



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER — YR. C

MAY 4, 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

## 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 PM & 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY 8 AM

## THE CHAPEL IS OPEN...

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

ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 - 10:30am

Parish Pastoral Council Chair - Gary Heinbecker

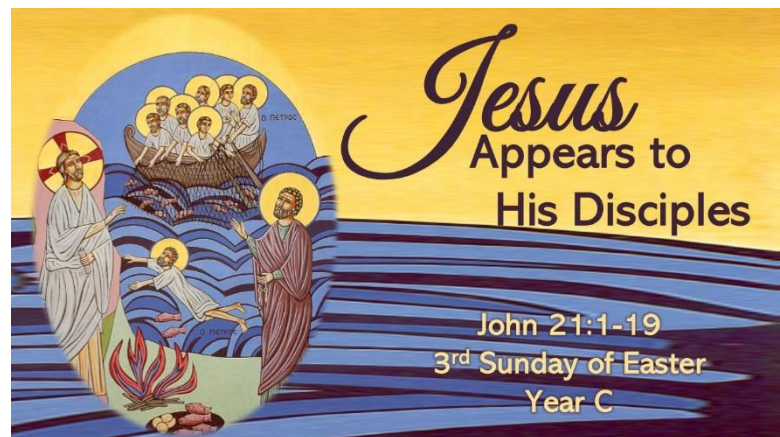
Parish Finance Council Chair - Cheryl Pocsik

Knights of Columbus – Greg Martin

Catholic Women's League – Dianne Durda

## RECONCILIATION...

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



† Masses & Mass Intentions May 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> †



Sat. May 3

8:00am - Rudy Steinke †

5:00pm - Mario Pisoni †

Sun. May 4 ~

8:30am - Kasper Fitterer †

10:30am - Holy Family Parish

5:00pm - Richard Sansregret & Boys

Mon. May 5 9:00am - Sonia Thaczak †

Tue. May 6 9:00am - Quinn Cerner †

Wed. May 7 7:00am - Rudy Steinke †

Thu. May 8 9:00am - Darren & Barb  
Quast

Fri. May 9 9:00am - Simonne Flynn †

**FINANCIAL REPORT****Monthly Operating Budget**      **\$ 70,156****APRIL MONTH TO DATE**

General Envelope Collection      \$ 55,199

Loose Collections      \$ 3,273

Future Development      \$ 2,399

Misc. Income      \$ 26,169

**Total Month Income**      **\$ 87,040****Budget Vs Actual**      **\$ 16,884****SPECIAL COLLECTIONS****2025 YEAR TO DATE****Together in Action (TIA)**      **\$ 29,718****GOAL - \$70,938      42%**

St Vincent de Paul      \$ 14,955

World Mission      \$ 100

Clergy Retirement      \$ 784

Mission Mexico      \$ 714

CARO      \$ 210

Loonies 4 Lent      \$ 14,642

Seminary Fund      \$ 614

Holy Land &amp; Pope's Pastoral      \$ 4,492

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions***April Ave. Weekend Atten.**      **1172**

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.

Third Sunday of Easter  
 Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41.  
 Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13.  
 Revelation 5:11-14.  
 John 21:1-19.  
 Serving Breakfast.

In this third appearance of the risen Lord to his followers, Jesus prepares breakfast on the shore for the disciples toiling in the sea. What an image! Jesus cooks. Jesus feeds them so they can go out and feed and tend the flock.

† What will this weekly meal of Communion enable me to be?

† What will this meal empower me to do?

† How can I then do the mercy work of giving drink to the thirsty and food to the hungry?

God Bless You,  
 Thank You for  
 your donations!

