



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 – 31ST 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 &
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.**

**IF YOU ARE HUMBLE.
NEITHER PRAISE NOR
DISGRACE WILL TOUCH
YOU, BECAUSE YOU
KNOW WHO YOU ARE.**

BLESSED MOTHER TERESA

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A
MATTHEW 23:1-12



† Masses & Mass Intentions †



Saturday, November 4

5:00pm ~ Trudy & Joe Wagner †

Sunday, November 5

8:30am ~ Holy Family Parish

10:30am ~ Fabian & Margo Delwo

6:00pm ~ Vlado Mali †

Monday, November 6

9:00am ~ Fr. Iqbal & Family

Tuesday, November 7

9:00am ~ Russell Foley Family

Wednesday, November 8

9:00am ~ Josephine Stodalka †

Thursday, November 9

9:00am ~ Veronica Swan †

Friday, November 10

9:00am ~ Aldo Dal Molin †

CWL Memorial Mass 6:00pm ~ Tony & Lena
Weimer †

**View the Full-Length Bulletin at www.holyfamilymh.ca or on
Facebook - Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish**

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 – 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

OPERATING FINANCES

SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2023

Operating Budget 2022	\$ 63,984
General Envelope Collection	\$ 39,538
Loose Collections	\$ 2,763
Future Development	\$ 3,036
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 3,388
\$ 53,947- Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 15,259

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,576
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,375
World Mission	\$ 65
Clergy Retirement	\$ 50
Mission Mexico	\$ 205
CARO	\$ 25
Seminary Fund	\$ 50
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$520

Thank You for your Generous Contributions

Average Weekly Attendance 839

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

- + **First Reading** – Malachi 1:14B-2:2B, 8-10: I am a great King and demand respect. Priests, if you don't honor my name, I'll curse you. You've strayed and made others falter, breaking the covenant. Remember, we all have one God.
- + **Responsorial Psalm** – Psalm 131: My heart isn't proud, Lord. I don't aim for things beyond me. Instead, I'm at peace, quiet like a child with its mother. Israel, put your hope in the Lord.
- + **Second Reading** – 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13: We were kind to you, like a mother to her children. We shared not just the gospel, but ourselves. You know we worked hard to not be a burden. We're thankful you received God's word, not just human words.
- + **Gospel** – Matthew 23:1-12: Jesus tells the crowd and his disciples to follow the teachings of the scribes and Pharisees but not their actions. He criticizes them for being showy and not genuinely helping others. He advises against using titles like "Rabbi" and "Master," emphasizing humility and service instead.

December 31, 2023 - Goal \$70,938

Together IN ACTION
Annual Bishop's Appeal

total to date \$44,608
which is at 63%

\$26,330. still left to raise.

Please Give Generously ~ Thank You!

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 4 - 7:00am - HFP Hall
That Man Is You
- Nov. 4 - 10:00am - Hope Room
Benedictine Group Meeting
- Nov. 8 - 9:30am - Faith Room
Bible Study
- Nov. 8 - 7:00pm - Faith Room
R.C.I.A.
- Nov. 10 - 6:00pm - Holy Family Parish Sanctuary
Catholic Women's League Memorial Mass
- Nov. 11 - 7:00am - HFP Hall
That Man Is You
- Nov. 11 - 10:00am - Hope Room
Benedictine Group Meeting
- Nov. 14 - 6:30pm - Holy Family Parish Sanctuary
Mass of the Angels
- Nov. 15 - 9:30am - Faith Room
Bible Study
- Nov. 15 - 7:00pm - Faith Room
R.C.I.A.

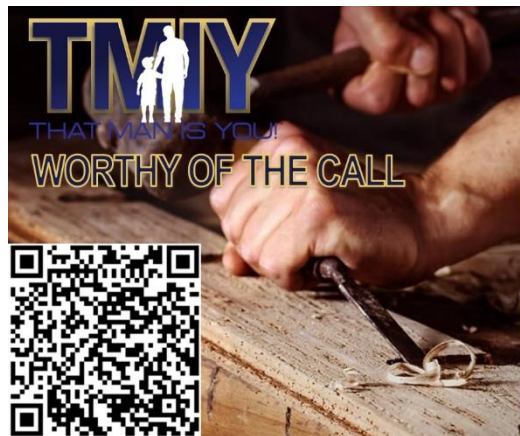
Mass of the Angels



Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Mass 6:30pm

Flowers provided by **PATTISON**
FUNERAL HOME
SINCE 1908



Holy Family
Parish Hall
Breakfast 7:30am
Presentation
8:30 – 9:30 am
November 11/23
Theme
Gluttony: The
Annunciation
Presenter
Mark Hartfiel



Catholic Women's League (CWL)
Memorial Mass
Friday, November 10, 2023
Candles at 6:00pm - Mass at 6:30pm

Knights of Columbus
Memorial Mass
Friday, November 17, 2023
Candles at 6:00pm - Mass at 6:30pm



HOMESTAY FAMILIES NEEDED

Are you interested in hosting an international student? Desire to help a student learn about our Canadian culture? The international program with MHCBE is currently recruiting homestay families for our February intake. We have students joining us from all over the world to attend our highly rated junior high and high schools. If you have a spare room and the ability to make a student feel like part of the family, please reach out to... lori.frelick@mhcbce.ab.ca



