



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – YR. C SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

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

MASS TIMES - MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY 9:00AM

WEDNESDAY 7:00AM

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

MONTHLY - 1ST TUESDAY 6:00PM & 1ST SATURDAY 8:00AM

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN

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

ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 - 10:30am

Knights of Columbus – Greg Martin

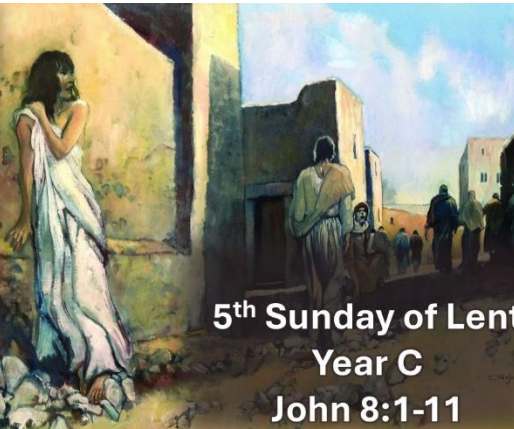
Catholic Women's League – Dianne Durda

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.

Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her!



5th Sunday of Lent

Year C

John 8:1-11

✠ Masses & Mass Intentions ✠



Saturday, April 5

8:00am – Dorothy Dillman ✠

5:00pm – Lucia & Gualberto Pimentel ✠

Sunday, April 6

8:30am – Holy Family Parish

10:30am – Gail Charnetski ✠

5:00pm – Brenda Rose ✠

Monday, April 7

9:00am – Richard Lewans ✠

Tuesday, April 8

9:00am – Lisa Braat

Wednesday, April 9

7:00am – Pater Von Dongen

Thursday, April 10

9:00am – Judy Landry ✠

Friday, April 11

9:00am – George Corcoran ✠

6:00pm – Stations of the Cross

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT – YR. C SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT	
<i>Monthly Operating Budget</i>	\$ 70,156
MARCH MONTH TO DATE	
General Envelope Collection	\$ 56,803
Loose Collections	\$ 4,943
Future Development	\$ 2,357
Misc. Income	\$ 14,403
Total Month Income	\$ 78,506
Budget Vs Actual	\$ 8,350
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
2025 YEAR TO DATE	
Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 24,967
GOAL - \$70,938 35%	
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 10,557
World Mission	\$ 75
Clergy Retirement	\$ 535
Mission Mexico	\$ 500
CARO	\$ 195
Loonies 4 Lent	\$ 9,851
Seminary Fund	\$ 440
Holy Land & Pope's Pastoral	\$20
<i>Thank You for your Generous Contributions</i>	
Average Weekend Attendance	1126

Fifth Sunday of Lent – Year C
 Isaiah 43:16-21
 Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.
 Philippians 3:8-14.
 John 8:1-11.
 Reflecting on Shameful Acts
 She is caught in adultery. They drag her before Jesus and the crowd, more to trip him up than mete out the law. What does Jesus do? He asks, who is without sin? A great Lenten question.
 † What stone will I put down and not pound against someone else?
 † What sin will I admit and find a way to resolve it?
 † Because of God's mercy to me, what mercy work will I do for another?



Holy Week 2025
HOLY FAMILY PARISH
 PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH-13TH
 REGULAR MASS TIMES
 HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH
 MORNING PRAYER, 8:00 AM
 MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
 7:00 PM INCENSE IS USED
 FOLLOWED BY ADORATION UNTIL
 MIDNIGHT, FAITH ROOM.
 RECONCILIATION, CHARITY ROOM
 FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH
 MORNING PRAYER, 9:00 AM
 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
 12 NOON & 3:00 PM
 SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH
 MORNING PRAYER, 8:00 AM
 EASTER FOOD BLESSING, 11 AM
 EASTER VIGIL, 8:00 PM
 INCENSE IS USED
 SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH
 EASTER SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
 MONDAY, APRIL 21ST NO MASS

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

**Special Collections
 April 2025**
**Future Development
 Together in Action
 Holy Thursday
 Needs of the Church
 in the Holy Land
 Easter**

Stations of the Cross Presented by the School Kids
 St. Louis School will present on Friday, April 11, 6:00pm in the Sanctuary followed by the Poverty Meal
 St. Patrick's School will present a Shadow Play on Monday, April 14, 7:00pm in the Holy Family Parish Hall
 Everyone welcome...
 Please come out and support these events!

