



Welcome to

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

MAY 7, 2023 – 5TH 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

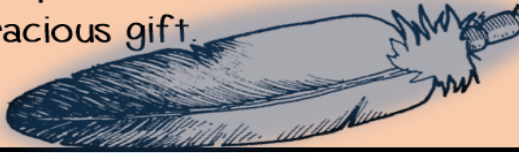
THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

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.



Chosen, Royal, and Holy.

Jesus tells the disciples during the Last Supper that they know the way ~ to God, to new life, to heaven. This astonishing resurrected life, given us in Baptism, makes us chosen, royal, and holy people. We know, because of Jesus, the way to be all three.

- ✝ What mercy work will I do this week that fosters God's loving-kindness?
- ✝ How will this mercy activity make me more the royal and worthy person I am?
- ✝ How will I be holy?

✝ Masses & Mass Intentions ✝



Saturday, May 6

8:30am ~ Mary Bulanda ✝
5:00pm ~ Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

Sunday, May 7

8:30am ~ Holy Family Parish
10:30am ~ Shirley Martin ✝
6:00pm ~ Mike & Philomena Hecker ✝

Monday, May 8

9:00am ~ Fr. Naveed Arif

Tuesday, May 9

9:00am ~ Leo Haack ✝

Wednesday, May 10

9:00am ~ Allen Kaupp ✝

Thursday, May 11

9:00am ~ Nikola & Sofron Fejsa ✝

Friday, May 12

9:00am ~ Adam Ries ✝

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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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Mark your Calendars!

- May 6 - 10:00am - Hope Room
Benedictine Group Meeting
- May 6 - 11:00am - HFP Church
Confirmation Mass followed by a Reception in the HFP Hall
- May 7 - 9:30am & 11:30am - HFP Hall
Parish Breakfast - Come One, Come All
- May 8 - 7:00pm - Faith Room
Knights of Columbus General Meeting
- May 9 - 6:00pm - HFP Church
Living Rosary
- May 9 - 6:30pm - Faith Room
Catholic Women's League General Meeting
- May 10 - 9:00am - 9:00pm - HFP Church
12 hr. Prayer for Palliative Care
- May 10 - 9:30am - Faith Room
Bible Study
- May 10 - 7:00pm - Faith Room
RCIA
- May 11 - 2:00pm - Hope Room
Grief Share
- May 13 - 10:00am - Hope Room
Benedictine Group Meeting
- May 17 - 9:30am - Faith Room
Bible Study



Year to Date: \$2310.00
only 33% 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!



40 LOONIES FOR LENT

This year's theme for our 40 Loonies for

Loonies to date \$ 12,277.

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


Living Rosary

Tuesday, May 9th, 2023 at 6:00pm

1st Decade – Knights of Columbus
 2nd Decade – CWL
 3rd Decade – Pastoral Care Ministry
 4th Decade – Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
 5th Decade – Filipino Community

Everybody Welcome, the more the "Mary" er!


Holy Family Parish



Nationwide in 12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care
May 10, 2023 – 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at HFP
 National Hospice Palliative Care Week
 A profound witness to the sanctity of human life.
 We are asking from you for **1 hour of your time**.
 It can be done at home or church, alone or in groups.
 Prayer suggestions will be available at the church entrance.

Let us pray in solidarity.

Contact: Pauline F. 403-526-4125 or Diane B. 403-977-9536



St. Patrick's Church Grocery Card Raffle

Tickets are \$5.00 each
2 Prizes of \$1000. Gift Cards from South Country Co-Op
 Draw Date is June 25, 2023
 All Money raised is kept Local for Community Outreach

Tickets available before & after Masses at Holy Family Parish April 29th & 30th and May 6th & 7th

Any questions... Call Bill Helfrich at 403-502-6237




Prayers for Souls of the Faithful Departed
 Pray the rosary with the Legion of Mary.
Mother's Day, May 14th, from 3:00 - 3:30pm
Hillside Cemetery Catholic Section
 There will be an altar for Mary for flowers.
 Bring your own lawn chair if needed.
 For more information...
 Karen-Anne kacherwono@shaw.ca or
 Cora jpcblanchette@telus.net



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



Taste of the World

TASTE OF THE WORLD
 A Taste of the World will give you an appetite to explore not only through food but through connectivity with different people of various cultures and background. Everyone is unique and different but as St. Paul says "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us".
 Therefore, Parish Pastoral Council would like to invite everyone of you to join and participate in this wonderful and exciting event happening in our Parish Community.
When: June 10th starting with the Holy Mass at 5pm followed by the Taste of the World @ 6:30pm.
Where: Holy Family Parish Hall
What is expected?
 > cooking only for 15-20 people.
 > Wear your own traditional outfits.
 > Prayers of the Faithful will be in the local language.
 > Traditional dance or music.

Please contact Gary Heinbecker: tasteoftheworld2023@gmail.com



St. Patrick's Parish Hall
Spring Mother's Day Tea
May 13, 2023 1:30-3:30pm \$3.00/each

Everyone Welcome

Door Prizes

All money collected will be donated to the Nurture Pregnancy Centre here in Medicine Hat.
 Everyone is Welcome.



Celebrate

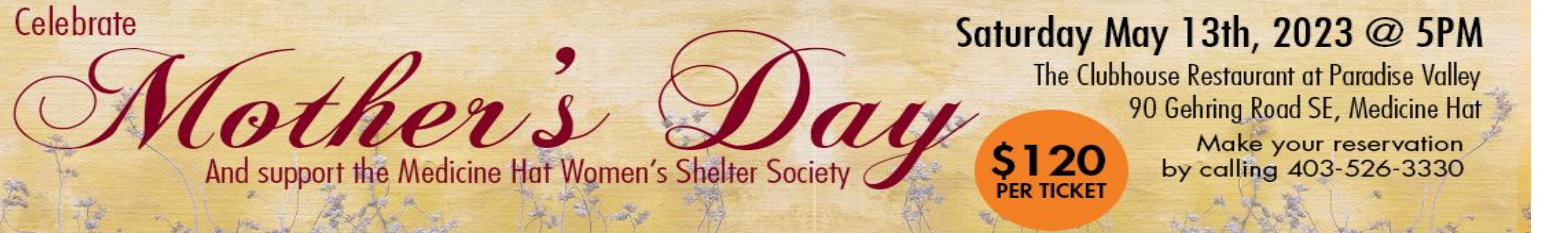
Mother's Day

And support the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society

Saturday May 13th, 2023 @ 5PM
 The Clubhouse Restaurant at Paradise Valley
 90 Gehring Road SE, Medicine Hat

\$120 PER TICKET

Make your reservation by calling 403-526-3330





Vincenzian Corner

Our **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** group continues to work to assist those in dire need within our community. The requests we receive vary in nature: rent, security deposit, transportation, food, and utilities are some of the most frequent and immediate needs of our neighbours. We have had an increased number of calls for help with utilities, and the monthly amounts are increasing quite a bit.

