



# Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YR. A DECEMBER 7, 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. Fernando Genogaling & Deacon Robert Risling

## MASS TIMES - MONDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

FRIDAY 9:00AM TUESDAY 6:00PM

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

MONTHLY - 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY 9 AM

## RECONCILIATION...

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

## THE CHAPEL IS OPEN...

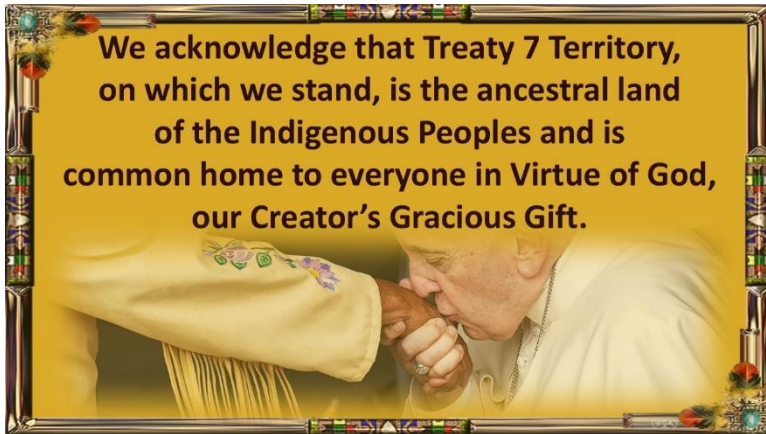
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30am - 4:00pm

ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 – 10:30am

1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY OF MONTH – 12 HOUR ADORATION

Parish Pastoral Council Chair – Ken Loehndorf  
Parish Finance Council Chair - Cheryl Pocsik

Knights of Columbus – Jimmy Tablan  
Catholic Women's League – Dianne Durda



*"Prepare the way of the Lord. make his paths straight."*

## † Masses & Mass Intentions ~ Dec 6<sup>th</sup> – Dec 12<sup>th</sup> †

Sat. Dec 6 ~	9:00am ~ Joseph †
	5:00pm ~ Ralph Greenwald †
Sun. Dec 7 ~	8:30am ~ Leo Lewans †
	10:30am ~ Holy Family Parish
	6:00pm ~ Adam & Elizabeth Schneider
Mon. Dec 8 ~	9:00am ~ John Royle †
Tue. Dec 9 ~	6:00pm ~ Cora & JP Blanchette
Wed. Dec 10 ~	9:00am ~ Frank & Eleanor Guckert †
Thu. Dec 11 ~	9:00am ~ Felix Holbowich †
Fri. Dec 12 ~	9:00am ~ David & Bess Piggott †



**Special Collections**  
**DECEMBER**  
**Future Development**  
**Together in Action**  
**Society of**  
**St. Vincent de Paul**  
**Mission Mexico**  
**Christmas Offering**

# 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YR. A DECEMBER 7, 2025

## FINANCIAL REPORT

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

### NOVEMBER MONTH TO DATE

General Envelope Collection	\$ 67,913
Loose Collections	\$ 6,221
Future Development	\$ 3,992
Misc. Income	\$ 14,630
<b>Total Month Income</b>	<b>\$ 92,756</b>
<b>Budget Vs Actual</b>	<b>\$ 22,600</b>

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

### 2025 YEAR TO DATE

<b>Together in Action (TIA)</b>	<b>\$ 62,193</b>
<b>GOAL - \$70,938</b> <b>88%</b>	
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 42,627
World Mission	\$ 2,075
Clergy Retirement	\$ 1,839
Mission Mexico	\$ 2,014
CARO	\$ 275
Seminary Fund	\$ 2,869
Holy Land & Pope's Pastoral	\$ 5,757

*Thank You for your Generous Contributions*

Nov. Average Weekend Atten.      1042

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year A

1<sup>st</sup> Reading ~ Isaiah 11:1-10

A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.

Responsorial Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17

The Messiah will bring justice and peace to the nations.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading ~ Romans 15:4-9

Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.

Gospel ~ Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

*Prepare for the*

*Prince of Peace!*

## Ways to Donate to Holy Family Parish

1. Weekly Collection Plate
2. Etransfer – [accounting@holyfamilymh.ca](mailto:accounting@holyfamilymh.ca)
3. Automatic Withdrawal from your Credit Card or Chequing Account

Please contact Robin for more information...