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
Sunday Evening Mass
is now at
5:00 PM

e-transfer ONLINE GIVING **DONATE TODAY...**
accounting@holyfamilymh.ca

Knights of Columbus
Officers Meeting
Monday, April 7 at 7:00pm
HFP Faith Room

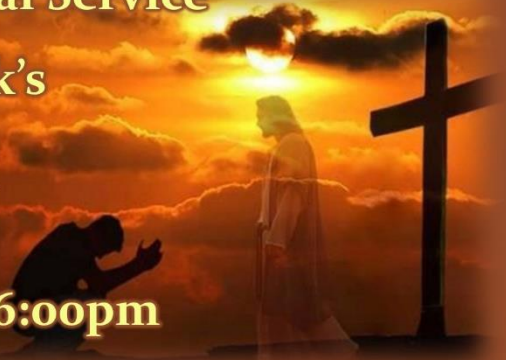


Catholic Women's League (CWL)
General Meeting
Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00pm
Holy Family Parish Hall

Coffee with the Church Lady Staff
Tuesday
April 8, 2025
Isn't that special! Following 9:00 Mass
In the Faith Room

Penitential Service

St. Patrick's
Parish
Thursday
April 10
4:00pm - 6:00pm



April 12, 2025 ~ St. Patrick's Church Hall
Breakfast 7:30 am
Presentation 8:30 am
Theme: The Spiritual Journey Active and Passive
Presenter: Mark Hartfiel

TMIY
THAT MAN IS YOU!
BECOMING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

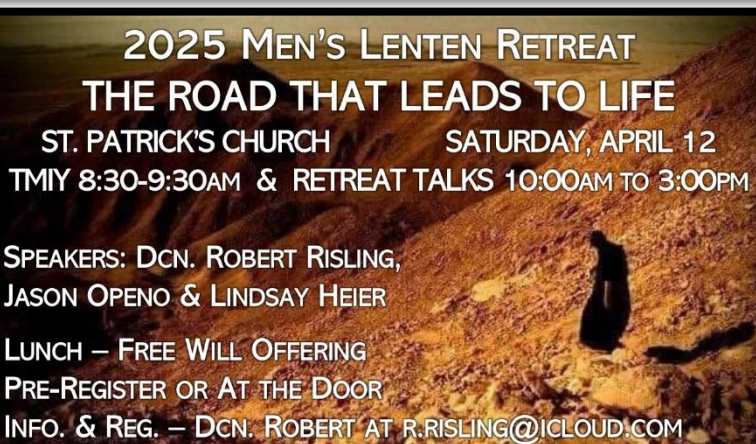


2025 MEN'S LENTEN RETREAT THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH SATURDAY, APRIL 12
TMIY 8:30-9:30AM & RETREAT TALKS 10:00AM TO 3:00PM

SPEAKERS: DCN. ROBERT RISLING,
JASON OPENO & LINDSAY HEIER

LUNCH - FREE WILL OFFERING
PRE-REGISTER OR AT THE DOOR
INFO. & REG. - DCN. ROBERT AT R.RISLING@ICLOUD.COM



2025 WOMAN'S LENTEN RETREAT "CALLED TO WITNESS"

HOLY FAMILY PARISH FOR AGES 16 - 120
FRIDAY, APRIL 11 - 7:00-9:00PM - FAITH ROOM
SATURDAY, APRIL 12 - 10:00AM-3:00PM HFP HALL

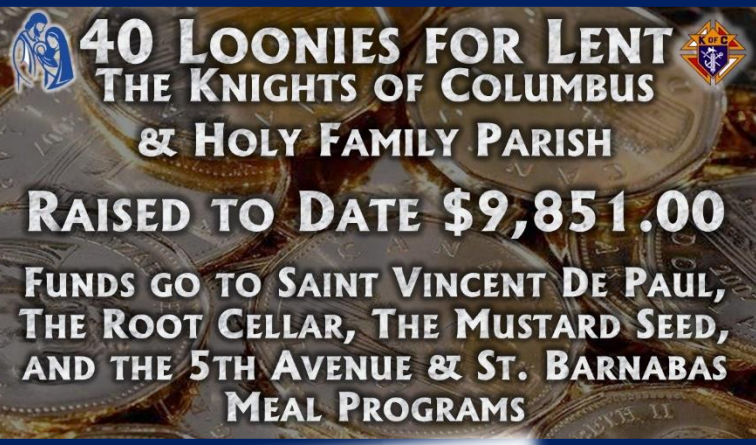
\$10.00 - LUNCH PROVIDED
PLEASE GIVE DIETARY NEEDS UPON REGISTRATION
INFO & TO REGISTER: LOUELLA AT 403-502-6883
OR LMBERGER@TELUS.NET



