



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY — YR. C SUNDAY, APRIL 27

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.**



## † Masses & Mass Intentions †

Saturday, April 26

9:30am – Divine Mercy Novena

5:00pm – Joe Risling †

Sunday, April 27

8:30am – Larry & Gordon Vardy †

10:30am – Holy Family Parish

3:00pm – Divine Mercy Novena

5:00pm – Mike Mauro

Monday, April 28

9:00am – Lucy Rollheiser †

Tuesday, April 29

9:00am – Ken Graumans †

Wednesday, April 30

7:00am – Bill Douglas †

Thursday, May 1

9:00am – Vic Scharff †

6:00pm – Memorial Mass Pope Francis †

Friday, May 2

9:00am – Adolf Wagner †

### FINANCIAL REPORT

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

### APRIL MONTH TO DATE

General Envelope Collection      \$ 45,518

Loose Collections      \$ 2,429

Future Development      \$ 2,266

Misc. Income      \$ 24,776

**Total Month Income**      **\$ 74,989**

**Budget Vs Actual**      **\$ 4,833**

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

### 2025 YEAR TO DATE

**Together in Action (TIA)**      \$ 29,321

**GOAL - \$70,938**      **41%**

**St Vincent de Paul**      \$ 14,366

**World Mission**      \$ 100

**Clergy Retirement**      \$ 764

**Mission Mexico**      \$ 654

**CARO**      \$ 205

**Loonies 4 Lent**      \$ 14,262

**Seminary Fund**      \$ 584

**Holy Land & Pope's Pastoral**      \$ 4,417

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

**April Ave. Weekend Atten.**      **1623**

### Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:12-16.

Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24.

Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

John 20:19-31.

Standing in Our Midst.

Sometimes we just want proof. The words and witness of others is not always enough. Even when we do not ask for Jesus to come, he comes to us, just as he did to the disciples in the upper room. He is with us still, with us now, extending mercy and peace.

† What signs do I see of Christ being present, being with us being with me?

† How can I extend Christ's Easter greeting of peace to others?

† How will I be an ambassador of mercy? What work will I do this week?

### 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!*

The Legion of Mary presents  
**Divine Mercy Prayer Service**

Sunday, April 27th at 3 pm

Holy Family Parish

Veneration of the image,  
Adoration, Benediction &  
Reconciliation.

Concluding with a Potluck Supper  
in Holy Family Parish Hall.

Everyone is welcome.

### 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**



*e-transfer*  
ONLINE GIVING



**DONATE TODAY...**

**accounting@holymfamilymh.ca**



 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**



May 3, 2025 ~ Holy Family Parish Hall  
Breakfast 7:30 am  
Presentation 8:30 am  
Theme: Apostles of the New Springtime  
Presenter: Steve Bollman

# TMIY

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

**Final Session  
this Term**



 **Mass For The Dead  
For  
Pope Francis**  
7:00 pm Wednesday April 30<sup>th</sup>  
**ST. PATRICK'S PARISH**  
Refreshments To Follow In The Parish Hall  
Everyone Welcome To Join Us In This Memorial Mass

 **4th Degree  
Knights of Columbus  
Meeting**  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
2:00 PM  
St. Patrick's Church  
Hall Meeting Room

**May Crowning of  
Mother Mary**  
Sunday, May 4  
Before 10:30 Mass  
The Knights of Columbus  
will provide the flowers  
and will have the children  
bring flowers to Mary!  
Starting at 10:20 AM



**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



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

 **International Exhibition  
THE EUCHARISTIC  
MIRACLES  
OF THE WORLD**  
Designed and created by the Servant of God Carlo Acutis

