



Welcome to

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

APRIL 16, 2023 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 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

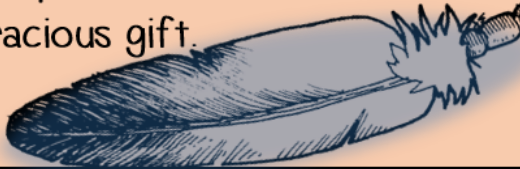
Knights of Columbus - Kirby Peterson

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.



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

Unrestrained by Locked Doors.

Locked doors are not good enough for keeping the Risen Jesus from us. They are not good enough for preventing Jesus from breathing the Holy Spirit into us. How must we respond? With the devotion noted in the Acts of the Apostles: to the teaching, to Sunday Mass, to attending to those in need.

- † What is Jesus, through Scripture and Tradition, teaching me today?
- † With what does this Sunday Mass, with prayer and fellowship and Communion, fill me?
- † What needs do I notice in others ~ and what will I do?

† Masses & Mass Intentions †



Saturday, April 15

5:00pm ~ Allen Kaupp †

Sunday, April 16

8:30am - Holy Family Parish

10:30am - Peter & Margaret Fitzgerald †

6:00pm - Derrick Risling †

Monday, April 17

9:00am - Tony & Eugena Schafer †

Tuesday, April 18

9:00am - George & Julia Mastel †

Wednesday, April 19

9:00am - Special Intention

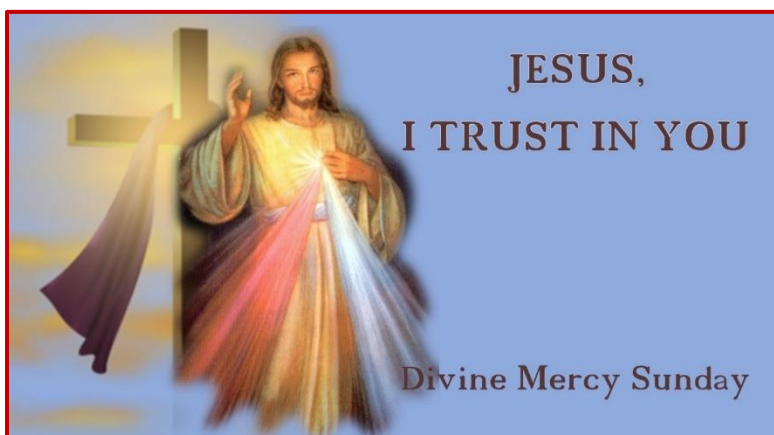
Thursday, April 20

9:00am - Tony Bosch †

Friday, April 21

9:00am - Darren Sehn & Family

APRIL 16, 2023 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 2023 – YEAR A



Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy)

Acts 2:42-47. Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24. 1

Peter 1:3-9. John 20:19-31.

Mark your Calendars!

April 15 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room

Benedictine Group Meeting

April 15 ~ 8:30am ~ HFP Hall

That Man is You!

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

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Reception

April 17 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room

GRACE Meeting for Catholic Education

April 19 ~ 9:30am ~ Faith Room

Bible Study

April 19 ~ 7:00pm ~ Faith Room

RCJA

April 20 ~ 2:00pm ~ Hope Room

Grief Share Meeting

April 21 ~ 6:30pm ~ Church & Hall

1st Holy Communion Mass & Reception

April 22 ~ 8:30am ~ Faith Room

That Man is You!

April 22 ~ 10:00am ~ Hope Room

Benedictine Group Meeting

April 22 ~ 10:00am ~ HFP Hall & Church

Confirmation Class Retreat

OPERATING FINANCES

MARCH 1-31, 2023

Operating Budget 2022	\$ 63,984
General Envelope Collection	\$ 46,139
Loose Collections	\$ 2,800
Future Development	\$ 2,561
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 6,183
\$ 57,683 - Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 6,301

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,338
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,434
World Mission	\$ 25
Clergy Retirement	\$ 55
Mission Mexico	\$ 215
CARO	\$ 80
Holy Land	\$ 20
Seminary Fund	\$ 55
Ukrainian Relief	\$ 10
Loonies for Lent	\$ 5,292

Thank You for your Generous Contributions

Average Weekly Attendance	880
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December 31, 2024 - Goal \$54,415.18 total

to date \$ 16,522.82

which is 29%

**Together IN
ACTION**



Annual Bishop's Appeal

Please Give Generously ~ Thank You!