40 LOONIES FOR LENT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & HOLY FAMILY PARISH

RAISED TO DATE \$9,851.00

FUNDS GO TO SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL,
THE ROOT CELLAR, THE MUSTARD SEED,
AND THE 5TH AVENUE & ST. BARNABAS
MEAL PROGRAMS



CONFIRMATION MASS 2025

Holy Family Parish
Rehearsal - Friday May 2nd - 6:00pm
Mass - Saturday May 3rd - 11:00am
1st HOLY COMMUNION MASS 2025

St. Patrick's Church Hall
Tuesday, April 29th at 7:00pm
Holy Family Parish
Friday, April 25th at 6:00pm



Faithfully
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

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

Children's Liturgy

No Children's liturgy Palm Sunday.

Check the children's liturgy table in the foyer for activities & coloring pages.

Children's Liturgy resumes May 4th

For Information or to Volunteer Call Tammy @ 403-866-7886



The Catholic Women's League

Holy Family Parish

Bottle Drive

April 26th & 27th Before & After Masses
Holy Family Parish East Parking Lot

Thank you for your support!

FUNDRAISING



If you are thirsting for a deeper relationship with Jesus, come to our next

Live-In Weekend Retreat.

May 2nd – 4th 2025

Friday at 4:30pm to Sunday at 4:30 pm

St. Joseph's School 1413 23rd Ave, Coaldale
register online: www.lethbridgelivein.ca

for more details contact:

Sandra Kano 403-394-4658

or skano@live.ca

SUMMER Bible Camp



July 7-11, 2025

SPRING TEA & BAKE SALE

HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL
HOSTED BY THE CWL

Saturday, May 17 2:00 – 4:00pm

Door Prizes, Raffle, Good Food
& Good Fellowship



COUNTDOWN

9

WEEKS

Volunteers



Needed

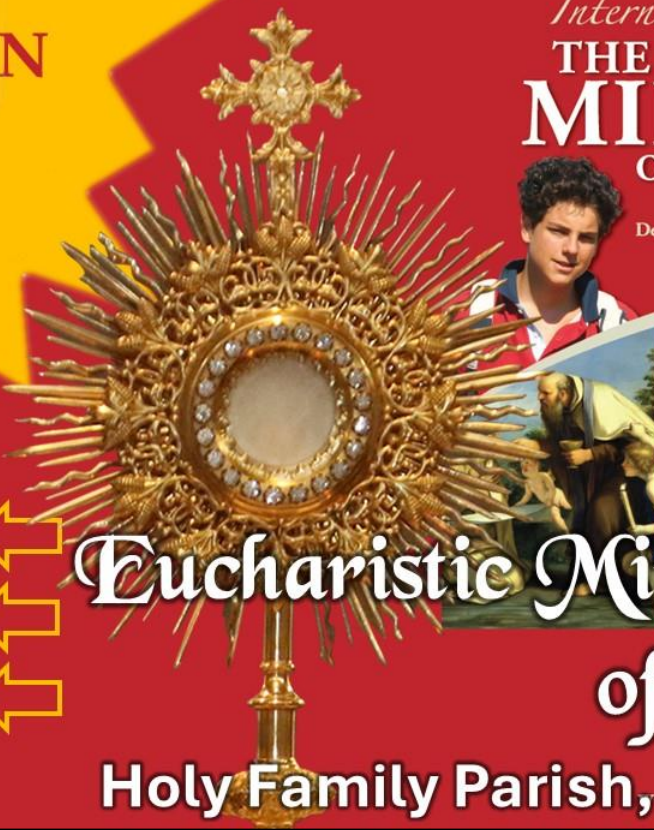
Eucharistic Miracles

of the World

Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat

International Exhibition
THE EUCHARISTIC
MIRACLES
OF THE WORLD

Designed and created by the Servant of God Carlo Acutis



Vincentian Corner - 'Almsgiving' Go Beyond Giving Money:

Think of almsgiving as not only donating money but also offering your time, skills, and talents to those in need.

Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul would be happy to welcome you into our family of volunteers. Many individuals and families are struggling in our community today. Our mission is to support those requesting our assistance in the best way possible. We meet with them to listen and to show that we care. This is important and fulfilling work – knowing you have made a difference in a person or family's life situation is truly a feeling of following in Christ's footsteps in a real and practical way.