Sacramental Preparation 2023-2024

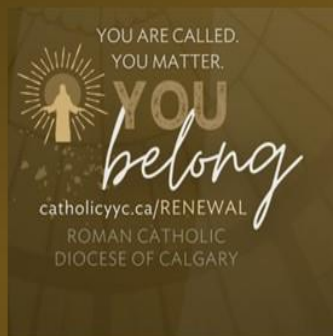
1st Reconciliation Parents Meeting
Tuesday, November 21 at 6:30pm in Faith Room

Confirmation Class
Thursday, November 23 at 6:00pm in Faith Room

1st Reconciliation Class
Sunday, November 26 at 10:15am in Faith Room

CATHOLICYYC.CA/RENEWAL

RENEWAL GATHERING



Bishop McGrattan will be coming to our area to have Mass with us, share a meal together, and discuss how we can experience renewal in our personal lives, our parishes, and the Diocese. There is no cost to attend but your registration helps us in the meal planning. Register online at catholicyycc.ca/renewal or call Monica at 403-218-5521.

MONDAY

NOV 13 | MEDICINE HAT

5 PM (Mass) to 9 PM | Holy Family, Medicine Hat
Dinner included | Register by Nov. 10, 2023




Gifts from God

The Art Show

CANCELLED

November 3, 2023

see bulletin for info.



Knights of Columbus


Charity Appeal Tickets

The Annual Knights of Columbus Alberta fundraiser for the Charitable Foundation & the State Board. Ticket proceeds from our local Council go to Project Rachel & Elizabeth House. Holy Family Parish Knights needs your support!

Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code on the Bulletin Board at Holy Family or go to www.kofc5050.com. When purchasing tickets under **Select** option PLEASE look for **09502, Joe McKenna, Medicine Hat**, or we will not get credit for tickets purchased. Sales end Nov 25, 2023

Ticket prices are 200 tickets for \$100, 50 tickets for \$50, 10 tickets for \$20 and one ticket for \$5

Thank you for your support.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

DO YOU HAVE A DESIRE TO LEARN ABOUT THE TRADITIONS AND TEACHINGS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH? DO YOU FEEL A NEED FOR A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR FAITH BELIEFS IN ORDER TO KEEP UP WITH THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OF YOUR CHILDREN?


IF SO, PERHAPS YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE RCIA PROGRAM.

Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat, AB

WEDNESDAYS

7:00PM

FAITH ROOM



Children's Liturgy

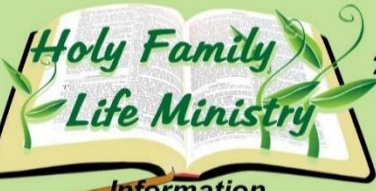
Learning about God!

10:30am Mass

Questions or to volunteer call

Tammy at 403-866-7886

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.



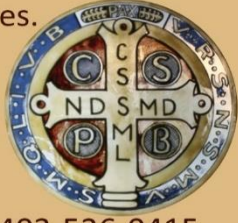
Prayer and Adoration
2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

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

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

Listen...with the ear of your heart.

This is the opening line of the rule of St. Benedict. Come join us (Benedictine Oblates) in prayer as we listen to the voice of God in our lives.



We meet every Saturday morning at 10:00 in the Hope Room at Holy Family Parish.

For more information call Carol at 403-526-0415.


Vincentian Corner

Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul conference helps those in need in Medicine Hat on an ongoing basis. We are fortunate that we can make a difference in many people's lives thanks to the generosity of our parishioners. God bless you all.

Have you ever wondered if God may be calling you to join us? If you feel that you might enjoy helping others, we would be happy to have you join one of our experienced Vincentians on a 'call' as you discover through this experience how rewarding it is to help our neighbours in need. We meet people face to face to ask them about their request for assistance. As we listen to the details of their situation, they feel cared about and less alone. Our attention encourages them to be part of the solution to improve their current plight. People are so thankful to be heard and offered direction and/or assistance. Everyone's time is valuable, and you only need to be involved when you are able. There is no minimum time commitment.

If you would like to go on a call, please phone either church office to arrange an opportunity to experience what we do. We would love to share the joy of helping others with you!

SSVP Medicine Hat Vincentians





Monsignor McCoy High School

Monsignor McCoy High School is the only high school in the Medicine Hat Catholic School Division. We are privileged to be able to work with our Division's students who are closest to realizing their goal of achieving their High School Diploma and the completion of high school. This year, we have become home to a large number of international students, as well. Their involvement at our school has brought a wonderful dynamic of energy and diversity as they

have become a part of the fabric of our school and community. As a school community, our students are involved in charitable activities throughout the year, including donating turkey hampers to our families in need during the Christmas season.

Our school provides a wide variety of high-interest curricular and extracurricular programming that provides them with a transcript of experiences that better prepares them for their transition to work and post-secondary education. Along with traditional, in-class programming, Monsignor McCoy High School offers an array of online programming and a Learning Centre to support students who prefer to work outside of the classroom, or at home. St. Joseph's Education Centre, which runs out of our school, provides many different pathways for students to complete high school.

Our school also provides a full slate of extracurricular programming, including a Fine Arts Academy with eight different fine arts courses. All our students can also take part in an annual musical production. We offer a Baseball Academy, and our students also participate in many different sports throughout the school year with great success, including provincial appearances by our golf and volleyball teams this fall.

