



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YR. B SUNDAY, SEPT 9, 2024

Email: [contact@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holyfamilymh.ca) ~ Website: [www.holyfamilymh.ca](http://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

## MASS TIMES - MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY 9:00AM

WEDNESDAY 7:00AM

SATURDAY 5:00PM - SUNDAY 8:30AM, 10:30AM & 6:00PM

MONTHLY - 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 6:00PM & 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY 8:00AM

## THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30am - 4:00pm

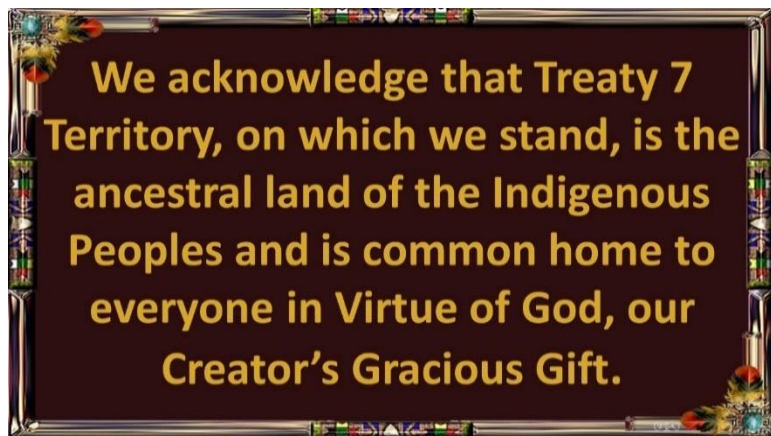
ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 – 10:30am

Knights of Columbus – Greg Martin

Catholic Women's League – Cathy Koch

Parish Pastoral Council Chair - Gary Heinbecker

Parish Finance Council Chair - Cheryl Pocsik



**The readings of today bring us to the heart of two key principles of our Faith that undergird our pro-life commitment to defend the unborn, and all the marginalized.**



## ✠ Masses & Mass Intentions ✠



Saturday, September 7

8:00am – Jerome Cox ✠

5:00pm – Lydia Thome ✠

Sunday, September 8

8:30am – Phil Klotz ✠

10:30am – Ivan & Shirley Martin ✠

6:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Monday, September 9

9:00am – Valentine & Pauline Eresman

Tuesday, September 10

9:00am – William & Catherine Fewer ✠

6:00pm – Irene Koch ✠

Wednesday, September 11

7:00am – Herb Stickel ✠

Thursday, September 12

9:00am – Ernest & Philomena Cox ✠

Friday, September 13

9:00am – Ross & Lois Duke ✠

## OPERATING FINANCES

JULY 1-31, 2024

Operating Budget 2024	\$ 60,990
General Envelope Collection	\$ 40,343
Loose Collections	\$ 3,518
Future Development	\$ 2,749
Sale of Church Supplies & Other	\$ 2,730
<b>\$ 47,572 - Budget Vs Actual</b>	<b>-\$ 13,418</b>

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 2,854
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 5,277
World Mission	\$ 200
Mission Mexico	\$ 850
CARO	\$ 315
Seminary Fund	\$ 2,200
Needs of the CDN Church	\$ 20

*Thank You  
for your Generous Contributions*

**Average Weekly Attendance      877**

## VOCATIONS

Sept 8, 2024

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Did not God choose those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom? Count your blessings, then come and help others count theirs too, as a priest, religious or deacon. If you feel you have such a vocation, please contact the Office of Vocations at 403-218-5500 or email Fr. Cristino Bouvette

[vocations@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:vocations@calgarydiocese.ca) [www.catholicyc.ca/vocations.html](http://www.catholicyc.ca/vocations.html)

TOGETHER  
in ACTION

2024

**2024 Goal - \$70,938**

**Donations to date -**

**\$37,968**

**We are 54% of the  
way there!**

**YOU  
ARE**



*called*

YOU MATTER.  
YOU BELONG.



**Special Collections  
SEPTEMBER 2024**

**Future Development  
Fund**

**Together in Action**

**September 29, 2024**

**Needs of the  
Canadian Church**

**You asked for it... You got it  
Wednesday Morning Mass is moving  
to 7:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY MASS @ 7:00 AM**

**Early Risers and those that need to  
be at work, you can now take part in  
Mid Week Mass at 7:00 AM**

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35:4-7a. Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10.

James 2:1-5. Mark 7:31-37.

**Be Opened!**

Jesus heals a deaf and mute man today who immediately speaks plainly. Before the Baptism of adults and after that for babies and children, the Church imitates Jesus with the Ephphetha Rite (EF-fah-thah). In opening the ears and mouth, we pray for the grace to hear the word of God and to profess it every day.

† To what right behavior do I turn a deaf ear, a closed mouth?

† What needs opening so I may hear the word of God?

† What needs opening so I may speak truth?

*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.


[catholicyc.ca/Faithfully](http://catholicyc.ca/Faithfully) keeps you updated  
with what's happening in and around our Diocese!