**Eucharistic Miracles  
of the World**  
Holy Family Parish, Medicine Hat



**SPRING TEA**  
**HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL**  
**HOSTED BY THE CWL**

**Saturday, May 17 2:00 - 4:00pm**

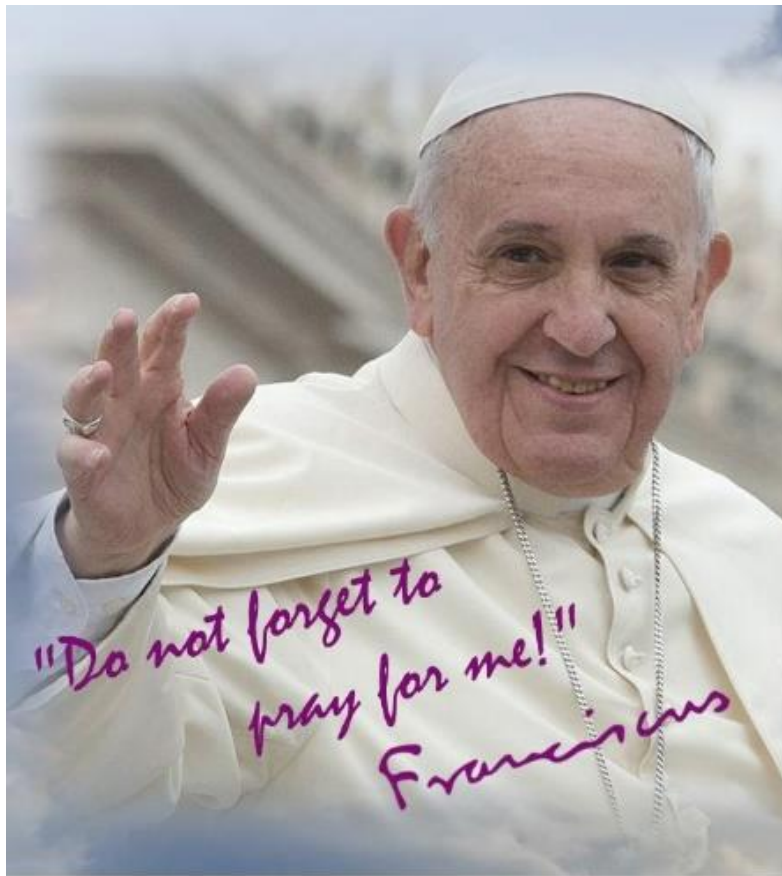
Door Prizes, Mystery Box  
Raffle, 50/50 Draw, Good Food  
& Good Fellowship



*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

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





*"Do not forget to pray for me!"  
Francis"*

# Memorial Mass Pope Francis

May he be welcomed  
into eternal glory.

Thursday, May 1, 2025  
6:00 PM  
Holy Family Parish  
Reception to Follow

**Catechesis of The Good Shepherd  
Childrens Catholic Montessori**  
*-Informational Session-*

**APRIL 28th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm**

At the Holy Family Parish

found inside the "Faith Room"



Scan to Learn More!



## Children's Liturgy

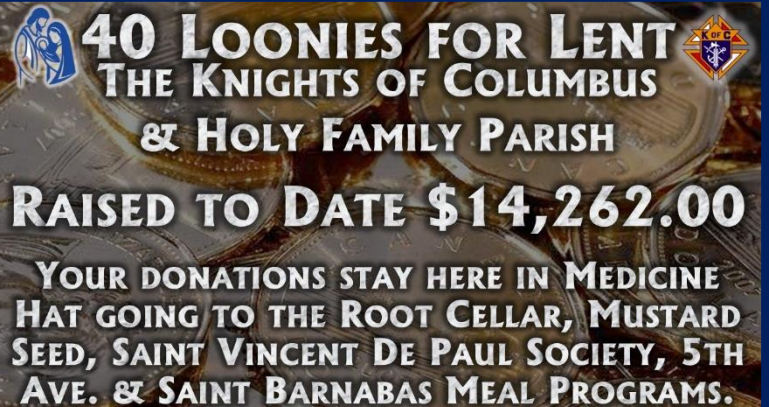
**No Children's liturgy Palm Sunday.**

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



## 40 LOONIES FOR LENT

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
& HOLY FAMILY PARISH**

### RAISED TO DATE \$14,262.00

**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.**

## SUMMER July 7-11 Bible Camp



We need adult  
volunteers for  
Camp to happen!

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



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)

# **Divine Mercy Sunday Indulgence**

## **Papal Intentions During Sede Vacante (April 2025)**

As the Church enters a time of mourning and transition following the death of Pope Francis on April 21, 2025, the faithful may wonder how to fulfill the conditions of the plenary indulgence for Divine Mercy Sunday-particularly the requirement to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

Even during a sede vacante (when the Chair of Peter is vacant), the Church continues to ask the faithful to pray for the 'intentions of the Holy Father' to receive a plenary indulgence. These intentions do not refer solely to the personal wishes of a specific pope, but to the ongoing spiritual needs of the universal Church.

Pope Francis's April 2025 intention (valid for this month):

"Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times."