DID YOU KNOW that the City of Medicine Hat has a **COMMUNITY WARMTH PROGRAM**? Many of us can make a difference to help those struggling to house, feed, clothe and raise a family with limited income, without feeling any shortfall in our own needs. You can phone the city to request an amount be added to your monthly utility bill. The extra funds are used throughout the year to assist those who struggle to pay their utility bills. Any amount can make an impact – whether you can afford \$2 or \$25 a month, it all adds up. Requests are considered seriously, and the same customers are not assisted more than once throughout the year. Tax receipts are issued by the Salvation Army for your donations. Just as we would expect, the decisions on how to use this Community Warmth Program are not taken lightly. Please consider helping our fellow Hatters in donating to this worthy cause.

We sincerely thank you for supporting us so generously. Please know that you are in our prayers and that we sincerely appreciate your donations. Without you, we could not do the work we do within our community. God bless you!



GrACE stands for Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education.

The mission of GrACE is to inspire, invigorate and embolden the spirit of

Catholic education to unite, engage, educate, and communicate with one voice on its behalf.

GrACE invites all those committed to Catholic education, through the unity of the Holy Spirit, to be advocates and witnesses for our schools' successes and their future.

We are looking for some feedback on the following questions:

- **Why do you support Catholic Education?**
- **Share about a positive experience that you have had with Catholic Education**
- **What good news story regarding Catholic Education in our division can you share about?**

Please email your responses to contact@holyfamilymh.ca or drop off a hard copy of your responses to the church.

Medicine Hat & District Pro-Life Association

the annual HIKE for LIFE

Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 1:00pm.

Raising funds to provide educational activities and support.

Registration at **Kin Coulee Park** band shelter

Please join us and support **ALL LIFE**.

Pledge sheets are available at the back of the church.

Information –

George Ibach at 403-527-7434



16th Annual Formula for Hope Fundraiser

Mother's Day, May 14 to Father's Day, June 18, 2023



Simply place an empty baby bottle in your home, work place, or church to collect change, cash, and cheques. Funds raised will purchase infant formula, clothing, and diapers to help local families.

Blumenfeld & District Heritage Site Pilgrimage
Sunday, June 11th, 2023
Bishop Mark Hagemoen
Supper following Mass

Rosary & Mass @ 3:00
Reconciliation 2:00-2:45
Bring lawn chairs, bug spray & umbrellas

Work Bee – May 31 @ 6pm, alternate date June 7th.

Please bring pails, mops, rags, lawnmowers.

Many hands are needed to clean the church.

Open for viewing on Sundays, July 2 until Sept 3rd, 2-4.

Facebook - Blumenfeld & District Heritage Site



"People of Praise" Society (Live-In community)

Life in the Spirit Seminar

Wednesdays May 10th until June 21st

7:00pm at Assumption Parish Hall, 2405-12 Ave S. Lethbridge, AB
Life in the Spirit Seminars introduces life lived in the Power of the Holy Spirit. An opportunity for people to start a new relationship with the Lord.

It can serve as an introduction to Christianity. It offers help in finding a fuller release of the Holy Spirit to live a deeper Christian life.

To register or for more info contact:

Shelley Holden: 403-330-6255, email: Shelley.holden@gmail.com

Or Sandra Kano: 403-394-4658, email: skano@live.ca



1st Holy Communion & Confirmation

We'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the children who received the sacrament of 1st Holy Communion. As you continue to attend Mass may you be filled with the joy of Christ Jesus every time you receive this most Blessed Sacrament.

We also would like to congratulate children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. May the Holy Spirit be with you and guide you as you continue to grow in your journey of faith.

A very sincere thank you to all the teacher and helper volunteers for taking time to share the love of their faith with our children and inspire them to be the best version of themselves.

To the parents we are so grateful for your commitment in raising your children in the Catholic faith. Not only do they receive sacramental blessings but the prayers and blessings of this church community as well.

Also a very big thank you to the CWL and the Knights of Columbus for their support, prayers, and volunteering of their time. They see each event as an opportunity to make our families feel welcomed and loved. They truly are builders of the Body of Christ.

Finally, a very sincere thank you to our priests and deacons. For their dedication to serve and the pastoral care to our children and our faith community.

May the joy of the Lord be with you all!



Notre Dame Academy is very proud to be one of the nine Catholic Schools within the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education (MHCBE). Notre Dame Academy has a student population of approximately 440 **students in Grade 6 to 9**. We are also extremely proud that we are one of only a very few successful sports academy schools in Alberta and Western Canada. As a sports

academy school, we offer specialized training in baseball, golf, hockey, and soccer. In addition, we continue to offer innovative and unique exploratory programs like Lego-robotics, Rocketry, Carpentry, Plumbing, Gaming Concepts, Drama, Food Studies, Art, Outdoor Education, etc. to keep our students engaged in their learning. We consider ourselves a community school with many great partnerships. Notre Dame Academy has a very well-developed partnership with Medicine Hat College. Because of this partnership, we can offer an amazing Industrial Arts program in Carpentry, Electrical and Plumbing. Our leadership in this program has been the envy of other schools as they are now seeking to develop a partnership with the MHC. Too, our sports academy programming has been so successful over the past 18 years and now we are seeing other districts wanting to also build sports academy programming into their schools and districts. Notre Dame also has an ongoing partnership with the company Under Armour and Source for Sports.

Our school focus and missions are:

- Build Effective Relationships with Each Other and Our Students.
- Living Our Faith Through Service
- Helping All Students Learn

We would like to thank all the parishioners and staff of Holy Family Parish and St. Patrick's Parish for allowing us to be part of such loving parish communities.