403-527-6933 ext. 104

[finance@holyfamilmh.ca](mailto:finance@holyfamilmh.ca)

## Do You Volunteer Within Our Parish?

Please stop by the Safe Environment Table in the Narthex this weekend!

Take a moment to check if your volunteer file needs updating. If so, please complete the package provided and return it to the office.

Thank you for helping us keep Holy Family Parish, a safe, welcoming and caring environment for everyone!

**Together IN ACTION**



Annual Bishop's Appeal

Year to Date: \$ 62,193.

only 88% of total needed!

The 2025 Goal is \$ 70,938.

**ONLY 3 WEEKS left to raise**

**\$ 8,745.00 , or \$ 2,915.00/week!**

**Please give what you can so we can meet our goal again this year!**

*Your Generosity is Appreciated!*

## E-Transfer Donations

PLEASE make sure your FULL NAME is in the e-transfer information so that you can receive a taxable benefit for your contributions.

*Thank You*  
For your Donations!



# ADVENT RENEWAL

Diocesan Retreat

Advent Listening:

A reflective retreat on how the living Word of God shapes our hearts for discipleship and mission!

Saturday – December 6 – 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Followed by Lunch of Soup & Buns for those that register by signing up at the Parish Office or e-mail at [ppc@holymfamilymh.ca](mailto:ppc@holymfamilymh.ca)

## SPEAKER



Archbishop  
Terrence  
Prendergast

## Children's Liturgy 10:30 Mass

1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month

Parents need to complete the

registration form on the Children's

Liturgy table and drop the completed

form into our mail slot beside the office

door before children can attend.

Children who have not received 1st Communion

& are under 8 yrs of age can attend.

Older children are encouraged to stay at mass.

Children under 3 need an adult present with them.

Envelopes for 2026 are available to be picked up in the foyer of the church. Some people may have a new number this year!

Please put your Name, Address and Phone Number on your New Envelopes for a few weeks.

The 2025 Tax Receipts will be getting compiled soon. Make sure all donations are in by December 30<sup>th</sup> & if you have moved make sure the office has your address change!

## CWL BAKE SALE

December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

before and after each Mass.

All Parishioners are welcome to drop off baking Saturday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3.

Tickets for December 9<sup>th</sup> Raffle



Knights of Columbus  
Faith in Action Life Activity

Novena for Life to

Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 3 to 11, 2025

The nine-day Novena will be said during rosaries before Mass starting Wednesday, December 3 to Thursday, December 11.

Join our parish in praying for a culture of life.



Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> after 6pm Mass

Bring a potluck dish & your own plates, utensils & a plus one (hubby)

Entertainment at 7:30

Raffle draw will made after supper!



## Parish Breakfast December 14<sup>th</sup>

After 8:30 & 10:30 Masses

Pancakes, Omelets, Sausage,  
Strawberries, Whipped

Cream, etc AND

THE BEST FELLOWSHIP EVER!

\$10. - Adults

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



Christmas Eve 5pm Mass Play & Choir  
Christmas Play – Kindergarten and up are Welcome  
Auditions for Speaking Parts.

Non-speaking Parts (no audition required)!

Sign up deadline is December 7

First rehearsal is Sunday Nov. 30 from 1:00pm-2:30pm

Please see registration forms on the Hospitality Desk

Family Choir - Children Grade 2 & up.

An Adult must be present. Parent participation is encouraged but not necessary. No deadline to sign-up.

First practice is Dec. 14 from 2:30pm-3:30pm



Legion of Mary Social Event of the Year  
Annual General Reunion  
Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

3:00 to 4:30 pm at St. Patrick's Church Hall.

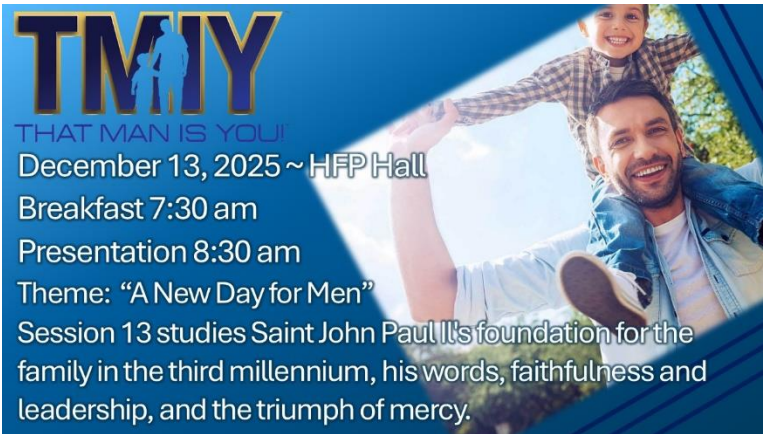
In addition to praying the Legion prayers, there will be Praying, a Potluck and Singing of Christmas Carols.