Divine Mercy Chaplet

Daily after Morning Masses

or 9:30am

Up to Divine Mercy Sunday

April 16 at 3:00pm



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

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



THAT MAN IS YOU!

The Faith Room

Breakfast 7:30am

Presentation

8:30 – 9:30 am

April 22, 2023

Theme:

Evidence Of The Resurrection

Presenter:

Dr. Peter Kreeft

TM:Y
THAT MAN IS YOU!

Medicine Hat Pro-Life Association

Notice of Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023

7:30 pm

St. Patrick's Church Hall

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



40 LOONIES FOR LENT

This year's theme

Lent is
will go

now call

Saint Vincent De Paul, 5th Avenue and Saint
Barnabas Meal Programs.

Loonies to date
\$10,390.00

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

Holy Communion to the Hospital

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

If you have a family member or friend who is in the hospital and is requesting Holy Communion, please phone the parish with the name and location of the person. The information will be forwarded to Pastoral Car. Thank You!



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.



Coming in June – Watch for more Information

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

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



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.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

USE WITH

Roku

Apple TV

Fire TV

Chromecast

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

Visit signup.formed.org for more information

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.

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](mailto:mj.rath@yahoo.com)

Sunday 10:30am Mass on

YOUTUBE

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Live Stream

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



Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

catholicyc.ca/Faithfully

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

**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!

RESOUND
A Time of Prayer & Music

Sunday, May 7th @ 7:00pm
St. Patrick's Parish



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!

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



**To reserve a table or
purchase tickets contact
Phyllis at 403-527-0858 or the
church office at 403-526-4542**

**St. John's Presbyterian Church
WOC Ladies
140th Anniversary Celebration High Tea
May 6 from 2 to 4 pm
Tickets are \$10.00 each**

504 2nd Street SE





2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) Year A

April 16, 2023

DO WE REJOICE IN HIM?

"Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord" is the core of this Sunday's Liturgy as we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy from everything gushes out fill us with love and we are able to proclaim "Indeed he is risen from the dead, Alleluia, Alleluia" Throughout the Lenten Observances we had been reflecting on the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord so that our faith may be renewed in the Lord. On Easter Vigil we witnessed the blessing of the fire and lighting up the Paschal Candle and then we all heard about the history of Salvation through the Sacred Scripture. These celebrations always encourage to believe that we new creation and old humanity has died. Soon after the Easter Sunday we are invited to celebrate the Divine Mercy Sunday to reflect that His Mercy is beyond comparison and his blood and the water gushing out of his side while he is upon Cross, helps us to rejoice in him who died for us on the Cross.

Let me share a story with you to help you to understand that Jesus is full of compassion and mercy. He leaves ninety-nine righteous and goes after one sinner because "there is no greater love to lay down one's life for his friends". He is our Good Shepherd who leads us to green pastures and talks to us every day. What does this mean to you?


The man whispered, "God, speak to me" And a meadowlark sang. But, the man did not hear. So, the man yelled, "God, speak to me" And the thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen. The man looked around and said, "God let me see you." And a star shined brightly. But the man did not see. And, the man shouted, "God show me a miracle." And, a life was born. But the man did not notice. So, the man cried out in despair, "Touch me God, and let me know you are here." Whereupon God reached down and touched the man. But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on. I found this to be a great reminder that God is always around us in the little and simple things that we take for granted even in our electronic age, so I would like to add one more: The man cried, "God, I need your help!" And an e-mail arrived reaching out with good news and encouragement. But the man deleted it and continued crying...

