



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YR. B SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

Email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca ~ Website: www.holyfamilymh.ca ~ Phone **403-527-6933**

Facebook: [Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish](https://www.facebook.com/MedicineHatHolyFamilyParish) ~ YouTube: [Medicine Hat Holy Family Church](https://www.youtube.com/MedicineHatHolyFamilyChurch)

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...

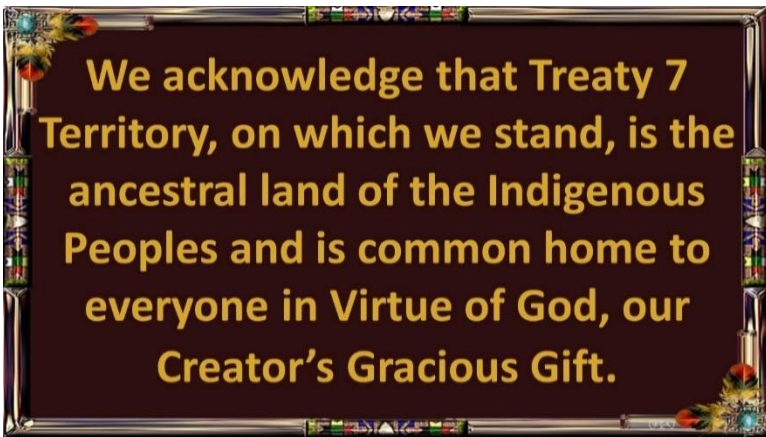
Friday 9:30am–10:30am.
& Saturday 3:30–4:45pm.

MASS TIMES... MONDAY to FRIDAY at 9:00AM
FIRST SATURDAY OF MONTH at 8:00AM, 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



This Father's Day may God encourage and strengthen fathers to be faithful in their calling to give themselves in love to their families!

The Parable of the Growing Seed



Mark 4:26-34 - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

† Masses & Mass Intentions †



Saturday, June 15

5:00pm - Margaret Monk

Sunday, June 16

8:30am - Holy Family Parish

10:30am - Peter Getz †

6:00pm - Derrick Risling †

Monday, June 17

9:00am - Asuncion Ramos †

Tuesday, June 18

9:00am - Frank & Lena Schafer †

Wednesday, June 19

9:00am - Sr. Carmelita Ramos

Thursday, June 20

9:00am - Kadence Foley

Friday, June 21

9:00am - Weisgerber Family

OPERATING FINANCES	
MAY 1-31, 2024	
Operating Budget 2024	\$ 60,990
General Envelope Collection	\$ 39,530
Loose Collections	\$ 3,608
Future Development	\$ 2,965
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 3,950
\$ 50,053 - Budget Vs Actual	-\$ 10,937
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 4,973
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 3,276
World Mission	\$ 25
Clergy Retirement	\$ 90
Mission Mexico	\$ 120
CARO	\$ 65
Seminary Fund	\$ 30
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$ 2,207
<i>Thank You for your Generous Contributions</i>	
Average Weekly Attendance	906

HAPPENINGS IN HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Saturday, June 15
10:00am – Benedictine Group – Hope Room

Saturday, June 15 & Sunday June 16
All Masses – Chalice Presentation

Wednesday, June 19
7:00pm - Annual General Mtg – Faith Room

Thursday, June 20
7:00am – Real Men Pray – Faith Room

Saturday, June 22
10:00am – Benedictine Group – Hope Room

Sunday, June 23
11:30am – Parish Picnic – HFP Hall & Outside

Sunday, June 30
2:00pm – Penance & Pizza – HFP Hall

Week of July 8-12
8:00 am – 12:30pm - Saints Alive Bible Camp

TOGETHER **in ACTION** | 2024

2024 Goal - \$70,938

Donations to date - \$27,190

We are 38% of the way there!

YOU ARE called

YOU MATTER. YOU BELONG.

Ezekiel 17:22-24. Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16.
2 Corinthians 5:6-10. Mark 4:26-34.

*God Bless You,
Thank You for
your donations!*

**Special Collections
June 2024**

**Future Development
Fund**

Together in Action

VOCATIONS June 16, 2024
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings remind us that great things often have small beginnings. If you feel God is calling you to a Church vocation, please contact the Office of Vocations at 403-218-5500 or email Fr. Cristino Bouvette

vocations@calgarydiocese.ca www.catholicyc.ca/vocations.html

THIS IS HOW IT IS.

Two parables about seeds today. The first one is about the secret growing from seed to harvest. The second is about the smaller seeds growing large. This is how it is with God's kingdom, God's rule. It is growing among us now. It is present with us today. But it is not yet finished. God still has much to do. So do we.

- ◆ What is my part today, this week, to build up God's kingdom, God's rule?
- ◆ What little thing can I do – think like Saint Thérèse of Lisieux – that will benefit someone else in a (surprisingly?) big way?
- ◆ How can I care for the earth so seeds and plants can prosper?



HOLY FAMILY PARISH THANKS the parishioners who showed up to enhance our parish on June 11. Nice to see new faces! Many hands make light work. It is overwhelming to see so many people show up and say, "What can I do"! We are blessed by such a great facility and let us never take it for granted. We are all the hands & feet of Jesus.