& on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, Hour of Grace Prayers from noon to 1 pm at St. Patrick's Church, for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**TMIY**  
THAT MAN IS YOU!  
December 13, 2025 ~ HFP Hall  
Breakfast 7:30 am  
Presentation 8:30 am  
Theme: "A New Day for Men"  
Session 13 studies Saint John Paul II's foundation for the family in the third millennium, his words, faithfulness and leadership, and the triumph of mercy.



**Sr High/Young Adults  
Worship Choir**

Next Practice: Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7 PM  
Next Mass: Saturday, Dec. 21 at 10:30 AM  
Contact: Roxy Grove 403-952-8744



**Advent in the Library**  
A Star for Jesus by: Crystal Bowman  
Story of the Three Kings (Child)  
God's Message of Christmas Love  
by: Eugene Peterson  
God is out to win the world in Love  
(Junior)  
The Christmas Tree by: Julie Salamon  
Tale of friendship, generosity: the  
magic and wonder of Christmas (Adult)



**The 32nd Annual  
Gift Sharing Sunday**  
November  
29th and 30th

**ROOT CELLAR**  
FOOD & WELLNESS HUB  
We Collected  
346 pounds of food

**SANTA CLAUS FUND**  
We Collected  
\$2,310.00  
We Collected Toys & Stocking  
Stuffers Valued at \$1846.00

**Thank YOU**



**Blessing of the Bambinelli**  
December 13 & 14 Masses  
Holy Family Parish  
On the Third Sunday  
of Advent children  
bring Baby Jesus  
(Bambinelli) from  
your family Nativity  
scene to Mass for a  
blessing.



**Simbang Gabi** "Mass of the Rooster"  
December 15th to 18th - 6:00 PM  
at St. Patrick's Church  
December 19th to 23rd - 5:30 AM  
at Holy Family Parish  
A Filipino Christmas Tradition - Everyone Welcome



**Advent Penitential Services**  
Holy Family Parish - Tuesday, Dec. 16  
Following the 6:00pm Mass  
St. Patrick's Church  
Monday, Dec 15 @ 7:00pm  
**Reconciliation**



**Christmas Mass Schedule 2025-26**  
Wednesday, Dec. 24  
Nativity Pageant - 4:30 pm  
Masses - 5:00 pm, & 9:30 pm  
Thursday, Dec. 25 - 9:30 am  
Friday, Dec 26 - No Mass  
Wednesday, Dec. 31 - 5:00 pm  
Thursday, Jan. 1 - 10:30 am  
\* Office Closed Dec 24 - Jan 4  
\* Incense at all Christmas & New Years Masses







ALBERTA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

CONGRATULATIONS DEAN SEHN  
NOVEMBER 25 EARLY BIRD WINNER

# 50-50

## CHARITIES APPEAL RAFFLE

**Early Bird  
Draws x3**

**\$1000<sub>ea</sub>**

Draw Dates at 1:30 PM:  
(One winning number will be randomly selected)

**November 25  
December 2  
December 9**

\*All tickets sold from the beginning of the raffle until 12 noon on the days of the Early Bird draws are eligible to win an Early Bird prize and also the Grand Prize.

*In support of:*

**Educational Institutions, Community Charities, Churches,  
Youth and Seniors Activities across Alberta**

**WINNER  
takes 50%  
of total sales  
\$181,000  
maximum**

# BUY TICKETS ONLINE

1 for \$5  
10 for \$20  
50 for \$50  
200 for \$100

**[www.acf5050.com](http://www.acf5050.com)**



Ticket sales end  
at 12 noon on  
**Dec 16, 2025**

**Please Support  
Member Council**

## Grand Prize Draw December 16, 2025

by AGLC-approved Random Number Generator  
AGLC Licence 749893

Local Charity \_\_\_\_\_

Early Bird Draw Location: St. John Bosco Catholic Church Hall, 13503 40 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5A 3L9