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.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

USE WITH



- 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

Sunday 10:30am Mass on YOUTUBE

Medicine Hat Holy Family Church Live Stream

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

You Tube

Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

catholicyyc.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!

E-transfer
ONLINE GIVING



accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

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





225 Woodman Avenue S.E.
Medicine Hat, Alberta, T1A 3H2
(403) 529-8307
unisonalberta.com

May 2, 2023
Veiner Vintage Transport
Veiner Centre

To Whom It May Concern:

Unison at Veiner Centre in Medicine Hat is based out of Veiner and Strathcona Centres. We provide programs, services, and activities for generations 50+ in the Medicine Hat and surrounding area.

Do you like to meet new people, like to drive, have free time to spare, like to help others, and have a vehicle?

This Spring we are launching "Veiner Vintage Transport." Helping older adults live well in their community by providing a reliable and supportive transportation option to get to appointments, Doctor/medical, dentist, lawyer, bank, and Veiner Centre. We are looking for Volunteer driver's to pick up clients from their home, take to appointments, and return home when finished. It will run weekdays 8am – 4:30pm being a flexible schedule for our drivers. It is a somewhat flexible opportunity, as volunteers can work the drives around their schedule.

We are reaching out to your organization in hopes you may have some Volunteers who are interested in this exciting new program!

For more information please contact Tammy at 403-525-8657.

Thank You,
Tammy Poole
Transportation & Volunteer Facilitator
tammyp@unisonalberta.com



5th Sunday in Easter Time Year-A

May 7, 2023

HE PREPARES A PLACE FOR US

As we continue our Easter journey, once again we are invited to reflect on our closeness with the Lord who prepares a place for us to be with him. Jesus is continuing his farewell discourse as he is still sitting at the dining table. He has finished washing their feet and has completed the institution of two Sacraments: Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Holy Order. He knows what is going on in the hearts of his disciples who are heartbroken to hear what is going to happen to their Master, Friend, Rabbi, and Teacher. He is strengthening them in their brokenness and sadness by saying "Do not let your hearts be troubled". This is our human feelings that it is very sad and painful to see when we lose someone from our families because the hurt which is caused by the loss is beyond explanation.

In the Book of Song of Songs, it is written "Love is as strong as death is" which means there is no guarantee when our life will end but death for sure will come. In the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-12) it's mentioned "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end".

For some people death is a means of receiving eternal life but on the other hand for some people death is just a destruction & ruin: "In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to

have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality” (Wisdom 3:2-4).

We must feel the smell of God when our Saviour is preparing a place for us to be with him. Let me share this wonderful story of young girl who felt the smell of God though little.

A cold March wind danced around the dead of night in Dallas as the doctor walked into the small hospital room of Diana Blessing. She was still groggy from surgery. Her husband, David, held her hand as they braced themselves for the latest news. That afternoon of March 10, 1991, complications had forced Diana, only 24-weeks pregnant, to undergo an emergency Caesarean to deliver the couple's new daughter, Dana Lu Blessing. At 12 inches long and weighing only one pound nine ounces, they already knew she was perilously premature. Still, the doctor's soft words dropped like bombs. "I don't think she's going to make it," he said, as kindly as he could. "There's only a 10-percent chance she will live through the night, and even then, if by some slim chance she does make it, her future could be a very cruel one" Numb with disbelief, David and Diana listened as the doctor described the devastating problems Dana would likely face if she survived. She would never walk, she would never talk, she would probably be blind, and she would certainly be prone to other catastrophic conditions from cerebral palsy to complete mental deficiencies, and on and on.

"No! No!" was all Diana could say. She and David, with their 5-year-old son Dustin, had long dreamed of the day they would have a daughter to become a family of four. Now, within a matter of hours, that dream was slipping away. But as those first days passed, a new agony set in for David and Diana. Because Dana's underdeveloped nervous system was essentially 'raw', the lightest kiss or caress only intensified her discomfort, so they couldn't even cradle their tiny baby girl against their chests to offer the strength of their love. All they could do, as Dana struggled alone beneath the ultraviolet light in the tangle of tubes and wires, was to pray that God would stay close to their precious little girl. There was never a moment when Dana suddenly grew stronger. But as the weeks went by, she did slowly gain an ounce of weight here and an ounce of strength there. At last, when Dana turned two months old, her parents were able to hold her in their arms for the very first time. And two months later, though doctors continued to gently but grimly warn that her chances of surviving, much less living any kind of normal life, were next to zero, Dana went home from the hospital, just as her mother had predicted.

Five years later, when Dana was a petite but feisty young girl with glittering gray eyes and an unquenchable zest for life. She showed no signs whatsoever of any mental or physical impairment. Simply, she was everything a little girl can be and more. But that happy ending is far from the end of her story. One blistering afternoon in the summer of 1996 near her home in Irving, Texas, Dana was sitting in her mother's lap in the bleachers of a local ballpark where her brother Dustin's baseball team was practicing. As always, Dana was

chattering nonstop with her mother and several other adults sitting nearby when she suddenly fell silent. Hugging her arms across her chest, little Dana asked, "Do you smell that?" Smelling the air and detecting the approach of a thunderstorm, Diana replied, "Yes, it smells like rain." Dana closed her eyes and again asked, "Do you smell that?" Once again, her mother replied, "Yes, I think we're about to get wet. It smells like rain." Still caught in the moment, Dana shook her head, patted her thin shoulders with her small hands and loudly announced, "No, it smells like Him. It smells like God when you lay your head on His chest." Tears blurred Diana's eyes as Dana happily hopped down to play with the other children. Before the rains came, her daughter's words confirmed what Diana and all the members of the extended Blessing family had known, at least in their hearts, all along. During those long days and nights of her first two months of her life, when her nerves were too sensitive for them to touch her, God was holding Dana on His chest and it is His loving scent that she remembers so well.

