



Welcome to

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

AUGUST 27, 2023 – 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 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

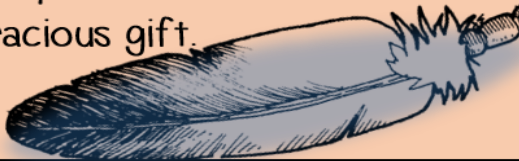
Knights of Columbus – Greg Martin

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.



My Experience

Jesus asks today: Who am I? Peter blurts out: The Christ. In that response, he means the Messiah, the Promised One, the Son of God, the One who saves, redeems, and binds us to God. Quite a mouthful. Profound belief. He is the very foundation of the Church, the People of God.

- ◆ What is my experience of Jesus? He is....
- ◆ How does my experience bind me to all who believe in him?
- ◆ Since I am called to be like him, whom will I save in some small way today?

† Masses & Mass Intentions †

Saturday, August 26

5:00pm ~ Gualberto & Lucia Pimentel †

Sunday, August 27

8:30am ~ Holy Family Parish

10:30am ~ John Kopp †

6:00pm ~ Georgine Hecker †

Monday, August 28

9:00am ~ Bonnie Desormeau †

Tuesday, August 29

9:00am ~ Joe & Amelia Weimer †

Wednesday, August 30

9:00am ~ John Brink †

Thursday, August 31

9:00am ~ Henry & John Weimer †

Friday, September 1

9:00am ~ Jim & Bernice Foley



AUGUST 27, 2023 – 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:13-20



The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

December 31, 2023 - Goal \$70,938

total to date \$33,645

which is 47%

\$37,293 to go.

Together IN ACTION
Annual Bishop's Appeal

Please Give Generously ~ Thank You!

12 Hour Adoration
Friday,
September 1, 2023

9:30am - 9:30pm

Reconciliation

9:30 - 10:30am

& 8:00 - 9:30pm

All parishioners welcome and encouraged to attend



Jesus has made himself the Bread of Life to give us life.

If you can help out for a half hour time slot, there is a sign-up sheet by the Parish office.

First Saturday Mass

The 1st Saturday of each month at 8:30am

September 2nd, 2023



Holy Family Parish Annual Corn Roast



Sunday, September 10, 2023

Following the 10:30 Mass



Holy Family Parish Welcomes

Fr. Greg Coupal

To Celebrate Mass in

Honor of his 50th

Ordination Anniversary

September 17, 2023

10:30 am Mass

Followed by Fellowship in the Hall



HOLY FAMILY PARISH ANNUAL BLESSING OF PETS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 AT 2:00PM

Pets of all religious backgrounds and their owners are welcome!

Pets must be leashed or in a crate.

1451 Strachan Rd SE

403-527-6933



The Catholic Women's League

Holy Family Parking Lot

Saturday, September 9th 10 am - 6pm

Sunday, September 10th 8am - 2 pm

FUNDRAISING

Thank you for your support!



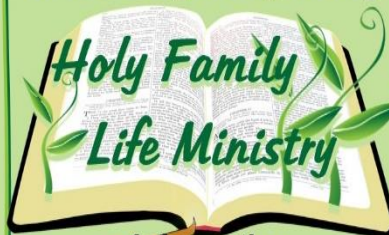
Just a reminder that submissions for the bulletin must be in by Wednesday mornings for the weekend Bulletin. Also PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE email me and let me know when programs will be starting up again so I can get your rooms booked.

Thanks... Teresa... contact@holyfamilymh.ca



**THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF
THE MONTH THE LEGION OF
MARY HOSTS THE MOTHER
OF PERPETUAL HELP
NOVENA
BEFORE MASS AT 8:00AM
SEPTEMBER 6, 2023**

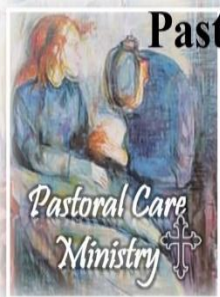
If you are passionate about the dignity of life & would like to know more about what the Catholic Church teaches regarding the dignity of life, please join us.



Information
Valerie at 587-588-5788
Sonia at 403-528-0028

Prayer and Adoration
2nd Tuesday of the month
at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

Education Evening
4th Monday of the month
at 7:00pm in the Faith
Room.



Pastoral Care Ministry Training Holy Family Parish September 22nd-24th

†Friday evening (6:30pm to 8:30pm)

†Saturday (9:30am to 12:00noon,
lunch break, resume 12:30pm to 3:30pm)

†Sunday (1:30pm to 4:00pm)

Please let your ministry people know and other if interested
to attend this training.



