



Welcome to HOLY FAMILY PARISH

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YR. A DECEMBER 14, 2025



Email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca ~ Website: www.holyfamilymh.ca ~ Phone 403-527-6933

Facebook: Medicine Hat Holy Family Parish ~ YouTube: Medicine Hat Holy Family Church

Office Hrs. Monday to Friday - 8:30am – 12:00pm & 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Closed on Holidays.

CLERGY AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Fr. 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 - 1ST SATURDAY 9 AM

RECONCILIATION...

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

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN...

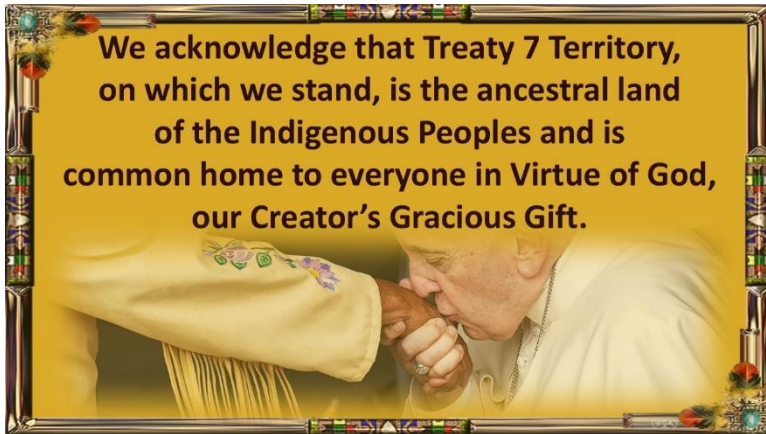
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:30am - 4:00pm

ADORATION FRIDAY 9:30 – 10:30am

1ST 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



*'See. I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'*

† Masses & Mass Intentions ~ Dec 13th – Dec 19th †

Sat. Dec 13 ~ 5:00pm ~ Lucia & Gualberto Pimentel †

Sun. Dec 14 ~ 8:30am ~ Holy Family Parish
10:30am ~ Lambert Streifel †
6:00pm ~ Don Zahn †

Mon. Dec 15 ~ 9:00am ~ Agnes Henderson †

Tue. Dec 16 ~ 6:00pm ~ Nick & Rosina Mucciarone †

Wed. Dec 17 ~ 9:00am ~ Johanne Gaetz †

Thu. Dec 18 ~ 9:00am ~ Fr. Iqbal Khurshid

Fri. Dec 19 ~ 9:00am ~ Jennifer Wrzosek †



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

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YR. A DECEMBER 14, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Monthly Operating Budget \$ 70,156

DECEMBER MONTH TO DATE

General Envelope Collection	\$ 19,773
Loose Collections	\$ 934
Future Development	\$ 1,378
Misc. Income	\$ 1,297
Total Month Income	\$ 23,382
Budget Vs Actual	- \$ 46,774

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

2025 YEAR TO DATE

Together in Action (TIA)	\$ 68,836
GOAL - \$70,938 97%	
St Vincent de Paul	\$ 44,652
World Mission	\$ 2,275
Clergy Retirement	\$ 1,844
Mission Mexico	\$ 2,124
CARO	\$ 285
Seminary Fund	\$ 2,894
Holy Land & Pope's Pastoral	\$ 5,757
Multiply the Hope	\$ 470

Thank You for your Generous Contributions

December Average Weekend Attendance 985

2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A

1st Reading ~ *Isaiah 35:1-6, 10*

In the day of the Lord, all sorrow and mourning will cease.

Responsorial *Psalms 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10*

The Lord will save his people.

2nd Reading ~ *James 5:7-10*

Be patient and be ready; the coming of the Lord is near.

Gospel ~ *Matthew 11:2-11*

Jesus tells John the Baptist of the signs of the kingdom that are being worked through him and praises John as more than a prophet.

*Waiting. Preparation
& Repentance*

Ways to Donate to Holy Family Parish

1. Weekly Collection Plate
2. Etransfer – 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@holyfamilymh.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: \$ 68,836.
only 97% of total needed!
The 2025 Goal is \$ 70,938.

ONLY 2 WEEKS left to raise

\$ 2,102.00 , or \$ 1,051.00/week!

Please give what you can so we can meet our goal! We are so close!!!

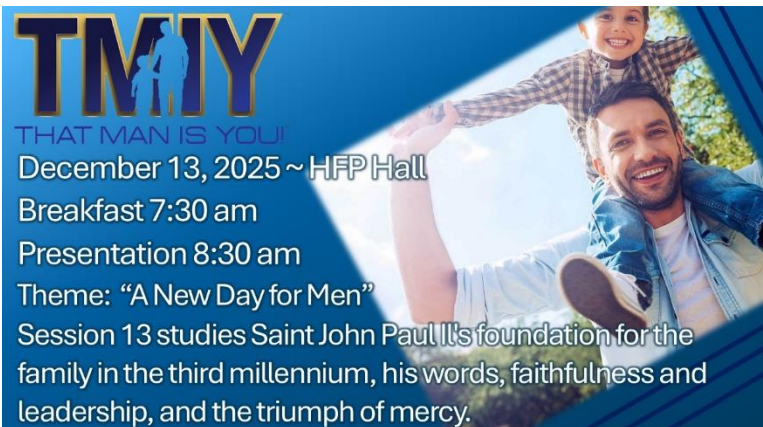
Your Generosity is Appreciated!

