



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

PALM SUNDAY – YR. C SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

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 & 5:00PM

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 – 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.**

**PALM  
SUNDAY**

**APRIL 13, 2025  
LUKE 22:14–23:56**

## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Procession: Luke 19:28-40.

Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7.

Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24.

Philippians 2:6-11.

Luke 22:14–23:56.

Reflecting on the Procession.

We read and hear the Passion Gospel today. But first, at the procession, when we bless palms, we hear what precedes it. There is a colt, there are cloaks spread on the road, there are shouts: "Blessed is the king" ... "Peace in heaven."

† What cloak will I spread before Jesus to make it easy for him to come to me?

† So that stones do not cry out, what will I proclaim about Jesus Christ?

† How will I clear my calendar so I can come to my parish church for all the celebrations of the Easter Triduum?

# PALM SUNDAY – YR. C      SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025



## FINANCIAL REPORT

**Monthly Operating Budget      \$ 70,156**

### APRIL MONTH TO DATE

General Envelope Collection	\$ 16,750
Loose Collections	\$ 925
Future Development	\$ 1,384
Misc. Income	\$ 3,477
<b>Total Month Income</b>	<b>\$ 22,536</b>
<b>Budget Vs Actual</b>	<b>-\$ 47,620</b>

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

### 2025 YEAR TO DATE

Together in Action (TIA)		
GOAL - \$70,938	39%	\$ 27,669
St Vincent de Paul		\$ 10,909
World Mission		\$ 75
Clergy Retirement		\$ 705
Mission Mexico		\$ 570
CARO		\$ 200
Loonies 4 Lent		\$ 11,096
Seminary Fund		\$ 475
Holy Land & Pope's Pastoral		\$40

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

**Average Weekend Attendance      961**

## † Masses & Mass Intentions †

Saturday, April 12

8:00am – Joan Monk

5:00pm – Rudy Steinkey †

Sunday, April 13

8:30am – Holy Family Parish

10:30am – Simonne Flynn †

5:00pm – Paul Lerner †

Monday, April 14

9:00am – Elizabeth Hopfauf †

6:00pm – Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, April 15

9:00am – Lorraine Sehn †

Wednesday, April 16

7:00am – Johanna Van Ham †

Thursday, April 17 – Lord's Supper Mass

8:00am – Morning Prayers

7:00pm – Holy Family Parish

Incense will be Used

Friday, April 18

9:00am – Morning Prayers

2:00pm – Divine Mercy Novena

12:00pm & 3:00pm – Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 19

8:00am – Morning Prayers

8:30am – Divine Mercy Novena

11:00am – Blessing of Easter Baskets

8:00pm – Easter Vigil – Pat & Denise Ries

Sunday, April 20

9:00am – Divine Mercy Novena

10:00am – Easter Sunday Mass – Melvin

& Mildred Martin

Monday, April 21

NO MASS TODAY – OFFICE CLOSED

**Special Collections**  
**April 2025**

**Future Development**  
**Together in Action**  
**Holy Thursday**  
**Needs of the Church**  
**in the Holy Land**  
**Easter**

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

**Stations of the Cross Presented by the School Kids  
at Holy Family Parish**

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!

e-transfer  
ONLINE GIVING



**DONATE TODAY...**

**accounting@holymfamilymh.ca**



# Knights of Columbus



**General Meeting**  
**Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm**  
**Faith Room**

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 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



## 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



**COUNTDOWN**  
**8 WEEKS**  
**June 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**

International Exhibition  
**THE EUCHARISTIC  
MIRACLES**  
OF THE WORLD

Designed and created by the Servant of God, Carlo Acutis

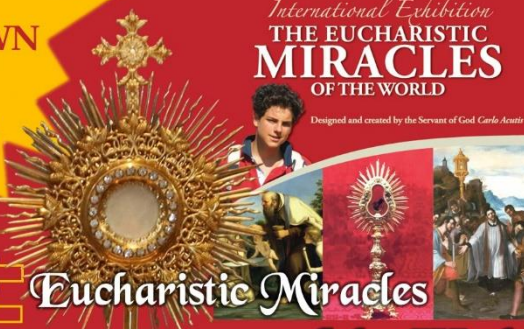
**Volunteers**



**Needed**

**Eucharistic Miracles**  
of the World

Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat



The Catholic Women's League  
Holy Family Parish

## Bottle Drive

April 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Before & After Masses

Holy Family Parish East Parking Lot

Thank you for your support!