Please come to one of our weekly meetings held every Tuesday at 1:00 pm. Meetings are held at St. Patrick's Church Hall during March and at Holy Family Parish during April. We invite you to join us to see if this is something God may be calling you to do – you will be so glad that did!

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



St. Louis School

St. Louis School was the very first school within the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education and we are very proud of our historical and spiritual heritage! As a small community school, we take great pride in our students and our families. We cherish the gift of Catholic Education and strive to grow closer to Jesus, our Lord, by celebrating our faith, participating in the teachings of the Church and demonstrating acts of mercy and charity to those in need, whether locally or globally.

-Ron Blackmer- Principal



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education



St. Patrick's School





40 Loonies for Lent

**PLEASE SPECIFY ON YOUR DONATION IF YOU WANT IT TO GO TO
“40 LOONIES 4 LENT”**

2025 marks the eighth year that Holy Family Parish Knights of Columbus Council 9502 is sponsoring the 40 Loonies for Lent program.

This year's program theme is, ***Love the Lord, Love your neighbour***. As it is written in the book of Sirach, chapter 35, verses 6 to 8, “The just man's sacrifice is most pleasing, nor will it ever be forgotten. In generous spirit pay homage to the Lord, be not sparing of freewill gifts. With each contribution show a cheerful countenance.” Your donations stay here in Medicine Hat going to the Root Cellar, Mustard Seed, Saint Vincent De Paul Society, 5th Avenue and Saint Barnabas Meal Programs.

It should be noted that Holy Family Parish volunteers serve every Thursday at 5th Avenue, and Holy Family also serves every 4th and 5th Saturday at St. Barnabas Meal Program. I would personally like to thank the many volunteers who sacrifice their time to assist the people who may be struggling.

Through the generous support of Holy Family Parish parishioners, you helped raise **twelve thousand dollars in 2024. Our goal this year is to raise ten thousand dollars.** There are a few ways to make donations. Simply write “40 LOONIES FOR LENT” and the dollar amount on your weekly parish donation envelope. You may donate your full Lenten gift of \$40.00 one time or contribute an amount of \$7.00 or more each week. If sacrificial giving means you can give more, please do so. For those who are not using weekly envelopes you may make your cheque payable to Holy Family Parish or donate cash in a separate envelope marked with your name, address and “40 LOONIES FOR LENT” and place it in the weekly collection basket or drop it off at the Parish office. Alternatively, you may authorize the parish to process your donation on your credit card and most recently Holy Family Parish has added e-transfer but if using e-transfer please note it is to go to: **40 Loonies for Lent.**

Look for updates on funds collected in the parish bulletin.

We thank you in advance for your generosity, **“what ever you do to the least of my brothers you do unto me.”**

Thank you and may the Lord bless you and keep you.

Knights of Columbus®
Alberta/NWT State Council

50-50
CHARITIES APPEAL RAFFLE

Early Bird
Draws x2
\$1000^{ea}

Draw Dates at 4PM:
February 24, 2025
March 24, 2025

In support of:
Educational Institutions, Community Charities, Churches,
Youth and Seniors Activities across Alberta

The Alberta/Northwest Territories Knights of Columbus 2025 Spring 50-50 Charities Appeal Raffle is underway. This Charity Appeal supports educational institutions, community charities, churches and youth and seniors' activities across Alberta.

Our Holy Family Parish Knights of Columbus thank our parishioners for their past

generous support of this charity appeal. Our council support two community charities, Project Rachel and Elizabeth House. Each charity supports pregnant women and mothers. There are two early bird draws, each for \$1000, on February 24 and March 24, with the **ticket purchase ending April 26.**

50/50 tickets can be purchased using www.koc5050.com and please remember to search for our council, **9502**, so our council will receive your donation.

If you have any questions about the Charity Appeal, contact Greg Martin, 403-878-0639 or Pat Ries, 403-458-0442. Our 9502 KofC Council thanks you for your support.

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation

50/50 Cash Raffle

»» **Draw Date: April 11**

Draw opens: Feb 10th @ 6:00am
Draw ends: April 10th @ 11:59pm

- »» 1 entry for \$10
- »» 4 entries for \$20
- »» 20 entries for \$50
- »» 100 entries for \$100

SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!

Together in the support of
Medicine Hat Catholic
community children & the
education process!

rafflebox.ca/raffle/mhcsef-spring25



5th SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C

APRIL 6, 2025

Our Moral Justification

As we continue our Lenten journey by praying, fasting and almsgiving, Sacred Scripture keeps inviting us to meditate on the love and mercy of God. Last Sunday we reflected on the role of the father who is full of mercy, forgiveness and love and the actions of both the sons who were lost in their selfishness, anger and pride. The words of the father in the parable were eye opening for us to understand that he welcomes us back, if we return back to him. (Please read Ezekiel 33).