Jesus while sitting at the dinning table is encouraging and strengthening his disciples by saying that he is going to prepare a place for them so that they may be with him. What does it mean to be with the world? I believe the story above is a beautiful example of feeling God's presence once we are gone back to him. St. Clement says "Beloved, Jesus Christ is our salvation, he is the high priest through whom we present our offerings and the helper who supports us in our weakness. Through him our gaze penetrates the heights of heaven, and we see as in a mirror, the most holy face of God. Through Christ the eyes of our hearts are opened, and our weak and clouded understanding reaches up toward the light. Through him the Lord God willed that we should taste eternal knowledge, for Christ is the radiance of God's glory, and as much greater than the angels as the name God has given him is superior to theirs. Let us, then, preserve the unity of the body that we form in Christ Jesus, and let everyone give his neighbor the deference to which his particular gifts entitle him. Let the strong care for the weak and the weak respect the strong. Let the wealthy assist the poor and the poor man thank God for giving him someone to supply his needs. The wise man should show his wisdom not by his eloquence but by good works; the humble man should not proclaim his own humility but leave others to do so; nor must the man who preserves his chastity ever boast of it but recognize that the ability to control his desires has been given him by another. Think, my brothers, of how we first came into being, of what we were at the first moment of our existence. Think of the dark tomb out of which our Creator brought us into his world where he had his gifts prepared for us even before we were born. All this we owe to him and for everything we must give him thanks. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen".

There is saying from the 2nd century author "they are happy, putting all their trust in the Cross, have plunged into the water of life". St. Maximus highlights the true meaning of Christ's resurrection in these words "Christ is risen. His rising brings life to the dead, forgiveness to sinners, and glory to the saints. And so, David the prophet summons all

creation to join in celebrating the Easter festival: Rejoice and be glad, he cries, on this day which the Lord has made”.

An atheist professor of philosophy speaks to his class on the problem science has with God, The Almighty. He asks a believer...

Prof: So you believe in God?

Student: Absolutely, sir.

Prof: Is God good?

Student: Sure.

Prof: Is God all-powerful?

Student: Yes.

Prof: My brother died of cancer even though he prayed to God to heal him. Most of us would attempt to help others who are ill, but God didn't. How is this God good then? Hmm?

(Student is silent.)

Prof: You can't answer, can you? Let's start again, young fella. Is God good?

Student: Yes.

Prof: Is Satan good?

Student: No.

Prof: Where does Satan come from?

Student: From...God...

Prof: That's right. Tell me son, is there evil in this world?

Student: Yes.

Prof: Evil is everywhere, isn't it? And God did make everything, correct?

Student: Yes.

Prof: So who created evil?

(Student does not answer.)

Prof: Is there sickness? Immorality? Hatred? Ugliness? All these terrible things exist in the world, don't they?

Student: Yes, sir.

Prof: So, who created them?

(Student has no answer.)

Prof: Science says you have 5 senses you use to identify and observe the world around you. Tell me, son, have you ever seen God?

Student: No, sir.

Prof: Tell us if you have ever heard your God?

Student: No, sir.

Prof: Have you ever felt your God, tasted your God, smelt your God? Have you ever had any sensory perception of God for that matter?

Student: No, sir. I'm afraid I haven't.

Prof: Yet you still believe in Him?

Student: Yes.

Prof: According to empirical, testable, demonstrable protocol, science says your God doesn't exist. What do you say to that, son?

Student: Nothing. I have only my faith.

Prof: Yes. Faith. That is the problem science has.

Student: Professor, is there such a thing as heat?

Prof: Yes.

Student: And is there such a thing as cold?

Prof: Yes.

Student: No, sir. There isn't.

(The lecture theatre becomes very quiet with this turn of events.)

Student: Sir, you can have lots of heat, even more heat, superheat, mega heat, white heat, a little heat or no heat, but we don't have anything called cold. We can hit 458 degrees below zero which is no heat, but we can't go any farther after that. There is no such thing as cold. Cold is only a word we use to describe the absence of heat. We cannot measure cold. Heat is energy. Cold is not the opposite of heat, sir, just the absence of it.

(There is pin-drop silence in the lecture theatre.)

Student: What about darkness, Professor? Is there such a thing as darkness?

Prof: Yes. What is night if there isn't darkness?

Student: You're wrong again, sir. Darkness is the absence of something. You can have low light, normal light, bright light, flashing light, but if you have no light constantly, you have nothing, and it's called darkness, isn't it? In reality, darkness isn't. If it were, you would be able to make darkness darker, wouldn't you?

Prof: So, what is the point you are making, young man?

Student: Sir, my point is your philosophical premise is flawed.

Prof: Flawed? Can you explain how?

Student: Sir, you are working on the premise of duality. You argue there is life, and then there is death, a good God and a bad God. You are viewing the concept of God as something finite, something we can measure. Sir, science can't even explain a thought. It uses electricity and magnetism but has never seen, much less fully understood either one. To view death as the opposite of life is to be ignorant of the fact that death cannot exist as a substantive thing. Death is not the opposite of life: just the absence of it. Now tell me, Professor. Do you teach your students that they evolved from a monkey?

Prof: If you are referring to the natural evolutionary process, yes, of course I do.

Student: Have you ever observed evolution with your own eyes, sir?

(The Professor shakes his head with a smile, beginning to realize where the argument is going.)

Student: Since no one has ever observed the process of evolution at work and cannot even prove that this process is an ongoing endeavour, are you not teaching your opinion, sir? Are you not a scientist but a preacher?

(The class is in uproar.)

Student: Is there anyone in the class who has ever seen the Professor's brain?

(The class breaks out into laughter.)

Student: Is there anyone here who has ever heard the Professor's brain, felt it, touched or smelt it? No one appears to have done so. So, according to the established rules of empirical, stable, demonstrable protocol, science says that you have no brain, sir. With all due respect, sir, how do we then trust your lectures?

(The room is silent. The professor stares at the student, his face unfathomable.)

Prof: I guess you'll have to take them on faith, son.

Student: That is it, sir. The link between man and God is faith. That is all that keeps things moving and alive.