Gifts from God The Art Show

November 18-19, 2023
Following each Mass

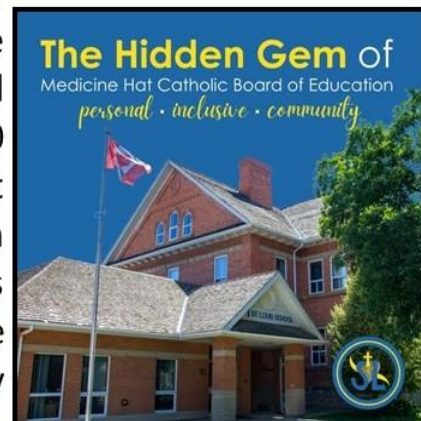
Registration deadline November 3, 2023
see bulletin for info.

St. Louis School is proud to be supported by both St. Patrick's Parish and Holy Family Parish!

Although we are the smallest school within the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education, we are certainly very significant! The original St. Louis School was founded in 1912, the first Catholic School in the city. It was named in honour of the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis, who came from Quebec to teach here. One year later, it had over 200 students! Our school is now housed in the former Montreal Street School. Our school is the oldest school building in Medicine Hat. We currently have just over 100 students, from preschool to grade six. Although we accept students from anywhere in the city, most of our families live in the SE and SW Hill and the North Flats areas. Our school has been called the "Hidden Gem" of Medicine Hat Catholic! We are proud of our heritage and our unique school with a true "Family Feel".



The Hidden Gem of
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
personal • inclusive • community



Mr. R. Blackmer, Principal



Sacramental Preparation 2023-2024 Information Meeting and Registration

**1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion
and Confirmation**

Starts at 6:30pm & goes to 7:30pm

**Please bring Child's Baptismal Certificate & Birth
Certificate or Proof of Citizenship & requesting
\$30.00 Cash or Cheque for each Sacrament**

Holy Family Parish Hall – Tuesday September 12

St. Patrick's Parish Hall – Wednesday September 13

Enrolling your child in the sacraments is a LIFE-GIVING gift.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family as we begin this wonderful journey of faith.

Blessings, Sally Myers

Sacramental Prep
Coordinator

St. Patrick's & Holy Family
Parishes

sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca

**Sunday 10:30am Mass on
YOUTUBE**

**Medicine Hat Holy Family Church
Live Stream**

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6zK-XzuXdDHj79rV6ut_Q)**

You Tube

**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!

Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

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

FORMED®

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

USE
WITH

Roku

Apple TV

firetv

chromecast

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*





2^{1st} Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

August 27, 2023

ST. PETER: THE ROCK OF CHRIST

St. Peter, a fisherman who became the fisher of men. He was a chosen vessel of the Lord who though he showed weakness at times, the Lord chose him to be the rock upon which the Church would be built, and the gates of Hades would not prevail. Why did Jesus choose St. Peter when there were many young and strong men among his disciples? Why did Jesus give authority to St. Peter after his confession that “You are the Son of the living God”? I believe that St. Peter took the adversity and trials and mistakes he encountered and continued to love Jesus without any hesitation. The authority to St. Peter after his confession about the true divinity of Christ. I believe St. Peter’s weakness was strength for the Lord who gave him authority because the Lord knew that his confession was not mere words coming out of his mouth but the strong faith he had in the Lord. St. John Chrysostom talking about the weakness, explains very well that those who are rooted in him, will always have strength in him: “It was clear through unlearned men that the cross was persuasive, in fact, it persuaded the whole world. Their discourse was not of unimportant matters but of God and true religion, of the Gospel way of life and future judgment, yet it turned plain, uneducated men into philosophers. How the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and his weakness stronger than men! In what way is it stronger? It made its way throughout the world and overcame all men; countless men sought to eradicate the very name of the Crucified, but that name flourished and grew ever mightier. Its enemies lost out and perished; the living who waged a war on a dead man proved helpless. Therefore, when a Greek tells me I am dead, he shows only that he is foolish indeed, for I, whom he thinks a fool, turn out to be wiser than those reputed wise. So too, in calling me weak, he but shows that he is weaker still. For the good deeds which tax-collectors and fishermen were able to accomplish by God’s grace, the philosophers, the rulers, the countless multitudes could not even imagine.