The letter by St. Maximus the Confessor invites us to reflect on the mercy of God. "God's will is to save us, and nothing pleases him more than our coming back to him with true repentance. The heralds of truth and the ministers of divine grace have told us this from the beginning, repeating it in every age. Indeed, God's desire for our salvation is the primary and pre-eminent sign of his infinite goodness. It was precisely in order to show that there is nothing closer to God's heart than the divine Word of God the Father, with untold condescension, lived among us in the flesh, and did, suffered, and said all that was necessary to reconcile us to God the Father, when we were at enmity with him, and to restore us to the life of blessedness from which we had been exiled. He healed our physical infirmities by miracles; he freed us from our sins, many and grievous as they were, by suffering and dying, taking them upon himself as if he were answerable for them, sinless though he was. He also taught us in many ways that we should wish to imitate him by our own kindness and genuine love for one another. So it was that Christ proclaimed that he had come to call sinners to repentance, not the righteous, and that it was not the healthy who required a doctor, but the sick. He declared that he had come to look for the sheep that was lost, and that it was to the lost sheep of the house of Israel that he had been sent. Speaking more obscurely in the parable of the silver coin, he tells us that the purpose

of his coming was to reclaim the royal image, which had been coated with the filth of sin. You can be sure there is joy in heaven, he said, over one sinner who repents”.

He continues to write, “To give the same lesson he revived the man who, having fallen into the hands of the brigands, had been left stripped and half-dead from his wounds; he poured wine and oil on the wounds, bandaged them, placed the man on his own mule and brought him to an inn, where he left sufficient money to have him cared for, and promised to repay any further expense on his return. Again, he told of how the Father, who is goodness itself, was moved with pity for his profligate son who returned and made amends by repentance; how he embraced him, dressed him once more in the fine garments that befitted his own dignity, and did not reproach him for any of his sins. So too, when he found wandering in the mountains and hills the one sheep that had strayed from God’s flock of a hundred, he brought it back to the fold, but he did not exhaust it by driving it ahead of him. Instead, he placed it on his own shoulders and so, compassionately, he restored it safely to the flock. He cried out: Come to me, all you that toil and are heavy of heart. Accept my yoke, he said, by which he meant his commands, or rather, the whole way of life that he taught us in the Gospel. He then speaks of a burden, but that is only because repentance seems difficult. In fact, however, my yoke is easy, he assures us, and my burden is light. Then again he instructs us in divine justice and goodness, telling us to be like our heavenly Father, holy, perfect and merciful. Forgive, he says, and you will be forgiven. Behave toward other people as you would wish them to behave toward you”.

Our very common human nature is to point our fingers on other people, and we take great pleasure in pointing out the faults of others. This is contrary to our Christian faith and identity because we are called to love one another. St. Paul says “Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. You say, “We know that God’s judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth.” Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?” (Romans 2:1-5). Also please read Galatians 5:16-26.

Long, long ago, on the bank of a river, there lived a monk. Right across the street from him, lived a prostitute. The monk always hated the fact that he had to live next door to the prostitute. He took every opportunity to rebuke her about her profession. He would take every opportunity to show her what a horrible person she was. In his mind, he always

compared himself with her and took big pride in the fact that he was accruing so much good Karma compared to her.

The prostitute was a humble girl. She always respected the monk. She tried not to talk back when he was yelling at her. She felt bad about the choice of the profession she made but was not able to get out of it. She would always try to listen when the monk prayed, hoping that listening to God's name would help her wash off some of her sins.

The monk kept on his routine of massaging his own ego by comparing himself to the prostitute. Eventually he got so obsessed that he kept a jar with him and for every one person who visited prostitute, he dropped a pebble in the jar.

The prostitute kept her own routine. She was also watching what the monk was doing. She had a jar too. And every time the monk prayed, she put a pebble in the jar.

One day there was a big flood on the river. Both the monk and the prostitute were washed away and were dead. Upon their death, their souls stood in front of God.

To everyone's surprise, God ordered the prostitute to go to heaven and the monk to go to hell. The monk could not believe this. "What an injustice. You can still find a jar in my house. I have kept count of how many times this prostitute sinned. How can she go to heaven? There must be some mistake."