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!

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.




December 13/14, 2025

The Church is God's family in the world, and no member should suffer through being in need. Sometimes the only thing to do is to love.

Bishop Emeritus Frederick Henry



Parish Breakfast December 14th

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



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.



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.



Christmas Eve
 5:00pm Mass
 Family Choir
 Grade 2 & Older

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

For Info. Call...

Sally at 403-527-6933 Ext 105

sac.prep@holymfamilymh.ca

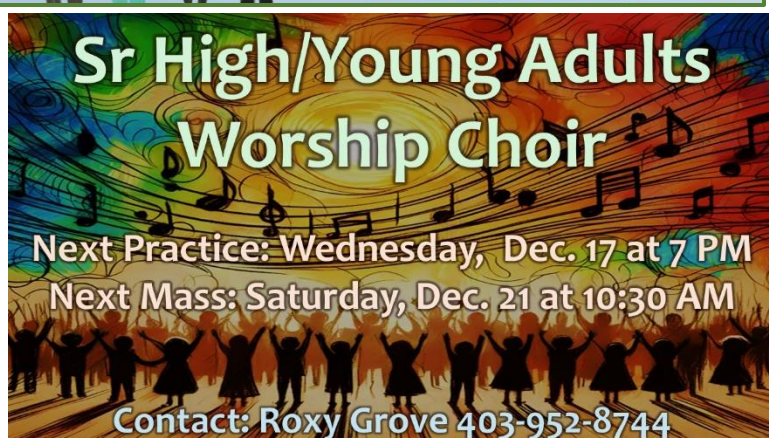


Sr High/Young Adults Worship Choir

Next Practice: Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7 PM

Next Mass: Saturday, Dec. 21 at 10:30 AM

Contact: Roxy Grove 403-952-8744



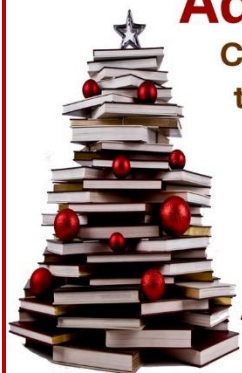
Envelopes for 2026 are available to
 be picked up in the foyer of the
 church. Some people may have a
 new number this year!

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 30th & if you have moved
 make sure the office has your address change!**



Advent in the Library

Child's - Barney Wigglesworth and
the Smallest Christmas Pageant

by: Elspeth Campbell Murphy

Junior's - Dusk: God's Chosen

Donkey

by: Carolyn Budd-Goertzen

Adult's - Because of Bethlehem

by: Max Lucado

The 32nd Annual Gift Sharing Sunday

November
29th and 30th

ROOT
CELLAR
FOOD & WELLNESS HUB

We Collected

346 pounds of food
Valued at \$1259.44

We Collected

\$2310.00



We Collected Toys & Stocking
Stuffers Valued at \$1846.00



Thank
YOU

Grand Total
Valued of
\$5,415.44



CWL BAKE SALE

Many thanks to all who
participated in our annual CWL
Christmas bake sale. Winners of
the Raffle will be contacted.



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





Vincentian Corner

In the months from Jan through November 2025, Vincentians conducted 276 visits with neighbours in need. Of the individuals assisted, 337 were adults and 199 were children, for a total of 536 people helped. The volunteer hours for this time period amounted to 2574. We share these statistics with you to provide you with the tremendous amount of service we are able to provide through our Society.

As we celebrate Advent in preparation for the birth of our Saviour, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our fellow parishioners: thank you for your support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul throughout the year. Your generosity makes it possible for us to continue our mission of helping those in need within our community and your prayers give us the strength to keep assisting the most vulnerable. We feel blessed to see Jesus in our neighbours, and to make a difference in their lives brings us both joy and peace. We are so grateful for your support.

May God bless you and yours with a blessed and happy Christmas season.

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



ALBERTA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

CONGRATULATIONS DEAN SEHN
NOVEMBER 25 EARLY BIRD WINNER

50-50
CHARITIES APPEAL RAFFLE

**Early Bird
Draws x3**

\$1000_{ea}

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



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

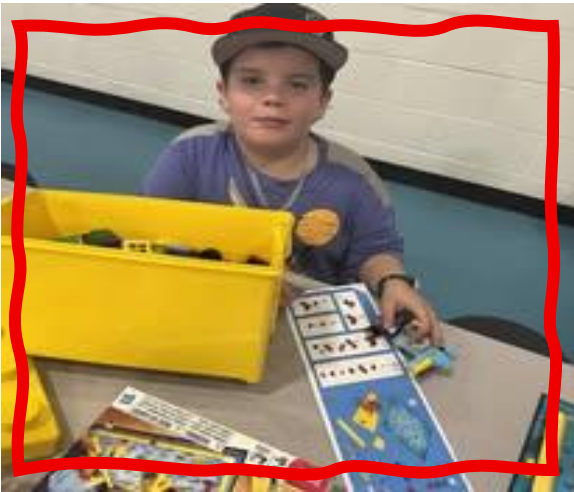
Grand Prize Draw Location: St. John Bosco Catholic Church Hall, 13503 40 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5A 3L9