Jackie 403-581-5479

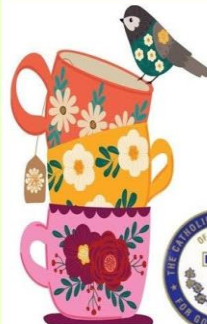
**FUNDRAISING**



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

**RAISED TO DATE \$11,096.00**

YOUR DONATIONS STAY HERE IN MEDICINE  
HAT GOING TO THE ROOT CELLAR, MUSTARD  
SEED, SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, 5TH  
AVE. & SAINT BARNABAS MEAL PROGRAMS.



**Door Prizes**

**Save The Date!**

**Saturday April 26th, 2025**  
1 pm to 3 pm St. Patrick's Church Hall

**St. Patrick's CWL**

**Welcomes You**  
**As They Host Their**

**Spring Tea**

**TICKETS \$4 EACH AT THE DOOR**

**See You There!**

*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

[catholiccyc.ca/Faithfully](http://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 4<sup>th</sup>**

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



## CONFIRMATION MASS 2025

Holy Family Parish

Rehearsal – Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6:00pm

Mass – Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11:00am

**1st HOLY COMMUNION MASS 2025**

St. Patrick's Church Hall

Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Holy Family Parish

Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm



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

**Live-In Weekend Retreat.**

May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> 2025

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

St. Joseph's School 1413 23rd Ave, Coaldale  
register online: [www.lethbridgelivein.ca](http://www.lethbridgelivein.ca)

for more details contact:

Sandra Kano 403-394-4658

or [skano@live.ca](mailto:skano@live.ca)

## Parish Breakfast MAY 4<sup>th</sup>

**After 8:30 & 10:30 Masses**

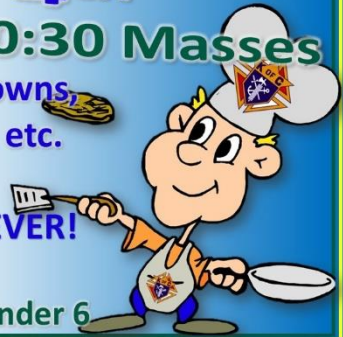
Ham, Omelets, Hash Browns,  
Sausages, Bacon, Fruit, etc.

**AND**

**THE BEST FELLOWSHIP EVER!**

**\$10. - Adults**

**\$5.- Under 12 & Free - Under 6**



## SPRING TEA

HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL  
HOSTED BY THE CWL

Saturday, May 17 2:00 – 4:00pm

Door Prizes, Mystery Box  
Raffle, 50/50 Draw, Good Food  
& Good Fellowship



## SUMMER Bible Camp July 7-11

We need adult  
volunteers for  
Camp to happen!

Contact Tammy at 403-866-7886 or  
[tammylynnpeterson@gmail.com](mailto:tammylynnpeterson@gmail.com)



## Holy Week 2025 HOLY FAMILY PARISH

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>-13<sup>TH</sup>

REGULAR MASS TIMES

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>

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 18<sup>TH</sup>

MORNING PRAYER, 9:00 AM

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

12 NOON & 3:00 PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>

MORNING PRAYER, 8:00 AM

EASTER FOOD BLESSING, 11 AM

EASTER VIGIL, 8:00 PM

INCENSE IS USED

SUNDAY, APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>

EASTER SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM

MONDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> NO MASS



# St. Patrick School

At St. Patrick School, we consist of 50 staff, and we are blessed to serve 485 students, ranging in age from 3 to 11, in our Early Learning Program (ELP), Kindergarten, and Grades 1-5. Since opening our doors in November 1987, we have remained committed to fostering an environment where students learn through play, relationships, and faith-filled experiences.

Our extremely supportive Parent Council plays a vital role in educational decisions and providing opportunities for families to connect within our school community. We embrace a strong academic focus on literacy and numeracy, with engaging programs such as Accelerated Reader (Grades 1-5), Grade 3 Choir, and Grade 4 & 5 Guitar.

Faith is at the heart of our school. Our students and staff participate in weekly assemblies that not only provide faith-enriched opportunities but also highlight St. Patrick Pandarrific moments, celebrating students who exemplify Catholic values in their daily lives. Parents are always welcomed into the school, strengthening the home-school-parish connection that is essential to our shared mission.

Beyond the classroom, we believe in the power of service and community involvement. All grade levels lead various service projects, fostering a spirit of giving and living out our faith in action.

We are grateful for our partnership with Holy Family Parish and for the opportunity to grow together in faith and learning. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for our students, staff, and school community.