Traditional papal intentions that may always be prayed during a sede vacante include:

- † The exaltation of the Church
- † The propagation of the faith
- † The eradication of heresy
- † The conversion of sinners
- † Peace and unity among all Christian peoples

To fulfill the intention requirement of the Divine Mercy Sunday indulgence, simply offer:

- † One Our Father
- † One Hail Mary

You may conclude with a prayer such as:

"Lord, I offer these prayers for the intentions held in the Heart of the Church, and for the good of Your holy people throughout the world."





# **Catechesis of The Good Shepherd Childrens Catholic Montessori**

***-Informational Session-***

## **What is it ?**

An exclusive first look at an insightful and impactful new **Catholic Montessori-Style Education** for kids in our city ages 3+.

Post-implementation new openings for students will be highly limited with waiting lists growing fast. **Early interest secures spots.**

## **Where is it ?**

**APRIL 28th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm**

**At the Holy Family Parish**

**found inside the " Faith Room"**



**Scan to Learn More!**

**Scan me!**



# 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".





DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY YEAR C

APRIL 27, 2025

## HOPE IN HIS DIVINE MERCY

A King sentenced two prisoners to death. One of them knew that the King loved his horse very much. As soldiers were about to take them away, the prisoner said to the king, "If my life is spared, I will teach your horse to fly in a year." Hearing this, the king became happy thinking that he will be able to ride the only flying horse in world.

Thinking this, he spared the prisoner's life. The other prisoner looked at him in disbelief and said, "You know that no horse can fly! You are just postponing your death sentence for a year." The prisoner replied, "Actually I have given myself three chances at freedom. First – the king might die within year. Second is – the horse might die. And third – Maybe I can teach horse to fly."

The message of the whole story; "One should not Lose Hope even in the Worst of situations".

The whole season of Easter gives us the same encouragement of hope in the Divine Mercy of God by believing and trusting that nothing is impossible with him. Saint Paul rejoices in the knowledge that spiritual health has been restored to humanity. Death entered the world through Adam, he explains, but life has been given back to the world through Christ. Again, he says: The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven and is heavenly. As we have borne the image of the earthly man, the image of human nature grown old in sin, so let us bear the image of the heavenly man: human nature raised up, redeemed, restored and purified in Christ. We must hold fast to the salvation we have received. Christ was the first fruits, says the Apostle; he is the source of resurrection and life. Those who belong to Christ will follow him. Modeling their lives on

his purity, they will be secure in the hope of his resurrection and of enjoying with him the glory promised in heaven. Our Lord himself said so in the gospel: Whoever follows me will not perish but will pass from death to life. Thus, the passion of our Savior is the salvation of mankind. The reason why he desired to die for us was that he wanted us who believe in him to live for ever. In the fullness of time it was his will to become what we are, so that we might inherit the eternity he promised and live with him for ever. Here, then, is the grace conferred by these heavenly mysteries, the gift which Easter brings, the most longed for feast of the year; here are the beginnings of creatures newly formed: children born from the life-giving font of holy Church, born anew with the simplicity of little ones, and crying out with the evidence of a clean conscience. Chaste fathers and inviolate mothers accompany this new family, countless in number, born to new life through faith. As they emerge from the grace-giving womb of the font, a blaze of candles burns brightly beneath the tree of faith. The Easter festival brings the grace of holiness from heaven to men. Through the repeated celebration of the sacred mysteries, they receive the spiritual nourishment of the sacraments. Fostered at the very heart of holy Church, the fellowship of one community worships the one God, adoring the triple name of his essential holiness, and together with the prophet sings the psalm which belongs to this yearly festival: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. And what is this day? It is the Lord Jesus Christ himself, the author of light, who brings the sunrise and the beginning of life, saying of himself: I am the light of day; whoever walks in daylight does not stumble. Whoever follows Christ in all things will come by this path to the throne of eternal light. Such was the prayer Christ made to the Father while he was still on earth: Father, I desire that where I am they also may be, those who have come to believe in me; and that as you are in me and I in you, so they may abide in us.