**Holy Family Parish Annual**  
**Corn Roast**  
 Sunday, September 8,  
 Following the  
 10:30 Mass



**Knights of Columbus**  
**Officer's Meeting**  
 Monday, September 9 at 7:00pm  
 HFP Faith Room

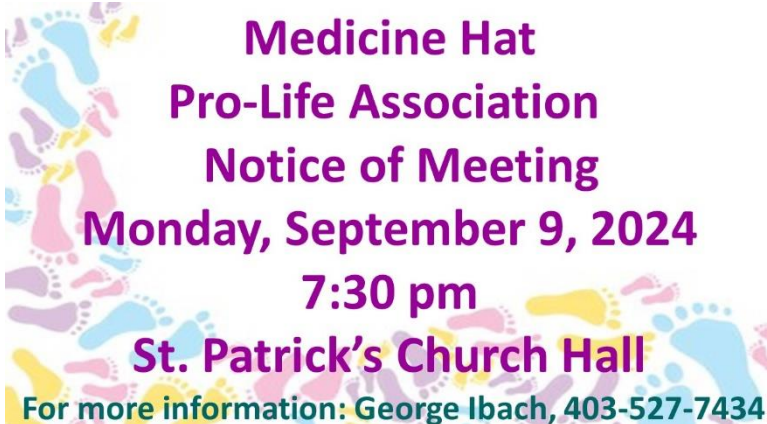


**Catholic Women's League (CWL)**  
**General Meeting**  
 Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00pm  
 HFP Hall



**Medicine Hat**  
**Pro-Life Association**  
**Notice of Meeting**  
**Monday, September 9, 2024**  
**7:30 pm**  
**St. Patrick's Church Hall**

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



*Funeral Mass Ministry*  
*Information Meeting*  
*Tuesday, September 10 at*  
*2:00pm*  
*In the Faith Room*  
*All those involved in the*  
*Funeral Mass Ministry*  
*Please Attend*



*Thirsting for God?*

Do you know someone not baptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition, who is thirsting for what it means to become Catholic?... Do you know someone already Catholic wanting to receive Communion & Confirmation? They may be thirsting too! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a place to ask questions and seek understanding.

**Open House - September 11 at 7:00pm**  
**or call 403-527-6933 to learn more.**




RCIA  
 Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat, AB

**Sacramental Preparation 2024-25**  
**1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation**  
**Parent Meeting & Registration**  
**Thursday Sept. 12 at Holy Family Church Hall**  
**6:30pm**  
**OR**  
**Saturday Sept 14 at St. Patrick's Church Hall**  
**10:00am**



**The Wednesday morning Bible study gathered to wish Fran Chevrier a Happy 94th Birthday**




**Bible Study is moving to Thursday Mornings in the Hope Room from 9:30 to 11:00 AM as of September 12<sup>th</sup> 2024**

**Children's Liturgy**  
**Beginning Sunday, Sept 15**  
**Meet at 10:15am in the Foyer**  
**4 years and up,**  
**plus support if needed.**  
**For Information or to Volunteer Call**  
**Tammy @ 403-866-7886**



**E-transfer**  
 ONLINE GIVING



**DONATE TODAY...**  
**accounting@holymfamilymh.ca**



## HOLY FAMILY PARISH ANNUAL BLESSING OF PETS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 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



## Knights of Columbus #9502

### Instillation of Officers

Knights of Columbus Council #9502 will have their Instillation of Officers on Monday, September 16, 2024, at 6:30pm in the sanctuary at Holy Family Parish. All officers need to attend this instillation ceremony. Family members are invited to attend. Following the ceremony, we will convene for our general meeting in the Faith Room. Please contact GK, Greg Martin, if you are unable to attend.

**Faith & Family**  
**KIN COULEE**  
**POTLUCK**  
**Kin Coulee Toboggan Hill**  
**At the Picnic Shelter**  
**Sunday, September 22**  
**2:00 to 5:00 PM**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

We will have hotdogs and marshmallows, and you can bring a side dish, please.



Bowls are  
\$2.00 each  
Details to  
Follow

**What?** A food and social event celebrating our cultural diversity.  
**When?** Saturday September 28, 2024, after the 5:00pm Mass.  
**Where?** Holy Family Parish.  
**Who?** Everybody is encouraged to attend!  
**Why?** To celebrate that each of us!  
**How?** By sharing your culture with our community.

Please contact PPC Chair Gary Heinbecker at [tasteoftheworld2023@gmail.com](mailto:tasteoftheworld2023@gmail.com)

## 30-minute Church Walk & Pray All Denominations Welcome

Sept. 6 – Crossroads Church - 1340 22 Street SE  
Sept. 8 - Westminster United Church - 101 6 Street SE  
Sept. 13 – Heights Baptist Church – 1250 Division Ave S  
Sept. 15 – Crestwood Church – 2348 Dunmore Rd SE  
Sept. 20 – Med Hat Church of God – 9 11 Street SE  
Sept. 22 – Living Hope Church – 300 Primrose Dr SE  
Info: Shelley – 403-504-7612 – scbs38@gmail.com  
**Sundays – 2:00pm & Fridays – 6:30pm**

**St. Patrick's Parish**  
**Catholic Women's League**  
**will be holding their**  
**Annual Used Clothing Sale**  
**September 19th to the 21st**  
**Thank You For your support!**

Save all your good used clothing to donate!  
Drop off clothes Wednesday Sept 18 in the Hall

## COMING TO OUR PARISH THIS FALL!

WE ARE EXCITED TO OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOTH THE MEN  
AND WOMEN OF OUR PARISH TO GROW IN THEIR FAITH

FOR MEN  
**TMIY**  
THAT MAN IS YOU!

Dates to be  
Announced



*She  
Shall Be  
Called  
Woman*

## Women's Ministry Coming Soon

## Learning from Seniors - A New Ministry

As St. James says, "if any of you are lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you" (1:5).

This is the new ministry our Parish is hoping to start. Once a week seniors will be coming together to share their fellowship by having coffee and playing games and sharing their lives with one another (this is just a brief description of the ministry). If you are interested in coordinating this ministry, please contact Fr. Iqbal. Hoping to start in October.





### Are you looking for Sacramental Marriage?

Were you married by J&P, in another Denomination or living in a Common Law relationship? We can help you to marry in the Church by completing your marriage paperwork or filing for annulment (in case you were previously married).

Contact St. Patricks' or Holy Family Parishes for assistance.

According to Canon Law "The matrimonial covenant, has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament between the baptized. §2. For this reason, a valid matrimonial contract cannot exist between the baptized without it being by that fact a sacrament (1055: 1&2).