**Special Collections**  
**May 2025**  
**Future Development**  
**Together in Action**  
**Education of**  
**Seminarians**  
**Pope's Pastoral**  
**Works**

*First Saturday Mass*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of  
 each month  
 at 8:00am*

*May 3, 2025*

*E-transfer*  
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**DONATE TODAY...**

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**Parish Breakfast**  
**MAY 4th**  
**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



**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



**The First Wednesday of  
 the Month the Legion of  
 Mary hosts the Mother of  
 Perpetual Help Novena  
 Following 7:00am Mass  
 May 7, 2025**



**4th Degree  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Meeting**

**May 4th, 2025  
 2:00 PM**

**St. Patrick's Church  
 Hall Meeting Room**

## 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



**Fr. Iqbal is off to**

**Sanctum**

**Retreat Centre  
 on Monday**

**May 5-9, 2025**

A period set aside  
 for priests to focus  
 on their spiritual  
 well-being,  
 renewal, and  
 reflection on their  
 vocation.



**Knights of Columbus  
 Officers Meeting  
 Monday, May 5 at 7:00pm  
 HFP Faith Room**



**Catholic Women's League (CWL)  
 Executive Meeting  
 Tuesday, May 6 at 7:00pm  
 HFP Hope Room**

**Prayers for Souls of the Faithful Departed**

Pray the Rosary with the Legion of Mary.

**Mother's Day, May 11th, from 3:00 - 3:30pm**

**HILLSIDE CEMETERY -13th St. SW entrance,  
 1st right to grassed area beside the office**

An altar for Mary provided to place flowers which you  
 can later place on a loved one's grave.

Dress for weather & Bring a lawn chair if needed.

Info – Cora or Karen-Anne at kacherwono@shaw.ca



*Faithfully*  
 FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

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



**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



*International Exhibition*  
**THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES**  
 OF THE WORLD  
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**Holy Family Parish**  
**Medicine Hat**  
**Everyone Welcome!**  
[www.miracolieucharistici.org](http://www.miracolieucharistici.org)

**EXHIBITION DATES...**  
 Thurs. June 5<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM-6 PM  
 Fri. June 6<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM – 9 PM  
 & 12 Hour Adoration  
 9:30 AM – 9:30 PM  
 Sat. Jun 7<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM – Noon  
 & 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
 Sun. Jun 8<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM – Noon  
 & 1 PM – 8 PM



**SUMMER** **July 7-11**  
**Bible Camp**



We need adult volunteers for Camp to happen!  
 Contact Tammy at 403-866-7886 or  
[tammylynnpeterson@gmail.com](mailto:tammylynnpeterson@gmail.com)

**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.**

**May**  
**is the month of**  
**the Rosary**





*Spending time with Jesus*  
 The Chapel is Open  
 Monday – Friday 9:30am – 4:00pm  
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation  
 Friday 9:30-10:30am  
 Reconciliation  
 Saturday 3:30-4:30pm






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 Enter "Medicine Hat" click on "Holy Family"

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 FAITH AT HOME








# HOW TO PRAY THE Holy Rosary

GLORY BE  
FATIMA PRAYER  
2ND MYSTERY  
OUR FATHER.