God speaks to us everyday through events happening around us and through people we interact on daily basis. One of the ancient authors has shared his reflection by saying "Saint Paul rejoices in the knowledge that spiritual health has been restored to the human race. Death entered the world through Adam, he explains, but life has been given back to the world through Christ. Again, he says: The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven and is heavenly. As we have borne the image of the earthly man, the image of human nature grown old in sin, so let us bear the image of the heavenly man: human nature raised up, redeemed, restored, and purified in Christ. We must hold fast to the salvation we have received. Christ was the first fruits, says the Apostle; he is the source of resurrection and life. Those who belong to Christ will follow him. Modeling their lives on his purity, they will be secure in the hope of his resurrection and of enjoying with him the glory promised in heaven. Our Lord himself said so in the gospel: Whoever follows me will not perish but will pass from death to life. Thus, the passion of our Savior is the salvation of mankind. The reason why he desired to die for us was that he wanted us who believe in him to live for ever. In the fullness of time, it was his will to become what we are, so that we might inherit the eternity he promised and live with him for ever. Here, then, is the grace conferred by these heavenly mysteries, the gift which Easter brings, the most longed for feast of the year; here are the beginnings of creatures newly formed: children born from the life-giving font of holy Church, born anew with the simplicity of little ones, and crying out with the evidence of a clean conscience. Chaste fathers and inviolate mothers accompany this new family, countless in number, born to new life through faith. As they emerge from the grace-giving womb of the font, a blaze of candles burns brightly beneath the tree of faith. The Easter festival brings the grace of holiness from heaven to men. Through the repeated celebration of the sacred mysteries, they receive the spiritual nourishment of the sacraments. Fostered at the very heart of holy Church, the fellowship of one community worships the one God, adoring the triple name of his essential holiness, and together with the prophet sings the psalm which belongs to this yearly festival: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. And what is this day? It is the Lord Jesus Christ himself, the author of light, who brings the sunrise and the beginning of life, saying of himself: I am the light of day; whoever walks in daylight does not stumble. That is to say, whoever follows Christ in all things will come by this path to the throne of eternal light. Such was the prayer Christ made to the Father while he was still on earth: Father, I desire that where I am they also may be, those who have come to believe in me; and that as you are in me and I in you, so they may abide in us".


In our Christian faith we have hundreds of thousands of saints who their lives and faith have helped us to rejoice in the Lord and never forget the mercies of the Lord. Sister St. Faustina is one of them who always taught us "Jesus I Trust in you". Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, known today the world over as the "Apostle of the Divine Mercy," is numbered by theologians among the outstanding mystics of the Church. She was the third of ten

children born into a poor and pious peasant family in Glogowiec, a village in the heart of Poland. At her baptism in the nearby Parish Church of Swinice Warckie she was given the name "Helena." From childhood she distinguished herself by her piety, love of prayer, industriousness, and obedience as well as by her great sensitivity to human misery. She had hardly three years of schooling, and at the age of fourteen she left the family hearth to help her parents and to earn her own livelihood serving as a domestic in the nearby cities of Aleksandrów and Łódź. She struggle to join the convent but was finally accepted by the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. There she shared her joy by saying "It seemed to me that I had stepped into the life of Paradise. A single prayer was bursting forth from my heart, one of thanksgiving". However, life did according to her plan and she tempted to transfer herself into a different congregation in which there will be more time for prayer. It was then the Lord Jesus, manifesting to her His wounded and tortured face, said: "it you who will cause Me this pain if you leave this convent. It is to this place that I called you and nowhere else, and it is here I have prepared many graces for you" (Diary 19).

I believe the disciples were facing the same situation after the crucifixion of the Lord. They must be very afraid of suffering and death. However, Jesus changed their fear into joy by appearing to them and greeting with peace. Three times the Lord has said in the Gospel "Peace be with you" which means His Mercy works all the time.