We look forward to your continued support of Monsignor McCoy High School with your prayers, your attendance at our events, and your financial support of our different projects.



catholicyc.ca/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!**

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

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- Fire TV
- Chromecast

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

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*



Joe McKinnon Council #9502 Knights of Columbus

Position	Name
Grand Knight	Greg Martin
Deputy Grand Knight	Jimmy Tablan
Financial Secretary	Pat Ries
Treasurer	Ron Pisoni
Chancellor	
Recorder	Pat Brigham
Advocate	Andy Hamel
Warden	Walter Pratt
Inside Guard	Dale Maddaford
Outside Guard	Michael Camphor
Year 1 Trustee	Herb Durda
Year 2 Trustee	Gary Heinbecker
Year 3 Trustee	Kent Friedt
Lecturer	Rick Brown
Membership Director	Garry Lux
Faith in Action Program Director	Greg Martin
Faith in Action Life Director	Allan Lawson
Faith in Action Family Director	Jimmy Tablan
Faith in Action Faith Director	Darrell Bonagofsky
Faith in Action Community Director	Ron Pisoni
Pastoral Parish Council Representative	Garry Mastel



2023-24 Knights Events

Date & Activity

Sunday, September 10
Corn Roast

Sunday, September 24
Knights Mass

Sunday, October 15
Breakfast

Sunday, November 19
Breakfast

Saturday, December 9
Knights Mass

Sunday, December 17
Christmas Breakfast

Sunday, January 21
Breakfast

Sunday, February 25
Breakfast

Sunday, April 7
Breakfast

Sunday, May 5
Breakfast

Sunday, June 23
Parish Picnic



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

November 5, 2023

CONTRADICTIONS IN OUR LIFE

The month of November is the month of remembrance in which we not only remember fallen armed personnel but also remember all our deceased brothers and sisters who fallen asleep in the Lord before us. They have left remarkable memories and legacies to cherish that grief changes into joy and happiness. God has set his tent among us and will wipe every tear from eyes because he is the source of all consolation and peace. The word of God is both living and powerful and much more piercing than a two-edged sword. The word of God is plainly shown in all its strength and wisdom to those who seek out Christ, who is the word, the power, and the wisdom of God. This word was with the Father in the beginning, and in its own time was revealed to the apostles, then preached by them and humbly received in faith by believers. So, the word is in the Father, as well as on our lips and in our hearts. This word of God is living; the Father gave it life in itself, just as he has life in himself. For this reason, it not only is alive, but it is life, as he says of himself: I am the way, the truth and the life. Since he is life, he is both living and life-giving. For, as the Father raises up the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to those he chooses. He is life-giving when he calls the dead from the grave and says: Lazarus, come forth. When this word is preached, in the very act of preaching it gives to its own voice, which is heard outwardly, a certain power which is perceived inwardly, so much so, that the dead are brought back to life and by these praises the sons of Abraham are raised from the dead. This word then is alive in the heart of the Father, on the lips of the preacher, and in the hearts of those who believe and love him. Since this word is so truly alive, undoubtedly it is full of power.

It is powerful in creation, powerful in the government of the universe, powerful in the redemption of the world. For what is more powerful, more effective? Who shall speak

of its power; who shall make all its praises heard? It is powerful in what it accomplishes, powerful when preached. It does not come back empty; it bears fruit in all to whom it is sent. It is powerful and more piercing than any two-edged sword when it is believed and loved. For what is impossible to the believer? What is difficult for a lover? When this word is spoken, its message pierces the heart like the sharp arrows of a strong man, like nails driven deep; it enters so deeply that it penetrates to the innermost recess. This word is much more piercing than any two-edged sword, inasmuch it is stronger than any courage or power, sharper than any shrewdness of human ingenuity, keener than all human wisdom, or the subtlety of learned argument.

Human beings are full of contradictions. We want what we don't have. We get tired of what we struggled to get. We say one thing but do another. It's not just people who behave this way, throughout the universe things are happening that aren't supposed to be happening. We think we know how something works and then it does something completely different. We like patterns, we like working out the rules and being able to predict events. But there's always an exception to the rule. An anomaly will arise. The unexpected will turn up with alarming regularity. And when this happens our reaction is to take a closer look. We are fascinated by contradiction and want to examine it for answers, even when there are none to be had. There is a famous saying "curiosity killed the cat" meaning if we don't change ourselves then we too are going to fall into the temptation of contradiction which most of the time leads us to misunderstanding and broken relationships.

This urge is powerful and is just as strong in the fictional world as it is in the real one. If I tell you story of a man who escaped from prison that could be a very interesting story, but if I tell you he escapes from a prison that was built on the claim that it was escape-proof and that this man was the only one to ever break out, that's the same story but the framing of the premise makes it a lot more attention-grabbing (or at least it would if you hadn't already heard it a million times).

The maiden voyage of the Titanic is a great tragedy that has become part of our cultural history, but part of its legend is that it was a boat specifically launched under the title of 'unsinkable'. And then it sank on its first time out. That's a massive contradiction that immediately captures the attention. Not that contradiction has to be quite so on the nose. If my prison story is about a petty criminal who gets put in a high security jail and ends up learning all the tricks of the trade from the greatest criminal minds in the country emerging as an expert in all things illegal, then the contradiction there is simply that prisons aren't supposed to make you better at crime. Of course, just because a contradiction exists doesn't mean it's going to automatically produce an engaging story. But if you can find the contradictions in your characters and their adventures and show them to the reader, it will make for a much quicker connection. Many times we witness main stream media doing the same and many people believe that they show the truth but most of the time story is other way around.