The prostitute also added humbly "I think the monk is right. I don't deserve to go heaven. But he does. I have a jar where I kept count of the number of times, I heard his prayer. He prayed a lot. So, I think he should go to heaven, and I should go to hell."

God smiled and said "The judgement is correct. It does not matter what word is in your mouth. It matters only what is in your heart. The monk's heart was filled with the prostitute's sins while he was saying his prayers. While the prostitute's heart was filled with love of God while engaged in lifestyle of sins. The heart that has the love of God goes to heaven and the heart that judges' others and is filled with jealousy goes to hell."

In the First Reading we hear that God wants us to turn back from our former ways "Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old". God wants to restore everything to new which means he wants all of us to have pure heart. Although with the sin of Adam and Eve, our human nature is inclined to sin as it is written in the Book of Ecclesiastes "there is no one who is without sin" and sin has caused the death to enter the world. Impurity of our hearts leads to other sins as Jesus says in the Gospel of St. Matthew "For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

We all want to believe we have a pure heart, one that is entirely devoted to God. But humans are masters at self-deception. If our heart were impure, how would we know? This

is important because we must first recognize how impure our hearts are before we can repent and pursue purity. St. Paul in the Second Reading feels proud of himself for losing everything for the sake of God “For his sake I have suffered the loss of things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith”. That is only possible if we strive to have a pure heart filled with love of God.

The Gospel of this Fifth Sunday of Lent is so beautiful, I really enjoy reading and rereading it. It presents the episode of the adulterous woman, highlighting the theme of the mercy of God, who never wants the sinner to die, but that the sinner converts and lives. Also, it highlights the impurity of heart of other people who are one-sided judges of the case. This is a beautiful story. First, we have Jesus alone on the mountain, praying. He was praying alone. Then he went back to the Temple, and all the people went to him. Jesus was amid the people. And then, at the end, they left him alone with the woman. Jesus in spite of people's impurity of heart, writes on the ground which means he does not remember our sins but forgives our sins.

He is like a friend in the story: *Two friends were walking through the desert. At some point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand “Today my best friend slapped me in the face”.*

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone “Today my best friend saved my life”. The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him, “After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?” The other friend replied “When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.”

In the Gospel, among the people we see a variety of attitudes: there were all the people who went to him; he sat and began to teach them: the people who wanted to hear the words of Jesus, the people with open hearts, hungry for the word of God. There were others who did not hear anything, who could not hear anything; and there were those who brought along this woman: Listen, Master, this woman has done such and such ... we must do what Moses commanded us to do with women like this.

This wicked intention was hidden behind the question that they asked Jesus: “What do you say about her?”. Jesus did not respond; he kept silent and made a mysterious gesture: he “bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground”. Perhaps he was drawing, some said

that he wrote down the sins of the Pharisees... however, he was writing, as if he were elsewhere. In this way he helped everyone to calm down, not to act on the wave of impulsiveness, and to seek the justice of God. But those wicked men persisted and waited for him to answer. They seemed to thirst for blood. Then Jesus looked up and said: "Let he who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her".

This response confounded the accusers, disarming all of them in the true sense of the word: they all lay down their "weapons", that is, the stones ready to be thrown, both the visible ones against the woman and those concealed against Jesus. While the Lord continued to write on the ground, to draw, I don't know.... The accusers went away, one after the other, heads down, beginning with the eldest, most aware of not being without sin. How much good it does us to be aware that we too are sinners! When we speak ill of others — something we know well — how much good it will do us to have the courage to drop down the stones we have to throw at others, and to think a little about our own sins!

Only the woman and Jesus remained: misery and mercy. How often does this happen to us when we stop before the confessional, with shame, to show our misery and ask for forgiveness! "Woman where are they?", Jesus said to her.

Dear brothers and sisters, that woman represents all of us. We are sinners, meaning adulterers before God, betrayers of his fidelity. Her experience represents God's will for each of us: not our condemnation but our salvation through Jesus. He is the grace which saves from sin and from death. On the ground, in the dust of which every human being is made (Gen 2:7), he wrote God's sentence: "I want not that you die but that you live". God does not nail us to our sin, he does not identify us by the evil we have committed. We have a name, and God does not identify this name with the sin we have committed. He wants to free us and wants that we too want it together with him. He wants us to be free to convert from evil to good, and this is possible — it is possible! — with his grace. "Blessed are the pure of heart" is the spirit we need to follow Jesus.

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing.

After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl.

He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to her he asked. "Daughter, what do you see?"

"Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied.

"Look closer," he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

"Father, what does this mean?" she asked.