St. Cyril of Alexandria reflecting on the Letter to the Romans, brings us all together to feel the presence of the Lord as he prepares place for us to be with him. Though many, we are one body, and members one of another, united by Christ in the bonds of love. Christ has made Jews and Gentiles one by breaking down the barrier that divided us and abolishing the law with its precepts and decrees. This is why we should all be of one mind and if one member suffers some misfortune, all should suffer with him; if one member is honored, all should be glad. St. Paul says: Accept one another as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God. Now accepting one another means being willing to share one another's thoughts and feelings, bearing one another's burdens, and preserving the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. This is how God accepted us in Christ, for John's testimony is true and he said that God the Father loved the world so much that he gave his own Son for us. God's Son was given as a ransom for the lives of us all. He has delivered us from death, redeemed us from death and from sin. St. Paul throws light on the purpose of God's plan when he says that Christ became the servant of the circumcised to show God's fidelity. God had promised the Jewish patriarchs that he would bless their offspring and make it as numerous as the stars of heaven. This is why the divine Word himself, who as God holds all creation in being and is the source of its well-being, appeared in the flesh and became man. He came into this world in human flesh not to be served, but, as he himself said, to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many".

He continues to say "Christ declared that his coming in visible form was to fulfill the promise made to Israel. I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, he said. Paul was perfectly correct, then, in saying that Christ became a servant of the circumcised to fulfill the promise made to the patriarchs and that God the Father had charged him with this task, as also with the task of bringing salvation to the Gentiles, so that they too might praise their Savior and Redeemer as the Creator of the universe. In this way God's mercy has been extended to all men, including the Gentiles, and the mystery of the divine wisdom contained in Christ has not failed in its benevolent purpose. In the place of those who fell away the whole world has been saved".

The exclamation of St. Stephen in the first reading opens new horizons to understand the true meaning of inner peace and consolation that comes from the Lord: "But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!". The faith and trust of St. Stephen in the Lord eliminates his pain and suffering because he knew that Lord is not going to abandon him.

St. Peter in the 2nd Reading, invites everyone to work for the eternal salvation like grown ups "Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation- if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ".

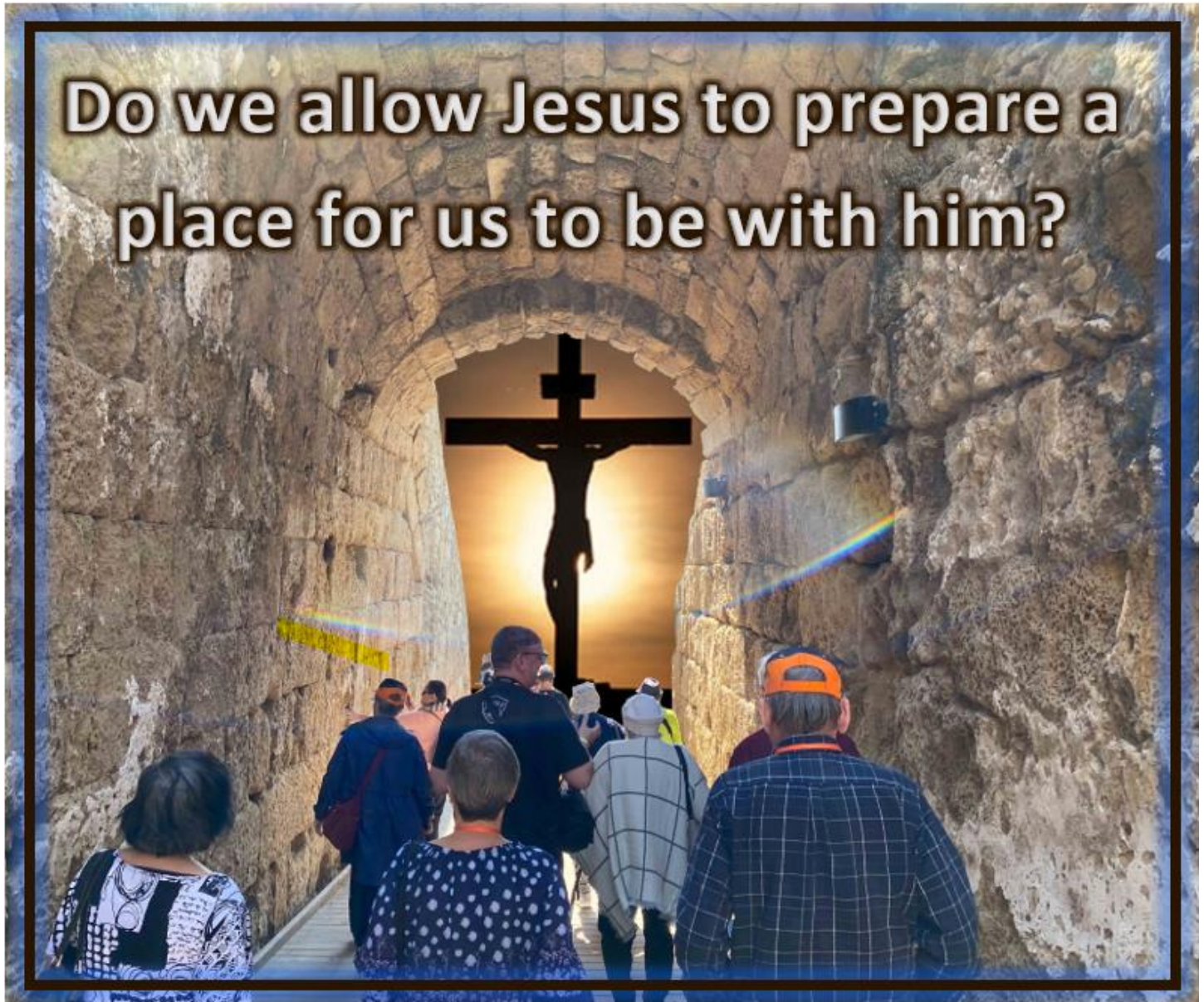
In today's Gospel passage we hear the beginning of Jesus' so-called "farewell discourse." These are the words he addressed to the disciples at the end of the last Supper, just before facing the Passion. In such a dramatic moment Jesus began by saying, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." He says it to us, too, in the dramas of life. But how can we make sure that our hearts are not troubled? Because our hearts do become troubled. We could become lonely and heartbroken, if without mutual relationships are missing or lacking with the Lord. The Lord points out two remedies to being troubled. The first is, "Believe in me". It would seem to be rather theoretical, or abstract advice. Instead, Jesus wants to tell us something specific. He knows that, in life, the worst anxiety, anguish, comes from the feeling of not being able to cope, from feeling alone and without points of reference when faced with events. This anguish, in which difficulties are added to difficulties, cannot be overcome alone. We need Jesus' help, and that is why Jesus asks us to have faith in him, that is, not to rely on ourselves, but on him. Because liberation from being troubled requires trust. Relying on Jesus, taking the leap. And this is the freedom from being troubled. And Jesus has risen and is alive precisely to be always by our side. So, we can say to him, "Jesus, I believe that you have risen and that you are by my side. I believe that you are listening to me. I bring you what upsets me, my troubles: I have faith in you, and I entrust myself to you."