*Once a businessman became hopeless after, his business failed. He became frustrated with life and one day while upset, he went to the forest and sat alone in the forest.*

*While sitting there, he thought for a long time and then said to God, "Tell me one reason why I should not despair, I lost everything, what should I do with this life? Why should I live?"*

*Just then he heard a voice... It was God's voice*

*God said— When I first planted grass and bamboo seeds, I took very good care of them. Soon grass started growing and it turned land green whereas the bamboo seed didn't show any change. Still, I didn't stop caring for bamboo.*



*In second year, grass became denser and grew more but still there was no change in bamboo seed. Even in third year, there was no result for the bamboo trees, the seeds didn't sprout, yet I didn't lose hope and kept watering and took care for it. Even in fourth year, there was no growth. Five years later, a small plant sprouted from the bamboo seed. It was very small compared to grass but only 6 months after, this small plant grew to 20 feet tall.*

*It took five years for bamboo seed to sprout. In these five years, its root became so strong that it could handle the bamboo length which was more than 20 feet high.*

*Always remember, whenever you must struggle in life, understand that your roots are getting stronger. Your struggle is making you stronger so that you can make tomorrow the best it can be. I didn't give up on bamboo. I won't give up on you and therefore you shouldn't give up on yourself.*

*Time of growth for both the grass and the bamboo is different and so is their purpose. Similarly, your time will also come. Don't be afraid of struggles in your life, this struggle will strengthen the roots of your success.*

*Keep going, don't give up, if not today then tomorrow your good time will also come.*

St. Augustine reflecting on the mystery of Easter says "I speak to you who have just been reborn in baptism, my little children in Christ, you who are the new offspring of the Church, gift of the Father, proof of Mother Church's fruitfulness. All of you who stand fast in the Lord are a holy seed, a new colony of bees, the very flower of our ministry and fruit of our toil, my joy and my crown. It is the words of the Apostle that I address to you: Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh and its desires, so that you may be clothed with the life of him whom you have put on in this sacrament. You have all been clothed with Christ by your baptism in him. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor freeman; there is neither male nor female; you are all one in Christ Jesus. Such is the power of this sacrament: it is a sacrament of new life which begins here and now with the forgiveness of all past sins and will be brought to completion in the resurrection of the dead. You have been buried with Christ by baptism into death in order that, as Christ has risen from the dead, you also may walk in newness of life.

You are walking now by faith, still on a pilgrimage in a mortal body away from the Lord; but he to whom your steps are directed is himself, the sure and certain way for you: Jesus Christ, who for our sake became man. For all who fear him he has stored up abundant happiness, which he will reveal to those who hope in him, bringing it to completion when

we have attained the reality which even now, we possess in hope. This is the octave day of your new birth.

Today is fulfilled in you the sign of faith that was prefigured in the Old Testament by the circumcision of the flesh on the eighth day after birth. When the Lord rose from the dead, he put off the mortality of the flesh; his risen body was still the same body, but it was no longer subject to death. By his resurrection he consecrated Sunday, or the Lord's Day. Though the third after his passion, this day is the eighth after the Sabbath, and thus also the first day of the week. And so, your own hope of resurrection, though not yet realized, is sure and certain, because you have received the sacrament or sign of this reality and have been given the pledge of the Spirit. If then, you have risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your hearts on heavenly things, not the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, your life, appears, then you too will appear with him in glory”.

Today we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy to remind ourselves that there is hope in the Lord if we believe and trust in him. Throughout the Lenten Observances we had been reflecting on the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord so that our faith may be renewed in the Lord. On Easter Vigil we witnessed the blessing of the fire and lighting up the Paschal Candle and then we all heard about the history of Salvation through the Sacred Scripture. These celebrations always encourage us to believe that we have become new creation, and our old humanity has died. Soon after the Easter Sunday we are invited to celebrate the Divine Mercy Sunday to reflect that His Mercy is beyond comparison and his blood and the water flowing from his side makes us new creation to hope in him who doesn't die.

Even if we go away from the Lord and are lost in our daily chores and attractions of life, his mercy never ends but works in such a mysterious way that we become new creatures in him “Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. This saying is sure: “If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself” (2Timothy 2:8-13).



St. Faustina was privileged to receive apparitions from Jesus emphasizing his mercy, and especially his mercy today. In short, her mission consists in reminding us of the immemorial, but seemingly forgotten, truths of our faith about God's merciful love for men, and in conveying to us new forms of devotion to The Divine Mercy, the practice of which is to lead to the revival of the spiritual life in the spirit of Christian trust and mercy. The Image of the Merciful Jesus. Its pattern was revealed in the vision St. Faustina had on February 22, 1931, in her convent cell at Plock. "In the evening, when I was in my cell," she recorded in the Diary, "I saw the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in the gesture of blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From beneath the garment, slightly drawn aside from at breast, there were emanating two large rays, one red, the other pale. After a while, Jesus said to me, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You" (Diary, 47). "I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy" (Diary, 49).