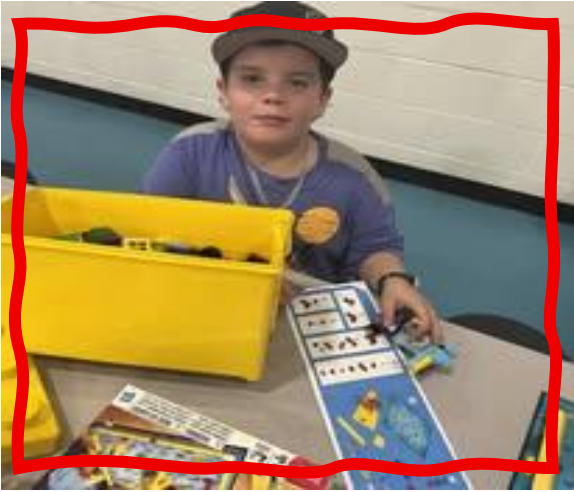
Grand Prize Draw Location: St. John Bosco Catholic Church Hall, 13503 40 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5A 3L9

Tickets sold only in Alberta - Must be at least 18 years of age to buy tickets - 530,400 tickets available for purchase



# Mother Teresa School

## Aura Street - Principal



We are several weeks into another school year, and we have been involved in so many things already! At MTS we continue to build relationships and connections with our community in a variety of ways.

We have participated in “10 Days of Truth and Reconciliation” which ended with each student placing their thumbprint on our office windows in recognition of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.



We also continue to invite students and their families to our monthly Community Nights in the gymnasium. From board games to karaoke, there is something for everyone!

Our Student Faith Leadership Team has also been hard at work attending Faith sessions at the church and bringing ideas back to share with staff and students.

Through this program/initiative, we can further embed our faith into all we do with an even more focused approach from the perspective of students themselves...and the students are excited to be part of it!!



**Medicine Hat Catholic**  
Board of Education



Here's to continued success at MTS in 2025-2026!



Dear Friends of the Shelter,

The Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society has been running a Christmas Hamper Program for over 25 years to help provide gifts to those impacted by family violence. This program helps ensure these families and individuals do not go without gifts for Christmas.



We are reaching out to you today to ask for your assistance in helping to make a difference in our community. All the families and individuals we are providing hampers to are local families or individuals who are on their journey towards living a life free from violence.

One mom we helped sent a thank you email saying "I was beyond surprised and appreciative of the Christmas Hamper I received. Honestly, I have not felt that valued and cared for in a long time. My children were able to have a special Christmas with your help. Thank you."

We hope you will consider helping to make a difference in the lives of those in need this holiday season.

We invite you to participate in the program in any of the following ways:

1. Donate new toys, gifts (for all ages) or gift cards by dropping them off at Sun Valley Honda and Davis GMC in Medicine Hat between November 12 to December 19.
2. Make a financial donation towards the program (this can be done online at [www.mhwss.ca](http://www.mhwss.ca), e-transfer to [info@mhwss.ca](mailto:info@mhwss.ca) or mail a cheque)

For any questions about the MHWSS Christmas Hamper Program please email Deidre Giesbrecht, Volunteer & Donations Coordinator, at [deidreg@mhwss.ca](mailto:deidreg@mhwss.ca) or call us at (403)527-8223.

Thank you for your consideration!

Yours Truly,  
Natasha Carvalho, M.Sc., RSW  
Executive Director  
Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society



# DIOCESAN SUNDAY UPDATES

## Second Sunday of Advent



### Bishop McGrattan's Advent Message is available

**In this week's Faithfully** – Read the Bishop's Advent message on the three comings of Christ and the hope they offer. Learn about the new Loreto Crypt for babies lost through miscarriage and the historic consecration of Lauretta Dearing, our diocese's first Consecrated Virgin living in the world. Be inspired by Sr. Zacharia's vocation story, hear Fr. John Jwad's Red Wednesday testimony, and find Advent events to help you stay connected this season.