And according to Catechism of the Catholic Church "Sacred Scripture begins with the creation of man and woman in the image and likeness of God and concludes with a vision of "the wedding-feast of the Lamb (1602).



## Chalice Child Sponsorship

We are a **Canadian, Catholic** international child sponsorship charity focused on child, family, and community development. Since 1992, we have collaborated closely with lay people, religious missionaries, and local communities to care for those children and families caught in the dehumanizing grip of poverty.

Sponsorship gives children the support needed to overcome obstacles so they can attend and **stay in school**, and allows families to provide **nutritious food** and better care for their children. Children are selected for sponsorship based on need and family circumstances, regardless of race, age, ability, gender, or religion.

Each of the **53 sponsor sites** we support is under local direction. By working closely with those who live and experience the difficulties of poverty, we gain knowledge and insight into how to best respond to challenges.

We recognize that the **parents and guardians of the children know best what their child needs to thrive**. We send sponsorship funds directly to them via bank accounts they have set up with local staff support. Equipped with financial literacy training, the guardians make budgets, account for their spending, create savings, and even **launch small businesses**. With empowerment and knowledge, families can transition from sponsorship to self-sufficiency.

**Almost 50,000 sponsored children in 14 countries**

India	Ghana	Bolivia
Philippines	Kenya	Peru
Bangladesh	Tanzania	Paraguay
Haiti	Zambia	Chile
	Ukraine	Guatemala

**Chalice commits 90.5% of its spending in support of programs.**

**Prayer is at the root of every action Chalice undertakes.**

Our Canadian staff gathers each morning to pray for the children and families in our sites around the world, as well as for the intentions of our supporters. This special ministry nourishes our staff and offers all of our works to Christ.



Chalice is constituted as a **Private Association of the Faithful** by Archbishop Brian Dunn of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth



### Mission

To reveal God's love in action by serving the poor, with the Global Catholic Community.

### Purpose

Christ to the Poor and the Poor to Christ

**CHALICE.CA**





Legion of Mary  
Praesidium Function  
September 8th:

All Legion of Mary Members, both Active and Auxiliary or Praying members, as well as those interested in learning more about the Legion of Mary, are invited to

our Annual Praesidium Function on September 8th from 5 pm to 6:30 pm at Holy Family Parish in the Hall. In addition to praying the Legion of Mary prayers and learning more about the Legion, we will have a chance to visit and celebrate Mary's Nativity with birthday cake and refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

Brown Scapular Enrollment September 8th:

The Legion of Mary invites you to attend the Brown Scapular Enrollment that Fr. Roque will conduct on Sunday, September 8th, immediately following the 9 am Mass at St. Patrick's Church. For more information on the Brown Scapular, please pick up a pamphlet available on the stand of materials facilitated by the Legion of Mary at either church. If you have been enrolled before, you don't need to be re-enrolled when you need a new scapular; just help yourself to a blessed brown scapular at either St. Pat's or Holy Family.

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the Home:

The Legion of Mary is pleased to help Fr. Roque facilitate the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in your home. Fr. Roque has set aside Friday evenings at 7 pm, beginning September 2024, to preside at the Ceremony. Contact Sister Lina with the Legion of Mary to book a time. She may be reached at (403) 977-8103. She is now taking bookings for 2025. If you do not have a statue or image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Legion of Mary will try providing you one for Fr. Roque to bless at the ceremony. You may also contact Sister Karen-Anne at (403) 952-8991 if you have any questions. There is also a binder at the back of the church at St. Patrick's that notes what is required as well as the copy of the prayers for the enthronement.



## Knights of Columbus Receives Top Reward



Holy Family Parish Knights of Columbus Council #9502 has received the distinction of Star Council, the international organization's top award for local councils.

The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership, promotion of fraternal insurance benefits, sponsorship of faith formation programs and service-oriented activities.

The award was made possible by Membership Director, Garry Lux. Garry works tirelessly recruiting members to our order. Our membership grew by 20 brothers in 2023/2024.

We thank all our Knights of Columbus members for their dedication to serving our parish, families, schools and local community. Through your efforts we served parish corn roast, yearend picnic and parish breakfasts. Recognition goes to Henk Hof for his leadership as Volunteer Coordinator. Thank you, Henk, for leading these initiatives.

Faith in Action Committee offered several programs in Faith, Life, Family and Community. Program examples include Coats for Kids, Novena for Life to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Silver Rose, Rosary Program, Men's Lenten Retreat and leadership for Eucharistic Adoration.

The work we have accomplished requires accurate and timely record keeping, submitting the required forms to Supreme Council. Special recognition goes to our council's Financial Secretary, Pat Ries, for the excellent job you do to keep our forms submitted. Without this work the effort would be unnoticed by Supreme.

Our Knights of Columbus council is active and vital to the growth of our parish. Please get involved by volunteering or attending our programs. Contact Membership Director Garry Lux at 403-580-9168 for more information on joining our KofC council at Holy Family Parish.