Dwayne Unreiner (Principal) and Andrea Rota (Vice Principal)





Tradition of House Blessing dates to early Christianity. We read in the Gospel of St. Matthew ""On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their

treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh." It means we open the doors to Jesus to come in and stay with us. As it is written in the Book of Revelation 3:20 *"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me"*

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church "Among the sacramentals blessings occupy an important place. They include both praise of God for his works and gifts, and the Church's intercession for men that they may be able to use God's gifts according to the spirit of the Gospel.

at the Easter Vigil, all is restored: The fonts are filled again, and the baptismal water is blessed. In this blessing, we hear how God has given water the "power to sanctify" throughout salvation history — the great flood cleansed the earth of sin, the Israelites passed through the Red Sea to freedom, Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. For the remainder of the Easter season, the congregation is sprinkled liberally with this holy water in place of the penitential rite at the beginning of Mass. We are reminded of our baptism and our baptismal vow. During Easter time, when houses are blessed with the water blessed at Easter Vigil, reminds us about the life-giving water which flowed from the side of Jesus when his heart of pierced. During the blessing, we remember the words of the Psalmist, "Blessed art thou, and it shall be well with thee".





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](http://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.



PALM SUNDAY YEAR C

APRIL 13, 2025

## WHAT DO WE OFFER HIM?

Today we begin our Holy Week: a solemn celebration of our Lord's Passion, death, and Resurrection. As Holy Father Pope Francis says "The crowd of disciples accompanies him in festive mood, their garments are stretched out before him, there is talk of the miracles he has accomplished, and loud praises are heard: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" (Lk 19:38). Crowds, celebrating, praise, blessing, peace: joy fills the air. Jesus has awakened great hopes, especially in the hearts of the simple, the humble, the poor, the forgotten, those who do not matter in the eyes of the world. He understands human sufferings, he has shown the face of God's mercy, and he has bent down to heal body and soul. This is Jesus. This is his heart which looks to all of us, to our sicknesses, to our sins. The love of Jesus is great. And thus, he enters Jerusalem, with this love, and looks at us. It is a beautiful scene, full of light - the light of the love of Jesus, the love of his heart - of joy, of celebration. At the beginning of Mass, we too repeated it. We waved our palms, our olive branches. We too welcomed Jesus; we too expressed our joy at accompanying him, at knowing him to be close, present in us and among us as a friend, a brother, and as a King: that is, a shining beacon for our lives. Jesus is God, but he lowered himself to walk with us. He is our friend, our brother. He illumines our path here. And in this way, we have welcomed him today".

All four gospels mention the triumph entry of the Lord to Jerusalem. Is it the only time Jesus has come to Jerusalem? If not, then why does this entry have importance for the Evangelists? The Gospel according to St. Luke mentions that Jesus was in Jerusalem when He was 12 in accordance with the custom of his parents who used to come every year to participate in the solemn celebration of Passover. If so, then what is the importance and



significance of Jesus's entry to Jerusalem? Why does Jesus enter Jerusalem? Or better: how does Jesus enter Jerusalem? The crowds acclaim him as King. And he does not deny it, he does not tell them to be silent (Lk 19:39-40). But what kind of a King is Jesus? Let us look at him: he is riding on a donkey, he is not accompanied by a court, he is not surrounded by an army as a symbol of power. He is received by humble people, simple folk who have the sense to see something more in Jesus; they have that sense of the faith which says: here is the Saviour. Jesus does not enter the Holy City to receive the honours reserved to earthly kings, to the powerful, to rulers; he enters to be scourged, insulted and abused, as Isaiah foretold in the First Reading (cf. Is 50:6). He enters to receive a crown of thorns, a staff, a purple robe: his kingship becomes an object of derision. He enters to climb Calvary, carrying his burden of wood. Jesus enters Jerusalem to die on the Cross. And it is precisely here that his kingship shines forth in godly fashion: his royal throne is the wood of the Cross! Once Pope Benedict XVI said to the Cardinals: you are princes, but of a king crucified. That is the throne of Jesus. Jesus takes it upon himself... Why the Cross? Because Jesus takes the evil upon himself, the filth, the sin of the world, including the sin of all of us, and he cleanses it, he cleanses it with his blood, with the mercy and the love of God. Let us look around: how many wounds are inflicted upon humanity by evil! Wars, violence, economic conflicts that hit the weakest, greed for money that you can't take with you. When we were small, our grandmother used to say: a shroud has no pocket. Love of power, corruption, divisions, crimes against human life and against creation! And – as each one of us knows and is aware - our personal sins: our failures in love and respect towards God, towards our neighbour and towards the whole of creation. Jesus on the Cross feels the whole weight of the evil, and with the force of God's love he conquers it, he defeats it with his resurrection. This is the good that Jesus does for us on the throne of the Cross. Christ's Cross embraced with love never leads to sadness, but to joy, to the joy of having been saved and of doing a little of what he did on the day of his death.

