



Nilo Macapinlac

Mar 12, 2023

Sat Mar 11, 2023	Confession Holy Mass Holy Mass (2 nd Saturday)	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds 7:00 PM Didsbury
Sun Mar 12, 2023	Holy Mass - (<i>Day Light Savings</i>)	9:00 AM -Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Mar 14, 2023	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Mar 15, 2023	Weekday Mass w/ Holy Trinity School Weekday Mass w/ Lenten Lunch	9:15 AM 12:05 PM Olds
Fri Mar 17, 2023	Weekday Mass Stations of the Cross	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds, Didsbury, Sundre
Sat Mar 18, 2023	Confession Holy Mass St. Patrick's Day Party (Potluck and Music)	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds **Following Mass
Sun Mar 19, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds

Lenten Mission this week!! Join us for our Lenten Mission with the Sisters of Divine Mercy on March 9th & 10th. Please note there will be Mass on March 9th at 6:30 PM followed by the Lenten Mission. Mass on Friday is rescheduled to the evening – 6:30 PM with Mission Program include adoration, to follow.

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF
 Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac
 Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired
 Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin
 Office Admin – Mia MacDonald
 4302 57th Ave Olds, AB
Ststephen102@gmail.com
 403-556-3084
<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>
 Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic
 Office Hours 9-2pm

MASS SCHEDULE
 Tuesday – 6:30 PM
 Wednesday – 9:00 AM
 Friday – 9:00 AM
 Saturday – 5:00 PM
 Sunday – 9:00/11:15AM
 Sunday - 7:00PM
 Confession every Saturday in Olds at 11:00 AM Unless otherwise posted. .

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre
 First Friday Mass
 April 7, 2023
 Adoration 1-6 pm
 Stations of the Cross – 6:30
 Holy Mass –7:00 PM
 Friday's – Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary – 10:00 AM
St. Anthony - Didsbury
 Second Saturday Mass
 March 11, 2023
 7:00 PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear friends and parishioners, Grace & peace to you! We are now in the 2nd Sunday of Lenten season. Our readings for this second Sunday of Lent offer us Christian stewards motivation to continue on our 40-day journey towards deeper holiness. The first reading from the book of Genesis describes God's call to Abram (who would later be called Abraham). God instructs Abram to leave his home and set out to a land that God had chosen for him. Abram's response is an ancient example of a good stewardship. Instead of clinging to his comfortable way of life, to the only home he has ever known, he recognizes that all he has is gift from God, puts his trust in God and obeys. And God rewards him saying, "I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." To "be a blessing" is the true aim of a stewardship way of life. It is also an excellent way to live out the season of Lent. The sacrifices we take on, the spiritual disciplines we practice, the extra acts of service we perform during this season — all give glory to God and transform our lives into a blessing for others. St. Paul encourages us on this path in our second reading taken from his letter to Timothy. "Bear your share of hardship for the gospel..." adding this critical phrase, "with the strength that comes from God." On our own we are weak, inclined towards selfishness and comfort seeking. Relying on God's strength, however, we can persevere in the fight to attain holiness. Paul reminds us that, in fact, we were made for this! "[God] saved us and called us to a holy life." To be "holy" means to be set apart for God. This means that our lives as Christian stewards will look different from those around us who do not know the Lord — but different in a way that is attractive, that draws them to the Lord as well. It is a way of life that is counter-cultural in our individualistic, "me first" day and age. The generous offering to God of our time, talents and treasure at times can feel like the "hardship" Paul mentions in our second reading. But this way of life is a path to holiness. Lest we grow weary on this path, our Gospel passage today, from Matthew, offers us a powerful image of the great God we serve. It is the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, when our Lord takes His key apostles up to a high mountain and reveals Himself in His true glory. "He was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." And not only that, but the voice of the Father was revealed to them with the words, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." This revelation of the glory of God was so overwhelming to the apostles that they fell to the ground in fear when they saw Him this way. But our loving Savior is quick to reassure them to "Rise, and do not be afraid." As we continue on our Lenten journey, let us take these two verses, "Listen to Him," "Rise, and do not be afraid" to heart. Let us rely on God's strength to aid us in our spiritual disciplines as we move through Lent. We will arrive at Easter with deeper holiness, as a blessing to God and others — and as better stewards of all God's gifts to us. Let us put God's Word into Action by living the true spirit of Christian Stewardship. We are also stewards of relationships, spirituality and mysteries of God. Let us always be ready in looking after the needs of those around us. In caring our sick and elderly, the dying and those who need the last rites of the Church, please do not hesitate to call me at 780-3521524 or 403-4156183. Thank you!

Yours devotedly in Christ,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

If you know of someone who is new to the Parish or have crossed paths with an individual who is having trouble finding their way back after the Pandemic, we encourage you to touch base with Father Nilo or the office. We would love to hear from you.

**DUE TO ICY CONDITIONS IN THE PARKING LOT DURING WINTER MONTHS,
WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO DROP OFF YOUR FAMILY AT THE DOOR OF THE
CHURCH.**

IMPORTANT

MARCH 10th - Called to Protect training, an abuse prevention training session will be offered on Friday March 10, 2023, 1 pm - 3:30 pm. The two and half session is mandatory for all volunteers and employees of the Archdiocese. The virtual session will be by zoom. Please register using the link below:

Registration: <https://forms.gle/YttiUzbmW98tcvsy8>

FAITH FORMATION

Junior Altar Servers We are still looking for junior altar servers in training for St. Stephens and St. Anthony's. If you have made your First Communion, we can sure use you! Please contact Fr. Nilo or Donna at the parish office or Maria at 403-415-6833.