St. Faustina was privileged to receive apparitions from Jesus emphasizing his mercy, and especially his mercy today. Jesus for the sake of us died on the cross to save us and show his great love and mercy. Why the image of Jesus with two rays: Red and White is important on this feast day? St. Sister Faustina explains the mystery behind the image of Jesus with white and white rays. "its pattern was revealed in the vision St. Faustina had on February 22, 1931, in her convent cell at Plock. "In the evening, when I was in my cell," she recorded in the Diary, "I saw the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand  was raised in the gesture of blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From beneath the garment, slightly drawn aside from at breast, there were emanating two large rays, one red, the other pale. After a while, Jesus said to me, „Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You"" (Diary, 47). "I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy" (Diary, 49). For this reason, the content of this image is closely related to the liturgy of that Sunday. On this day, the Church reads the Gospel according to St. John about the risen Christ appearing in the Upper Room and about the institution of the Sacrament of Penance (Jn 20:19-29). Consequently, this image represents the Savior risen from the dead who brings peace to people by means of the forgiveness of sins at the price of His passion and death on the cross. The rays of blood and water that flow from the Heart that was pierced by a spear (not visible on the image) and the scars caused by the wounds of crucifixion call to mind the events of Good Friday (Jn 19:17-18; 33-37). The Image of the Merciful Savior, therefore, combines the two Gospel events that best bespeak the fullness of God's love for mankind. The two rays are a distinctive feature of this image of Christ. The Lord Jesus, when asked about their meaning, explained: "The pale

ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. ... Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter” (Diary, 299). The Sacraments of Baptism and Penance purify the soul, and the Eucharist most abundantly nourishes it. Thus, the two rays signify the Holy Sacraments and all the graces of the Holy Spirit, whose biblical symbol is water, as well as the New Covenant of God with men in the Blood of Christ.”

He doesn't leave people alone in their pain and suffering but shows compassion “he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without the shepherd”. He keeps inviting people to himself “Come ye all that weary and carrying heavy burden and I will give you rest”. Through St. Faustina, Jesus inviting us to experience his love and mercy through the Sacrament of Confession. Jesus said to St. Faustina: My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary §699). Furthermore, he added: "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." (Diary §1109). He continued to say, "Ask of my faithful servant  that, on this day, he tell the whole world of My great mercy; that whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." (Diary §300).

St. Sister Faustina shares her experiences of being a nun and how the Lord filled her heart with joy and mercy. “Once, when I was praying, Jesus pervaded all my soul, darkness melted away, and I heard these words within me: You are My joy; you are My heart's delight. From that moment I felt the Most Holy Trinity in my heart; that is to say, within myself. I felt that I was inundated with Divine light. Since then, my soul has been in intimate communion with God, like a child with its beloved Father”. She continues to share her experiences “On one occasion I was reflecting on the Holy Trinity, on the essence of God. I absolutely wanted to know and fathom who God is. ...In an instant my spirit was caught up into what seemed to be the next world. I saw an inaccessible light, and in this light, what appeared like three sources of light which I could not understand. And out of that light came words in the form of lightning which encircled heaven and earth. Not understanding anything, I was very sad. Suddenly, from this sea of inaccessible light came our dearly beloved Savior, unutterably beautiful with His shining Wounds. And from this

light came a voice which said, Who God is in His Essence, no one will fathom, neither the mind of Angels nor or man. Jesus said to me, Get to know God by contemplating His attributes. A moment later, He traced the sign of the cross with his hand and vanished”.

There are lot to share on the joy of St. Faustina and disciples, but I would like to end my reflection with the following passage from her diary to simply remind ourselves that once we trust in Jesus, there is joy and that leads to eternity where there is joy and happiness because God has set his tent among us and with a short story.

“My daughter, if I demand through you that people revere My mercy, you should be the first to distinguish yourself by this confidence in My mercy. I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first – by deed, the second – by word, the third – by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy, and I demand the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of the image which is painted. By means of this image I shall grant great graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of my mercy because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works”. (Diary §742).

And the story follows:

A few months ago, my husband and I were invited to spend the weekend at his employer's home. I was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than our house. The first day and evening went well, and I was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live.

My husband's employer was quite generous as a host and took us to the finest restaurants. I knew I would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so I was enjoying myself. As the three of us were about to enter an exclusive restaurant one evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of us. He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment. I wondered if I was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped and a few cigarette butts.

Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny. He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure.

How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up? Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at me. Finally, I could stand it no longer. I causally mentioned that my daughter once had a coin collection and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value.

A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for us to see. I had seen many pennies before! What was the point of this?

"Look at it," he said. "Read what it says."

I read the words, "United States of America."

"No, not that; read further."

"One cent?"

"No, keep reading."

"In God we Trust?"

"Yes!"

"And?"

"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin, I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him? Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray. I stop to see if my trust is in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God, that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I can not change. I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message. It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful! And God is patient.

Do we Trust him to rejoice?



DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

Divine Mercy Sunday

Easter Message from the Bishop “Our Resurrection Faith”

Read Bishop McGrattan's Easter message as we enter the Easter season. The Bishop invites us to remember the pathway of experience that allowed Jesus' disciples to be strengthened in the faith of the resurrection and empowered by the Holy Spirit to share this witness with everyone. Visit: catholiccyyc.ca/blog

Volunteer Appreciation Week | April 16-22

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

Parish Volunteers: We are incredibly grateful to God for you and your loving service to the Church and the parish community. We want you to know that your work has not gone unnoticed. God bless you for your generosity, and thank you for being a blessing to others!

Christian-Buddhist Conversations | Apr 20

Pope St. Paul VI spoke about the importance of dialogue as a Church and how this must be central to our Christian mission. In light of St. Paul VI's vision for the Church—join us for an evening of discussion produced by the diocesan Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affair.

Speakers: Dr. Anthony Barber (University of Calgary, Head of Asian Studies), a Buddhist Monk, and Dr. Timothy Harvie (St. Mary's University Associate Professor of Philosophy and Ethics, and Program Coordinator of Social Justice and Catholic Studies), a Catholic writer and professor. When: **Thursday, April 20, 2023, at 7 pm** at St. Gerard's Church (8944 Elbow Dr. SW, Calgary). For more information, [click here](#)

Catholic Spring Market | Apr 23

Come and support your local Catholic vendors and find authentic Catholic products for your home or for gifts at the upcoming Catholic Spring Market! There will be multiple local Catholic booths, shops and artists being hosted at St. Michael Catholic Community on **Sunday, April 23, 2023 from 10 am to 3 pm** (closed during mass times). catholiccyyc.ca/news

Spiritual Direction: What it is and how it helps | Apr 25

Would you like a spiritual companion on your faith journey but you're not quite sure how to go about it? Learn how spiritual direction can be an encouraging and supportive

accompaniment to your spiritual life. When: **Tue, Apr. 25 at 7 pm**, at the FCJ Centre. To register, contact 403-228-4215 or visit fcjcentre.ca

Holy Family Conference

**April 28 & 29 at the Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies |
"It Takes a Family to Heal a Family"**

Two-day Holy Family Conference with theme: "**It takes a family to heal a family**" will take place on April 28-29 at the Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore, with speakers: Fr. 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/adult or \$50 for a family of four (\$10 for each additional child). To register, contact Lyle Thorne at 1-780-915-6091 or email ourhope@telus.net

Learn how to make an illuminated Manuscript

The Sacred Arts Guild of Alberta (SAGA) invites you to a weekend of sacred art making with artist Debbie Thompson Wilson, and work on the images of The Sacred Lamb on **April 28**, and the Noah's Ark on **April 29-30** at Kensington Art Supply, Calgary. For more information, email sacredartsguildofalberta@gmail.com

Journeying Together: Hope & Healing for those mourning the loss of a child | May 5&6

Two-day workshop for those mourning the loss of a child through miscarriage or stillbirth. Lunch and refreshments included; childcare available. **Friday, May 5** (7 pm to 9 pm) session offers an evening of healing prayer, adoration, and reflection; **Saturday, May 6** (9:30 am to 3:30 pm) session is an all day workshop consisting of talks, round table discussions, and support. Register by May 1 at www.miscarriageliturgy.ca