June 11 was the Feast Day of St. Barnabas, who is often referred to as the 'son of encouragement', you are the sons & daughters of encouragement for our Parish.



Vivat Jesus
Patrick Ries
HFP Maintenance Chair



chalice.ca

Chalice Sponsorship Weekend

This June 15 & 16, open your heart to sponsor a child
Holy Family Parish




Medicine Hat Pro-Life Association Notice of Meeting
Monday, June 17, 2024
7:30 pm
St. Patrick's Church Hall

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

AGM Holy Family Parish
Finance Council
Parish Pastoral Council
Maintenance Committee

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, June 19, 2024
7:00 PM
Faith Room
Everyone is Welcome

Holy Family Parish
Annual Parish Picnic
SUNDAY, JUNE 23

Enjoy food, drink, & fellowship with our Faith Community.

Lots of fun for kids. Free to all, young, old and in between!

After the 10:30 Mass

Faith & Family

Sunday, June 30
2:00-4:00pm
Holy Family Parish Hall

Penance & Pizza

REMINDER: Be suspicious of emails that ask you to buy cards and/or send money. This can't be a normal way of operating in the Catholic Church. Be suspicious!

IT'S A SCAM!
Bishops, priests, deacons, and religious do not ask for gift cards or cash. If you receive an email or text asking for these, ignore it.

Ignore these emails and mark them as spam/junk.

It's a scam

E-transfer ONLINE GIVING

DONATE TODAY...
accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

We're excited to announce an additional Marriage Formation Course on Saturday, June 29 & Sunday June, 30, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Catholic Pastoral Centre. This is the last course available before the July, August, and September weddings. Our September course is almost full, so please encourage any couples still in need of Marriage Formation to register for the June course here: <https://forms.gle/8fA3tsNnwiR6CQeB8>



↑ YOU belong



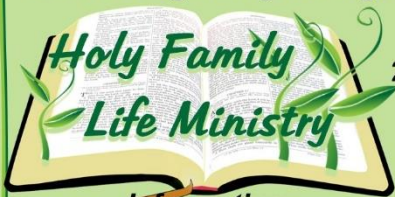
1 JOSEPH
2 MARY
3 TOP 10 MOVIES On FORMED.ORG
4 HEART
5 PADRE PIO MIRACLE MAN
6
7
8
9 GUADALUPE THE MIRACLE AND THE MESSAGE
10 MOTHER TERESA

USE WITH
ROKU
Apple tv
firetv
chromecast

Scan code with camera or visit signup.formed.org
Enter "Medicine Hat" click on "Holy Family"

FORMED FAITH AT HOME

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

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
MEN'S PRAYER GROUP
Thursday Mornings - 7:00 to 7:30 – Faith Room
Open to all men seeking to nurture their relationship with God and each other through prayer, song and reflection on the daily scripture readings.
More Information - Gord 527-7423 or Alan 527-4169
Pamphlets available at the Greeting Desk
REAL MEN PRAY

Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

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

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

July 8th -12th at 8:00am to 12:30pm

All welcome to attend the mass at 8:30am

Mid Morning Snack & a T-shirt is provided

\$25/child, \$20/for additional siblings

1 form for each child needs to be filled out

DEADLINE IS JULY 3, NO LATE ENTRIES, PLEASE.

We need adult volunteers for Camp to happen!

Contact Tammy at 403-866-7886 or tammylynnpeterson@gmail.com

Vincentian Corner

At the recent St. Patrick's Community Resources Fair, several Vincentians were fortunate to visit with representatives of numerous organizations that assist Hatters in many different ways.

The Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society had two volunteers present. They were most appreciative when we offered to post in our church bulletin the items they are in most need of at present. Please find that list below, and if you can help out with anything, please do. small art canvases, journals, juice boxes, disposable bowls, size 3T – 4T pull-ups, snack items for summer camp program: (fruit cups, fish crackers, fruit leather, trail mix), new/gently used slow cooker, new/gently used bathroom floor mats, new toilet brushes, new toilet plungers, new/gently used alarm clocks, new brooms & dust pans, new/gently used bed rail for toddlers.

Just a reminder that if you wish to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to enable us to assist those needing help in our community, you can send an e-transfer to: ssvpmedhat@gmail.com You will receive a tax receipt if you leave your name and address. Thank you & God bless you!



Notre Dame Academy

Notre Dame Academy is very proud to be one of the nine Catholic Schools within the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education (MHCBE).



At NDA, we offer a variety of innovative programs such as Lego-robotics, Rocketry, Carpentry, Plumbing, Gaming Concepts, Drama, Food Studies, Art, Outdoor Education, Esports and more to keep our students engaged. This year, we are introducing a new Archery program and a Graphic Design program, with plans for a Volleyball and Basketball Academy next year.

We value our community partnerships, including our strong collaboration with Medicine Hat College, which allows us to provide exceptional Industrial Arts programs. Our sports academy and sports teams have also been a great success, attracting interest from other districts. Additionally, we have partnerships with Under Armor and Source for Sports.

Our school focus revolves around building effective relationships, living our faith through service, and helping all students learn. We believe that open communication with all stakeholders is vital for further development and improvement.

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 a loving parish community.