Then there is a second remedy to being troubled, which Jesus expresses with these words: "In my Father's house there are many rooms. I'm going to prepare a place for you". This is what Jesus did for us: he reserved us a place in Heaven. He took our humanity upon himself to take it beyond death, to a new place, to Heaven, so that where he is, we might also be there. It is the certainty that consoles us: there is a reserved place for everyone. There's a place for me, too. Each of us can say: there is a place for me. We do not live aimlessly and without destination. We are expected, we are precious. God is in love with us, we are his children. And for us he has prepared the most worthy and beautiful place: Paradise. Let us not forget this: the dwelling place that awaits us is Paradise. Here we are passing through. We are made for Heaven, for eternal life, to live forever. Forever: it's

something we can't even imagine now. But it is even more beautiful to think that this forever will be entirely in joy, in full communion with God and with others, without more tears, without resentments, without divisions and troubles. Surely, we are troubled as uncertainty is growing day by day and seems there is nothing positive coming up. Only he can wipe our tears as St. John writes in the Book of Revelation (21:1-5).

St. John says "Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be, has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Do we allow Jesus to prepare a place for us to be with him?



DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Visitation of Mary Feast Day at Shrine Church, Canmore

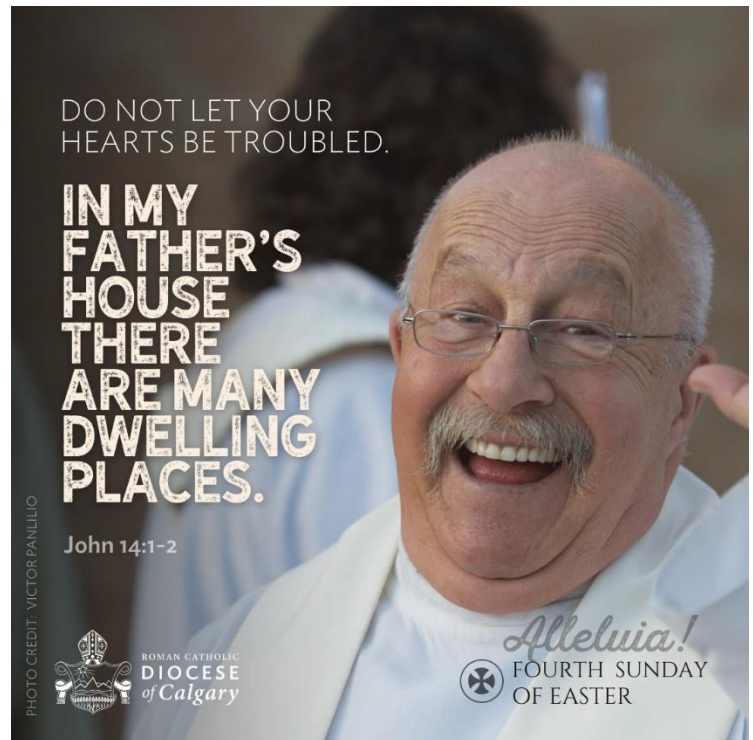
Save the date: **Wed, May 31 from 11 am to 2 pm** at the Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore | Bishop McGrattan invites you to join him on the Visitation of Mary Feast Day, to pray and gather, and entrust the work of the Synod of Bishops to Mary, Mother of the Church. We will be celebrating the Feast Day Mass with Bishop McGrattan, followed by a reception and an outdoor rosary. All are welcome!

In memoriam: Fr. Gilles LeBlanc

Please join us in praying for Fr. Gilles LeBlanc, who passed away peacefully early Tuesday (May 2, 2023) morning. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Marian Art Exhibition at St. Martha's, Lethbridge

St. Martha's Parish in Lethbridge will showcase nine paintings of the Holy Mother by local artist Jim Robinson **throughout the month of May**. This exhibition is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and protection of the unborn. Proceeds will support the Lethbridge & District Pro-Life Society. [More info](#)



2022 Impact Report of the Diocese of Calgary

The Diocese of Calgary is pleased to announce the release of the 2022 Impact Report, which highlights the fruits of your generosity and of our work together over the past year. Read the Impact Report at catholiccy.ca/2022impactreport

Life in the Spirit Seminars

- **Calgary:** CCCRS invites you to join the Life in the Spirit Seminars every **Tuesday** in **May to June 20, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** at St. Mary's Parish Hall. This eight-session seminar is an evangelistic tool and formation experience designed to introduce

participants to a life in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. Register/more info: Deacon Alex Martinez (587) 894-5314.

- **Lethbridge:** "People of Praise" Society (Live-In community) invites you to a Life in the Spirit Seminar, 7 consecutive weeks starting **Wednesday, May 10 until June 21 at 7 pm, Assumption Parish Hall** (2405–12 Ave S. Lethbridge) with the exception of May 17 at St. Basil's lower hall, 604-13th St N Lethbridge. Register/more info: Shelley Holden at 403-330-6255.

Career opportunities

- Assistant Coordinator - Feed the Hungry, Calgary
- Maintenance Worker (Part-time) - Sacred Heart, Calgary
- Admin. Assistant (Part-time) - Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore
- Cook (Part-time) - St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary
- Family Faith Coordinator - All Saints, Lethbridge

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

Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day

Join this significant event's anniversary on **Saturday, May 13 at 5 pm** - Rosary followed by Mass and candlelight procession at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Calgary.