It's part of our nature to experience the world both as we would like it to be and how it actually is. What we believe, what we know, what we stand for and what we end up doing can all be completely opposite to each other and yet exist side by side. Once we learn to listen to the voice of God, then there is no ill feelings or contradictions in our lives because the voice of God will always lead us to perfection and righteousness.

One Saturday night, a pastor was working late and decided to call his wife before he left for home. It was about 10:00 PM, but his wife didn't answer the phone. The pastor let it ring many times. He thought it was odd that she didn't answer but decided to wrap up a few things and try again in a few minutes. When he tried again, she answered right away. He asked her why she hadn't answered before, and she said that it hadn't rung at their house. They brushed it off as a fluke and went on their merry ways.

The following Monday, the pastor received a call at the church office, which was the phone that he'd used that Saturday night. The man that he spoke with wanted to know why he'd called on Saturday night. The pastor couldn't figure out what the man was talking about. Then the man said, "It rang and rang, but I didn't answer."

The pastor remembered the mishap and apologized for disturbing him, explaining that he'd intended to call his wife.

The man said, "That's okay. Let me tell you my story. You see, I was planning to commit suicide on Saturday night, but before I did, I prayed, 'God if you're there, and you don't want me to do this, give me a sign now.' At that point, my phone started to ring. I looked at the caller ID, and it said, 'Almighty God'. I was afraid to answer!"

Today's Readings are helping us to understand our contradictions and mend our ways to live our lives according to the commandments of the Lord and pure. In the First Reading Prophet Malachi is bluntly challenging everyone to examine themselves and glorify the name of God the Father Almighty. If anyone will refuse to listen what the Lord is going to say then "curse" going to be upon them. The contradictions in the life of Israel have caused them great suffering even exile to Babylon for 70 years. The disobedience and unfaithfulness did cause lot of problem for Israelites and Prophet Malachi is calling them back to God the Father. (Please read Psalm 95, Ezekiel 18 & 33).

As we follow Pastoral Renewal Path for next 5 years in the diocese of Calgary by the theme "You are called, you belong, and you matter" it is all about clearing our contradiction and setting up our goals on the pure Christian discipleship. **St. Charles who was a bishop and attended the synod**, gave a very inspiring homily. "I admit that we are all weak, but if we want help, the Lord God has given us the means to find it easily. One priest may wish to lead a good, holy life, as he knows he should. He may wish to be chaste and reflect on heavenly virtues in the way he lives. Yet he does not resolve to use suitable means, such as penance, prayer, the avoidance of evil discussions and harmful and dangerous friendships. Another priest complains that as soon as he comes into church to pray the office or to celebrate Mass, a thousand thoughts fill his mind and distract him from God. But what was he doing in the sacristy before he came out for the office or for Mass? How did he prepare? What means did he use to collect his thoughts and to remain

recollected?

Would you like me to teach you how to grow from virtue to virtue and how, if you are already collected at prayer, you can be even more attentive next time, and so give God more pleasing worship? Listen, and I will tell you. If a tiny spark of God's love already burns within you, do not expose it to the wind, for it may get blown out. Keep the stove tightly shut so that it will not lose its heat and grow cold. In other words, avoid distractions as well as you can. Stay quiet with God. Do not spend your time in useless chatter. If teaching and preaching is your job, then study diligently and apply yourself to whatever is necessary for doing the job well. Be sure that you first preach by the way you live. If you do not, people will notice that you say one thing, but live otherwise, and your words will bring only cynical laughter and a derisive shake of the head. Are you in charge of a parish? If so, do not neglect the parish of your own soul, do not give yourself to others so completely that you have nothing left for yourself. You have to be mindful of your people without becoming forgetful of yourself.

My brothers, you must realize that for us churchmen nothing is more necessary than meditation. We must meditate before, during and after everything we do. The prophet says: I will pray, and then I will understand. When you administer the sacraments, meditate on what you are doing. When you celebrate Mass, reflect on the sacrifice you are offering. When you pray the office, think about the words you are saying and the Lord to whom you are speaking. When you take care of your people, meditate on how the Lord's blood washed them clean so that all that you do becomes a work of love. This is the way we can easily overcome the countless difficulties we have to face day after day, which, after all, are part of our work: in meditation we find the strength to bring Christ to birth in ourselves and in other men".

Today's Gospel passage is set in the final days of Jesus' life, in Jerusalem; days filled with expectations and also tension. On the one hand, Jesus directs harsh criticism at the scribes and Pharisees, and on the other, he entrusts important mandates to Christians of all times, thus also to us.

He says to the crowd: "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so, practice and observe whatever they tell you". Meaning that they have the authority to teach what is in conformity with the Law of God. However, immediately after, Jesus adds: "but do not do 'what they do; for they preach, but do not practice'". A frequent flaw of those in authority, whether civil or ecclesiastic authority, is that of demanding of others things — even righteous things — that they do not, however, put into practice in the first person. They live a double life. Jesus says: "They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. This attitude sets a bad example of authority, which should instead derive its primary strength precisely from setting a good example. Authority arises from a good example, so as to help others to practice what is right and proper, sustaining them in the trials that they meet on the right path. Authority is a help, but if it is wrongly exercised, it becomes oppressive; it does not allow people to grow, and creates a climate of distrust and hostility, and also leads to corruption.