**Medicine Hat Catholic
Board of Education**



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

JUNE 6, 2024

A KINGDOM OF PURITY

A few years ago, a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner.

In their rush, with tickets and briefcases in hand, moving quickly through the airport terminal, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly missed boarding.

All but one! He paused, took a deep breath, quickly assessed the situation -- and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned. He told his buddies to go on without him, waved good-bye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then, he returned to the terminal where the apples were still all over the terminal floor.

The man was glad he did. The 16-year-old girl running the stand, he discovered, was totally blind! She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, all the while helplessly groping for her spilled produce as the rushing crowd swirled about her, no one stopping and no one caring for her plight.

No one else, that is. The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table and helped organize her display. As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered and bruised. These he set aside in another basket.

When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. Are you okay?" She nodded through her tears. "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly," he said.

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister..." He paused and turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, "Are you Jesus?"

He stopped in mid-stride, and he wondered, stunned by the words. Then slowly, he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning in his soul: "Are you Jesus?"

That's what we are called to be a pure kingdom by becoming Jesus to other. The examples of saints in our faith can help us walk on the path of purity and sincerity to become Jesus to other. In the Book of Revelation (chapters 2 & 3) we read about the messages given to seven churches with encouragement and warning to look deeper into our relationship with the promise of crown of eternal life. The people who keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord are compared to a tree planted

near the streams of living water whose leaves never wither nor they get tired of bearing fruit. (See Jeremiah 17:5-11, Psalm 1:1-8, Revelation 22).

On this eleventh Sunday of ordinary time, we are reminded that, as part of God's kingdom, the church of Christ is like a tree planted by God in the world. From the smallest of all seeds, she becomes the noblest of trees and fills the earth. She is the physical evidence of God's kingdom. So, like the birds of the air, we are called to make our home in her.

The first reading is a message of hope and restoration. Through the prophet Ezekiel God promised to re-establish and elevate his people who were in exile in Babylon. Yet, during this prolonged despair, the prophet instilled them with a message of hope. He uses the metaphor of small shoot which is like Isaiah's image of the stump of Jesse, to describe the revitalisation of Israel. *"I will plant it (the shoot) myself on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit"*. The shoot here refers to God's faithful remnants who remained steadfast during adversity and who in turn formed the nucleus of Israel after the exile. It was out of these faithful remnants that God's Anointed would emerge. This means that God wishes to transfer his people from a kingdom of oppression, poverty and misery to a kingdom of justice, prosperity and peace of mind. The people who believe in the Kingdom of God are like the tree planted near the streams of water as we read in Psalm 1:1-8, Jeremiah 17:5-14, and Revelation 22. This is obviously the kingdom, where Christ reigns as king and, as the fountain of life. This is the kingdom where God wishes us to be. The church is the visible sign of this noble cedar or kingdom that gives refuge to all people.

The Kingdom of God begins with the realization of our relationship with Him. Once we realize that we are the Kingdom, then there are life changing occurrences happen; we love, we care, we support and we trust in the Lord who died on the cross for us to give us eternal life. Let me share another story with all of you.

Once upon a time there was a seed buried in the mud. It was in dark blackness. It was cold and wet. It shivered. It was just plain no fun. It was icky. It was dirty. It was muddy. It was mucky. It was stuck in the mud. How it got there is a little 3 sentence story. One nice breezy fall day, it had fallen on the ground. Then it rained a little. And a deer came along and stepped on it and pushed it deep in the mud. Life just wasn't fair. It was all alone. If only it had fallen like the other seeds in the grass, or on the log over there, or at least not been stepped on. But what the little seed did not see was the mouse that ate the seeds in the grass and the bird that ate the seeds on the log and the chipmunk that gathered the seeds on the ground to store and eat all winter long. It couldn't see this because it was stuck in the mud. *It didn't know how lucky it was.*

Now besides being squished tight in the mud, it was also locked in its shell. It tried to get out of its terrible predicament, but the Fall days got shorter and shorter. It got colder and colder too. It had no strength to get out of its shell. The mud was frozen solid, the deep snow covered it. It went through a terribly cold and dark winter. Finally, after what seemed forever, slowly the days grew a little longer, a little warmer. The seed had work to do. It began to grow. The water in the mud had softened its shell. Still, how hard it was to get out of its shell! It had to exert energy like never before. It struggled and struggled. Finally, it broke free. Then it used more energy to go not up, but down, struggling to send a tiny little root through that compacted mud -- that terribly icky place. It needed something to tightly hold on to, because.....now it had to struggle yet again with great effort to send a tiny little shoot to the light above -- through all that icky mud. Finally, it was free. It reached the warm sunlight. You would think its troubles were over. Not so fast. In a whole year it grew only a few inches, while the other plants grew by leaps and bounds, as if to mock the little seed. Every fall it lost its leaves. In winter it barely survived, covered with snow. And as it got a little taller, it had to go through windstorms and blizzards. But one thing was peculiar. Even while it slowly grew up to the sunny blue sky, *it never forgot its roots.* It had the wisdom to keep growing its roots deeper and deeper in the mud. In fact, it used every windstorm, every blizzard, every shaking, every vibration to wiggle its roots deeper and

deeper into the black icky mud. It knew the importance of a solid foundation, because it always remembered where it came from, how it had been protected and helped by the mud.