Priestly Ordination of Santiago Torres | June 16

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

- Bookkeeper (Full-time) - CPC, Calgary
- Senior Accountant (Full-time) - CPC, Calgary
- Assistant Coordinator (Casual) - Feed the Hungry, Calgary
- Admin. Assistant (Part-time) - Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore
- Children's Liturgy Coord. (Casual) - St. Michael's, Calgary

- Cook (Part-time) - St. Mary's Cathedral
- Family Faith Coordinator - All Saints, Lethbridge

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

National Family and Life Week

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) warmly invites the Catholic faithful to celebrate National **Family and Life Week 2023** on **May 7-14**, with the theme: ***"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, love one another"*** (John 13:34). For more info and family resources, visit www.cccb.ca

Subscribe to Faithfully

If you haven't already, please subscribe to the [Diocesan publication Faithfully](http://Diocesan%20publication%20Faithfully) - 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



Kid's challenge this week: After Jesus died on the Cross, his disciples locked themselves away. They were afraid they might die too. When we are feeling afraid or uncertain, we can remember Jesus' gift of peace and pray to ask Jesus to help us feel peaceful. We might close our eyes, take a few breaths, and imagine Jesus saying to us, "Peace be with you." Let's take a few moments and be with Jesus in the quiet of our hearts and receive his gift of peace. Ask your family to pray with you, so that your faith in Jesus will be strong. (Loyola Press)

- [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
- [Kid's Bulletin this Sunday](#)
- [Sunday Connection 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.catholiccyc.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](#)