Let me share a story by an unknown author which should help us to reflect on our own journey which must take with the Lord. This journey will bring us to meditate and reflect on some very important aspects of Jesus' triumphant entry to Jerusalem. The story follows:

*A man was exploring caves by the seashore. In one of the caves, he found a canvas bag with a bunch of hardened clay vessels. It was like someone had rolled balls of clay and left them out in the sun to bake.*

*They didn't look like much, but they intrigued the man, so he took the bag out of the cave with him. As he strolled along the beach, he would throw the clay balls one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could.*

*He thought little about it, until he dropped one of the clay balls and it cracked open on a rock. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone!*



*Excited, the man started breaking open the remaining clay vessels. Each contained a similar treasure. He found thousands of dollars worth of jewels in the 20 or so clay balls he had left. Then it struck him.*

*He had been on the beach a long time. He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 of the clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of thousands of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home tens of thousands, but he had just thrown it away!*

Sometimes we fail to see to what God is giving us and what we can offer him as while we walk with him in his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. I feel his journey should be our journey and his victory must be the source of our joy. There are many aspects related to his journey towards Jerusalem.

First of all, Jesus's vision and mission is clear because he knew why he came to the world as we read in the Letter to Hebrews "Since the law was only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshipers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices, there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (10:1-10). We too must have clear vision of our calling and mission. Every Holy Mass we attend is invitation to continue our mission and journey as we hear "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life".

Secondly Jesus is ready for the great act of God's love to share with all of us "God loved the world so much that he gave his only begotten Son, so that anyone who believes in him, may have life and life in abundance". Jesus has gone through persecutions and discriminations by the Pharisees and high authorities, and he knows very well about his fate, but he has forgotten everything because of love for the lost and scattered sheep "he had compassion for them". Are we ready to bear witness of his sacrifice in the secular world where everything is going against the faith?



Thirdly, he is riding on the donkey (shows his humility) but not on a horse or chariot because he was God's obedient suffering servant who came to do his will. Humility is a virtue and without it we can not walk with Jesus. Two years ago, I got the blessing and grace of the Lord to walk on the streets of Jerusalem and when I was walking, I could feel and imagine how Lord must have felt the pain of the journey he was taking and what is coming to him next must have broken his heart and soul but "he was obedient to death even death on a Cross. Lenten journey is a journey of humility for us because by receiving the ashes on our foreheads was remind that we must "repent and believe in the Gospel". Humility leads us every day to walk with the Lord in his journey of suffering and death which he took for our salvation.

Fourthly there will be two types of people walking with Jesus first who will be spreading their clothes on the ground and shouting Hosanna, Hosanna. These people have believed in Jesus, and they love to follow him. However, there is another group people who will be shouting crucify him, crucify him and will mock, taunt and slap him. What group we belong to is a very important question for us to ask?

Fifthly, the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem has also exposed the real faces of his own disciples who used to claim that even if they must die with him or for him, they will, but when the time came, what did they do? One of them sold him for 30 pieces of silver, other denied him completely by saying he doesn't know him at all and some of them ran away, when he was arrested by the Roman Authorities. Don't we do the same? We do because we have no guts to stand for him. We like to serve both; him and the world. We betray him when we refuse to stand for our faith because we don't want to offend others. We have failed to understand what is right and what is wrong. Since we don't want to be excluded from our relationships, we continue to join the society and do what others are doing. Unfortunately, we have fallen into the same trap. Whatsoever, the conclusion of this journey is so powerful, despite the unfaithfulness of the people, he showed his love for us by dying on the Cross. He has reminded us "There is no greater love than to lay your own life for the sake of one's friend". Although he suffers everyday for us but still, he continues to carry us in our suffering.

This journey of Jesus to Jerusalem reveals various people with different mentalities, as Pope Francis explains: "We have just heard many, many names. The group of leaders, some priests, the Pharisees, the teachers of the law, who had decided to kill Jesus. They were waiting for the chance to arrest him. Am I like one of them?