The years rolled on, and the seasons too. Each summer it so slowly but surely grew. Each winter it became a little tougher and stronger. It had little joys and little sorrows throughout its life like all of us do. Then came the fiercest of all storms. The wind blew so violently this way and that. Trees all around were dashed to the ground, broken, uprooted, a jangled mess. After the devastation, the sun shone once again. To be sure, it didn't look so pretty, some leaves were missing, in fact, quite a few, but that would soon be remedied. Because it hadn't forgotten its roots as a seed in the mud, it stood there in all its glory. It had become the mighty oak tree. Are we forgetting our roots as a Kingdom of God?

In the second reading, Paul reminds us of the fact that we are on a journey towards the kingdom of God to be with Christ our lord and king. Hence, whether we are "living in the body or exiled from it, we should be focused on pleasing the Lord.

The journey to this kingdom is a journey which must be approached with faith and courage. Hence Paul reminds us: *"...Going as we do by faith and not by sight, we are full of confidence...and actually want to leave this body in order to be with Christ."* Considering this, we must advance diligently in order to be admitted into this kingdom by Christ. We are always Christians 24/7 and 365 days a year and St. Paul reminds us in this way "So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what he or she has done in the body, whether good or evil".

Today's Gospel is composed of two very brief parables: that of the seed that sprouts and grows on its own, and that of the mustard seed. Through these images taken from the rural world, Jesus presents the efficacy of the Word of God and the requirements of his Kingdom, showing the reasons for our hope and our commitment in history.

Two seeds lay side by side in the fertile spring soil. The first seed said, "I want to grow!" I want to send my roots deep into the soil beneath me and thrust my sprouts through the earth's crust above me. I want to unfurl my tender buds like banners to announce the arrival of spring. I want to feel the warmth of the sun on my face and the blessing of the morning dew on my petals!" And so, she grew? The second seed said, "I am afraid. If I send my roots into the ground below, I don't know what I will encounter in the dark. If I push my way through the hard soil above me, I may damage my delicate sprouts. What if I let my buds open, and a snail tries to eat them? And if I were to open my blossoms, a small child may pull me from the ground. No, it is much better for me to wait until it is safe." And so, she waited? A yard hen, scratching around in the early Spring ground for food, found the waiting seed and promptly ate it. What do we want to become, all depends on us? The Kingdom of God starts with the realization of our role as Christians. Anyone can start from now and make a brand-new ending. There isn't a promise of days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but it can promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way. Disappointments are like road bumps; they slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the bumps too long. Move on! When you feel down because you didn't get what you want, just sit tight, and be happy. There's a purpose to life's events, to teach you how to laugh more or not to cry too hard. You can't make someone love you, all you can do is be someone who can be loved, and the rest is up to the person to realize your worth. It's better to lose your pride to the one you love, than to lose the one you love because of pride. We spend too much time looking for the right person to love or finding fault with those we already love, when instead we should be perfecting the love, we give.

Holy Father Pope Francis explains the parables in an amazing way: In the first parable, attention is placed on the fact that the seed scattered on the ground takes root and develops on its own, regardless of whether the farmer sleeps or keeps watch. He is confident in the inner power of the seed itself and

in the fertility of the soil. In the language of the Gospel, the seed is the symbol of the Word of God, whose fruitfulness is recalled in this parable. As the humble seed grows in the earth, so too does the Word by the power of God work in the hearts of those who listen to it. God has entrusted his Word to our earth, that is to each one of us with our concrete humanity. We can be confident because the Word of God is a creative word, destined to become the "full grain in the ear". This Word, if accepted, certainly bears fruit, for God Himself makes it sprout and grow in ways that we cannot always verify or understand. All this tells us that it is always God, it is always God who makes his Kingdom grow. That is why we fervently pray "thy Kingdom come". It is He who makes it grow. Man is his humble collaborator, who contemplates and rejoices in divine creative action and waits patiently for its fruits. The Word of God makes things grow, it gives life. And here, I would like to remind you once again, of the importance of having the Gospel, the Bible, close at hand. A small Gospel in your purse, in your pocket and to nourish yourselves every day with this living Word of God. Read a passage from the Gospel every day, a passage from the Bible. Please don't ever forget this. Because this is the power that makes the life of the Kingdom of God sprout within us.

The second parable uses the image of the mustard seed. Despite being the smallest of all the seeds, it is full of life and grows until it becomes "the greatest of all shrubs". And thus is the Kingdom of God: a humanly small and seemingly irrelevant reality. To become a part of it, one must be poor of heart; not trusting in their own abilities, but in the power of the love of God; not acting to be important in the eyes of the world, but precious in the eyes of God, who prefers the simple and the humble. When we live like this, the strength of Christ bursts through us and transforms what is small and modest into a reality that leavens the entire mass of the world and of history.

An important lesson comes to us from these two parables: God's Kingdom requires our cooperation, but it is above all the initiative and gift of the Lord. Our weak effort, seemingly small before the complexity of the problems of the world, when integrated with God's effort, fears no difficulty. The victory of the Lord is certain: his love will make every seed of goodness present on the ground sprout and grow. This opens us up to trust and hope, despite the tragedies, the injustices, the sufferings that we encounter. The seed of goodness and peace sprouts and develops, because the merciful love of God makes it ripen.