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity— the boiling water.

However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak.

The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard.

However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

"Which are you," he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

Sometimes in our own moral justification, we fail to understand other people and the self righteousness kills us forever.

Are we condemning other people because of our moral justification?



**ARE WE CONDEMNING OTHER PEOPLE
BECAUSE OF OUR MORAL JUSTIFICATION?**

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT-YEAR C

APRIL 6, 2025

DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



Solidarity Sunday: Apr 6, 2025

On Solidarity Sunday, April 6, 2025, Bishop McGrattan invites you to give a donation to the 2025 *Share Lent Campaign, Turn Debt into Hope*. Join people around the world as they *Turn Debt into Hope* by focusing on the devastating effects of this cycle of debt on our sisters and brothers in the Global South. You can give online at devp.org or by phone to 1-888-234-8533.

- Celebrate **Solidarity Sunday Mass** for the Jubilee Year with Bishop William McGrattan at 12 noon on **Sun, Apr 6 at St. Mary's Cathedral**.
- **Attend a Town Hall with Luke Stocking** from 1:30 to 3:30 pm on Sun, Apr 6 at the FCJ Centre.

The Outdoor Way of the Cross

Save the date for the Outdoor Way of the Cross: **Fri, Apr 18, at 8:30 am | St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary**. Join Bishop McGrattan and the faithful of the Diocese of Calgary for the Outdoor Way of the Cross, now returning to its Downtown route. The journey begins at St. Mary's Cathedral at 8:30 am. All are welcome to take part in this powerful witness of faith.

Shroud of Jesus: Hope of the Resurrection

St. Patrick's Parish, Calgary is hosting the *Man of the Shroud Exhibition & Conference* from **April 3 - 27, 2025**. There will be an extensive exhibit on the history, significance and scientific aspects of the Shroud of Turin. Check their website for all the events and speakers at www.stpatrickcalgary.com

2025 Share Lent Tour

As Easter nears, let's walk in solidarity, answering the call of Jesus and Pope Francis to be Pilgrims of Hope. Learn more about the campaign at www.devp.org, the official site of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada.

The Psalms as a way of prayer - Lenten Mission with Fr Julian

Join Fr. Julian Studden for a Lenten Mission exploring The Psalms as a Way of Prayer. The mission will conclude with a Lenten Penitential Service on Wednesday. When: **Mon-Wed, Apr 7-9 at 7 pm** at St. Joseph's Parish, Calgary. All are welcome!

Tenebrae on Palm Sunday

Experience the ancient Holy Week tradition of *Tenebrae*, featuring the choirs of St. John Choir Schola. When: **Sun, Apr 13, 7:30 pm at St. Anthony's, Calgary**. All are welcome!

Blossoms & Blooms - Charity Dinner for Elizabeth House

Join us for an elegant evening of fine dining, live music, and a lively silent auction to support mothers building a brighter future at Elizabeth House. When: **Sat, May 24, 2025, from 6 to 9:30 pm at the Calgary Italian Cultural Centre**. More info and tickets at catholiccyc.ca/blossoms

Save the date: Vocations Rally

God calls each of us for a unique and meaningful purpose. Join us in fostering a culture where every calling—priesthood, consecrated life, marriage, permanent diaconate, or lay vocations—is nurtured and celebrated! When: **Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025 - from 11 am to 4:30 pm**. Discover, support, and pray for vocations in our Diocese!

Young Adult Holy Week Missions

Join young adults from across Calgary for a powerful Holy Week mission experience including adoration, confession, outreach to the homeless, and more. Cost: \$40 (includes meals, snacks, and mission hoodie). When: **Thu, Apr 17 to Sat, Apr 19** at Clear Water Academy, Calgary. To register, email rccalgaryoffice@gmail.com

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:

- [St. Anthony's, Calgary](#) - Fri, May 2 at 3 pm to Sun, May 4 at 7 am (Chapel)
- [St. Gerard's, Calgary](#) - Fridays, May 2, 9, 16 and 23, from 9:30 am to 7:30 pm
- [St. James', Calgary](#) - Fri, May 9 at 4 pm to Sun, May 11 at 8 am

Pastoral Care Ministry Training

If you are called to minister to the sick, elderly, dying, homebound, and bereaved - and approved by your pastor or Pastoral Care Coordinator, you can register for the Pastoral Care Ministry Training at

catholiccyc.ca/pastoralcare or contact Mara at 403-218-5521. When: **Sat, May 24 & Jun 7, 9:30 am - 3 pm** at Ascension Parish, Calgary.