### Advent Penitential Services

The schedule of Advent Penitential Services across the Diocese of Calgary is available at [catholiccycc.ca/advent](http://catholiccycc.ca/advent)

### From Suffering to Hope – Online Single Mothers Retreat

**Fri–Sat, Dec 12–13 (online)** – Momentum invites Catholic single mothers to a free online Advent retreat featuring a witness talk by Sr. John Mary,

opportunities for one-to-one spiritual conversations, and an evening of adoration and prayer. To get the meeting link, call 403-218-5521 or email [mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca)

### Pastoral Care Ministry Training

**Saturdays, Dec 13 and Jan 24, 10 am to 3 pm at Canadian Martyrs, Calgary** - Come be formed for Pastoral Care Ministry, supporting the sick, elderly, dying, homebound, and bereaved in our parish communities. For more information, visit [catholiccycc.ca/pastoralcare](http://catholiccycc.ca/pastoralcare)

**Spanish-speaking members of the Diocese** who wish to serve in this important ministry with compassion. When: **Mondays, Jan 5, 12, 18 & 26 & Feb 2, 2026 from 7 pm to 9 pm** at Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Parish (1714 14 Ave NE). To register, please call 403-218-5521 or email [mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca)



## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - Jubilee Mass

Join Bishop William McGrattan for the final Jubilee Mass with Apostolic Blessing, celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. When: **Mon, Dec 8 at 7 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral.** This Mass will include the Apostolic Blessing with a plenary indulgence.

## Advent Resources

Find updated Advent events across the Diocese, penitential services schedule, prayers and traditions, recommended books, music and movies, and activities for children. Visit [catholiccyyc.ca/advent](http://catholiccyyc.ca/advent)

## Multiply the Hope: A Diocesan Advent Initiative

The Diocese of Calgary is launching Multiply the Hope, a Jubilee matching initiative that invests up to \$12 million in local parish renewal. Even after the Jubilee Year concludes on December 28 this year, this matching opportunity will continue through 2027, giving us additional time to reach our goal. During this three-year period, every dollar contributed to a parish's Building Fund or Repairs & Maintenance Fund is matched by the Diocese, up to each parish's designated goal. To learn how you can contribute, please ask your parish for more information, or visit [catholiccyyc.ca/multiplythehope](http://catholiccyyc.ca/multiplythehope)

## Loreto Crypt Blessing

You are invited to pray with Bishop William T. McGrattan at the blessing of the newly completed Loreto Crypt: Sanctuary for Little Souls at Queen's Park Cemetery. This sacred space has been created as a place of prayer, remembrance, and hope for families who have experienced the loss of infants and unborn children. When: **Wed, Dec 10, 2025 at 4 pm**, at Queen's Park Cemetery, 3219 4 St. NW, Calgary. All are welcome!

## Rorate Masses

Join us for these early-morning Advent Masses celebrated by candlelight in honour of Our Lady. Rorate Masses will be held at

- St. Mary's Cathedral (Wed, Dec 10 at 7pm; Sat, Dec 13 at 7:30 am)
- St. Cecilia (Sat, Dec 20 at 7:30 am).

## Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Fri, Dec 12, at 6 pm at Ascension Catholic Parish, Calgary** – Celebrate the feast with Mass followed by a talk and dinner. All are welcome to this joyful parish celebration honouring Our Lady of Guadalupe.

## Winter Gifts 2025 for Feed the Hungry Guests

As the chill of winter sets in, you can make a difference for our Feed the Hungry guests. We're collecting new mittens, gloves, socks, toques, and scarves to share warmth and kindness this Christmas season. Drop off your contributions at St. Mary's Cathedral Parish Office (**Monday to Friday, 8:30 am–3:30 pm, closed from 12–1 pm**) until Dec 10.

## Peaks + Prairies Ensemble Christmas Concert

**Sun, Dec 14, at 2:30 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Banff** – Enjoy a festive and interactive one-hour holiday concert featuring Christmas favourites for piano and strings, along with a light classics medley. A relaxed reception will follow the performance where you can meet the musicians.

## Double your impact for Elizabeth House this Christmas

Help make this Christmas special for the moms and babies of Elizabeth House by donating items from our Christmas Wishlist. **For more info on the Christmas wishlist**, contact 403-560-8471, or email [suzanne.lehbauer@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:suzanne.lehbauer@calgarydiocese.ca)  
Donation Drop-off Days at Catholic Pastoral Centre, 120 17th Avenue SW, Calgary, on **Dec 2, 3 & 4 – 10 am to 3 pm; Dec 9 & 10 – 1 pm to 6 pm.**

## Your Gift Helps Mothers Move Forward

This season, all donations to Elizabeth House will be matched up to \$25,000. Donate at [elizabethhousecalgary.ca](http://elizabethhousecalgary.ca) by **Dec 19** to take part in the matching campaign: [elizabethhousecalgary.ca](http://elizabethhousecalgary.ca)



## HOLY FAMILY PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Due to the overwhelming amount of Mass Intentions that we receive at Holy Family Parish we have set some guidelines. We realize that people want Masses on certain dates and some don't care when it happens. We have come up with some guidelines to help make this process fair for everybody.