Restoring the Feminine Heart Conference - May 26/27

Fri-Sat, May 26-27 at St. Luke's, Calgary | Beloved Daughters Ministry invites you to their women's conference, offering a time of rest and renewal, with speakers Heather and Jake Khym from Restoration Ministries. [Register now](http://beloveddaughtersyyc.com) or visit beloveddaughtersyyc.com

Pro-Life "Love life" Conference

Sat, May 27 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Shrine Church of Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore | The conference starts with Mass, followed by two, life-affirming, educational presentations from Calgary Pro-Life. fellowship, refreshments and entertainment. All are welcome!

TrAID for MaID at St. Michael's

Tue, May 30 at 7:30 pm at St. Michael's, Calgary | True Assistance in Dying: why is MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying) embedding itself in our country? St. Michael's Catholic Women's League will be hosting Dr. Peggy Thomson-Gibson, MSCM. FRCP(C), as she presents on how to "Defend the Faith without Raising our Voice" to shed the light of faith through prayer, action and sacrifice.

Laudato Si' Week - May 21-28

Laudato Si' Week 2023 will be celebrated **May 21-28** with the film "The Letter" (YouTube originals) to mark the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on care for creation. Let's keep bringing *Laudato Si'* to life! Watch movie now at <http://www.theletterfilm.org/watch>

Pope's Pastoral Works Sunday

On **Sunday, May 21**, there will be a second collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works. This National Collection was established by the Bishops of Canada in 1970. The funds collected help the Pope contribute to charitable causes around the world, particularly toward aiding victims of war, famine and natural disasters. To give online, go to catholiccyyc.ca/ca and click "Pope's Pastoral Works".

Pope's May prayer intention

Let us pray that ecclesial movements and groups may daily rediscover their mission, an evangelizing mission, and that they place their own charisms at the service of the world's needs.

5th Sunday of Easter

Kid's challenge this week: Right at the beginning of today's gospel, Jesus tells the disciples not to be worried and to believe in him. He is asking them to trust him. Think about the people in our lives that we trust. How does it feel when someone breaks your trust? This week think about ways to show your trust in God, and what will you do for the people who trust in you? (CAFOD)

- [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)

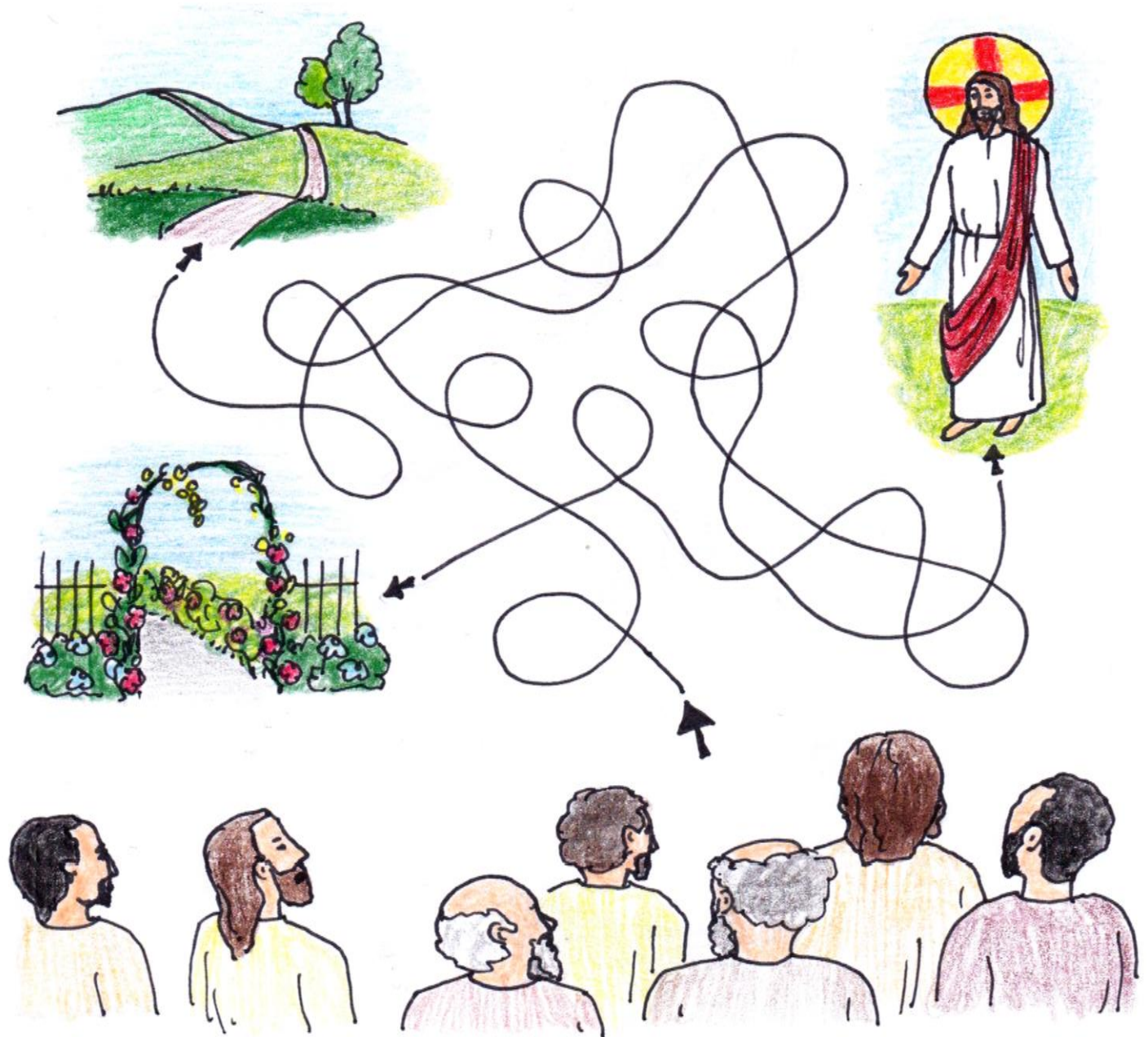
Full schedule of Parish Livestream Masses: <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca> | TELUS Optik TV Ch. 877 (choose Diocese of Calgary tile logo). For other online Masses, visit [Salt+Light TV](#), [Shalom World TV](#), [EWTN](#) and [Vision TV](#)

Resources

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

The Kids' Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7th, 2023



***In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples
the way to the Father in Heaven.
Do you know which is the way?
Follow the squiggly line to find out!***

Blessed Jane of Portugal

May 12

BLESSED JANE WAS BORN IN 1451, A PORTUGUESE PRINCESS. SHE WANTED TO BECOME A DOMINICAN NUN, BUT HER FATHER WOULDN'T LET HER.