The kingdom he invites us to, is a simple and peaceful one. It is open to all who seek it with a sincere heart. The easiest way to enter it is by sowing a seed of faith in Christ. This is the key. Faith grows and when it does, it achieves great things. As it grows it leads us to Christ and consequently to his kingdom. Also, our faith draws others to Christ and to his church, the visible sign of God's kingdom on earth. As Christ says: *"The birds of the air come to take shelter under its branches."*

How does our faith draw others to Christ? When we demonstrate or bear a good testimony of our individual and collective faith, the result is great. Lives could be touched and transformed. A few persons might come to believe in God. This consequently leads to the growth of the church, the visible sign of God's kingdom on earth. As our faith grows, the church, the body of Christ grows and more people are drawn into the comfort of God's kingdom.

As we all walk together with Diocese of Calgary to plan our Parish Renewal to help people encounter Christ, become missionary disciples and strengthen our family life, today's word of God is very important to remember that we need to work together to build a pure kingdom of God on earth.

There once was a man who had two servants. One day a disagreement arose between them as to who was the greatest in the eyes of their master. So, they went to the master of the house and asked him, "My lord, which of us is greater?"

The master of the house replied, "I will let you discover that for yourself. I will ask each of you a question and you must answer truthfully." So, the servants stood before him, and he started to question them. To the first servant, he asked, "What do you do for me?" "Sir, I work in the fields all day long to grow wheat for my lord's granary," the first servant replied. "Then, at night, I go through the house

and fill all the lamps so that my lord will have light. For this you pay me a wage, but I hope that one day that I may earn my freedom."

The master nodded his head. He turned to the second servant and asked, "And what do you do for me?" "Sir," he replied, "I am an educated man. I am well-versed in literature, music, mathematics and science. I teach your children all that I know so that one day they may leave your house and make a success in the world. And when they do, I hope that you will grant me my freedom. In the meantime, you give me a wage for what I do. Again, the master nodded. Then he turned to a lowly slave who was standing nearby, and asked, "And what do you do for me?"

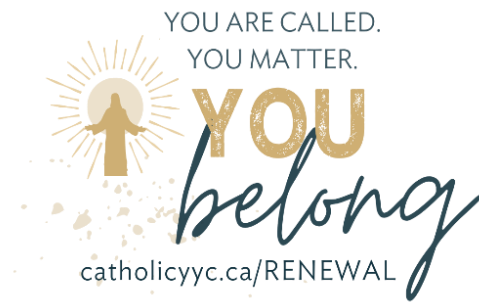
"You know that I love you, my lord, and my only wish is to do whatever you ask," the slave answered without hesitation. "You bought me, and I know that I will be a slave for life, therefore I earn no wage. But you are kind and merciful to me, and do not beat me as other masters beat their slaves. You are wise and just and kind and that is why I love you." The master of the house smiled. "Then you are the greatest of all my servants and I will make you a free man."

When they heard this, the two servants were shocked. "Why him?" they cried. "We do much more work than he does. He waits around for you to give him an order, but we labor in your fields without orders, teach your children, and light your lamps. We work unceasingly and should be rewarded." "Yes," the master of the house replied. "You do work in my fields and do all the other things that you said. But this man wants only to serve me, not himself. He waits patiently until I tell him what I want him to do. His faithfulness has never failed him. He now has his reward -- his freedom. And I will place him as overseer, and you will be his servants. Because of his faithful service to me -- though he was once a lowly slave -- he is truly the greater."

How do we grow in purity to build God's kingdom on earth?

A Kingdom of Purity

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B - JUNE 6, 2024



DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tea with the Sisters

The Religious Sisters of the Calgary area communities invite young ladies to "Tea with the Sisters" for a summer kick-off event. When: **Saturday, June 29 from 2 pm to 4 pm at Providence Convent** (150 Providence Blvd SE, Calgary). Girls under 18 are welcome to attend, if accompanied by an adult. Register by June 27 to Sr. Dianne at

sisterdianneturner@calgarydiocese.ca

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

We will be celebrating World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on Sunday, July 28, 2024. The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life has prepared a Pastoral Toolkit to promote "a Day without loneliness". The toolkit includes a catechesis on old age, recent texts from the Magisterium, the official prayer for the World Day, and pastoral suggestions for parishes, families, and individuals. You can find the resources by visiting laityfamilylife.va

40 Hours Devotion for Vocations

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38). Pray with us as for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life in our Diocese. Come and pray before the Lord - visit: catholicyc.ca/40hours. The next devotions:

- **St. Vincent Liem Parish** - Fri, Jun 14 at 7 pm to Sun, Jun 16 at 11 am
- **St. James Parish, Calgary** - Fri, Jun 21 at 4 pm to Sun, Jun 23 at 6 am.
- **St. Anne's Korean, Calgary** - Fri, Jul 5 at 3 pm to Sun, July 7 at 10 am