Voices in Hope Concert

Experience an extraordinary evening of sacred and secular choral music with a joint performance by St. Michael's Choir School (Toronto) and St. John Choir Schola (Calgary). When: **Fri, Apr 25, from 7 pm to 9:15 pm at Knox United Church, Calgary**. Get tickets at sjcshola.ca/voices-in-hope

Live-In Retreat in Coaldale

The Live-In weekend is a powerful opportunity to grow closer to Jesus and deepen your faith. Many past participants say it gave them a renewed sense of purpose and joy in their Christian life. There is no cost to attend. When: **Fri to Sun, May 2-4 at St. Joseph School**, 1413 - 23 Ave, Coaldale. Register by Apr 21, to Sandra at 403-394-4658 or email skano@live.ca

Come and Stay: Relationships Rooted in Love

Join Debbie and Rachel Herbeck for a two-day women's conference exploring authentic relationships through the lens of being a mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Hosted by Beloved Daughters Ministry. When: **Fri-Sat, May 9-10 at St. Michael's, Calgary**. Tickets: \$80. [Register here](#)

45th Annual Hike for Life

All are welcome to join a morning walk for life, raising funds for Educational Respect for Life Programs in schools and communities. When: **Sat, May 10, at Prince's Island Park (Enmax Stage), Calgary**. Enjoy a walk, listen to live music by Eric Reinhart & Friends, have a BBQ lunch, have refreshments, and enjoy fun prizes! Register at calgaryprolife.com

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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

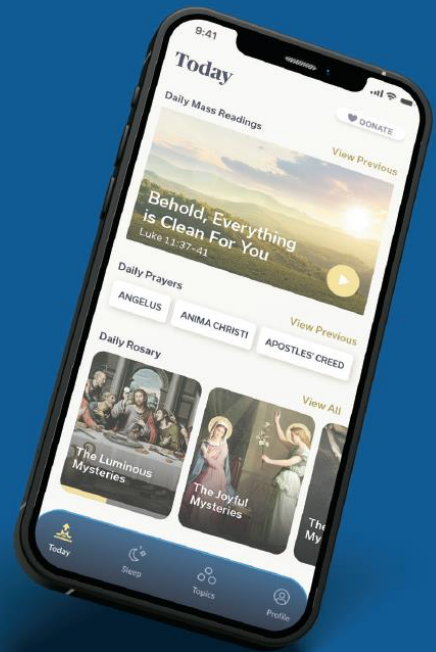
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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Joe McKenna Council #9502

Knights of Columbus 2024 2025 Officers

Position	Name
Grand Knight	Greg Martin
Deputy Grand Knight	Jimmy Tablan
Financial Secretary	Pat Ries
Treasurer	Ron Pisoni
Chancellor	Jason Iverson
Recorder	Brad Irvine
Advocate	Herb Durda
Warden	Walter Pratt
Inside Guard	Dale Maddaford
Outside Guard	Michael Camphor
Year 1 Trustee	Gary Heinbecker
Year 2 Trustee	Kent Friedt
Year 3 Trustee	Garry Mastel
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

Monday, April 7	KofC Officers' Meeting
Monday, April 14	Holy Hour Adoration
Monday, April 14	KofC General Meeting
Sunday, May 4	Parish Breakfast
Monday, May 5	KofC Officers' Meeting
Monday, May 12	KofC General Meeting
Monday, June 2	KofC General Meeting
Monday, June 9	KofC Year End BBQ
Sunday, June 22	Parish Picnic



ARTS FOR AFRICA



Charity Art Show & Sale

Saturday, April 5 from 1-4 pm
St John's Church 2nd St & 5 Ave SE



Paintings, Batiks, photos & curiosities
from local and international artists
to browse and buy



All proceeds in support of Teega Wende
an orphanage in Burkina Faso, W Africa

Share the joy of giving!

Hosted by CARO - Canadians Reaching out to the World's Children





THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

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

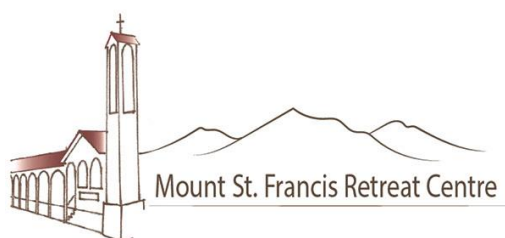
Order the [Leader's Kit](#) or [Deluxe Leader's Kit](#) on Catholic Market.

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.





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 so it can be sent to the diocese.