiliated; The cross of consecrated persons who, along the way, have forgotten their first love; The cross of your children who, believing in you and trying to live according to your word, find themselves marginalized and discarded even by their families and their peers; The cross of our weaknesses, our hypocrisies, our betrayals, our sins and our many broken promises; The cross of your Church which, faithful to your Gospel, struggles to carry your love even among the baptized themselves; The cross of the Church, your bride, who feels continually attacked from within and from without; The cross of our common home that withers seriously before our selfish eyes that are blinded by greed and power. Lord Jesus, rekindle in us the hope of the resurrection and of your definitive victory against all evil and all death. Amen!"

St. Augustine shares the perfect love of Christ by saying "Dear brethren, the Lord has marked out for us the fullness of love that we ought to have for each other. He tells us: No one has greater love than the man who lays down his life for his friends. In these words, the Lord tells us what the perfect love we should have for one another involves. John, the evangelist who recorded them, draws the conclusion in one of his letters: As Christ laid down his life for us, so we too ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. We should indeed love one another as he loved us, he who laid down his life for us. This is surely what we read in the Proverbs of Solomon: If you sit down to eat at the table of a ruler, observe carefully what is set before you; then stretch out your hand, knowing that you must provide the same kind of meal yourself. What is this ruler's table if not the one at which we receive the body and blood of him who laid down his life for us? What does it mean to sit at this table if not to approach it with humility? What does it mean to observe carefully what is set before you if not to meditate devoutly on so great a gift? What does it mean to stretch out one's hand, knowing that one must provide the same kind of meal oneself, if not what I have just said: as Christ laid down his life for us, so we in our turn ought to lay down our lives for our brothers? This is what the apostle Paul said: Christ suffered for us, leaving us an example, that we might follow in his footsteps.

This is what is meant by providing "the same kind of meal." This is what the blessed martyrs did with such burning love. If we are to give true meaning to our celebration of their memorials, to our approaching the Lord's table in the very banquet at which they were fed, we must, like them, provide "the same kind of meal." At this table of the Lord, we

do not commemorate the martyrs in the same way as we commemorate others who rest in peace. We do not pray for the martyrs as we pray for those others, rather, they pray for us, that we may follow in his footsteps. They practiced the perfect love of which the Lord said there could be none greater. They provided "the same kind of meal" as they had themselves received at the Lord's table. This must not be understood as saying that we can be the Lord's equals by bearing witness to him to the extent of shedding our blood. He had the power of laying down his life; we by contrast cannot choose the length of our lives, and we die even if it is against our will. He, by dying, destroyed death in himself; we are freed from death only in his death. His body did not see corruption; our body will see corruption and only then be clothed through him in corruption at the end of the world. He needed no help from us in saving us; without him we can do nothing. He gave himself to us as the vine to the branches; apart from him we cannot have life. Finally, even if brothers die for brothers, yet no martyr by shedding his blood brings forgiveness for the sins of his brothers, as Christ brought forgiveness to us. In this he gave us, not an example to imitate but a reason for rejoicing. Inasmuch, then, as they shed their blood for their brothers, the martyrs provided "the same kind of meal" as they had received at the Lord's table. Let us then love one another as Christ also loved us and gave himself up for us.

Here is a very interesting story to understand this Holy Triduum and to reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus which helps us to share ourselves with others.

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team.

The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named "Love."

Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because "Love never fails."

The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love.

The next batter up was named Godly Wisdom. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch. Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass; "ball one". Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what Satan throws.

The bases were now loaded. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped Grace. Freddy said, "He sure doesn't look like much!"

Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace. Thinking there was no way they could lose, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! However, Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by.

He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing on the ground; the roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence for a home run!

The Lord's team won!

The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith, and Godly Wisdom could get on base but couldn't win the game. Freddy answered that he didn't know why.

The Lord explained, "If your love, faith, and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith, and Wisdom will get you on base, but only My Grace can get you Home."