Jesus openly denounces some of the negative conduct of the scribes and of some Pharisees: "they love the place of honour at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the marketplaces". This is a temptation that corresponds to human pride and that is not always easy to overcome. It is the attitude of living only for appearances.

Then Jesus entrusts the mandates to his disciples: "you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. Neither you be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant".

We, disciples of Jesus must not seek titles of honour, of authority or supremacy. I tell you; it pains me personally to see people who, psychologically, live in pursuit of vain accolades. We, disciples of Jesus must not do this, because among ourselves there must be a simple and fraternal attitude. We are all brothers and sisters and in no way must we abuse others or look down on them. No. We are all brothers and sisters. If we have received talents from the heavenly Father, we must place them at the service of our brothers and sisters, and not exploit them for our own satisfaction and personal interests. We must not consider ourselves superior to others; modesty is essential for an existence that seeks to conform to the teaching of Jesus, who is meek and humble of heart and came not to be served but to serve.

I guess we should have the attitude of this little girl in our day-to-day life. A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable, and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to elementary school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up along with thunder and lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school, and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child.

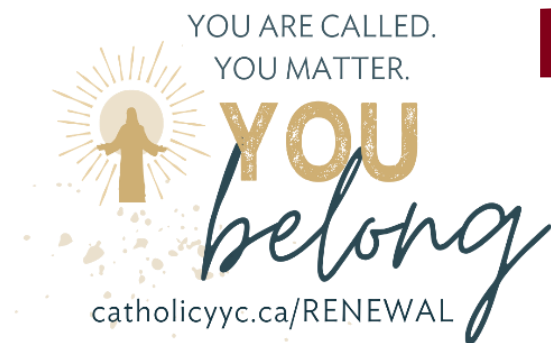
Following the roar of thunder, lightning, like a flaming sword, would cut through the sky. Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school. As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly, and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When the mother's car drove up beside the child, she lowered the window and called to her. "What are you doing? Why do you keep stopping?"

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty; God keeps taking my picture."

Do we live pure life?





DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

31st Sunday in Ordinary time

Are you going to the Renewal Gathering?

Let's gather to celebrate the Eucharist with Bishop McGrattan, have a meal together, and envision how we can open ourselves to the graces of renewal as individuals, parishes, and as the Diocese. **There is no cost** to attend but your registration helps us in the meal planning. Register online at <https://catholiccyyc.ca/renewal> or call Monica at 403-218-5521.

- **MEDICINE HAT**

Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 5 pm (Mass) to 9 pm, at Holy Family Church in Medicine Hat.

Catholic Education Sunday

This Sunday is Catholic Education Sunday! Let us unite with our community to support and give thanks for Catholic education in Alberta. Donate online at catholiccyyc.ca/catholiceducationsunday

Priestly Vocations Night

Have you ever thought God might be calling you to be a priest? Join the 'Priestly Vocations Night.' Mass at 5 pm, Evening Prayer, supper, a talk about discerning a vocation, and silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. When: **Saturdays, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9 from 5 pm to 9 pm.** To attend, please register to Fr. Derek Remus, Assistant Vocations Director at derek.remus@calgarydiocese.ca or call 403-282-9488.

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate - Nov 18

All are welcome to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop William McGrattan. The Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, November 18 at 11 am**, at St. Mary's Cathedral. Door opens at 10 am.

Vocations talk with Sr. Michelle

Join Serra Club of Calgary for a vocations talk with Sr. Michelle, FCJ who is making her final vows. The talk will take place **Saturday, Nov. 18** at the FCJ Centre, Calgary from **9 - 10 am**, followed by the Ordination to the

Permanent Diaconate at St. Mary's Cathedral at 11 am. Everyone is welcome!

Pastoral Care Ministry Training

The Diocese of Calgary is offering a Pastoral Care Ministry Training for those who feel called to assist their parish in a healing ministry to the sick, elderly, dying, homebound and bereaved members. When: **Saturdays (Nov 11 & 25) at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, Calgary.**

Register at: catholicyyca.ca/pastoralcare or call 403-218-5521.

Annual Red Mass

The Saint Thomas More Lawyers' Guild of Calgary invites all members of the legal profession, family and friends, to the annual Red Mass with Bishop William McGrattan. When: **Wed, Nov. 15 at 5 pm - St. Mary's Cathedral.**

Tickets for the reception and keynote address with Honourable David Brown in St. Mary's hall (following Mass) can be purchased by contacting calgary.stmlg@gmail.com - or get it online [here](#)

Memorial Liturgy

Parents grieving a loss of a child through miscarriage and stillbirth are invited to join Bishop McGrattan in an annual prayer gathering to commend their children communally into the embrace of our merciful God. We also invite family members and friends to come and support those who are grieving the loss in their midst. When: **Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 2023, at 7 pm - St. Mary's Cathedral.** Parents are invited to [register here](#) or call 403-218-5521.

Career opportunities

The Diocese of Calgary is hiring various roles for the parishes in the Diocese and the Catholic Pastoral Centre. Visit catholicyyc.ca/careers for more details, and please help us spread the word!