Paul had this in mind when he said: The weakness of God is stronger than men. The preaching of these men was indeed divine and is brought home to us in the same way. For how otherwise could twelve uneducated men, who lived on lakes and rivers and wastelands, get the idea for such an immense enterprise? How could men who perhaps had never been in a city or a public square think of setting out to do battle with the whole world? That they were fearful, timid men, the evangelist makes clear; he did not reject the fact or try to hide their weaknesses. Indeed, he turned these into a proof of the truth. What did he say of them? That when Christ was arrested, the others fled, despite all the miracles they had seen, while he who was leader of the others denied him! How then account for the fact that these men, who in Christ's lifetime did not stand up to the attacks by the Jews, set forth to do battle with the whole world once Christ was dead—if, as you claim, Christ did not rise and speak to them and rouse their courage? Did they perhaps say to themselves: "What is this, he could not save himself, but he will protect us? He did not help himself when he was alive, but now that he is dead, how will he extend a helping hand to us? In his lifetime he brought no nation under his banner, but by uttering his name we will win over the whole world?" Would it not be wholly irrational even to think such thoughts, much less to act upon them? It is evident, then, that if they had not seen him risen and had proof of his power, they would not have risked so much.

We must remember that we live in a time and world where people want to have power and authority over other people of which, in recent decades, we have seen so many examples; however, there is a difference between worldly and spiritual authority. In the worldly authority people are self centered, but in the spiritual authority, people care about others without any greed or reward. This Sunday's Scripture Readings are very interesting and thought provoking to examine ourselves to see if we are using that authority to build our families and communities on Gospel values. One of the principles to use that authority is to learn how to control our minds to the right position and direction. The following story can help us to understand our role as people of authority.

One day, a disciple and his teacher were walking through the forest. The disciple was disturbed by the fact that his mind was in constant unrest. He asked his teacher: "Why are most people's minds restless, and only a few possess a calm mind? What can one do to still the mind?"

The teacher looked at the disciple, smiled and said, "I will tell you a story."

"On one beautiful day, an elephant was standing by the shade of a tree, eating its leaves. Suddenly, a small fly came buzzing and landed on the elephant's ear. The elephant stayed calm and continued to eat, not heeding the fly."

"The fly flew around the elephant's ear, buzzing noisily, yet the elephant seemed to be unaffected by it. This bewildered the fly, and it asked, 'Are you deaf?'

"No!" The elephant answered. "Why aren't you bothered by my buzz?" The fly asked.

"Why are you so restless and noisy? Why can't you stay still just for a few moments?" Asked the elephant, and peacefully continued eating the leaves.

The fly answered, "Everything I see, hear and feel attracts my attention, and all noises and movements around me affect my behavior." "What is your secret? How can you stay so calm and still?"

The elephant stopped eating and said, "My five senses do not disturb my peace, because they do not rule my attention. I am in control of my mind and my thoughts, and therefore, I can direct my attention where I want, and ignore any disturbances, including your buzz."

"Now that I am eating, I am completely immersed in the act of eating. In this way, I can enjoy my food and chew it better. I am in control of my attention, and therefore, I can stay peaceful."

Upon hearing these words, the disciple's eyes opened wide, and a smile appeared on his face. He looked at his teacher and said:

"I now understand! My mind will always be in constant unrest, if my five senses, and whatever is happening in the world around me, are in control of it. On the other hand, if I am in command of my five senses, able to disregard sense impressions, and able to control my thoughts, my mind will become calm, and I will be able to disregard its restlessness."

"Yes, that's right," answered the teacher, "The mind is restless and goes wherever the attention goes. Control your attention, and you control your mind."

According to the pastoral constitution on the Church in the modern world, the Second Vatican Council: "We are warned indeed that a man gains nothing if he wins the whole world at the cost of himself. Yet our hope in a new earth should not weaken, but rather stimulate our concern for developing this earth, for on it there is growing up the body of a new human family, a body even now able to provide some foreshadowing of the new age. Hence, though earthly progress is to be carefully distinguished from the growth of Christ's Kingdom. Yet in so far as it can help toward the better ordering of human society it is of great importance to the Kingdom of God".

In the First Reading the Prophet Isaiah is bringing a very strong message to Shebna who was the master of the household and because of his pride, he was ejected from his office and replaced by Eliakim the son of Hilkiah. Shebna, after receiving authority became self centered and used his power to spread evil rather than building the community. Are we self centered people or people centered? In the Gospel of Matthew Jesus praises the faithful and trustworthy servant; "Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you; he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that wicked slave says to himself, 'My master is delayed,' and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know. He will cut him in pieces and

put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matthew 24:45-51).