"For by Grace are you saved, it is a gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

"For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly." Psalm 84:11

Saint John Chrysostom says "If we wish to understand the power of Christ's blood, we should go back to the ancient account of its prefiguration in Egypt. Sacrifice a lamb without blemish, commanded Moses, and sprinkle its blood on your doors. If we were to ask him what he meant, and how the blood of an irrational beast could possibly save men endowed with reason, his answer would be that the saving power lies not in the blood itself, but in the fact that it is a sign of the Lord's blood. In those days, when the destroying angel saw the blood on the doors he did not dare to enter, so how much less will the devil approach now when he sees, not that figurative blood on the doors, but the true blood on the lips of believers, the doors of the temple of Christ. If you desire further proof of the power of this blood, remember where it came from, how it ran down from the cross, flowing from the Master's side. The gospel records that when Christ was dead, but still hung on the cross, a soldier came and pierced his side with a lance and immediately there poured out water and blood. Now the water was a symbol of baptism and the blood, of the holy eucharist. The soldier pierced the Lord's side, he breached the wall of the sacred temple, and I have found the treasure and made it my own. So also, with the lamb: the Jews sacrificed the victim and I have been saved by it.

And the Author of the Letter to Hebrews sums up the sacrifice of Jesus in this way "When Christ came as high priest of the good things which have come to be, he entered once for all into the sanctuary, passing through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by hands, that is, not belonging to this creation. He entered, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, and achieved eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkling of a heifer's ashes can sanctify those who are defiled so that their flesh is cleansed, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself up unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works to worship the living God! This is why he is mediator of a new covenant: since his death has taken place for deliverance from transgressions committed under the first covenant, those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. Where there is a testament, it is necessary that the death of the testator be confirmed. For a testament comes into force only in the case of death; it has no force while the testator is alive. Hence, not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood.

When Moses had read all the commandments of the law to the people, he took the blood of goats and calves, together with water and crimson wool and hyssop, and sprinkled the book and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has enjoined

upon you.” He also sprinkled the tabernacle and all the vessels of worship with blood. According to the law almost everything is purified by blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

It was necessary that the copies of the heavenly models be purified in this way, but the heavenly realities themselves called for better sacrifices. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by hands, a mere copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself that he might appear before God now on our behalf. Not that he might offer himself there again and again, as the high priest enters year after year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own; if that were so, he would have had to suffer death over and over from the creation of the world. But now he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sins once for all by his sacrifice. Just as it is appointed that men die once, and after death be judged, so Christ was offered up once to take away the sins of many; he will appear a second time not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him” (Hebrews 9:11-28). St. Charles Borromeo says “Behold, Jesus Christ crucified, who is the only foundation of our hope; He is our mediator and advocate; the victim and sacrifice for our sins. He is goodness and patience itself; His mercy is moved by the tears of sinners, and he never refuses pardon and grace to those who ask it with a truly contrite and humbled heart.”

The third most important day in the Holy Triduum is Easter Sunday, the day our Lord conquered the death and rose from the dead. This victory can only be understood by people who know how to serve and sacrifice for others. He is truly risen from the dead, Alleluia, Alleluia. According to St. Augustine “it was impossible for the Author of life to stay under the earth for long” The Christians all over the world have been preparing themselves with prayer, penance, and work of charity to celebrate the greatest feast of all times, that’s Easter. No one expected that it is going to happen that a man who was once crucified going to rise. St. Paul rightly says in his first letter to Corinthians “Death has been swallowed up in victory. “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”.

According to Pope Francis “The women had gone to anoint the Lord’s body and instead found themselves standing before a surprise. When God announces something, it is always a surprise because God is a God of surprises. It has been that way from the beginning of the story of salvation with Abraham: one surprise after another. God does not know how to make an announcement without surprising us. Surprise moves our hearts and touches us where we do not expect. Once those women saw he is risen, they did not stop there but their reaction was priceless. They rushed back to share with the disciple, what they have seen. God’s surprises demand an immediate response. Peter and John ran to the tomb. The shepherds on the night when Christ was born ran to see what the angel had revealed to them. The Samaritan woman also ran to say to her people, “this is something entirely new. I have met a man who has told me everything that I have done—and the people knew what she had done. Even St. Andrew did not waste time to go to St. Peter to say that he had found the Messiah.

The Feast of Easter is a feast of proclamation of his resurrection and victory over death. That salvation for us is won by the Lord, by his own blood. St. Anthony Mary Claret reveals the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection as thus "Humility, obedience, meekness, and love are the virtues that shine through the Cross and the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. O my Jesus, help me imitate you!"
Are we ready to proclaim that "Truly he is Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia"?
Wish you all a very Blessed and Happy Easter.



Remember what Jesus did, and how it was done?

DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

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 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)

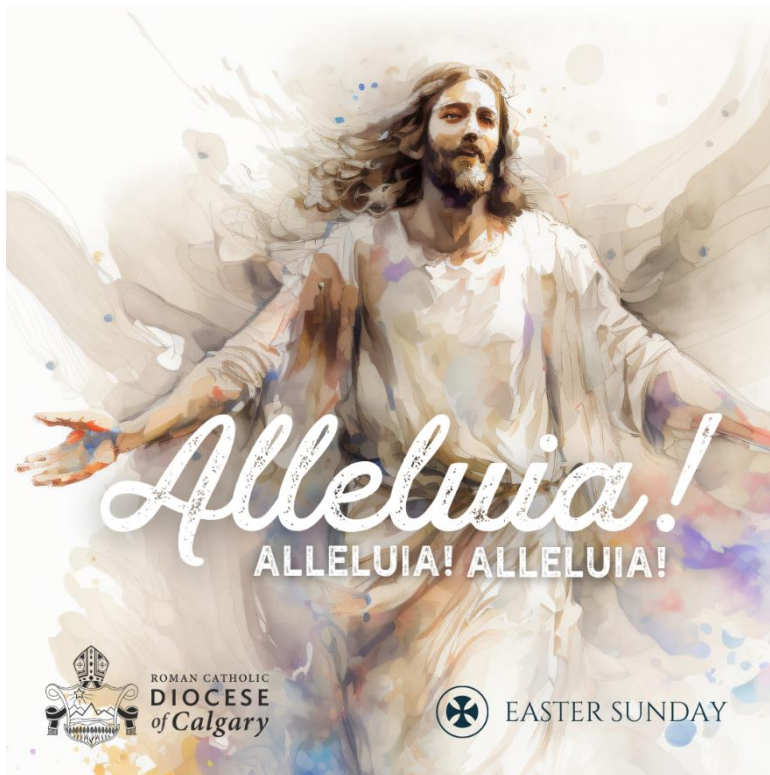
Parishes in the Diocese of Calgary:

- 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 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



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:

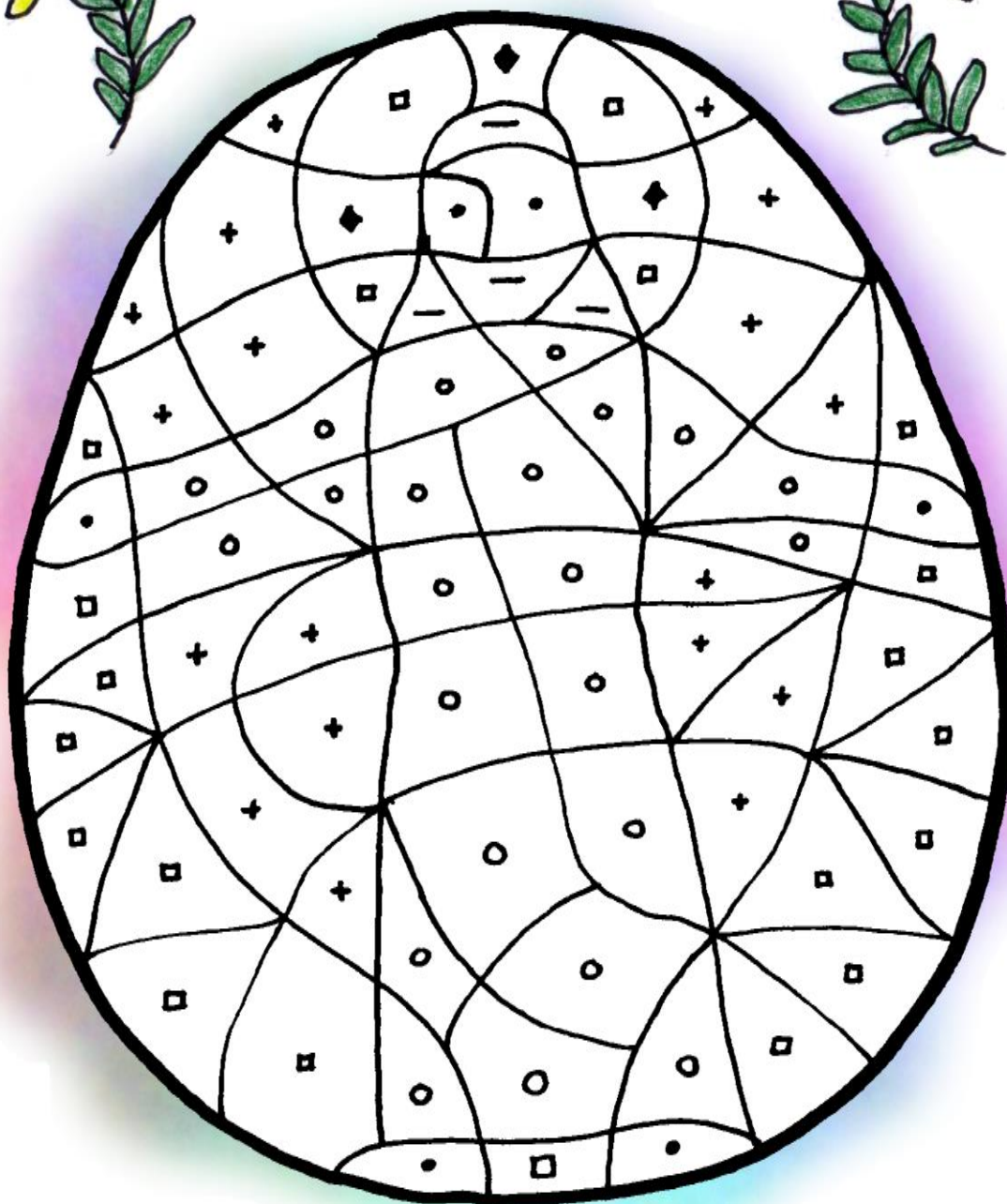
<https://www.catholiccy.ca> | TELUS Optik TV Ch. 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#)