- ✚ There can only be 1 intention per Mass. It will be for the Living or Deceased. You can not combine Living and Deceased in one Mass Intention.
- ✚ Mass Intention to be listed in the Bulletin and read at the Mass it is assigned to.
- ✚ Mass is not published, and it is sent to Calgary to be distributed to priests that do not get any of very few. There is no way of knowing where it will go or the date it will be assigned to, however it will always be faster than having it here.
- ✚ If requesting certain available dates, you are limited to 2 Masses per month by each requester and 1 per intended Mass. Example You could have a Mass for John in July, but if you want 2 for John, 1 would be in July and one in August. Or you could have 1 for John and 1 for Jane in July.
- ✚ You may choose the next available date. Limited to 2 Masses per month by each requester and 1 per intended Mass. Example You could have 1 Mass for John one month, but if you want 2 for John, 1 would be one month and one the next month. Or you could have 1 for John and 1 for Jane in the same month.
- ✚ When there is a funeral or occasion that draws many Mass Intentions, 2 of these will be booked in 2 separate months and the rest will be sent away to be distributed throughout the Diocese.

This is in no way meant to deter you from requesting Mass Intentions as we feel it is wonderful that there are so many Prayers going out to so many people, we merely are trying to make it fair for everybody.



# FORMED®

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

1 Scan this with your phone camera  
2 Enter **medicine Hat**  
3 Enjoy the content you want

Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) for more information

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

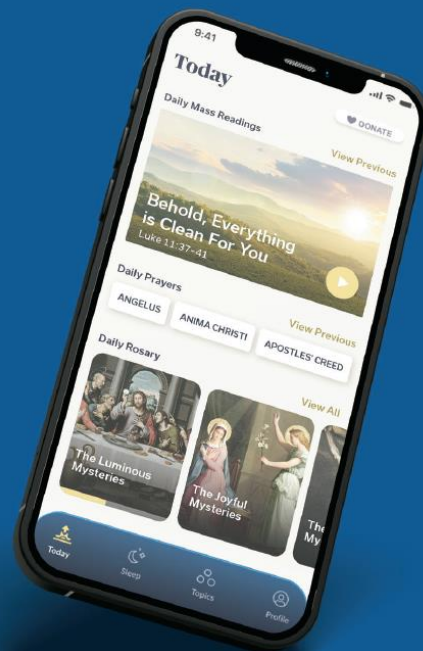
# Amen™

The *Free* Catholic Prayer,  
Meditation, and Scripture App

- 1 Scan this with your phone camera
- 2 Download the app
- 3 Enjoy the content you want



Visit [amenapp.org](http://amenapp.org) for more information



An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

**Joe McKinnon Council #9502****Knights of Columbus 2025 - 2026 Officers**

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

**2025 -2026****September 14 – Corn Roast****October 6 - Officers Meeting****October 14 – Regular meeting****October 19 – Parish Breakfast****St. John Paul II Mass****Nov 3 – All Souls Day Mass****November 3 - Officers Meeting****November 10 – Regular meeting****November 23 – Parish Breakfast****Msgr. McCoy Mass****December 1 - Officers Meeting****December 08 – Regular meeting &****Family Spaghetti Supper****December 14 – Christmas Breakfast****Feb 22 – Parish Breakfast ??****Mar 15 – Parish Breakfast****St Patrick's School Mass****April 5 – Easter Sunday****May 3 - Parish Breakfast****Notre Dame Academy Mass****May 10 – Mothers' Day****June 14 - Fathers' Day ???****June 21 – Parish Picnic**





THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

Who is Jesus? Do I need a church?

Why do I exist?

Teens in your parish are actively looking to the king 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*

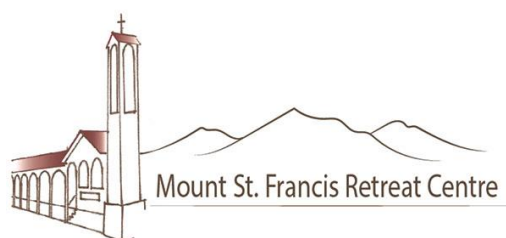
Order the [Leader's Kit](#) or [Deluxe Leader's Kit](#) on Catholic Market.

# 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.**