10  
HAIL  
MARY'S

GLORY BE  
FATIMA PRAYER

3RD MYSTERY  
OUR FATHER

10  
HAIL  
MARY'S

10  
HAIL  
MARY'S

GLORY BE  
FATIMA PRAYER

4TH MYSTERY  
OUR FATHER

HAIL  
HOLY  
QUEEN

GLORY BE  
OUR FATHER  
1ST MYSTERY

SIGN  
OF THE  
CROSS  
END  
HERE

3 HAIL  
MARY'S

10  
HAIL  
MARY'S

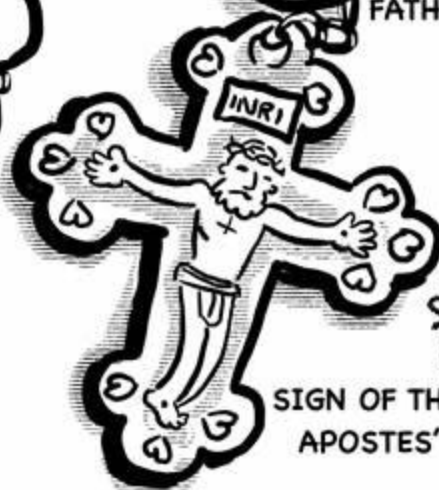
OUR  
FATHER

GLORY BE  
FATIMA PRAYER  
5TH MYSTERY  
OUR FATHER

10  
HAIL  
MARY'S

START  
HERE

SIGN OF THE CROSS  
APOSTLES' CREED



# 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".





3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY YEAR C

MAY 4, 2025

## DO WE LOVE THE LORD?

St. Pope Leo the Great is quoted; “My dear brethren, there is no doubt that the Son of God took our human nature into so close a union with himself that one and the same Christ is present, not only in the firstborn of all creation, but in all his saints as well. The head cannot be separated from the members, nor the members from the head. Not in this life, it is true, but only in eternity will God be all in all, yet even now he dwells, whole and undivided, in his temple the Church. Such was his promise to us when he said: “See, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” And so all that the Son of God did and taught for the world’s reconciliation is not for us simply a matter of history. Here and now, we experience his power at work among us. Born of a virgin mother by the action of the Holy Spirit, Christ keeps his Church spotless and makes her fruitful by the inspiration of the same Spirit. In baptismal regeneration she brings forth children for God beyond all numbering. These are the sons of whom it is written: They are born not of blood, nor of the desire of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. In Christ Abraham’s posterity is blessed, because in him the whole world receives the adoption of sons, and in him the patriarch becomes the father of all nations through the birth, not from human stock but by faith, of the descendants that were promised to him. From every nation on earth, without exception, Christ forms a single flock of those he has sanctified, daily fulfilling the promise he once made: I have other sheep, not of this fold, whom it is also ordained that I shall lead; and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. Although it was primarily to Peter that he said: “Feed my sheep”, yet the one Lord guides all the pastors in the discharge of their office and leads to rich and fertile pastures all those who come to the rock. There is no counting the sheep who are nourished with his abundant love, and who are prepared to lay down their lives for the sake of the good



shepherd who died for them. But it is not only the martyrs who share in his passion by their glorious courage; the same is true, by faith, of all who are reborn through baptism. That is why we are to celebrate the Lord's paschal sacrifice with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. The leaven of our former malice is thrown out, and a new creature is filled and inebriated with the Lord himself. For the effect of our sharing in the body and blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive. As we have died with him and have been buried and raised to life with him, so we bear him within us, both in body and in spirit, in everything we do".

The season of Easter is the season of celebrating life not the death, because our Lord has won the victory over the death. He is the author of life and came to give life and life in abundance as St. John says. The New Testament contains many accounts describing the experience of the original disciples of Jesus as they found faith through their encounter with their Risen Lord. The writers of the gospels are so certain of the meetings that laid the foundations of Christian faith that they do not attempt to harmonise the details of the stories they are handing on. They pass on these stories to share the wonder of finding faith and new purpose through an encounter with the Lord's triumph – a wonder that can hardly be captured by a single account. As our Easter liturgies recall these stories, we are like a family group listening to one another sharing personal recollections of a past event that meant a great deal to the whole family. Given from different points of view, these recollections bring a full, full appreciation of what took place. Last Sunday we heard the story as it was recalled in the community of John's gospel, Jesus appeared to his disciples and breathed on them the Spirit with the words "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And the dialogue with St. Peter, is a wake up call for us to stand for the Lord.

St. Tertullian by fighting against the heresies of his time, has shown us the way to show our love for Jesus, however sometimes we may be like Judas Iscariot who didn't want to be with the Lord neither part of his mission. He writes, Our Lord Jesus Christ himself declared what he was, what he had been, how he was carrying out his Father's will & what obligations he demanded of men. This he did during his earthly life, either publicly to the crowds or privately to his disciples. Twelve of these he picked out to be his special companions, appointed to teach the nations.

One of them fell from his place. The remaining eleven were commanded by Christ, as he was leaving the earth to return to the Father after his resurrection, to go and teach the nations and to baptize them into the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The apostles cast lots and added Matthias to their number, in place of Judas, as the twelfth apostle. The authority for this action is to be found in a prophetic psalm of David. After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit which had been promised to them, so that they

could work miracles and proclaim the truth, they first bore witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and established churches throughout Judea. They then went out into the whole world and proclaimed to the nations the same doctrinal faith.