In the Gospel today Jesus places two questions in front of his disciples to see their openness to understanding him. These questions have very deep and sound theology. Why did Jesus ask them these questions? Did he need any human testimony or approval? Wasn't he aware how people think and feel about him? Didn't he know the minds and hearts of his disciples? If he did not need any of the above, then why did he ask the questions? We must remember these questions have very strong conclusions.

Let us reflect on the verses before today's Gospel passage because they will help us to understand why Jesus asked one general and another specific question. From verse 1-4, the Pharisees and Sadducees were asking Jesus to show them a sign from heaven to prove that he is really from heaven which clearly shows that they did not know Jesus. The verses from 5-12 unveil that Jesus is giving warning to everyone to be careful of the yeast of the Pharisees which means not to be lost in the world. Above mentioned two points will help us to understand the questions Jesus is asking his disciples.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis reflects on the Gospel and says “St. Matthew takes us back to a key juncture along Jesus' journey with his disciples: the moment in which he wants to assess the extent of their faith in him. First, he wants to know what the people think of him; and the people think that Jesus is a prophet, which is true, but they do not grasp the centrality of his Person; they do not understand the centrality of his mission. Then he asks the disciples the question closest to his heart, that is, he asks them directly: “*But who do you say that I am?*” And with that ‘but’ Jesus firmly separates the Apostles from the multitudes, as if to say: but you, who are with me every day and know me personally, what more have you understood? The Master expects from his own a lofty response different from that of public opinion. And indeed, such an answer gushes forth from the heart of Simon, called Peter: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”. Simon Peter finds on his lips, words greater than he, words that do not spring from his natural faculties. Perhaps he did not attend elementary school, and yet he is capable of saying these words, stronger than he! But they are inspired by the Heavenly Father, who reveals Jesus' true identity to the first of the Twelve: he is the Messiah, the Son sent by God to save mankind. And from this answer, Jesus understands that, thanks to the faith given by the Father, there is a solid foundation upon which he can build his community, his Church. Thus, he says to Simon: You, Simon, “you are Peter” — that is, stone, rock — “and on this rock I will build my Church.”

If we sincerely examine ourselves, I think we will be lost in the first question of Jesus “who do people say the Son of Man is?” I believe we are living in a time, where we listen and follow the worldly understanding of Jesus more and we have kept him out of everything. We need the heart and spirit of St. Peter to make Jesus the centre of our

lives. Peter makes his confession of faith in the Gospel when the Lord's question turns from the general to the specific. At first, Jesus asks: "Who do people say that the Son of man is?". The results of this "survey" shows that Jesus is widely considered a prophet. Then the Master puts the decisive question to his disciples: "But you, who do you say that I am?". At this point, Peter alone replies: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God". To confess the faith means this: to acknowledge in Jesus the long-awaited Messiah, the living God, the Lord of our lives. Today Jesus puts this crucial question to us, to each of us. It is a decisive question. It does not allow for a non-committal answer, because it brings into play our entire life. The question of life demands a response of life. For it counts little to know the articles of faith if we do not confess Jesus as the Lord of our lives. Today he looks straight at us and asks, "Who am I for you?" As if to say: "Am I still the Lord of your life, the longing of your heart, the reason for your hope, the source of your unfailing trust?" Along with Saint Peter, we too renew today our life choice to be Jesus' disciples and apostles.

Jesus does not stop there with those two questions; he adds something more and a surprising element in the lives of his disciples. After the confession of St. Peter, he gives authority to his disciples to build the Church. Jesus's authority is not based on greed or power but on service because he came to serve and not to be served. Those who confess Jesus know that they are not simply to offer opinions but to offer their very lives. They know that they are not to believe half-heartedly but to "be on fire" with love. They know that they cannot just "tread water" or take the easy way out, but they must take the risk of putting out into the deep, daily renewing their self-offering. They also follow the Lord along his way, not our own ways. His way is that of new life, of joy and resurrection; it is also the way that passes through the cross and persecution.

This week we have given two personalities to choose: Shebna and St. Peter with authority. One abuses the power and the other lays down his life for Jesus. Which personality are we going to follow? The decision is ours.

The following story to help us to decide what to do and who use our authority to build our families, communities, societies, and countries. St. Peter being the Rock of Christ united everyone to Christ who died on the Cross for everyone.

A shop owner placed a sign above his door that said: "Puppies for Sale."

Signs like this always have a way of attracting young children, and to no surprise, a boy saw the sign and approached the owner; "How much are you going to sell the puppies for?" he asked.

The store owner replied, "Anywhere from \$30 to \$50."