# **PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO ITALY, MONACO, AND FRANCE**

**CELEBRATING THE JUBILEE OF 2025**

**UNDER SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE OF FR. IOBAL KHURSHID**

**MAY 12- 25, 2025 - 14 DAYS – \$ 5950 INCLUDING  
TAXES AND TIPS (CALGARY DEPARTURE)**

**VISITING: ROME, VATICAN, PISA, MONTE CARLO,  
NICE, AVIGNON, CLERMONT-FERRAND, TOURS,  
MOUNT SAINT-MICHEL, NORMANDIE, ROUEN, PARIS**



**INCLUDED:**

- AIR & LAND TRANSPORTATION
- HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FIRST CLASS BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
- 2 MEALS BREAKFAST AND DINNER DAILY
- ALL SIGHTSEEING AS PER ITINERARY WITH ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE
- AIRPORT TAXES
- TIPS TO BUS DRIVER AND GUIDES

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- LUNCHESES
- TRAVEL INSURANCE



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY CONNAISSANCE TRAVEL & TOURS  
3852 FINCH AVENUE EAST, #306 TORONTO, ON M1T 3T9  
AGNES TEL. 416.418.3599 OR MARIA TEL. 905.334.0559  
[WWW.CONNAISSANCETRAVEL.COM](http://WWW.CONNAISSANCETRAVEL.COM)

TICO ONT. REG: #2976741





23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

### EPHPHATHA - BE OPENED

Last Sunday we reflected on the purification of our inner selves. We are called to keep ourselves unstained by the world and let our hearts be pure from any evil or defilement of the world. Today we are invited to allow the Lord to open our ears and tongue to listen and speak. Let me share a story with you.

Every evening, there was a crowd of devotees in the monastery to listen to a well known and renowned monk who gave the right direction and understanding of life. A young man used to listen to his discourse everyday. One day when the discourse was over, he went to the monk and said, "I have been listening to your discourses for a long time but after leaving from here, I am not able to follow the same good conduct in my household life as I hear here. Due to this, I started to doubt the importance of discourses. What should I do?" Listening to this the monk gave a bamboo basket to the young man and asked him to bring water in it. But the young man failed to fill the basket with water. However, monk asked him to continue bringing water in the same basket daily. The young man tried to fill the basket with water everyday but could not succeed. After a few days, the monk asked him, "do you see any difference in the basket after pouring water in it continuously for so many days?" The young man said, "Yes, there is difference, earlier dirt used to accumulate in basket, but now it looks clean. No dirt is visible, and its hole are not as big as before. They become very small." The monk explained, "if you keep putting it in water like this, then in few days these holes will swell and close and you will be able to fill the basket with the water". The same way you if allow your ear to my discourse and open you heart and mind to understand, it will fill your life with wisdom and knowledge. The key is to listen and open yourself to understanding.



In our human life we have basic senses which help us to see, smell, touch, hear and taste and these senses complete our life and help us to enjoy the beauty of the creation. However, beside these senses, we need to experience something totally different to express ourselves and that is called speaking. If we lack any of them, our life becomes incomplete. In present age, big thanks to science that people are getting sight restored and they are able to hear via audio devices. God has blessed us with such great gifts that one can ever think about it. We are given a tongue to speak and proclaim his name to others and ears to hear his voice and listen to his voice to amend our lives according to his good pleasure (Please read Revelation 2 & 3 chapters).

Restoration of sight to the blind and the power of speech to the dumb and the power of hearing to the deaf were part of the messianic expectations. This was at the center of the prophecy we read today in the First Reading. The lines of this reading recapture the prophetic voice and words of deliverance from God through the prophet and to God's people who were facing a very turbulent and difficult time in their history as a people. A period of crisis that could be likened to ours, not just for the world at large but particularly to us a Church, as the Family of God, at this point, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, "even when the boat has taken on so much water as to be on the verge of capsizing." It was exactly in such moment that God spoke to His people, as He is speaking to us afresh today that "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy." It is often the temptation to stop at a literal and superficial understanding of these prophetic lines. Much deeper than that, God invites us to a special form of encounter that not only liberates us physically, but that which also spiritually emancipates us and empowers and places us at the forefront to successfully realize our mission as sons and daughters of God. Someone said, "Prayer at its highest is a two-way conversation - and for me the most important part is listening to God's replies". St. Augustine once said "Remember this. When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from light, the light continues to be bright in itself, but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God".

God not only gives us to the power to listen but to speak as well. How do we use these powers, all depends on us. Maybe we can compare these powers with the following story:

The Wind and the Sun were disputing which was the stronger. Suddenly they saw a traveller coming down the road, and the Sun said: "I see a way to decide our dispute. Whichever of us can cause that traveller to take off his cloak, shall be regarded as the stronger. You begin."



So, the Sun retired behind a cloud, and the Wind began to blow as hard as it could upon the traveller. But the harder he blew the more closely did the traveller wrap his cloak round him, till at last the Wind had to give up in despair.

Then the Sun came out and shone in all his glory upon the traveller, who soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on.

This Sunday's Gospel passage refers to the episode of the miraculous healing by Jesus of a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. They brought to him a deaf and dumb man, beseeching Him to lay a hand upon him. Instead, He performed two different gestures upon him: first, He took the man aside, far from the crowd. On this occasion, as on others, Jesus always acts with discretion. He does not want to impress people; He is not seeking popularity or success but wishes only to do good to people. With this attitude, He teaches us that good is to be done without clamour, without ostentation, without "blowing one's trumpet". It should be done quietly.

When they had drawn aside, Jesus put his fingers in the deaf man's ears and touched his tongue with saliva. This gesture refers to the Incarnation. The Son of God is a man inserted into human reality: he became man; therefore, he can understand another man's distressing condition and intervene with a gesture which concerned his own humanity. At the same time, Jesus wanted to make it understood that the miracle occurred because of his union with the Father: for this reason, he looked up to heaven. He then sighed and said the decisive word: "Ephphatha", which means "Be opened". And immediately the man was healed: his ears were opened; his tongue was released. For him the healing was an "opening" to others and to the world.

It is very glaring that we are living in a time where we hear more of vices than of virtues. In a time where virtuous living seems to be the abnormal way of life whereas vices are praised with the loudest of voices and with the grandeur of visual glamour. Hence, the problem of our time goes beyond that of being deaf to the physical sound of things but much deeper to being deaf to the voice of virtue and God-founded values. Hence the sound of 'Ephphatha' we need to hear in our times is not just to open our physical ears, for that would be the greatest limitation of the power of God, but also our inner ears to hear what the Lord says to us and to loosen the ligaments of our tongues to announce what we have heard to everybody. Beyond the restoration of the man's power of speech, this man received, together with those around him the grace to recognize the divine power at work in Jesus Christ, the values Jesus stood for and embodied in His person and also the boldness to speak about God "He has done all this well, He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak." Have you had an experience of this 'Ephphatha'?