They set up churches in every city. Other churches received from them a living transplant of faith and the seed of doctrine, and through this daily process of transplanting they became churches. They therefore qualify as apostolic churches by being the offspring of churches that are apostolic. Every family was traced back to its origins. That is why we can say that all these great churches constitute that one original Church of the apostles; for it is from them that they all come. They are all primitive, all apostolic, because they are all one. They bear witness to this unity by the peace in which they all live, the brotherhood, which is their name, the fellowship to which they are pledged. The principle on which these associations are based is common tradition by which they share the same sacramental bond. The only way in which we can prove what the apostles taught—that is to say, what Christ revealed to them—is through those same churches. They were founded by the apostles themselves, who first preached to them by what is called the living voice and later by means of letters. The Lord had said clearly in former times: I have many more things to tell you, but you cannot endure them now. But he went on to say: When the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into the whole truth. Thus, Christ shows us that the apostles had full knowledge of the truth, for he had promised that they would receive the whole truth through the Spirit of truth. His promise was certainly fulfilled, since the Acts of the Apostles prove that the Holy Spirit came down on them.

The love of Jesus enters our hearts to transform us into new creation and people who belong to his kingdom. How true the following story is to understand his unconditional love?

*Once there was an old lock shop amidst the narrow streets of city. People would buy locks and keys and sometimes even come to get duplicate keys for their locks.*

*There was a heavy hammer in the locksmith's shop which was sometimes used to break locks. The hammer often wondered, "What is the quality of these small keys that they can open such strong locks in a jiffy whereas I don't know how many blows I would take to open that same lock."*

*One day, when the shop was closed, the hammer asked the small key, "How are you able to open even stubborn locks with such ease? I am strong and can't do this."*

*The key replied, "You use force to open the locks, you hit them and by doing so, the lock doesn't open but breaks. Whereas I do not hurt them, rather I enter it's heart and it immediately opens."*



Something similar happens in human life. if we really want to win someone over, make them ours, then we must get into that person's heart. It is possible to force someone to do something, but we do not open their locks in their mind or heart, we break it. Doing so we destroy the person, rather than winning someone's heart with love. Everything that can be achieved by force can also be achieved by love but everything that can be achieved by love cannot be achieved by force.

The proclamation made by Peter and the Apostles does not merely consist of words: fidelity to Christ affects their whole lives, which are changed, given a new direction, and it is through their lives that they bear witness to the faith and to the proclamation of Christ. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks Peter three times to feed his flock, to feed it with his love, and he prophesies to him: "When you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go". We should all ask ourselves: How do I bear witness to Christ through my faith? Do I have the courage of Peter and the other Apostles, to think, to choose and to live as a Christian, obedient to God? In God's great plan, every detail is important, even those who live their faith with simplicity in everyday family relationships, work relationships, friendships. There are the saints of every day, the "hidden" saints, a sort of "middle class of holiness", to which we can all belong. Let us all remember this: one cannot proclaim the Gospel of Jesus without the tangible witness of one's life. Those who listen to us and observe us must be able to see in our actions what they hear from our lips and so give glory to God! Saint Francis of Assisi once said, "preach the Gospel and, if necessary, use words. Preaching with your life, with your witness".

*A well-respected scholar and avowed atheist was speaking at a large outdoor picnic. He spoke for two and a half hours attempting to prove that the resurrection of Jesus was false. He quoted scholar after scholar and book after book. He concluded that since there was no such thing as the historical resurrection, the religious tradition of the church was groundless and emotional nonsense. He said it was based on a relationship with a risen Jesus, who never rose from the dead in any literal sense. He then asked if there were any questions. After about thirty seconds, an old preacher stood up. "Sir, I have one question," he said, as all eyes turned toward him. He reached into his sack lunch and pulled out an apple he had been eating. "My question is a simple question," he said before taking another bite out of the apple.*

*He continued, "I haven't read all the books you have, and I can't recite the Scriptures in the original Greek." He took a couple more bites of the apple and said, "I don't know a thing about Niebuhr and Heidegger."*