A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life

In spring 2024, the CCCB Ad Hoc Committee hosted the first part of a webinar series titled "A Great Symphony of Prayer: The Our Father as a Programme of Life" to facilitate meaningful participation in the Year of Prayer announced by Pope Francis. Dr. Josephine Lombardi presented four English-language webinars on prayer as part of the series, which are now available for viewing. A guide with reflection questions from Dr. Lombardi's book has been prepared for viewers. Check video & reflection guide

here: www.cccb.ca/ourfather

Catholic Family Conference

This annual event brings hundreds of Catholic families and individuals together to celebrate faith and family. It is an opportunity to deepen their faith and to encourage one another in raising Catholic families in very challenging and troubling times. Steve Ray, a well-known convert, apologist and evangelist, Ken and Janelle Yasinski, Brian Holdsworth and Brendan McCauley are the weekend keynote speakers. When: **June 28-July 1, Lac Ste. Anne, AB**. For information and to register, go to

www.catholicfamilyministries.com

Career Opportunities

Join the Catholic Pastoral Centre and our Parishes and be part of a dedicated team committed to making a difference in our community! We are currently seeking passionate individuals for the following positions:

- **Archivist - Pastoral Centre** (Full-time)
- **Support Staff, Program Coordinator - Elizabeth House** (Part-time)
- **Administrative assistant** (Part-time) - St. Pius X, Calgary
- **Sacrament Preparation Coordinator** (casual) - St. Pius X, Calgary

In our Catholic community:

- **Retreat & Program Coordinator** - FCJ Centre, Calgary
- **Catholic Math Tutor, Admin Assistant** - St. John Choir Schola, Calgary
- **Various positions** - Clear Water Academy, Calgary; Calgary Catholic School District

For more information, visit catholicyc.ca/careers

Truth & Reconciliation Conference "Braiding Together"

Come join RMEC as they engage in critical conversations in response to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, exploring our individual and collective journeys as we walk together, fostering authentic and inclusive relationships as we celebrate diversity and work towards healing and wholeness, attentive in heart, mind and soul. When: **Oct 18-19, 2024 at the Banff Centre**. Early bird rate ends June 30, 2024. Register at braidingtogether.ca

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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

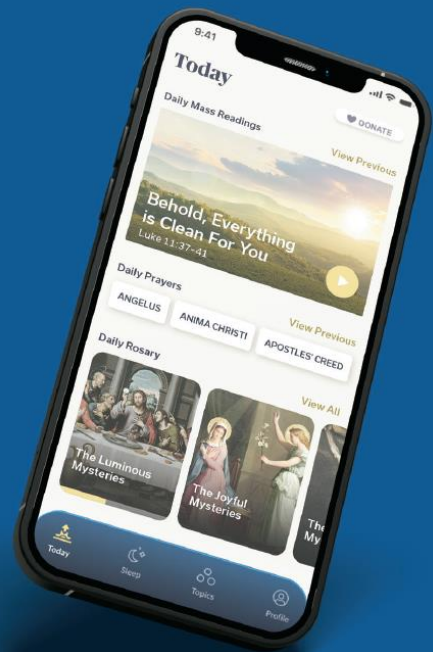
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Visit amenapp.org for more information



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Joe McKenna Council #9502 Knights of Columbus



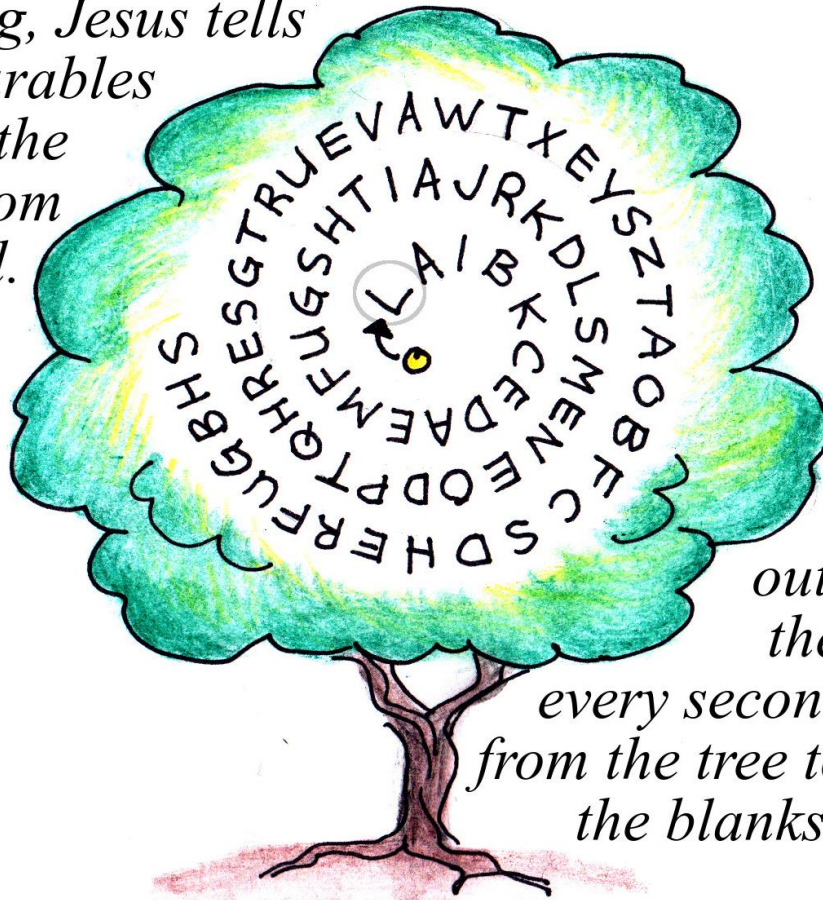
Position	Name
Grand Knight	Greg Martin
Deputy Grand Knight	Jimmy Tablan
Financial Secretary	Pat Ries
Treasurer	Ron Pisoni
Chancellor	
Recorder	Pat Brigham
Advocate	Andy Hamel
Warden	Walter Pratt
Inside Guard	Dale Maddaford
Outside Guard	Michael Camphor
Year 1 Trustee	Herb Durda
Year 2 Trustee	Gary Heinbecker
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