The little boy pulled out some change from his pocket. "I have \$2.37," he said. "Can I please look at them?"

The shop owner smiled and whistled. Out of the kennel came Lady, who ran down the aisle of his shop followed by five teeny, tiny balls of fur.

One puppy was lagging considerably behind. Immediately the little boy singled out the lagging, limping puppy and said, "What's wrong with that little dog?"

The shop owner explained that the veterinarian had examined the little puppy and had discovered it didn't have a hip socket. It would always limp. It would always be lame.

The little boy became excited. "That is the puppy that I want to buy."

The shop owner said, "No, you don't want to buy that little dog. If you really want him, I'll just give him to you."

The little boy got quite upset. He looked straight into the store owner's eyes, pointing his finger, and said; "I don't want you to give him to me. That little dog is worth every bit as much as all the other dogs and I'll pay full price. In fact, I'll give you \$2.37 now, and 50 cents a month until I have him paid for."

The shop owner countered, "You really don't want to buy this little dog. He is never going to be able to run and jump and play with you like the other puppies."

To his surprise, the little boy reached down and rolled up his pant leg to reveal a badly twisted, crippled left leg supported by a big metal brace. He looked up at the shop owner and softly replied, "Well, I don't run so well myself, and the little puppy will need someone who understands!"

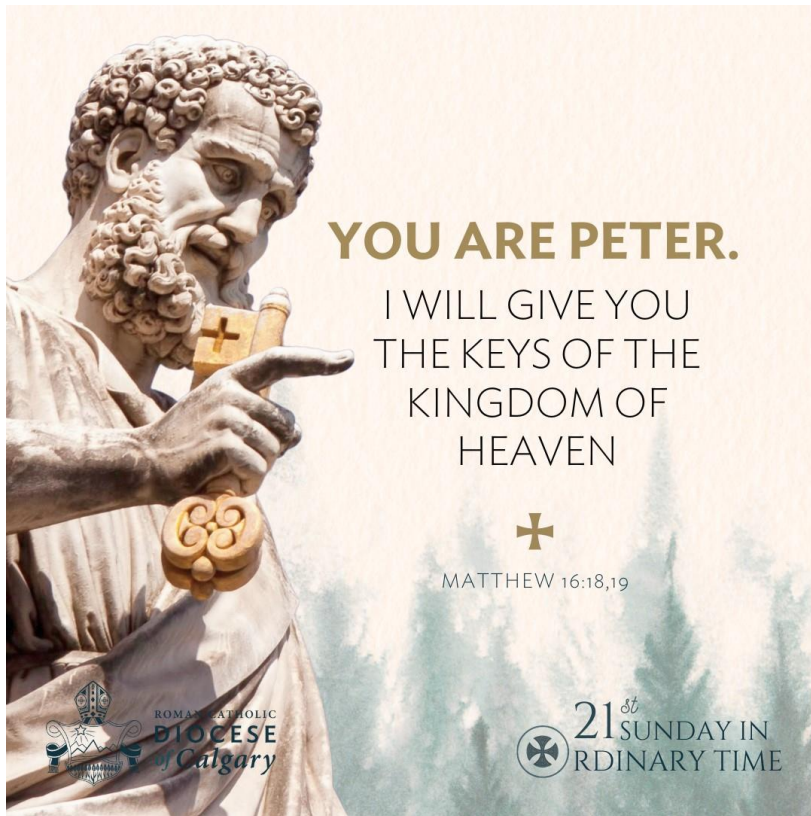
Who is Jesus for us and who we are to him? I leave this question to all of you to decide.

**And I tell you, you
are Peter, and on
this rock, I will
build my church,
and the gates of
Hades will not
prevail against it.
Matthew 16:18**

Photo: Fr. Iqbal Khurshid 2020 at St. Peter's Church in Capernaum, Israel



21st Sunday of Ordinary Time



RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

- [Colouring pages for Transfiguration Sunday to 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- [Kid's Bulletin for Transfiguration Sunday to 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)
- [Sunday Connection this Sunday](#) (Gr. 1-8)
- Children's Liturgy of the Word this Sunday
- [Children's Liturgy sheet for leaders/parents](#) and [Illustration for Transfiguration Sunday to 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time](#) (CAFOD)
- [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](#)