By virtue of our baptism, we have all made the same experience with the deaf man of today. Our ears have been opened and the ligaments of our tongues loosened. The problem we have is that we allow this persecutive and deafening noise of vices to silence us into confusion and uncertainty and uncharitable empathy for evil and



the destruction of our families and societies by injustice and exploitation of the poor and the vulnerable. In the words of the Second Reading (James 2:1-5) we have been pushed into the use of standards that demeans the values we profess and should defend. The Word of God is charging us once more today to be the voice of the voiceless, to stand against injustice and to speak and witness in words and deeds the Good news that we carry for “all that is necessary for the triumph of sin and vice is for good men and women to keep mute and do nothing.”

Through the miracle in the Gospel today, we are given the choice to listen to his voice and proclaim it others. By listening we become obedient and by becoming obedient we become faithful to him who never denies us. Let me conclude my reflection with his wonderful story to remind us to avoid listening to the world as it brings wonderful attraction to us but only to listen to the Lord's voice (Read Psalm 95) to live and proclaim his name.

Once a spider was looking for a suitable place to make its web. He wanted his web to be in such a place where a lot of insects and flies would come and get trapped in his web. In this he wanted to spend his life eating, drinking and relaxing with pleasure. Soon, he found a corner of room and started preparing to make his web there. Just when he started weaving the net, a cat passing by started laughing loudly after seeing him, when spider saw the cat laughing, he asked, “why are you laughing?” cat replied, “I am laughing at your stupidity, can't you see how clean this place is. No flies or insects will come here. Who will fall in our web?”

After listening to cat, spider gave up the idea of making web in that corner and started looking for another place. Then he saw a window and started weaving his net there. Spider had prepared half of his net, then a bird came there and started making fun of him saying, “have you lost your mind? Why are you weaving your net in this window? A strong wind will blow, and your net will fly away.” The spider understood and stopped weaving the net on the window and started looking for another place. While searching his eyes fell on an old cupboard. The door of that cupboard was slightly open. He went there and started weaving net.

Just then a cockroach came there and while explaining to him said, “it is useless to make net at this place. This wardrobe is very old. It will be sold in few days. All your hard work will go in vain. The spider listened to the advice of cockroach and stopped making the web in cupboard and started searching for another place. But in midst of all this, a whole day passed. He was tired and was suffering from hunger and thirst and didn't have any energy left to make a net.

Exhausted, he sat down in one place. An ant who was seeing all this, went to spider and said, “I have been watching you since morning. You start weaving a web and leave it incomplete after listening to others. You were influenced by words of others and didn't complete your net. If you listen to other, failure is on your way”.



Let the voice of the Lord inspire us to do whatever we can to have strong relationships with him. 'See, I waited for your words, I listened for your wise sayings, while you searched out what to say (Job 32:11).

Do we allow the Lord to open our lips and ears to glorify his name?



23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY  
TIME YEAR B  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Ephphatha - Be Opened

Do we allow the Lord to  
open our lips and ears to  
glorify his name?



# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

September 8, 2024

## Priestly Vocations Night

Have you considered becoming a priest? You are invited to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary's Priestly Vocations Night with Fr. Derek Remus. Each evening will begin with Mass at 5 pm, followed by Evening Prayer, supper, a presentation on discerning a vocation to the priesthood, and time for silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. When: **Sat, Sep 14; Oct 26; and Dec 7 from 6:30 pm to 9 pm** at St. Luke's Church, Calgary. To attend, please register by emailing Fr. Derek at [derek.remus@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:derek.remus@calgarydiocese.ca)

## Ecclesiastical Latin Classes

The St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy is offering free ecclesiastical Latin classes at the Catholic Pastoral Centre on **Wednesdays from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm**, starting **Sep 11**. Email Michael at [virduplex@gmail.com](mailto:virduplex@gmail.com) for registration.

## Stained Glass Workshop

Sacred Arts Guild of Alberta invites you to the upcoming Stained Glass Workshop with artist Jody Krauss on **Saturdays, Sep 14 & Sep 21, from 10 am to 6 pm** at 525 Country Meadows Way NW, Diamond Valley, AB. To register, visit [sacredartsguildofalberta.com](http://sacredartsguildofalberta.com)

Educating for Eternity: Making Every Class Catholic with Dr. Brett Salkeld  
Authentic Catholic education involves teaching every subject from a Catholic perspective, known as curriculum permeation. It goes beyond a secular education with a religion elective. Dr. Brett Salkeld will discuss how Catholic anthropology can guide teachers in integrating the faith into every aspect of the curriculum. When: **Thu, Sep 12, 7 pm** at St. Mary's University. [More info](#)

## 40 Hours Devotion for Vocations

Pray with us as for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life in our Diocese. The next devotions:

- **Our Lady of Peace, Tsuut'ina Nation:**, First Wednesdays, from noon to 10 pm: **Wed, Sep 4** (Mass at noon with Bishop McGrattan), Oct 2, Nov 6 and Dec 4.