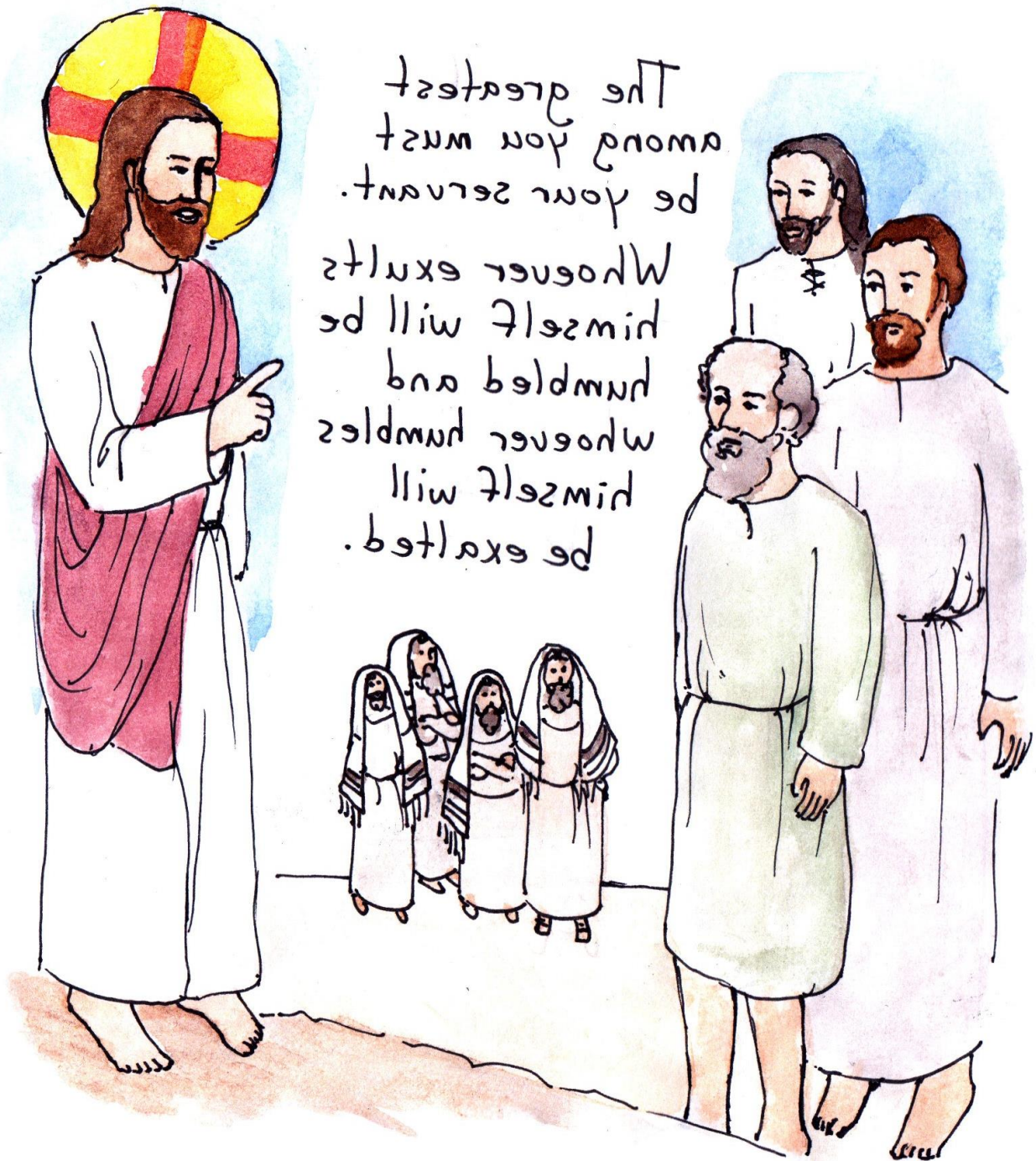
Live-In Retreats in Okotoks

Calgary Live-In Society invites you to a Live-In weekend retreat to grow in faith with Jesus. If you have attended your own Live-In, we invite you to serve others in this retreat. When: **Nov. 24-26, St. John Paul II Collegiate School, Okotoks.** For more info, call 403-271-7365.