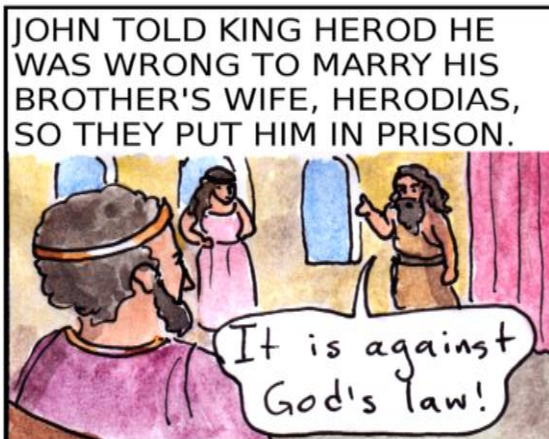
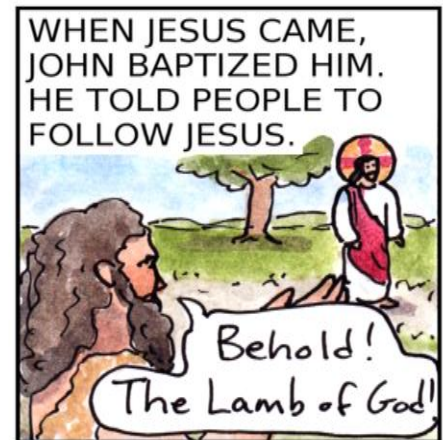
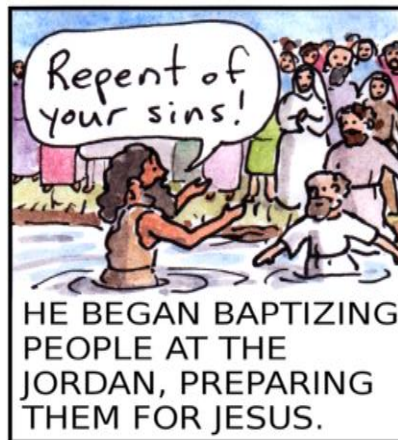
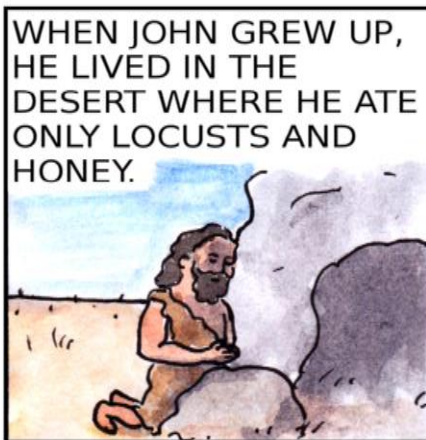
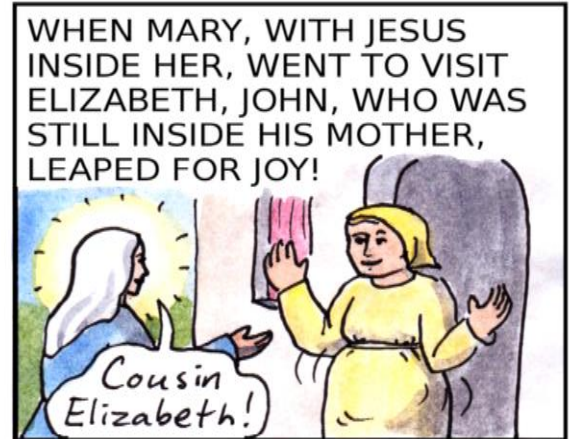
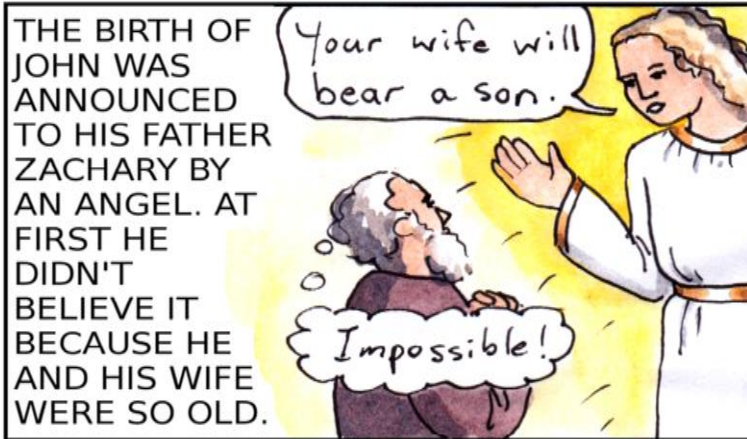
Retrouvaille Weekend in September