*He finished the apple and said, "All I want to know is... this apple I just finished, was it tart or sweet?" The speaker paused for a moment and answered in exemplary scholarly fashion, "I cannot possibly answer that question, for I haven't tasted your apple." The white-haired preacher dropped the core of his apple into his crumpled paper bag and said calmly, "Neither have you tasted my Jesus."*

Easter stories are there help us to taste Jesus who has risen from the dead to make sharers of his resurrection "Taste and see that the LORD is good! Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in Him! If you have, rejoice in the hope of the resurrection that your faith in Him brings", as the Psalmist says (Psalm 34:8-9). And St. John says in his First Letter "And we know that the Son of God has come, and He has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and He is eternal life" (1 John 5:20)

Isn't an amazing experience to be called "we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our slogan" according to St. Augustine of Hippo? The Easter people always stand for the Lord as remembering the great love and sacrifice of the Lord. Is it easy to follow Jesus in the secular world? Our answer could be "no" but the Lord helps us to stand for him because nothing separates us from his love. (please read Romans 8).

During this month of May, we can follow two greatest personalities; St. Joseph who's feast we are going to celebrate on May 1<sup>st</sup> as "St. Joseph the Worker". He is best known for being a silent righteous man and a protector of the Saviour who stood strong in the midst of trials and tribulation. The second personality we can follow is Blessed Virgin Mary as we observe the month of May as month of the Rosary. She knew her cultural problems but stood for her faith and later under the foot of the Cross to encourage and strengthen her Son in his suffering. Do we stand for him?

In the First Reading, what strikes us is the strength of Peter and the other Apostles. In response to the order to be silent, no longer to teach in the name of Jesus, no longer to proclaim his message, they respond clearly: "We must obey God, rather than men". And they remained undeterred even when flogged, ill-treated, and imprisoned. Peter and the Apostles proclaimed courageously, fearlessly, what they had received: the Gospel of Jesus. And we? Are we capable of bringing the Word of God into the environment in which we live? Do we know how to speak of Christ, of what he represents for us, in our families, among the people who form part of our daily lives? Faith is born from listening and is strengthened by proclamation. (please read 2 Timothy 4:1-6) But let us take a further step: the proclamation made by Peter and the Apostles does not merely consist of words: fidelity



to Christ affects their whole lives, which are changed, given a new direction, and it is through their lives that they bear witness to the faith and to the proclamation of Christ. The passage from the Book of Revelation speaks to us of worship: the myriads of angels, all creatures, the living beings, the elders, prostrate themselves before the Throne of God and of the Lamb that was slain, namely Christ, to whom be praise, honour and glory. I would like all of us to ask ourselves this question: “do we worship the Lord? Do we turn to God only to ask him for things, to thank him, or do we also turn to him to worship him? Worshipping the Lord means giving him the place that he must have; worshipping the Lord means stating, believing – not only by our words – that he alone truly guides our lives; worshipping the Lord means that we are convinced before him that he is the only God, the God of our lives, the God of our history. (Please read Revelation 6)

“Do you love me?”. “Are you, my friend?” (cf. Jn 21, 15ff.). The question is addressed to a man who, despite his solemn declarations, let himself be gripped by fear and so had denied. “Do you love me?”; “Are you, my friend?”. The question is addressed to me and to each one of us, to all of us: if we take care not to respond too hastily and superficially it impels us to look within ourselves, to re-enter ourselves. “Do you love me?”; “Are you my friend?”. The One who scrutinizes hearts (Rom 8:27), makes himself a beggar of love and questions us on the one truly essential issue, a premiss and condition for feeding his sheep, his lambs, his Church. May every ministry be based on this intimacy with the Lord; living from him is the measure of our ecclesial service, which is expressed in the readiness to obey, to humble ourselves, as we heard in the Letter to the Philippians, and for the total gift of self (2:6-11).

Moreover, the consequence of loving the Lord is giving everything, truly everything, even our life for him. This is what must distinguish our pastoral ministry; it is the litmus test that tells us how deeply we have embraced the gift received in responding to Jesus’ call, and how closely bound we are to the individuals and communities that have been entrusted to our care. We are not the expression of a structure or of an organizational need: even with the service of our authority we are called to be a sign of the presence and action of the Risen Lord; thus, to build up the community in brotherly love. Not that this should be taken for granted: even the greatest love, in fact, when it is not constantly nourished, weakens and fades away. Not for nothing did the Apostle Paul recommend: “take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of the Lord which he obtained with his own Son's blood” (Acts 20:28).