The Kids' Bulletin

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

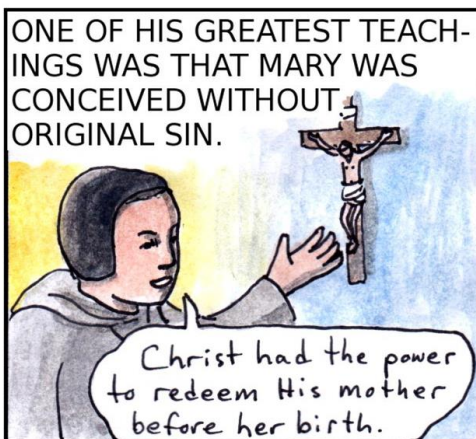
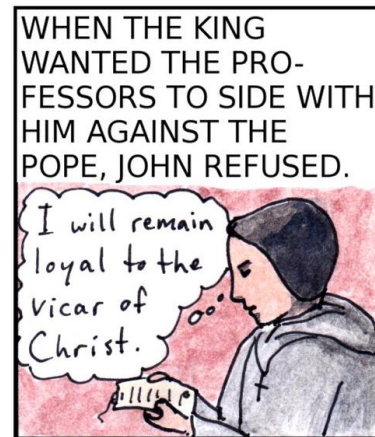
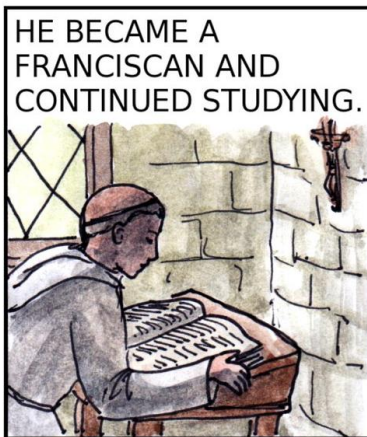
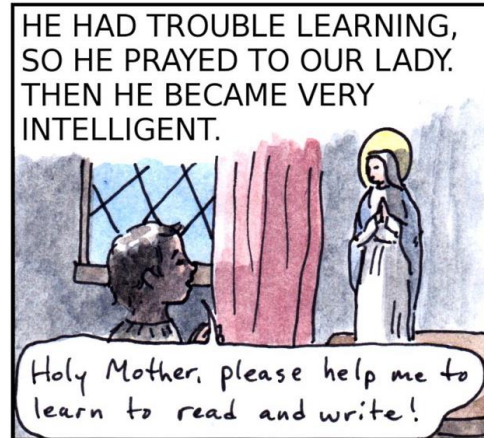
November 5th, 2023



*What was the last thing Our Lord said
in today's Gospel reading?
Look in the mirror to find out!*

Blessed John Duns Scotus

November 8



BLESSED JOHN KNEW THAT THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWING, LOVING, AND SERVING GOD. HE HAD A GREAT THIRST TO UNDERSTAND HIM BETTER SO HE STUDIED HARD. THE MORE HE UNDERSTOOD ABOUT GOD THE MORE HE COULD TEACH OTHERS ABOUT HIM. WE SHOULD PRAY FOR GOOD TEACHERS.

St. Paul's Letter

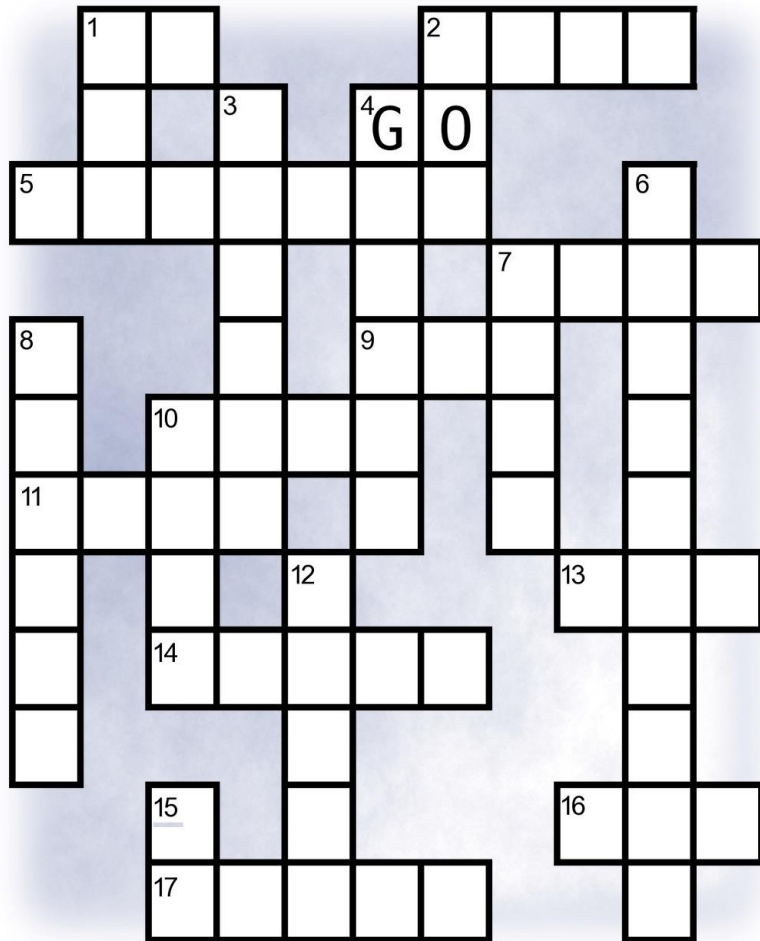
Cross-Word

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks in today's reading from the letter to the Thessalonians and then fill in the puzzle.

A=Across

D=Down

PROCLAIMED	
IN	BELOVED
TO	MOTHER
GOD	GOSPEL
THE	GENTLE
TOO	HUMAN
TOIL	AMONG
DAY	NIGHT
HER	WORK
GIVE	WORD
WITH	WELL



Brothers and sisters: We were _____ (4D) _____ (12D) you, as a nursing _____ (8D) cares for _____ (16A) children. _____ (10D) such affection for you, we were determined to share with you not only _____ (1D) gospel of God, but our very selves as _____ (10A), so dearly _____ (5A) had you become _____ (1A) us. You recall, brothers and sisters, our _____ (11A) and drudgery. Working _____ (17A) and _____ (13A) in order not to burden any of you, we _____ (6D) to you the _____ (3D) of God.