Retrouvaille is a retreat designed to infuse hope and facilitate healing for married couples in need. When: **Sep 8 - 10, Calgary Area retreat** | Contact 403-901-9582 or visit helpourmarriage.org

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

BIRTHDAY: JUNE 24

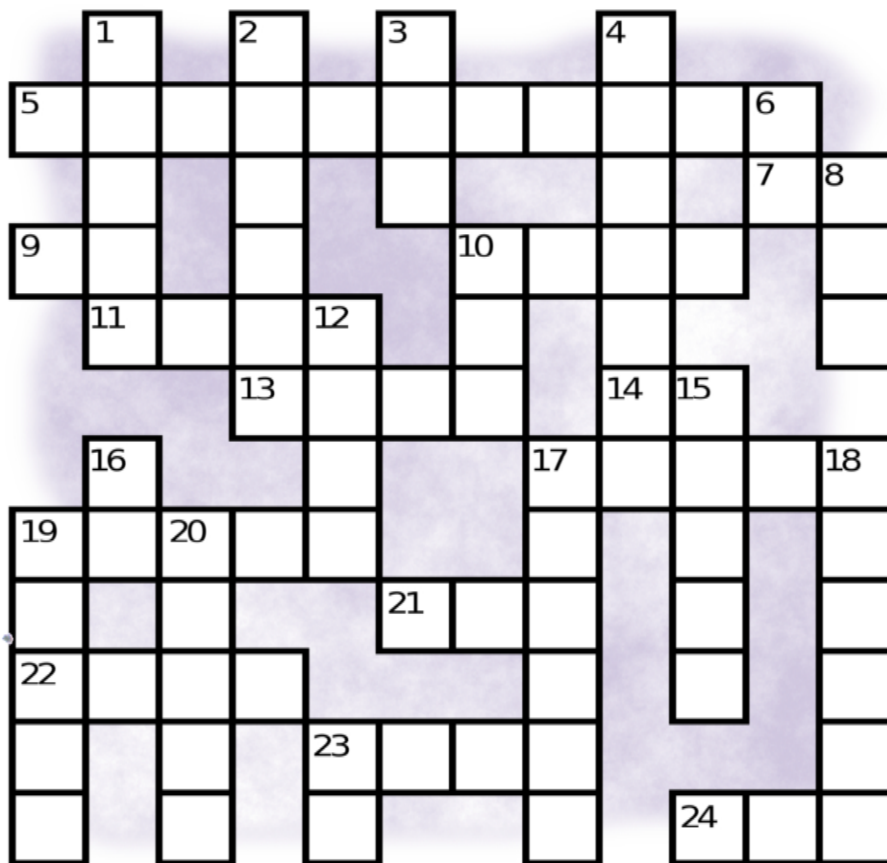
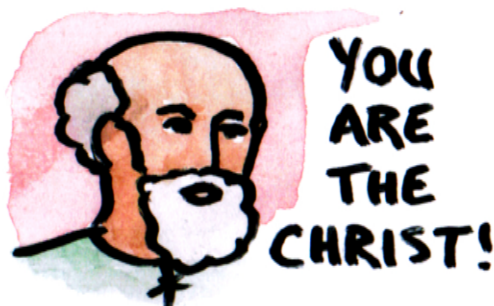
DEATH: AUGUST 29



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST IS LIKE A SIGN-POST THAT POINTS TO JESUS. EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS WEIRD, HE PREACHED THE TRUTH. HE EVEN GAVE UP HIS FREEDOM AND HIS LIFE FOR THE TRUTH. LIKE ST. JOHN, OUR LIVES SHOULD BE LIKE SIGNS THAT DIRECT PEOPLE TO GOD AND TO THE TRUTH.

"Who do you say that I am?" CROSSWORD

See how well you
know what
happened in
today's Gospel
story!