## FCJ Tea Party

The FCJ Christian Life Centre in Calgary is hosting a Tea Party Fundraiser on **Sun, Sep 15, 2024, at 2 pm** at FCJ Centre to support washroom upgrades at the Centre. This event offers a chance to enjoy a delightful afternoon while contributing to a meaningful cause. All are welcome to attend. [More info](#)

## Elevated Conference for Youth in Grade 6-8

Come encounter the Lord, have fun with Face to Face Ministries, and be empowered to become a modern-day saint! When: **Wed, Sep 28 from 10 am to 4:45 pm** at **St. Peter's Church** (541 Silvergrove Dr. NW, Calgary). To register, visit <https://st-peters.ca>

## Recovery from Pornography

*Connected* is a 15-session program designed to help individuals overcome addiction to pornography, while *Reconnected* offers support specifically for the spouses of those affected. Both programs provide a comprehensive manual and over 150 tools to assist participants in their journey toward healing, all approached from a Catholic perspective. Weekly session runs from **Oct 21 to Dec 9, 2024** via Zoom (Mon and Wed: *Connected*: 5 pm to 6:15 pm; *Reconnected* 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm). Contact Mark at 403-701-2262 or email [kolodzie@telusplanet.net](mailto:kolodzie@telusplanet.net)

## Fiat - Young Women Retreat for Religious Life Discernment

Join Fr. Derek Remus, Sr. Dianne Turner, and Sr. Azenette Trongco for a day of discernment and prayer for young, single women 16+. **When: Sep.**



**28 from 9 am to 4 pm.** Start with 9 am Mass, followed by prayer, adoration, and scripture reflections. If you have any questions, contact Sr. Dianne [sisterdianne.turner@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:sisterdianne.turner@calgarydiocese.ca) or call 403-218-5504.

## National Gathering of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Don't miss the National Gathering of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada in Calgary on **Oct 18-19 at the FCJ Centre** (219 19 Ave SW). This event is a great opportunity for faith formation for CGS and sacrament preparation catechists, Children's Liturgy of the Word ministers, parents, and teachers. To register, visit [www.cgsac.ca](http://www.cgsac.ca)

## Transitions

Transitions is a 15-week, peer-led, God-centered support group designed to foster healing for individuals navigating the pain of separation and divorce. It is facilitated within a confidential, safe, and respectful environment of the community. The group meets every **Tuesday from 7 pm to 9 pm, starting Oct 1** at the Catholic Pastoral Centre. There is no fee to register. Register now at [catholicyc.ca/transitions](http://catholicyc.ca/transitions).

## Career Opportunities in the Diocese of Calgary

Employment opportunities currently available in the Diocese of Calgary:

- [Assistant Coordinator \(Casual\) - Feed the Hungry](#)
- [Discipleship and Lay Ministry Coordinator \(Full-time\), CPC](#)
- [Hospitality/Security \(Full-time\) - Sacred Heart, Calgary](#)
- [Administrative Assistant \(Casual\) - St. Michael's, \\_\\_\\_\\_\\_ Calgary](#)

For more info, visit [catholicyc.ca/careers](http://catholicyc.ca/careers)



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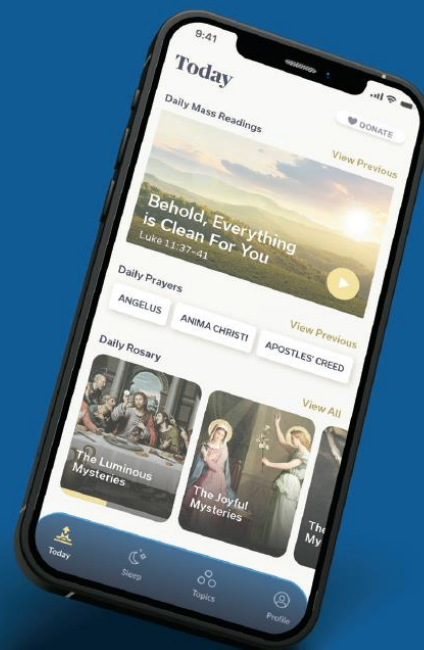
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## **Joe McKinnon Council #9502**