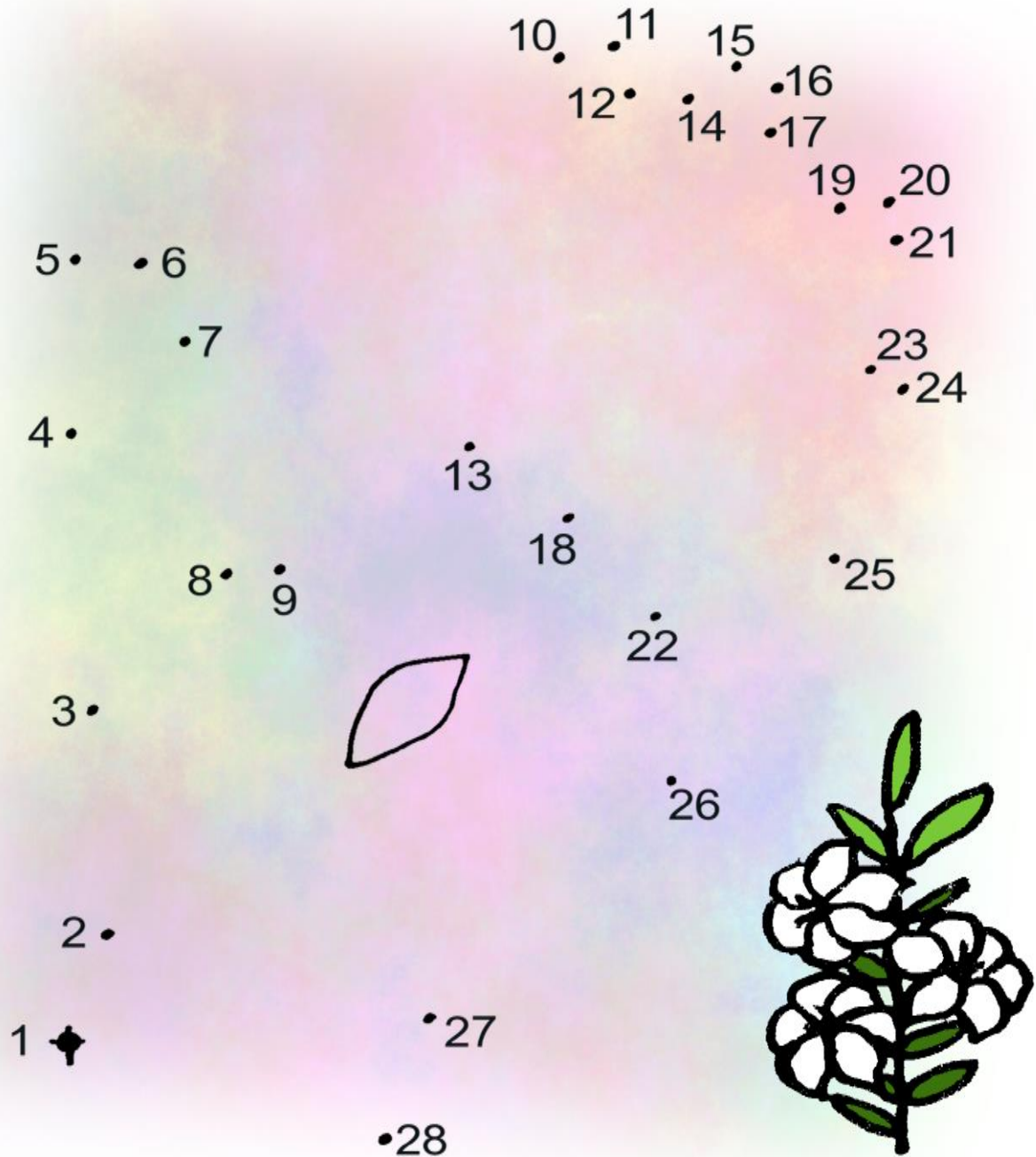
Resources

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

The Kids' Bulletin

Second Sunday of Easter

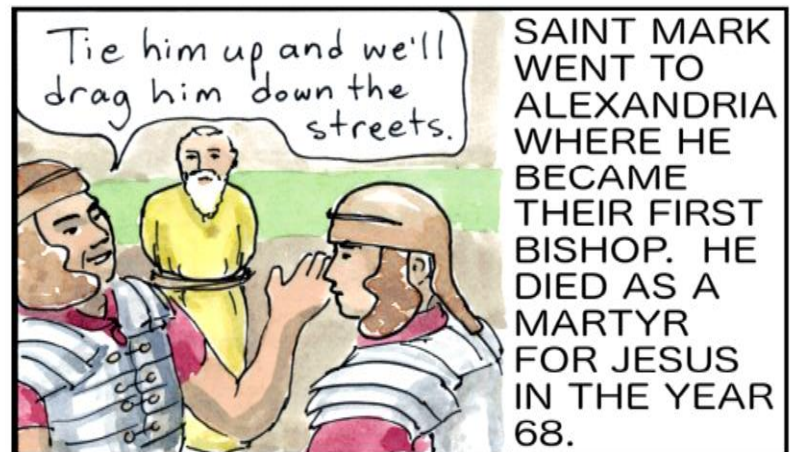
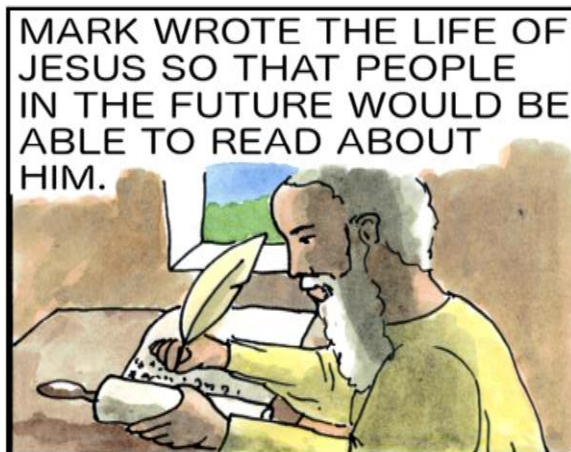
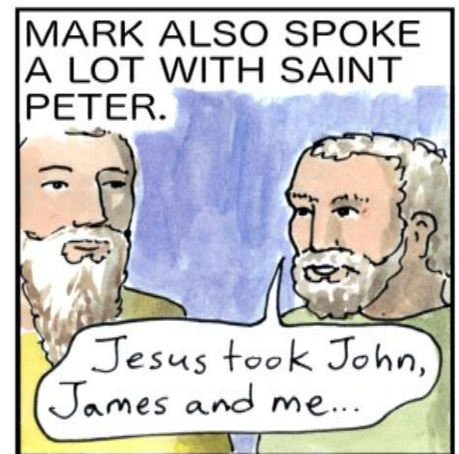
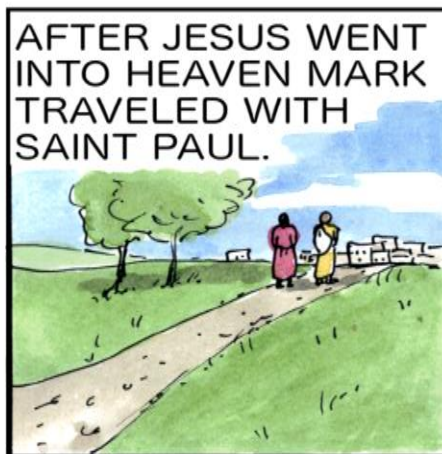
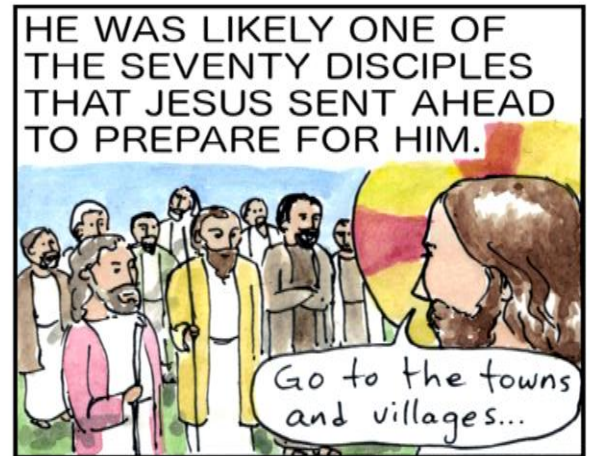
April 16th, 2023