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, e-transfer to 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 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

Third Sunday of Advent



Mission Mexico Sunday

Join us in supporting [Mission Mexico Day on Dec 12](#), the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Mission Mexico Sunday on **Dec 13/14** in the parishes. These special days remind us of our call to walk in solidarity with marginalized communities in southern Mexico, providing vital support for education, healthcare, and sustainable development.

- There will be a Second Collection on the Third Sunday of Advent (Dec. 13/14) for Mission Mexico. Direct link to donate online - <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/donatemissionmexico.html>

Closing of Jubilee Year of Hope

Join the diocesan community for Mass marking the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope, celebrated by Bishop McGrattan. When: **Saturday, Dec. 27 at 5 pm**. All are welcome to gather in thanksgiving and prayer as we commend the fruits of this sacred year to the Lord.

Loreto Crypt

The Diocese of Calgary is pleased to announce the opening of the Loreto Crypt at Queen's Park Cemetery (3219 4 St NW, Calgary), a permanent, above-ground mausoleum offering a dignified resting place for babies lost through miscarriage before 20 weeks of gestation. The crypt is open to all families, Catholic and non Catholic.

Families begin the process by contacting a licensed funeral home, which will coordinate directly with the Diocese and the City of Calgary. There is no diocesan fee, and burial costs are covered by the City during regular operating hours.

- Full guidelines and information are available at [catholiccyyc.ca/loretocrypt](https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/loretocrypt)

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.

Bill C-9 and Religious Freedom

A proposed amendment to Bill C-9 could weaken protections for religious expression in Canada and may be voted on very soon. Catholics are encouraged to learn more and contact their Member of Parliament. To learn more, check our website at catholiccycc.ca

Advent Penitential Services

The schedule of Advent Penitential Services across the Diocese of Calgary is available at catholiccycc.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 catholiccycc.ca/multiplythehope

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols 2025

Sun, Dec 14, from 7:30 pm to 9 pm at St Mary's Cathedral, Calgary – St. John Choir Schola presents this traditional service of Scripture and sacred music celebrating the Nativity of the Lord. All are welcome to attend this evening of prayer, music, and reflection.

Divine Mercy and Healing Advent Retreat

Join the Sisters of Divine Mercy for a day of prayer, healing, and renewal as we prepare our hearts for Christmas. When: **Sat, Dec 20, from 9:30 am to 1 pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Calgary.**

The retreat includes Eucharistic Adoration with opportunity for confession at 9:30 am, International Rosary at 10:30 am, and Holy Mass at 11 am, followed by a talk, healing prayers, and anointing. All are welcome. Retreat cost is by donation. For more information or to register, contact Sr Katrina at 587 755 1019 or visit sistersofdivinemeracy.org

New Year's Eve Adoration & Holy Mass

Wed, Dec 31, from 9:30 pm to 2 am at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Calgary – Join the Sisters of Divine Mercy for a Cross-Over Night of prayer as we welcome the New Year with Eucharistic Adoration, the Holy Rosary, and Midnight Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Music will be led by the Sisters, with fellowship and refreshments to follow. For more information, contact Sr Katrina at 587 755 1019.

Your Gift Helps Mothers Move Forward

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

Winter Clothing Drive

The Diocese of Calgary and Salvation Army are once again organizing a "Winter Clothing Drive" for all participating parishes within the diocese. If your parish would like to receive a donation box and participate in this worthwhile cause, please get in touch with Mara Capili at mara.capili@calgarydiocese.ca or 403-218-5521.



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.

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ON DEMAND.

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2 Enter **medicine Hat**
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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

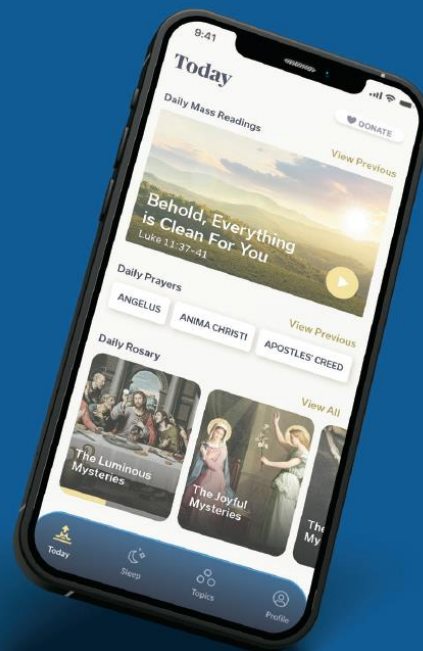
Amen™

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 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 so it can be sent to the diocese.