Just as it did Peter, Jesus' insistent and heartfelt question can leave us pained and more aware of the weakness of our freedom, threatened as it is by thousands of interior and exterior forms of conditioning that all too often give rise to bewilderment, frustration, and even disbelief. These are not of course the sentiments and attitudes that the Lord

wants to inspire; rather, the enemy, the devil, takes advantage of them to isolate us in bitterness, complaint and despair. Peter, purified in the crucible of forgiveness could say humbly, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you" (Jn 21:17). I am sure that we can all say this with heartfelt feeling. And Peter, purified, urges us in his First Letter to tend "the flock of God... not by constraint but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock" (1 Pet 5:2-3).

Let me conclude my reflection with this story which help us to understand our love for Jesus.

*In a village, lived a couple with their son. Their son was irritated all the time and used to get angry over little talks. Everyday, he would get into quarrels with people in his neighborhood. He didn't have any friends. His parents got worried about him. One day a monk arrived in village who was very famous. When the parents heard about him, they took their son to see him and said, "This is our son, he gets very angry and has no control over his anger. He fights with everyone. Please help him." The monk replied, "Leave your son with me for the day today."*

*After the parents left, the monk said to the boy, "Son! I will give you a task. Will you do that?" The boy agreed. The monk smiled and said, "OK then, go prepare two heaps of clay and shape two hearts from that clay." The boy found this work somewhat strange, but he started preparing the two hearts out of clay. While making the hearts, he got annoyed many times in his mind. He started thinking, "I have come here to give up my habit of getting angry, but this monk is using me for such work..." but he somehow continued to work and prepared the two clay hearts. He took those hearts to monk and said, "Here are the two hearts. Now, tell me the solution for my problem." The monk said, "I know very well why you have come here. But first complete this work for me, then I will do something about your anger." The boy asked, "Ok. Tell me what to do now?" "Take one of these clay hearts and go to the potter and ask him to heat it well in the furnace and then bring it back.", said the monk. The boy did as he said and came back. The monk said to him, "Now, paint this heart with whatever color you want." The boy painted that heart red. After applying color, the heart started looking very beautiful. When the boy saw the heart that he had worked hard to prepare, he was very happy and started thinking, "I will take it to my house and decorate my room." He happily went to the monk and showed the heart, he said, "Look how beautiful this heart looks after I painted it." "Yeah, it looks so beautiful. After all, you worked so hard to on it. But now you must hit this heart with a hammer.", saying this, the monk handed a hammer to the boy. The boy didn't want to break it but somehow controlling his anger, he attacked that heart with the hammer. The heart was broken. The boy felt very sad. He said to the monk, "My whole day's hard work is wasted."*



*But the monk did not pay heed to him and gave him the other heart made of clay and said, "Now strike this heart with the hammer." The boy did the same but with the blow of the hammer, the mark of the hammer emerged on the heart, but the blow didn't break heart. The boy was surprised to see this but couldn't understand why the monk had asked him to do so. He thought that the monk was mad and said, "My whole day was spent here in useless work. Now I am not going to stay here another moment. I am going." The monk stopped him and said, "before you go, at least try to understand meaning of what you did." The boy stopped. Now, the monk began to explain to him, saying, "Son! The heart of clay you were working on. It was a representation of the real heart. Just as you heat the heart of clay in the heat of fire, similarly your heart gets heated in the furnace of your anger. You feel like you are standing firmly in front of the world, but it is not so. Your hardened heart will not be able to withstand even one blow of the hammer of life and will be shattered. In this case you will not be able to recover. To bear the pain and sorrow of life, you must soften your heart. Then whenever any sorrow comes, it will influence your heart for some time, but it won't break. Rather, it will get better in a few days. Anger does more harm to yourself than it does to others. So, stop being angry. Place love and forgiveness in your heart, make it humble." The boy understood and promised the monk that from then on he would control his anger and improve his behavior.*

Do we love Jesus?



# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

## Third Sunday of Easter



### For those who lost their lives in the tragedy at the Lapu Lapu Day Festival in Vancouver

May God receive them into His loving arms and grant them eternal rest. And for their families, friends, and all who mourn, may the Lord bring comfort in their sorrow and hope in the promise of the Resurrection, let us pray to the Lord...

### 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

### 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)

### 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)

### 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](#)



## Good Shepherd Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Easter (**May 10/11, 2025**), or widely known as Good Shepherd Sunday is the World Day of Vocations. There will be a special collection for the work of vocations, in support of the education and formation of seminarians and the permanent diaconate program in our Diocese. To donate online, you can visit [catholicycyc.ca/give](https://catholicycyc.ca/give)

## 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 [catholicycyc.ca/vocationsrally](https://catholicycyc.ca/vocationsrally)

## Textile Recycling Fundraiser

Donate clean, dry clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, and soft toys in clear bags. No wet, mouldy items, books, rugs, furniture, or electronics. Help us recycle textiles and support our parish Corpus Christi CWL projects. When: **May 10–19, from 1 pm to 7 pm daily, Corpus Christi Parish Hall Parking Lot.**

## 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).

## Marriage & Addiction

Engaged and married couples are invited to the fifth session in our Marriage Enrichment series, featuring Rita & Daniel Taylor on the topic of *Marriage & Addiction*. Cost: \$20 per couple. When: **Thu, Jun 5, from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Catholic Pastoral Centre** (120 17 Ave SW). Register before Jun 2. Spaces are limited — secure your spot by calling 403-218-5521.

## Prison Ministry Volunteers Needed

Help bring hope behind prison walls. We're looking for compassionate individuals to lead prayer time, including the Sunday Readings and Rosary, at correctional facilities in our Diocese. Email [receptionist@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:receptionist@calgarydiocese.ca) or call **403-218-5500** to learn more.

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

Join the Saint Michael Catholic Community for a peaceful evening of prayer and reflection through the solemn veneration of St. Francis of Assisi's relic. 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](https://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. James', Calgary](#) - Fri, May 9 at 4 pm to Sun, May 11 at 8 am
- [St. Anne's Korean Church](#) - Fri, May 30 at 12 pm to Sun, Jun 1 at 10 am

[St. Michael's, Calgary](#) - Fri, Jun 6 at 3 pm to Sun, Jun 8 at 8 am (followed by Vocations Rally in the afternoon)

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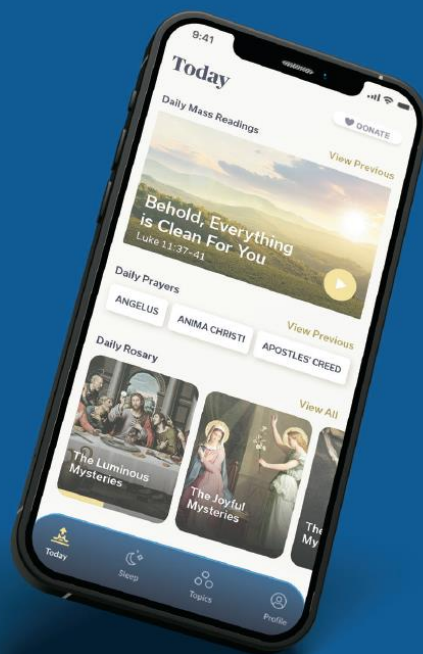
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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



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





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

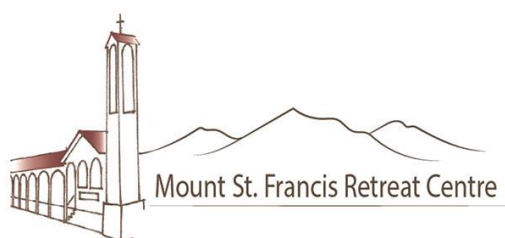
Order the [Leader's Kit](#) or [Deluxe Leader's Kit](#) on Catholic Market.

# 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.**