The Kids' Bulletin

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 16th, 2024

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells two parables about the Kingdom of God.



To find out one of them, use every second letter from the tree to fill in the blanks below.

The Kingdom of Heaven is

When it grows up it becomes

Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

June 21

ALOYSIUS WAS BORN IN ITALY IN 1568. HIS FAMILY WAS RICH AND VERY POWERFUL. AT AGE 9 ALOYSIUS DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO GOD.

Loving God is more important than being rich...

ALOYSIUS LIVED AMONG WEALTHY PEOPLE BUT HE GAVE UP HIS INHERITANCE.

I want my brother to have my inheritance.

HE RECEIVED HIS FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FROM ST. CHARLES BORROMEO.

Corpus Domini
Nostris Jesu
Christi...

Alright, since you won't stop asking

AFTER A LONG TIME HIS FATHER FINALLY ALLOWED HIM TO ENTER THE SEMINARY.

WHEN HE WAS SICK IN BED, ALOYSIUS READ THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS.

ALOYSIUS KEPT HIS HEART AND MIND PURE EVEN WHEN HE WAS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT SIN.

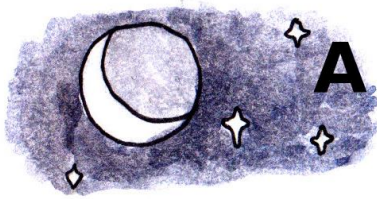
(Did you hear what she did?)

Think of Jesus!

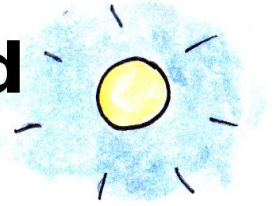
I'm not feeling very good...

WHEN HE WAS 23, ALOYSIUS WAS HELPING LOOK AFTER PEOPLE WHO HAD CAUGHT A PLAGUE. HE ALSO GOT SICK AND DIED FROM THE PLAGUE ON JUNE 21, 1591.

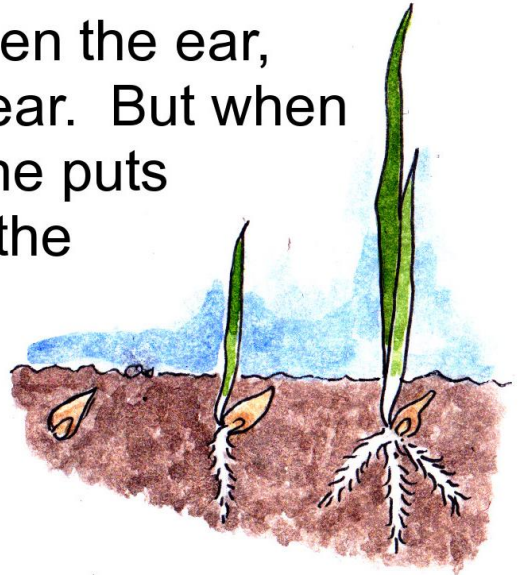
SAINT ALOYSIUS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE. HE CHOSE TO BECOME HOLY EVEN THOUGH HE WAS SURROUNDED BY SIN AND LUXURY. HE SAID THAT WITHOUT PENANCE WE DRIFT AWAY FROM GOD. WE CAN IMITATE ST. ALOYSIUS BY PRAYING AND DOING PENANCE WHEN WE FEEL TEMPTED TO SIN.



A Kingdom of God Word-Find



"The KINGDOM of GOD is as if a MAN should SCATTER seed upon the GROUND, and should SLEEP and RISE NIGHT and DAY, and the SEED should SPROUT and GROW, he KNOWS not how. The EARTH PRODUCES of itself, first the BLADE, then the ear, then the full GRAIN in the ear. But when the grain is RIPE, at once he puts in the SICKLE, BECAUSE the HARVEST has come."



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

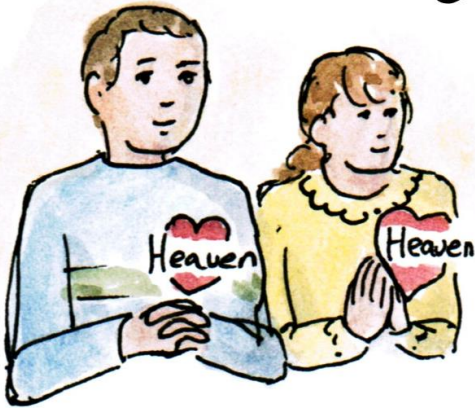


Find the words in CAPITALS in this part of today's Gospel reading in the puzzle.

Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

The Church helps our love for God to

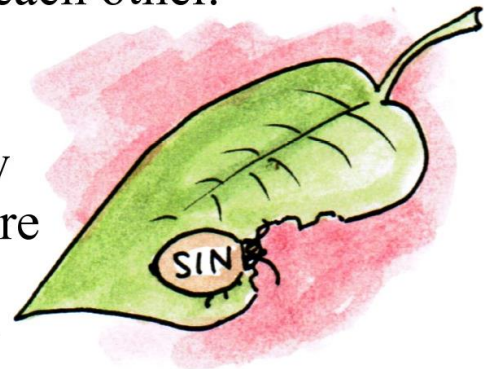
the kingdom of heaven



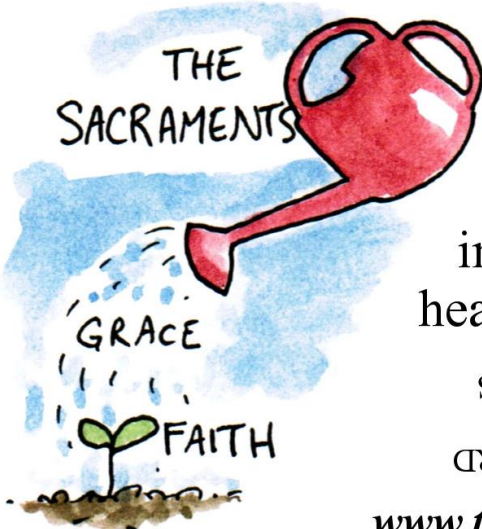
when we choose to love God and each other.

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells us about the Kingdom of Heaven. Heaven isn't just where we will go when we die if we were good. Jesus was telling us that Heaven grows in our hearts

Our Lord compares the Kingdom of Heaven to plants that grow up from little seeds. When we were baptized we received the gift of Faith. When we receive the other sacraments, especially Holy Communion, the Faith grows in us, like a plant that has water and sunshine. If we sin it's like little bugs or sickness that start to kill the plant. Confession will take those away so that our Faith can grow again.



How can you help the Kingdom of Heaven to grow in you? Going to Mass and receiving Holy Communion whenever you can, and going to Confession often are the best ways. Praying every day and learning about the Faith and about the saints will also help the Kingdom of Heaven to grow in your heart like a strong, healthy plant!



Answer to puzzle on front page: LIKE A MUSTARD SEED...THE GREATEST OF SHRUBS.
Answer to Word-find: GROW IN OUR HEARTS



Who is Jesus? Do I need a church?

Why do I exist?

Teens in your parish are actively looking for answers to these questions. Unfortunately, the world is not providing the proper guidance to point them in the right direction.

But you can help change this. Equip your teens with the tools to help them discover the best answers to these questions with The Search Begins.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THIS TRAILER](#)

The Search Begins is a seven-episode video series adapted from the Augustine Institute's award-winning series The Search. It invites teens in your parish to find meaning in their everyday lives. This program shares the answers to the fundamental questions of life so they can live more for God. A life of purpose!

Guide your teens to real, satisfying answers about their life and the person of Jesus Christ now with The Search Begins.

THE
SEARCH
BEGINS

Order the [Leader's Kit](#) or [Deluxe Leader's Kit](#) on Catholic Market.

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 we 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.





Why Support Coldest Night of the Year?

This event is not just a walk; it's a symbol of solidarity and support for those facing difficult circumstances in our community. By participating or contributing, you can directly impact the lives of individuals and families in need.

How Can You Get Involved?

We would greatly appreciate your support in spreading the word about Coldest Night of the Year and encouraging participation from your **church**. Stay tuned for more information and details about registration, which will be opening later this year.

Your involvement and support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve, and we are incredibly grateful for any assistance you can provide. Thank you for your consideration and support. Together, we can make a positive impact and show compassion to those who need it most.

Warm regards,
Joanna



SCOTIABANK GROUP PRESENTS THE 22ND ANNUAL



Charity Golf Classic

Thursday September 5th, 2024



Registration now open!

We're excited to invite you to join us **Thursday, September 5th, 2024** for the 22nd Annual Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society Charity Golf Classic, presented by Scotiabank Group! This year's tournament will be taking place again at the Medicine Hat Golf & Country Club.

\$175/golfer or \$700/team

(Includes lunch, cart, golf, buffet dinner and more!)

Register by **June 30th** to be entered in a draw for a \$50 gift card for Moxies Restaurant!

Schedule:

Noon - Lunch

1PM - Shotgun Start

6PM - Dinner & Awards

Register Online Today!

Or by calling 403-527-8223 or emailing info@mhws.ca!

For more information about sponsorship opportunities please contact Deidre Giesbrecht at deidreg@mhws.ca or 403-527-8223. Sponsorships are also available through our online registration page.



CONNECT 24/7

Help Line: 403-529-1091

Toll Free: 1-800-661-7949

Text Line: 587-850-5885

Web Chat: www.mhws.ca

Administrative Line: 403-527-8223



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.