SHE AGREED TO NOT LEAVE UNTIL HER BROTHER HAD A CHILD, BUT STILL HER FATHER MADE IT HARD.



AFTER 12 YEARS SHE WAS FINALLY ALLOWED TO JOIN THE DOMINICAN NUNS.



JANE WAS SICKLY AND DID THE WORST JOBS IN THE CONVENT.



ONCE WHEN SHE HAD TO GO BACK TO THE COURT, SHE WAS POISONED BY A WOMAN THAT SHE HAD ONCE CORRECTED.



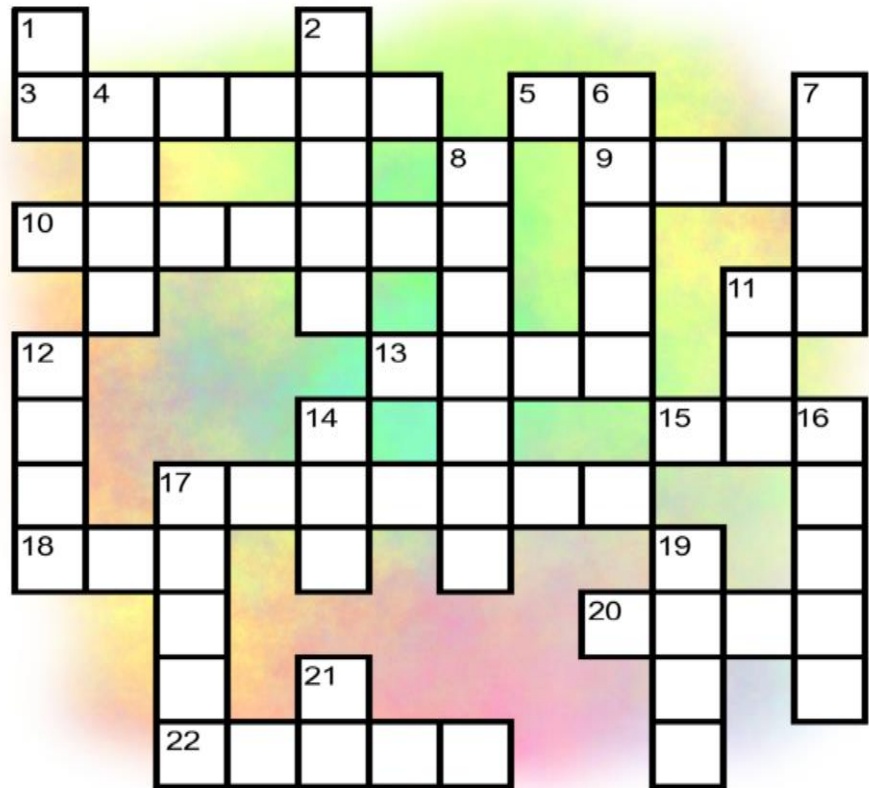
AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF SUFFERING, BLESSED JANE DIED AT THE AGE OF THIRTY-NINE.

BLESSED JANE COULD HAVE HAD A RICH EASY LIFE AND MARRIED AN IMPORTANT MAN, BUT INSTEAD SHE CHOSE TO FOLLOW HER HEART AND LIVE FOR GOD ONLY. SHE DIED BECAUSE THE WOMAN SHE HAD CORRECTED DID NOT LIKE TO HEAR THAT SHE HAD DONE WRONG. LIKE JANE, WE MUST BE READY TO SUFFER FOR THE TRUTH.

"Show us the Father" Cross-Word

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks and complete the puzzle.

**IS WHOEVER
OF BECAUSE
ON BELIEVE
ME FATHER
YOU WORKS
AND DOING
WHO SPEAK
WILL AMEN
OWN JESUS
TIME THAN
SHOW STILL
KNOW SEEN**



_____ (2d) said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a _____ (9a) and you _____ (6d) do not _____ (12d) me, Philip? _____ (17a) has seen me has _____ (7d) the Father. How can you say, ' _____ (19d) us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in ____? (21d) The words that I _____ (22a) to you I do not speak ____ (11a) my _____ (11d). The Father _____ (18a) dwells in me is _____ (16d) his works. _____ (8d) me that I am in the _____ (3a) and the Father ____ (5a) in me, or else, believe _____ (10a) ____ (1d) the works themselves. _____, (4d) amen, I say to _____ (14d), whoever believes in me _____ (13a) do the _____ (17d) that I do, _____ (15a) will do greater ones _____ (20a) these, because I am going to the Father."

Jesus is the Way to Heaven

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the disciples that He is the way to the Father in Heaven.

Jesus is the way for us to go to Heaven. But how can a person be a way to get somewhere? Jesus is always with the Father in Heaven, so the closer we are to Jesus the closer we are to Heaven!

How can we be close to Jesus? Here are some ways:

Pray to Jesus. Prayer is talking with God. When we want to be friends with someone we talk with them a lot.



Try to be like Jesus. Always do the right thing. When you need to decide what to do, think: "What would Jesus do in this situation?" Stay close to Mary, His mother. She will keep you close to Jesus.



Receive Jesus in Holy Communion. The Eucharist is an amazing gift. It is Jesus coming to us so that we can receive Him into our bodies and souls. Communion is the closest we can be to Jesus until we get to Heaven.



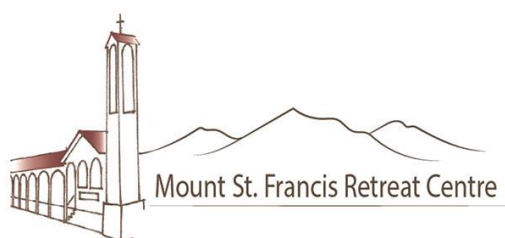
Answers to Cross-Word-Across: 3.Father 5.is 9.time 10.because
11.on 13.will 15.and 17.whoever 18.who 20.than 22.speak
Down: 1.of 2.Jesus 4.amen 6.still 7.seen 8.believe 11.own 12.know
14.you 16.doing 17.works 19.show 21.me

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.