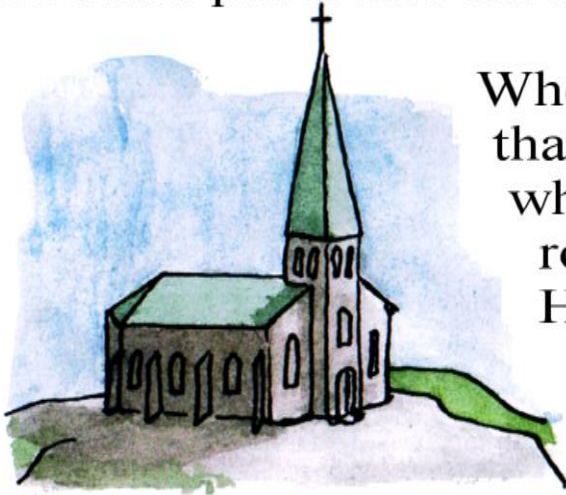
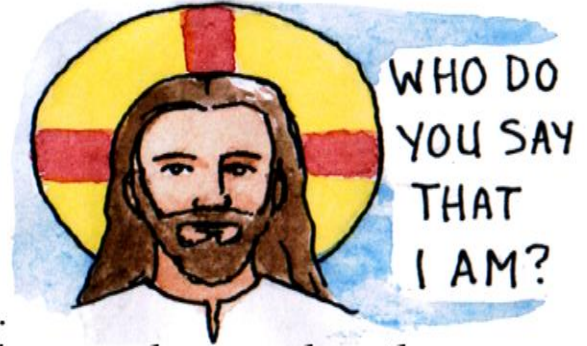
- ACROSS
5. "...the gates of the _____ will not prevail..."
 7. "..._____ this rock I will build my Church..."
 9. "Whatever you bind on earth shall _____ bound in Heaven."
 10. "I will _____ you the keys of the kingdom..."
 11. "On this _____ I will build my Church."
 13. Jesus made Peter the _____ of the Church on earth.
 14. "Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed _____ Heaven."
 17. "_____ and blood have not revealed this to you..."
 19. _____ asked them, "Who do you say that I am?"
 21. God _____ Peter in charge of His Church on earth.
 22. Jesus changed Simon's _____ to Peter.
 23. "Flesh and blood _____ not revealed this to you..."
 24. "...You are the Christ, the _____ of the living God!"

- DOWN
1. _____ said, "You are the Christ..."
 2. "On this rock I will build my _____."
 3. "Blessed _____ you, Simon..."
 4. "...the gates of the netherworld shall not _____..."
 6. "Who _____ people say that the Son of Man is?"
 8. "Flesh and blood have _____ revealed this..."
 10. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living _____!"
 12. "I will give you the _____ to the kingdom of Heaven."
 15. When will the gates of the netherworld prevail against the Church?
 16. _____ belong to the Church that Jesus started.
 17. The Heavenly _____ revealed to Simon who Jesus was.
 18. "...the keys to the kingdom of _____..."
 19. "Blessed are you, Simon, son of _____..."
 20. Peter's name before Jesus changed it.
 23. Jesus ordered the disciples to tell no one that _____ was the Christ.

"You Are Peter."

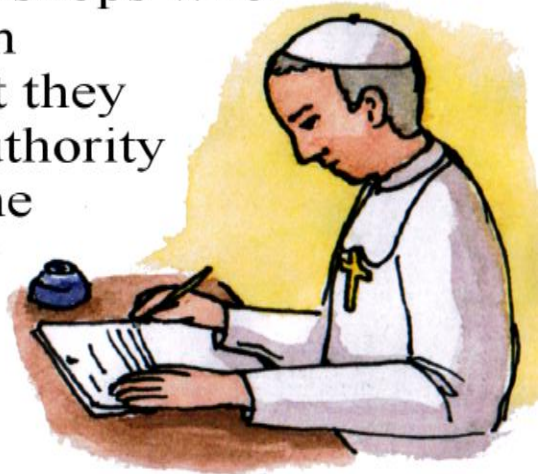
Today in the Gospel reading, Jesus asked His disciples who people thought that He was. Everybody seemed to think He was someone special, but none of them knew who He really was.

When Jesus asked the disciples themselves who they thought He was, Simon said that He was "the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Simon only knew this because God had put it into his mind.



When Simon had said this, Jesus said that his name would now be Peter, which means rock, and that on this rock He would build His Church. He made Simon Peter the first pope. He also said that the gates of Hell would not prevail against the Church. Jesus was assuring us that He would always protect the Church from error.

Now whenever the pope, or the bishops who are agreeing with the pope, proclaim something about God, we know that they are right. Jesus gave the teaching authority to Peter, and he passed it down to the bishops through all the centuries until now. Isn't that pretty amazing?



Answers to Crossword: ACROSS: 5. Nethe world 7. on 9. be
10. give 11. rock 13. head 14. in 17. flesh 19. Jesus 21. set (or put)
22. name 23. have 24. son DOWN: 1. Peter 2. Church 3. are
4. prevail 6. do 8. not 10. God 12. keys 15. never 16. we 17. Father
18. Heaven 19. Jonah 20. Simon 23. he

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 RESPOND to it, you can forward it to contact@holyfamilymh.ca so it can be sent to the diocese.