The Chosen is an American historical drama television series... It is the first multiseason series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centers on Jesus and the different people who met and followed him. **Catholic Commentary on The Chosen** with Dr. Michael Barber and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger aims to help Catholics actively engage with this immensely popular TV series. Please join us on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the parish hall at St. Stephen's for 5 weeks as we watch episodes from *The Chosen* as seen on FORMED

Next Confirmation Class - March 12, 2023

Confirmation Journals- The season of Lent is upon us. As we *Journey with Jesus* towards the Lenten season, the confirmandi are taking notes in their journals during Mass. If you, too, would like to write down something that really touched you during Mass, such as a line of music, a verse from one of the readings or one of the prayers, or an idea that Father expressed during his homily, there will be pencils and paper available on a table in the foyer. Please don't let your children write in the songbooks.

FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Supporting thousands of movies, children's programs, ebooks, audio, parish programs and studies direct to your browser, mobile or connected device. FORMED's Bible studies, sacramental prep materials, documentaries, books and audio talks from leading Catholic experts will help you grow in understanding your faith. If you are using FORMED.org, please let the office know. We need to know at the end of the year how many users who can benefit from this faith formation tool. We are paying for this and need to know how to maximize its usage.

Mark your calendars for upcoming dates during Lent;

The Parish Mission - Thurs Mar.9th and Fri Mar. 10th.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays throughout Lent – Olds, Sundre, Didsbury

Parish Penitential Service - Fri Mar. 24th

SUMMER PLANS - Stephen's Parish will be holding a family campout on the weekend of July 21-23rd. Mark your calendars for a fun time! More details to follow.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION

For students in grades 5 and up who haven't yet made your Confirmation, please come for classes resuming Sunday January 15th at 10 a.m. for an hour in the Upper Room. See Donna at the parish office to register. Cost of the book is \$12.50. We are using the *Decision Point* program by Dynamic Catholic.

Our dates for First Holy Communion gatherings will begin in March.

Saturday, Mar 25, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

Saturday, Apr 29, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

Saturday, May 27, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Youth grades 6 and up - mark your calendars!

Thursday May 4th – Mantracker

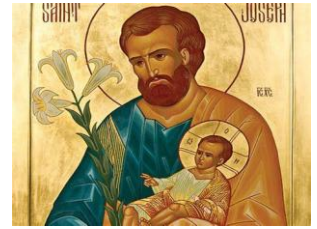
Thursday June 1st – TBD

Times and locations are coming-For more information, please email monica.andrew@rdcrs.ca

Don't Forget – Daylight Savings – March 12 – Spring forward 1 hour – Set your clocks!!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon Saint Joseph- On Sunday March 19th, prior to the 11:15 Mass, the Knights of Columbus will be offering a prayer service in honour of Saint Joseph and where the K of C Pilgrim Icon of Saint Joseph will be displayed. We will begin about 10:15 and invite you to attend as we join together to give honour to Saint Joseph – Patron of Canada, Patron of the universal Church. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Killoran at 403-415- 5627. All are most welcomed!



The K of C are organizing a Novena for Life and are asking for your participation. We have two prayer cards, available on March 12th, for your use at home from March 16th to March 24th. Please try to pray these prayers for the nine days of the novena. We will also lead a rosary on March 25th – the Feast of the Annunciation, which is also the Knights of Columbus “Day of the Unborn Child”. Please join us in this work for Life – from conception to natural death. When we have a disregard for “Life”, there is no telling what other situations may arise.

Knights of Columbus Membership Dues - Council dues are now past due. If you have not yet received a current membership card, please send dues to matthewcadrin@hotmail.com at your earliest opportunity. Thank-you

The K of C are running their annual Wheelchair Fundraiser in partnership with the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation, who are able to provide wheelchairs at a cost of just \$195.00. It is estimated that over 100 million people are in need of a wheelchair, but few will ever be able to afford one without our support. Those who find themselves in need of a wheelchair are dealing with disabilities caused by physical handicaps, accidents, disease, or may have been the victims of war or natural disasters.

During this Lenten season, we encourage individuals, families or groups of families to consider how they might raise money for this cause through sacrifice and almsgiving. Any donations are appreciated. Donation forms can be found on the table in the foyer.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL MASSES

Once a month, we welcome the students and staff from Holy Trinity School to Morning Mass. They will join us on the following dates:

Wednesday March 15 – 9:15 AM ** Time to be confirmed**

Wednesday April 19 – 9:15 AM

Wednesday May 24th – 9:15 AM

Mass will begin at 9:15 AM on these dates to allow time for the students to be transported by bus. We encourage you to join us at Mass.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY – MARCH 18, 2023

You are all invited to the St Patrick's day party at the parish on Saturday, March 18th after the 5 pm Mass - This date is also the eve of the Feast of St Joseph, Husband of Mary.

Please bring a potluck dish to share, and stay for music and fun! There will be a casual, live music jam-session. You are welcome to bring your instrument and join us. Admission is free, but we encourage you to bring a donation to help with the cost of running this event. You don't have to be Irish, but please wear your green and wear your smiling eyes, too! See you there :)



OFFICE NEWS

During the Christmas season, copies of *Holy Moments* were distributed to the homebound. There is interest in acquiring more copies. If you are interested in additional copies for family or friends, please let Maria know – 403-415-6833. A bulk order will reduce the cost of shipping.

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

Deacon Charles will lead Stations of the Cross every Friday throughout lent – 7:00 PM. All are invited to join him.