### **Knights of Columbus 2024 2025 Officers**

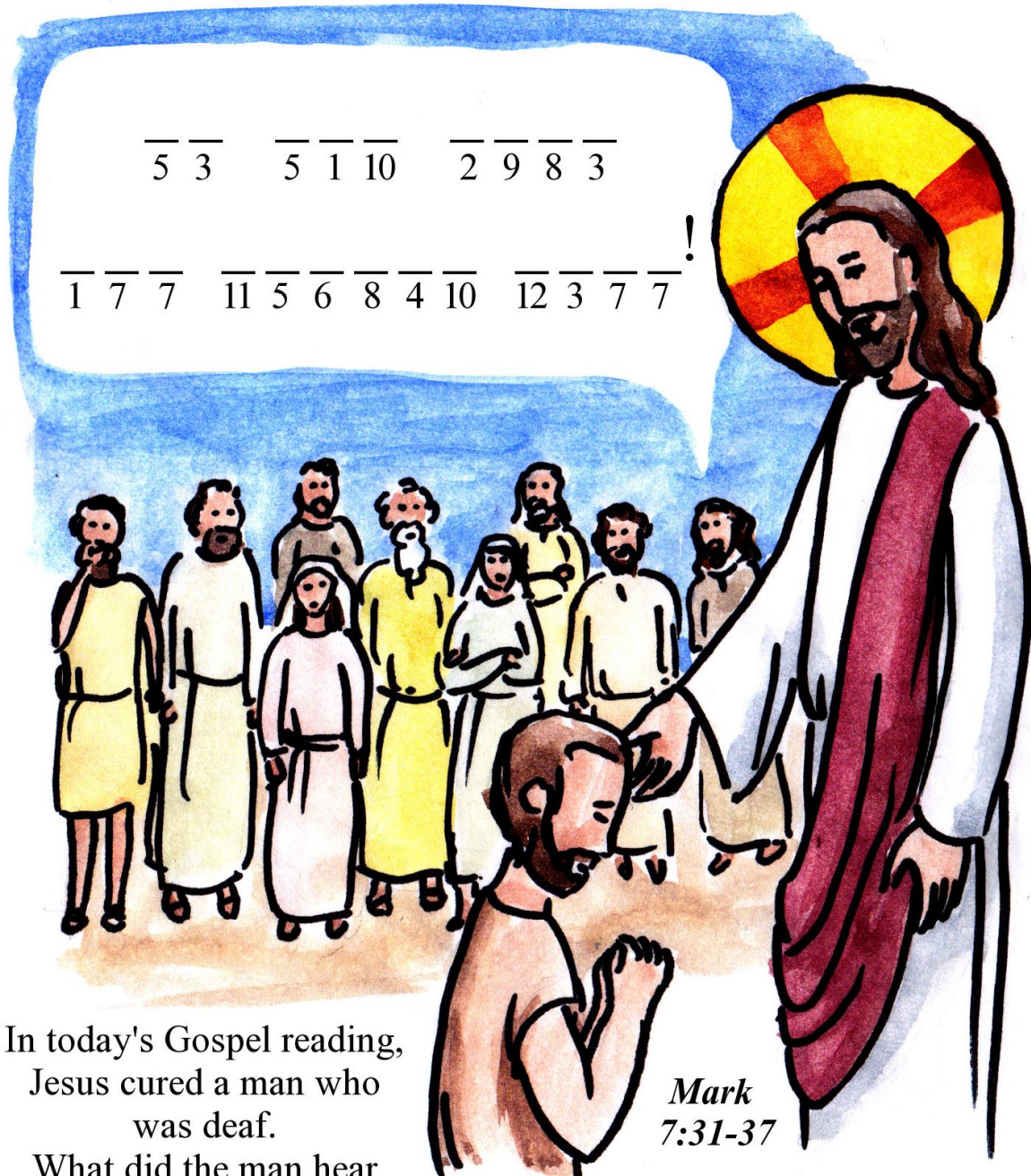
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Grand Knight</b>	<b>Greg Martin</b>
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	<b>Jimmy Tablan</b>
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	<b>Pat Ries</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ron Pisoni</b>
<b>Chancellor</b>	<b>Jason Iverson</b>
<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Brad Irvine</b>
<b>Advocate</b>	<b>Herb Durda</b>
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

## **2024 2025 Knights Events**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Sunday, September 8	Corn Roast
Monday, September 16	Officers Instillation
Sunday, September 29	Knights Mass
Sat, Sept 28 Sun., Sept 29	Rosary Program and Recruitment
Thursday, October 3	Pilgrim Icon
Thurs., Oct 3 to Sat., Oct 5	40 Hour Adoration
Sat., Oct 5 to Sun., Oct 6	Ministry Fair
Saturday, Oct. 19	Highway Clean Up
Sat., Oct. 12 at Noon	Canada Needs Our Lady
Sunday, October 20	Breakfast
Sat., Oct. 26 to Sun., Nov. 3	Student Art Show
Fri., Nov. 1	All Souls Mass
Sunday, November 17	Breakfast
Saturday, December 7	Knights Mass
Monday, December 16	Family Supper
Sunday, December 29	Consecration to the Holy Family

# The Kids' Bulletin

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 8th, 2024



In today's Gospel reading,  
Jesus cured a man who  
was deaf.  
What did the man hear  
people saying when he  
could hear again?

*Mark*  
*7:31-37*

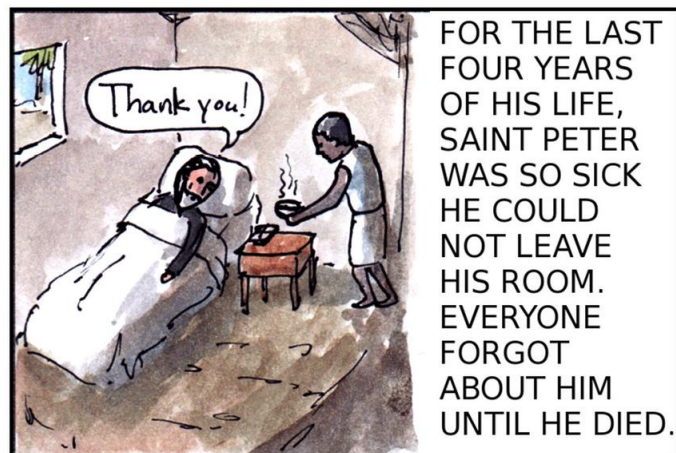
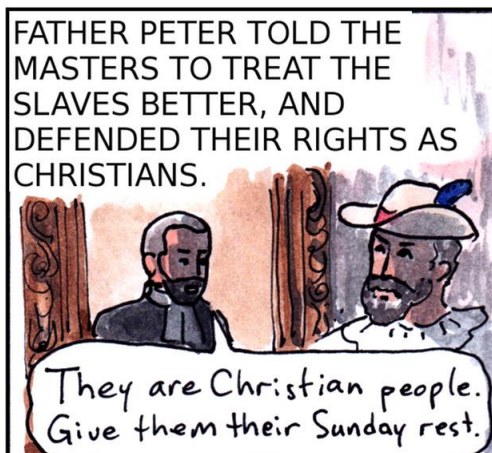
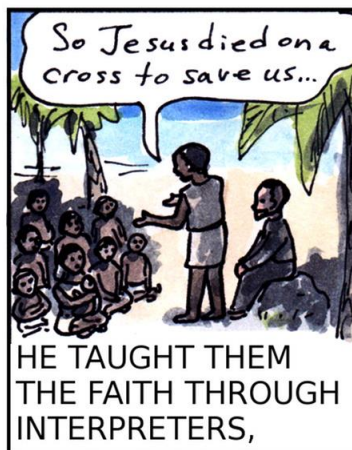
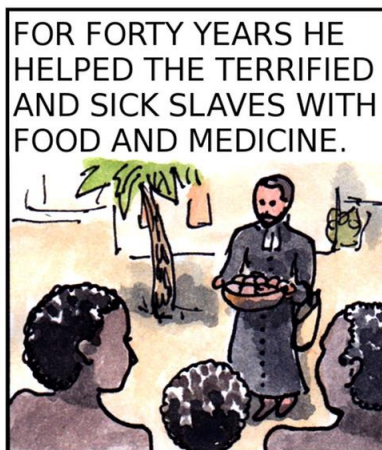
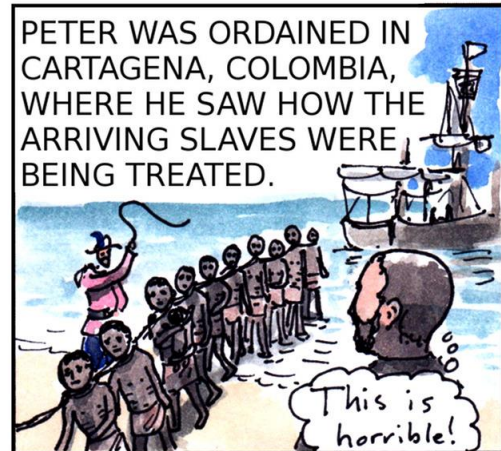
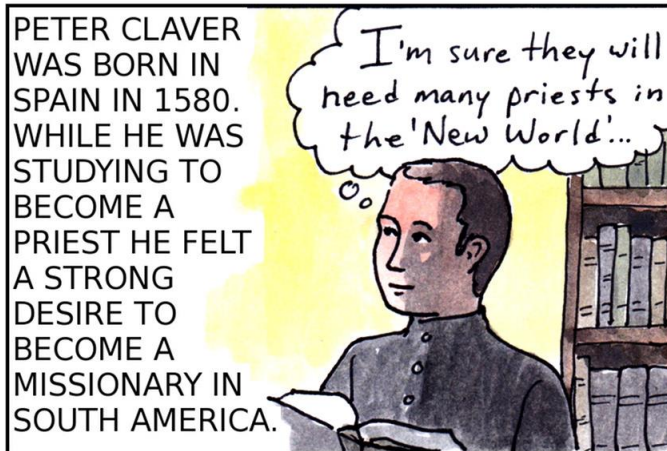
*Use the number code below  
to find the answer!*