Resources

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

The Kids' Bulletin

Easter Sunday
April 9th, 2023



The two men on the road to Emmaus didn't know the man who came and walked with them on Easter morning. Use the colour code below to see if you can figure out who it was!

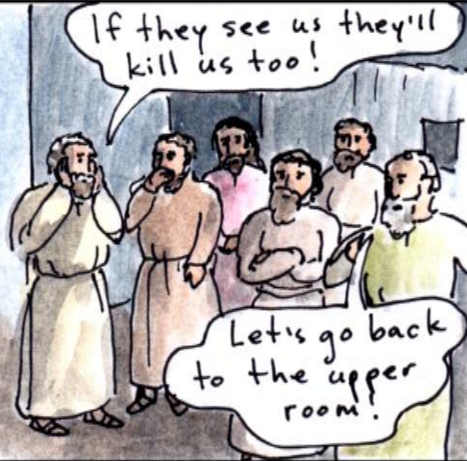
◆ Red
▣ Yellow

+ Purple
- Brown

• Skin-colour
◦ White

Easter Sunday

AFTER JESUS DIED ON GOOD FRIDAY THE APOSTLES WERE AFRAID AND HID AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE. THEY STAYED IN THE ROOM WHERE THEY HAD THE LAST SUPPER.



THEY STAYED THERE ON THE SABBATH DAY, WHICH WAS LIKE SUNDAY FOR THE JEWS.



EARLY ON THE SUNDAY MORNING SOME WOMEN WENT TO JESUS' TOMB...

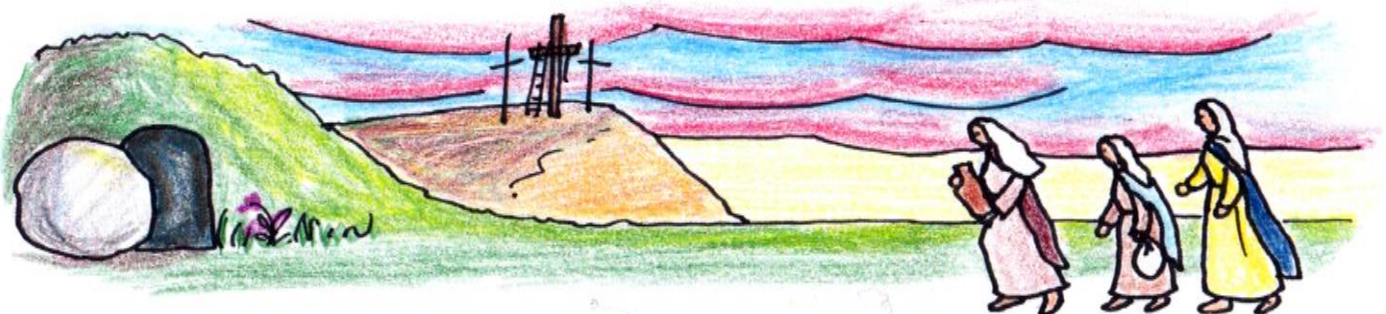


WHEN JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS HIS FOLLOWERS THOUGHT THE END HAD COME. BUT JESUS HAD DIED ON PURPOSE TO SAVE US FROM HELL! THEN HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD SO THAT WE COULD RISE FROM THE DEAD TOO. REJOICE WITH OUR LADY AND THE APOSTLES THAT JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD!