Saint Thomas wasn't there the first time Jesus came to the Apostles after He rose from the dead. What did Thomas say he would have to see before he believed that Jesus was alive? Connect the dots to find out!

Saint Mark

April 25



SAINT MARK KNEW THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT JESUS, SO HE WROTE HIS STORY, OR GOSPEL. DO YOU EVER READ BIBLE STORIES? DO YOU PAY ATTENTION TO THE GOSPEL READING AT CHURCH? TRY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT JESUS SO YOU CAN BE MORE LIKE HIM!

Doubting Thomas Word-Find

*Find the words in CAPITALS
in the puzzle, and when
you're done use the left over
letters to fill in the blanks
near the end.*

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

In the EVENING when the doors were locked where the DISCIPLES were for FEAR of the JEWS, Jesus came and said, "PEACE be with you," and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples REJOICED. JESUS said again, "Peace be with you. As the FATHER has sent me, so I SEND you." He breathed on them and said, "RECEIVE the Holy SPIRIT. Whose SINS you forgive are FORGIVEN them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

THOMAS, one of the TWELVE, wasn't there when Jesus came so they told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said, "UNLESS I see the mark of the NAILS in his hands and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." A WEEK later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, though the doors were LOCKED, and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my HANDS, and bring your hand and put it into my SIDE, and do not be UNBELIEVING, but believe." Thomas said to him,

"_____!"
Jesus said, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? BLESSED are those who have not seen and have BELIEVED."

Divine Mercy Sunday

Today, besides being the second Sunday of Easter, we also celebrate the feast of Divine Mercy. It is the special day when we remember the mercy of God.



Mercy is when a person treats another better than they deserve. God does not owe us anything, since everything we have comes from Him. When we sin we offend God, but because He is merciful He forgives us when we are sorry.

Jesus' dying on the cross was the biggest act of mercy. He gave up His life so that we could be forgiven of our sins and go to Heaven! Thank God today for all He has given you, especially giving up His life so that you can go to Heaven!



Here are some easy prayers you can say to ask God to be merciful to us:

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Have mercy on us!***

Jesus, I trust in You!

Answer to Word-Find: My Lord and my God!

www.thekidsbulletin.com

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.