A	D	E	G	H	I	L	N	O	S	T	W
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12



# Saint Peter Claver

## September 9



WHEN HE DIED, EVERYONE REALIZED HOW MANY PEOPLE SAINT PETER HAD HELPED AND BROUGHT TO THE FAITH. WE, TOO, SHOULD BE EAGER TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE BADLY TREATED OR IN NEED, EVEN IF NOBODY NOTICES WHAT WE ARE DOING. WHO CAN YOU THINK OF THAT COULD USE YOUR HELP?

# Our Lady's Birthday

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

*See if you can  
find all the  
words in  
CAPITALS in  
the puzzle.*

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



On September 8th we celebrate Mary's BIRTHDAY. She was CHOSEN by God to be the MOTHER of JESUS before she was even BORN. To PREPARE Mary to receive His SON, God made her PURE and WITHOUT SIN right from the first moment of her life.

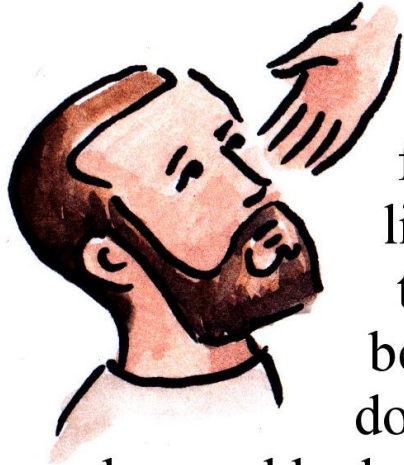
JOACHIM and ANN were HOLY JEWS who were WAITING for the MESSIAH to come. God chose them to be the FATHER and mother of MARY, who would become the mother of CHRIST.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

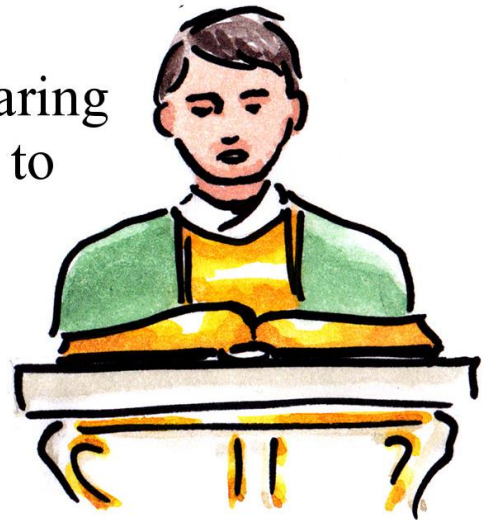


# Jesus Gives the Gift of Hearing



Being able to hear is a wonderful gift from God. Imagine what it would be like if you couldn't hear anything! In today's Gospel reading, the people begged Jesus to heal a deaf man. What do you think it was like for that man when suddenly he could hear everything that was going on around him?

God has given us the gift of hearing to be able to talk with and listen to other people, and to appreciate the sounds of creation. We use this gift to hear God's Word at Mass and when we are being taught.



Think of all the things that we can do because we can hear: we can listen to and play music, we can sing and talk with people, we can hear birds and wind in the trees, and we can also be warned of things like barking dogs, or cars coming. Did you ever thank God for the gift of hearing? Thank Him today!



Answer to front page: He has done all things well!  
Answer to Our Lady's Birthday Word-find:  
Happy Birthday Mary!



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 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 @holymfamilymh.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@holymfamilymh.ca](mailto:contact@holymfamilymh.ca) so it can be sent to the diocese.**