We have also heard another name: Judas. Thirty pieces of silver. Am I like Judas? We have heard other names too: the disciples who understand nothing, who fell asleep while the Lord was suffering. Has my life fallen asleep? Or am I like the disciples, who did not realize what it was to betray Jesus? Or like that other disciple, who wanted to settle



everything with a sword? Am I like them? Am I like Judas, who feigns loved and then kisses the Master to hand him over, to betray him? Am I a traitor? Am I like those people in power who hastily summon a tribunal and seek false witnesses: am I like them? And when I do these things, if I do them, do I think that in this way I am saving the people?

Am I like Pilate? When I see that the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands and dodge my responsibility, allowing people to be condemned – or condemning them myself?

Am I like that crowd which was not sure whether they were at a religious meeting, a trial or a circus, and then chose Barabbas? For them it was all the same: it was more entertaining to humiliate Jesus.

Am I like the soldiers who strike the Lord, spit on him, insult him, who find entertainment in humiliating him?

Am I like the Cyrenian, who was returning from work, weary, yet was good enough to help the Lord carry his cross?

Am I like those who walked by the cross and mocked Jesus: “He was so courageous! Let him come down from the cross and then we will believe in him!”. Mocking Jesus....

Am I like those fearless women, and like the mother of Jesus, who were there, and who suffered in silence?

Am I like Joseph, the hidden disciple, who lovingly carries the body of Jesus to give it burial?

Am I like the two Marys, who remained at the Tomb, weeping and praying?

Am I like those leaders who went the next day to Pilate and said, “Look, this man said that he was going to rise again. We cannot let another fraud take place!”, and who block life, who block the tomb, in order to maintain doctrine, lest life come forth?

Where is my heart? Which of these persons am I like? May this question remain with us throughout the entire week.

St. Augustine says “God could give no greater gift to men than to make his Word, through whom he created all things, their head and to join them to him as his members, so that the Word might be both Son of God and son of man, one God with the Father, and one man with all men. Let us then recognize both our voice in his, and his voice in ours. When something is said, especially in prophecy, about the Lord Jesus Christ that seems to belong to a condition of lowliness unworthy of God, we must not hesitate to ascribe this condition to one who did not hesitate to unite himself with us. Every creature is his servant, for it was through him that every creature came to be. We must realize that the one whom we were contemplating a short time before in his nature as God took to himself the nature of a servant; he was made in the likeness of men and found to be a man like others; he humbled himself by being obedient even to accepting death; as he hung on the cross he

made the psalmist's words his own: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? We pray to him as God, he prays for us as a servant. In the first case he is the Creator, in the second a creature. Himself unchanged, he took to himself our created nature in order to change it, and made us one man with himself, head and body. We pray then to him, through him, in him, and we speak along with him and he along with us”.

If we want to walk with the Lord to offer our hearts and minds to him then must act like people who trust in him. Let me end my reflection with this story.

*A wise man was walking from one town to another with a few of his followers and they happened to pass a lake. They stopped there to rest for a while and the wise man said to one of his followers . . . I am very thirsty, could you please go and get me some water from that lake.*

*As requested, the follower walked to the lake and when he reached it, he noticed that some people were washing clothes in the water, and right at that moment, several bullock carts started crossing the lake. As a result of this, the water became very muddy and murky. The follower thought, how can I give this muddy water to my leader to drink? So, he went back and told the wise man that the water in the lake was very muddy and not fit to drink.*

*After they had rested for about half an hour, the wise man again asked the same follower to go back to the lake and get him some water to drink. The follower obediently went to the edge of the lake and this time he found that all the mud had settled to the bottom and the water above it was crystal clear and looked fit to drink. He filled his water bottle and took it to the wise man.*

*The wise man took the water bottle and drank, and then he looked up at the follower and said . . . see what you did to make the water clean and fit to drink, you let it be for a while and the mud settled down on its own so that could then get some clear drinking water for me.*

What do we offer him while walking with him?





# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY



### Holy Week, Triduum and Easter Sunday with Bishop McGrattan

All are welcome! Bishop McGrattan will celebrate the following liturgies at St. Mary's Cathedral:

- **Palm Sunday** on Apr 13 at Noon
- **Chrism Mass** on Mon, Apr 14 at 7 pm
- **Holy Thursday**, on Thu, Apr 17 at 7 pm
- **The Outdoor Way of the Cross** on Good Friday, Apr 18 at 8:30 am
- **Good Friday**, on Friday, Apr 18 at Noon and 3 pm
- **Easter Vigil**, on Sat, Apr 19 at 8 pm
- **Easter Sunday**, on Apr 20 at Noon

Access Parish Schedule for Triduum and Easter Sunday across the Diocese at [catholiccycc.ca](http://catholiccycc.ca)

### Shroud of Jesus: Hope of the Resurrection

St. Patrick's Parish, Calgary is hosting the *Man of the Shroud Exhibition & Conference* until **April 27, 2025**. There will be an extensive exhibit on the history, significance and scientific aspects of the Shroud of Turin. For details, visit [www.stpatrickcalgary.com](http://www.stpatrickcalgary.com)

### 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 [catholiccycc.ca/blooms](http://catholiccycc.ca/blooms)

### Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition at St. Luke's, Calgary

The Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition created by Blessed Carlos Acutis will be here at St. Luke's Parish in Calgary from **Thursday, May 1 to Sun, May 4, from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm**. This display shows stories, photographs and drawings from each of the miracles recognized by the church. All are welcome.

### Movie & Pizza Night at St. Bonaventure's, Calgary

Enjoy a screening of a Carlo Acutis movie and a pizza night hosted by the young adults of the parish. When: **Sat, Apr 26 after 5 pm Mass at St.**

**Bonaventure, Calgary.** All ages welcome! Come for a faith-filled evening of film, fellowship, and fun.

[RSVP here](#)

## 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!

## Veneration of the Relic of St Francis Assisi at St. Michael's

Join Saint Michael Catholic Community for a peaceful evening of prayer and reflection through the **Solemn Veneration of the relic of St. Francis of Assisi.** Mass, veneration, and fellowship. When: **Wednesdays, April 23, May 21, June 25. Mass at 6 pm,** followed by a reception at 7:15 pm. The relic will also be available for veneration after Easter Sunday Masses (9 am, 11 am, 5 pm).

## Divine Mercy Sunday Prayers

- **Sun, Apr 27 from 1:30 pm at Our Lady of the Assumption, Calgary** | Join Bishop McGrattan, clergy, and the Sisters of Divine Mercy for a grace-filled celebration with Adoration, reflections, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and Mass at 3 pm. Potluck lunch to follow.
- **Sun, Apr 27 from 2 to 3 pm at St. Michael's, Calgary** | Holy Hour Celebration: Chaplet of Divine Mercy; Divine mercy praises; Homily; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Adoration and Benediction; Reconciliation at 1:15 pm - 2 pm. Reception to follow.

## 40 Hours Devotion for Vocations

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

- [St. James, Okotoks](#) - Fri, April 25 at 3 pm to Sun, Apr 27 at 8 am.
- [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

## 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 [catholiccyyc.ca/pastoralcare](http://catholiccyyc.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](http://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. 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](mailto:skano@live.ca)

## Come and Stay: Relationships Rooted in Love - Women's Conference

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](http://calgaryprolife.com)



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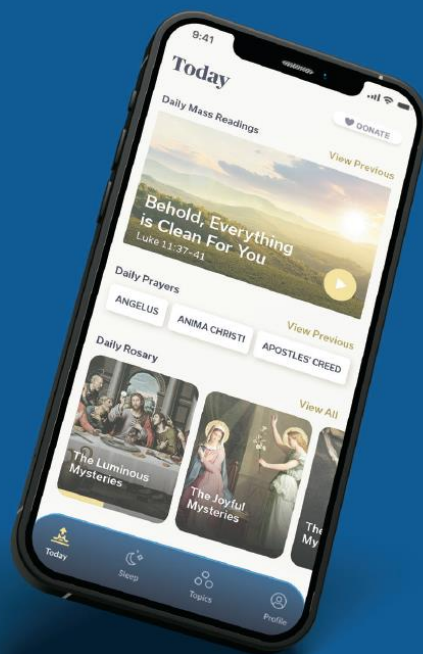
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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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







THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
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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*

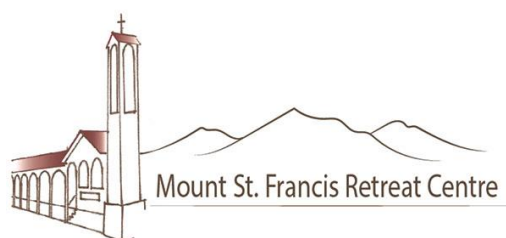
Order the [Leader's Kit](#) or [Deluxe Leader's Kit](#) on Catholic Market.

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