And for this reason we _____ (9A) _____ (2A) thanks to _____ (2D) unceasingly, that, in receiving the _____ (7D) of God from hearing us, you received not a _____ (14A) word, but, as it truly is, the word of God, which is now at _____ (7A) _____ (15D) you who believe.

Should We Let Others See What We Do for God?

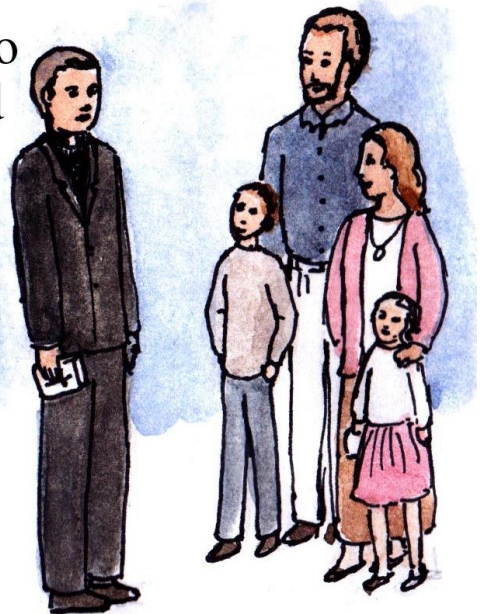
In today's Gospel reading, Jesus warns the people about some of their leaders. They wore special clothes and made sure that people saw them giving to the poor. They also got the best seats at gatherings. These men were only concerned about outward things and not about being holy and loving in their hearts.



Our Lord wants us to be holy on the inside- to love Him and to love everybody else with our hearts. But we don't always have to show it on the outside. Sometimes we pray together or help people when others can see us, but we should often pray and do good in ways that people won't see, too.



Still, there are some people who do wear special clothes and should get places of honour. Priests and religious sisters and brothers wear clothes that help us to know that they have special jobs. They aren't trying to get attention, but it is a sign that they have given themselves to God. We treat them with extra respect because they have dedicated their lives to God.



Answers to Saint Paul Cross-Word: Across: 1.to 2.give 5.beloved 7.work 9.too 10.well 11.toil 13.day 14.human 16.her 17.night Down: 1.the 2.God 3.Gospel 4.gentle 6.proclaimed 7.word 8.mother 10.with 12.among 15.in



Back for a second series, Fr. Tim Boyle will speak on The Art of Accompaniment, picking up on the theme from the Synod preparation document "Enlarge the Tent."

St. Martha's Parish, Lethbridge

Monday, November 20, 2023

"What unbelievers can teach us about the mystery of God"

Monday, January 22, 2024

"Zacchaeus... the first of Many Seekers... and why they don't want to join"

Monday, February 19, 2024

"Finding the Real Presence of God outside the church"

Monday, March 18, 2024

"Mother Maria of Russia... on uniting the Cross and the Sword"

Monday, April 15, 2024

"Flourishing... not just maintaining the Faith".

Gatherings begin at 10:15 am with 15 minutes of checking in with participants.

Mass follows at 11:15 am

St. Martha's parish, 355 Columbia Blvd W., Lethbridge – 403 381 8891



Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre
41160 Retreat Rd.

To Register:

mtfrancis@shaw.ca 403-932-2012



1. Advent Twilight Retreat
Long Time Ago in Greccio
November 30 Thursday @ 6:00 pm
\$30/person

2. Advent Weekend Retreat
Come to the Manger
December 1-3

3. Blessing of Christmas Crèches
Sunday, December 3 @ 2:30 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi created the
first crèche-nativity scene in 1223.
Celebrate the 800th Anniversary by
joining the Franciscans at Mount St.
Francis Retreat Centre for this special
blessing.
Bring your family nativity set to be
blessed.
Please register before December 1.
mtfrancis@shaw.ca 403-932-2021

4. The Bambino of Bethlehem
Day Away Retreat
Wednesday, December 6 @ 8:30 am
Registration with Coffee, and Muffins
Day includes presentation, Eucharist,
Sacrament of Reconciliation, Lunch
and Quiet Time
3:00 pm Departure

\$30/person (\$40 private room)

5. Winter Stillness Retreat
December 8 – 10
Individuals make their own silent
retreat.
Stay for one night or two.
No Presentations. Prayer Suggestions
Provided.
Join the Friars for Prayer and
Eucharist.
Registration begins Friday at 4 pm -
Supper at 6 pm
Concludes with Sunday Lunch.
\$215 suggested contribution

6. Christmas at Greccio
Christmas at The Mount St. Francis
Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 10 @ 2:30 – 5:00
pm
Sleigh Rides (weather permitting)
Hot Chocolate and Snacks
Pageant at 3:45 pm
This is an outdoor pageant, please
dress for the weather.
Accepting donations for Cochrane
Food Bank.
No registration - Open House

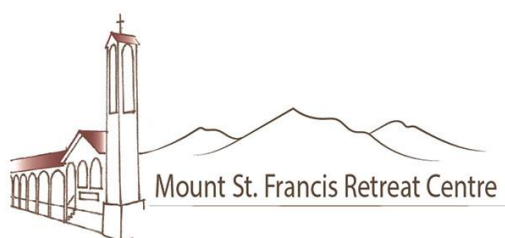


Retreat Centers in Southern Alberta

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.