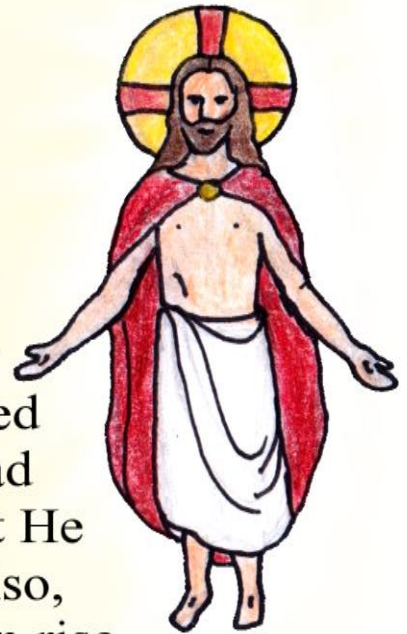
Easter: True or False?

*How well do you know the Easter Story?
See if you can figure out which of these are true and
which are false.*

1. After Jesus died on the Cross He was buried in a tomb for four days. True or false?
2. The first time the women went to the tomb on Easter morning, they saw Jesus' dead body in it. True or false?
3. Nobody went to Jesus' tomb until the afternoon on Easter Sunday. True or false?
4. At first when she saw Him, Mary Magdalen didn't recognize Jesus. True or false?
5. When Jesus rose from the dead, He could never die again. True or false?
6. With His resurrected body, Jesus could go through locked doors. True or false?
7. The disciples were not surprised when Jesus came back after He died, since they knew all along that was going to happen. True or false?



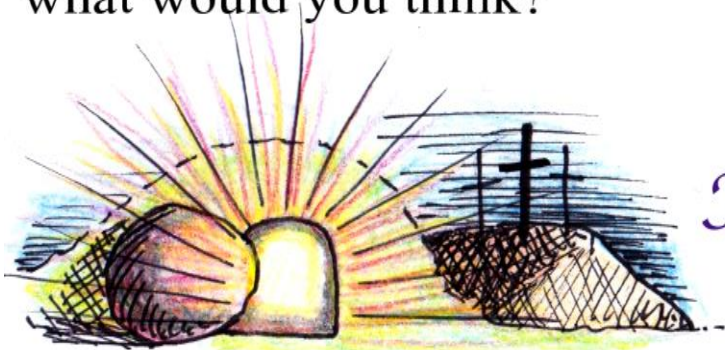
Alleluia!



Today is the biggest feast of the year! Jesus rose from the dead on the first Easter Sunday. By rising from the dead, He showed that He was God and that everything He had said was true. It showed His followers that He wasn't gone forever- it gave them hope. Also, because He rose from the dead, now we can rise from the dead too after we die.

Imagine what it would be like to be one of Jesus' friends when He died on the cross. You were hoping that He would be the saviour that would overthrow the bad government and become the king, but now He was beaten and killed! How would you feel? What would you be doing after this horrible weekend was over? It would seem pretty hopeless, wouldn't it?

But then- some of the women come running and say that Jesus rose from the dead! Would you believe them? And then imagine that you are in the room with the other disciples with the doors locked and suddenly Jesus is standing in the room, saying, "Peace be with you!" Now what would you think?



*Today is the day
for rejoicing!*
JESUS IS ALIVE!

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

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



**For littles ones
ages 3-5**

**Explore our
programs**



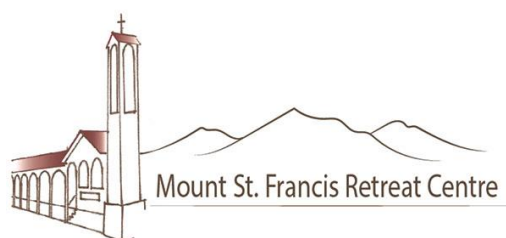
Medicine Hat Catholic
Board of Education

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 so it can be sent to the diocese.