There are two primary sins that are opposed to the mercy of God: despair and presumption. Despair is the opposite of hope. In its natural form, it sees an evil as unavoidable and unconquerable. In its supernatural form, it sees damnation as unavoidable. This is a sin against the supernatural (or theological) virtue of hope. Hope is one of the three theological virtues (faith, hope, and charity) that we receive with the grace of baptism. Hope here is hope in God for us - the hope that God will bring us home to Himself. Yet, God may put one through a "dark night of the soul," which St. Faustina experienced. She spoke of a soul being "drawn to God," but at the same time feeling "...repulsed." All other sufferings and tortures in the world are as nothing with this sensation into which it has been plunged; namely, that of being rejected by God. No one can bring it any relief; it finds itself completely alone; there is no one to defend it" (*Diary*, 98).

This is a trial for a holy soul. It must be distinguished from the despair experienced by a soul that has sinned much and experiences the sense of deserving damnation. St. Faustina deals with this in the "conversations with the Merciful God." Here is the entry dealing with the despairing soul (*Diary*, 1486). Jesus: O soul steeped in darkness, do not despair. All is not yet lost. Come and confide in your God, who is love and mercy. But the soul, deaf even to this appeal, wraps itself in darkness. Jesus calls out again: My child, listen to the voice of your merciful Father. And the soul arises this reply: "For me there is no mercy," and it falls into greater darkness, a despair which is a foretaste of hell and makes it unable

to draw near to God. Jesus calls to the soul a third time, but the soul remains deaf and blind, hardened and despairing. Then the mercy of God begins to exert itself, and without any cooperation from the soul, God grants it final grace. If this too is spurned, God will leave the soul in this self-chosen disposition for eternity. This grace emerges from the merciful Heart of Jesus and gives the soul a special light by means of which the soul begins to understand God's effort; but conversion depends on its own will. The soul knows that this, for her, is final grace and should it show even a flicker of good will, the mercy of God will accomplish the rest. My omnipotent mercy is active here. Happy the soul that takes advantage of this grace.

Jesus: What joy fills My Heart when you return to me. Because you are weak, I take you in My arms and carry you to the home of My Father. Soul (as if awaking, asks fearfully): Is it possible that there yet is mercy for me? Jesus: There is, My child. You have a special claim on My mercy. Let it act in your poor soul; let the rays of grace enter your soul; they bring with them light, warmth, and life. Soul: But fear fills me at the thought of my sins, and this terrible fear moves me to doubt Your goodness. Jesus: My child, all your sins have not wounded My Heart as painfully as your present lack of trust does that after so many efforts of My love and mercy, you should still doubt My goodness.

Soul: O Lord, save me yourself, for I perish. Be my Savior. O Lord, I am unable to say anything more; my pitiful heart is torn asunder; but You, O Lord... Jesus does not let the soul finish but, raising it from the ground, from the depths of its misery, He leads it into the recesses of His Heart where all its sins disappear instantly, consumed by the flames of love.

Jesus: Here, soul, are all the treasures of My Heart. Take everything you need from it.

Soul: O Lord, I am inundated with Your grace. I sense that a new life has entered into me and, above all, I feel Your love in my heart. That is enough for me. O Lord, I will glorify the omnipotence of Your mercy for all eternity. Encouraged by Your goodness, I will confide to You all the sorrows of my heart.

Jesus: Tell me all, My child, hide nothing from Me, because My loving Heart, the Heart of your Best Friend, is listening to you.

Soul: O Lord, now I see all my ingratitude and Your goodness. You were pursuing me with Your grace, while I was frustrating Your benevolence. I see that I deserve the depths of hell for spurning Your graces.



Jesus (interrupting): Do not be absorbed in your misery - you are still too weak to speak of it - but, rather, gaze on My Heart filled with goodness, and be imbued with My sentiments. Strive for meekness and humility; be merciful to others, as I am to you; and, when you feel your strength failing, if you come to the fountain of mercy to fortify your soul, you will not grow weary on your journey.

Soul: Now I understand Your mercy, which protects me, and like a brilliant star, leads me into the home of my Father, protecting me from the horrors of hell that I have deserved, not once, but a thousand times. O Lord, eternity will hardly suffice for me to give due praise to Your unfathomable mercy and Your compassion for me.

St. Faustina deals with both types of despair in her *Diary*. The first is the feeling of being abandoned by God, and the second is the actual possibility of abandoning God. May our knowledge of God's infinite mercy grow more and more, so that we may not be in danger of despair.

Even today when we reflect on the Gospel, there we come to know that Jesus appears to his disciples and greets them with "Peace be with you". It shows the pure wishes of Jesus that he wants peace in the world. However sometimes we become like St. Thomas who didn't believe but doubted in the resurrection of the Lord. Our doubt will lead us to nothing, but belief will make us to do work of mercy to share the love of Jesus which he shared on the cross. "My daughter, if I demand through you that people revere My mercy, you should be the first to distinguish yourself by this confidence in My mercy. I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first – by deed, the second – by word, the third – by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy, and I demand the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of the image which is painted. By means of this image I shall grant great graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of my mercy because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works". (*Diary* §742). This feast is not only a day in particular for worshipping God in His mystery of mercy, but also a time of grace for all people. The Lord Jesus said: "I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners" (*Diary*, 699). "Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation, that is,

recourse to My Mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity” (Diary, 965, 998).

The greatness of this feast is measured by the measure of extraordinary promises that the Lord attached to this feast: Jesus said “Whoever approached the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment” (Diary, 300), and also, “On this day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My Mercy. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet” (Diary, 699).

To profit from those great gifts we must fulfill the conditions of the Divine Mercy devotion (trust in God’s goodness and active love toward neighbor), be in the state of sanctifying grace - having gone to Holy Confession and worthily receive Holy Communion. Jesus explained: “No soul will be justified until it turns with confidence to My mercy; and this is why the first Sunday after Easter is to be the Feast of Mercy, and on that day, priests are to tell everyone about My great and unfathomable mercy” (Diary, 570).

Jesus does the same in our weaknesses and failures, he forgives us and loves us “there is no greater to lay one’s life for other”. So today on the Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday let us ask Jesus to help us believe in him and become new creation so that we wholeheartedly say, “Jesus I trust in you”.

Do we hope in his Divine Mercy?





# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

## Second Sunday of Easter



### Pray for Pope Francis

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church may happily enjoy forever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Source: Roman Missal, p. 1395

### Memorial Mass for Pope Francis

Bishop William T. McGrattan will celebrate a Memorial Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis at **5 pm on Monday, April 28, at St. Mary's Cathedral**. All are invited to attend and pray for Pope Francis.

### National Volunteer Week

*"You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14,16)* Your love in action is the heartbeat of our Renewal journey. Thank you for living out your baptismal call with courage, joy, and fidelity. You

remind us that Renewal is not a program—it is people like you, responding generously to God's invitation.

### 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](#)

## Feast of Our Lady of Fatima

The community at Our Lady of Fatima Parish invites the diocesan faithful to join them in celebrating the Feast of their patroness with Mass at 4:30 pm, followed by a Marian procession. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall after the celebration.

When: **Sat, May 10 at 4:30 pm** | Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Calgary (4747 30 St SE, Calgary).

## 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)

## 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 [catholiccyyc.ca/blooms](http://catholiccyyc.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.

## 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, 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).

## Support Elizabeth House through Birdies for Kids

From now until Aug 31, 2025, donations to Elizabeth House through Rogers Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink will be matched up to 50%—at no extra cost to you. Your full donation goes directly to the charity, with no administrative fees, and the matching funds help your gift go even further. This is a special opportunity to support young mothers and their babies in building a brighter future. Donate here: [rogerscharityclassic.com/elizabeth-house](http://rogerscharityclassic.com/elizabeth-house)

## 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. 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.

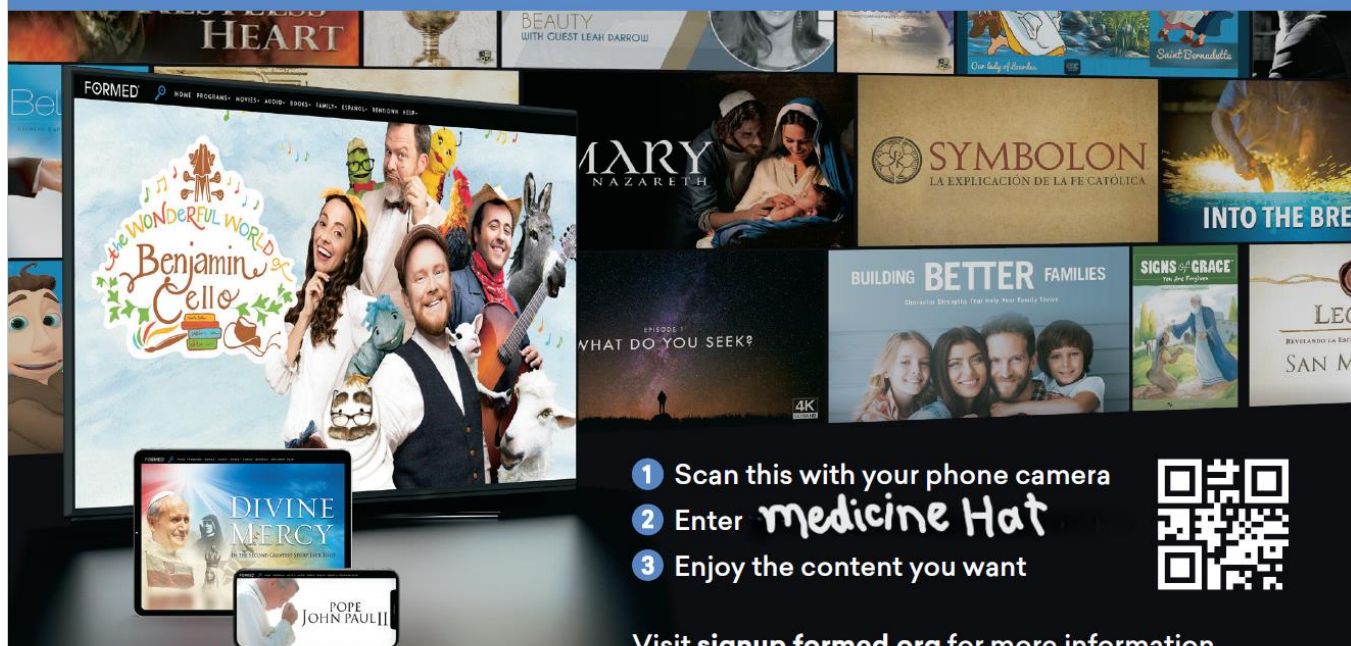
## Vocations Rally

God calls each of us to a unique and meaningful purpose. Join us in fostering a culture where every vocation—priesthood, consecrated life, marriage, permanent diaconate, and lay vocations—is nurtured and celebrated at the 2025 Vocations Rally on **Pentecost Sunday, June 8, from 11 am to 4:30 pm at St. Michael's Church** in Calgary. The day begins with Mass, followed by inspiring talks and panel discussions that explore how we can live out and support our baptismal call. Come to discover, support, and pray for vocations in our Diocese. To register, visit [catholiccyyc.ca/vocationsrally](http://catholiccyyc.ca/vocationsrally)



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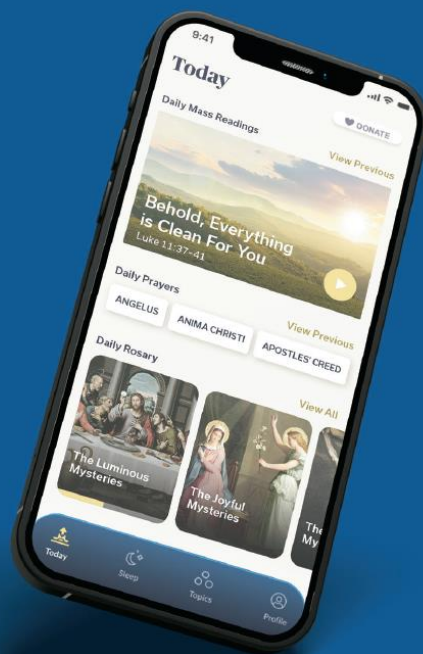
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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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





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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

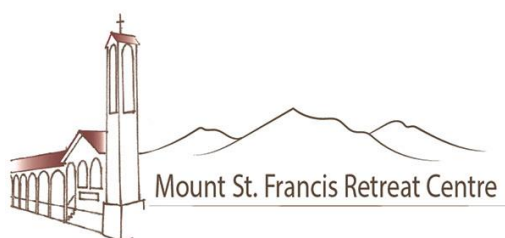
## AN "OASIS" IN THE HEART OF CALGARY

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.



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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.

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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.**