



Palm Sunday

Mar 24, 2024

St. Stephen's, St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Mar 23, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 24, 2024	Holy Mass - Palm Sunday	9:00 AM Olds 11:15AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Mar 26, 2024	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Mar 27, 2024	Weekday Mass w/ Lenten Lunch	12:05 PM
Thurs Mar 28, 2024	HOLY THURSDAY	7:30 PM Olds
Fri Mar 29, 2024	Stations of the Cross (1/2 hr prior to Service) GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	11:00 Sunde 3:00 PM Didsbury 3:00 Olds
Sat Mar 30, 2024	Confession Easter Vigil	11:00 AM Olds 9:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 31, 2024	Holy Mass	8:00 AM Sunde 9:00 AM Trochu 10:00 AM Didsbury 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds - CANCELLED

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF

Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac
Deacon – Charles Johnston –
Retired

Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin
Office Admin – Mia MacDonald
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<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>

Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic
Office Hours

Mon – Thurs 9-2:30

Friday 9-Noon

Stat Holidays - closed

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 – Sunde

1st Friday Mass – April 5, 2024 7PM

Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –

Friday - 10:00 AM

In case of inclement weather, the
Marian Cenacle and Chaplet may be
cancelled.

St. Anthony - Didsbury

April 13, 2024 - 2nd Sat Mass – 7PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners, People of God,

Prayerful Lent and God's manifold blessings!

At this point in our Lenten journey, it is tempting to grow weary of the spiritual disciplines we have taken on. Today's readings inspire us to remain faithful, in grateful response to a God who loves us so much. What's more, these readings give us wonderful guidance on just how to make this grateful response. In our first reading, from Ezekiel, the prophet speaks God's own words to us. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live... I have promised, and I will do it, says the Lord." Our God wants only goodness for us. He wants to be so closely united to us that we are one with Him. And He has promised He will do it. But only if we allow Him. He will not force His way into our lives. That would not be loving and God is Love itself. We must invite Him in. We must make room for Him by making Him the priority of our lives. Putting God first is a grateful response that is very pleasing to Him. How can we please God by putting Him first? Our second reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, gives us good instruction. "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh... you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you." To be "in the flesh" means that we allow our own selves — our whims, our pleasure, our comfort-seeking — to determine our daily decisions. To be "in the flesh" is to spend our time, talent and material gifts primarily on ourselves. When we are in the flesh, we leave no room for the Spirit of God to fill our thoughts, our hearts and our souls. The disciplines of Lent and the disciplines of a stewardship way of life are wonderful gifts that free us from too great an attachment to "the flesh." The sacrifices we make in a particular way during this holy season, and every day when we truly embrace a stewardship way of life, are not meant to restrict our freedom and joy. Quite the contrary — they are tools to help us find the real freedom and joy that only come when we make room in our lives for God. In fact, the more we allow God to take over every aspect of our lives, the freer and more joyful we become. And our loving God is always ready to renew His Spirit within us whenever we find ourselves led astray by the temptation to selfishness. Today's Gospel passage from John recounts Jesus' raising of His friend, Lazarus, from the dead. In Jesus' poignant reaction to the death of Lazarus and the grief of his sisters, we see once again how closely our God identifies with us and all of our sufferings and burdens. His tenderness and compassion teach us that we can safely surrender our lives to Him knowing that He will care for us. His raising of Lazarus from the dead demonstrates His power over all things, even death itself, reminding us that it would be foolish not to surrender to such an awesome God! As we journey ever closer to the powerful days of Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord, let us intensify our Lenten resolutions and our stewardship way of life. Let us invite the Holy Spirit to take over more and more of our lives. By Easter, we will be freer to rejoice in Him and truly pleasing to God. It is also God's call and tremendous blessing to pray and to care and look after our sick and elderly brethren, especially the dying and those who need the last rites of the Church whether it is day or night, please do not hesitate to contact me at 780-3521524 or 403-4156183. This is also a ministry and the Sacrament of Healing entrusted by Jesus to His Church. Blessings!

Yours devotedly in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

HOLY THURSDAY - During the Holy Thursday service, incense will be used after Communion when the Blessed Sacrament is processed through the church to the altar of repose in the foyer. If you have sensitivities or an intolerance to incense, you may wish to move to the foyer prior to the procession.

There is no monetary collection on Holy Thursday. You are, however, asked to bring a donation of non-

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST COMMUNION – First Communion classes will resume on Saturday March 23, 2024. Participants will have received a email from the Sacramental Prep team.

CONFIRMATION - March 17th – Class this weekend. The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with us on June 9, 2024

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Please join the Confirmation Class as they lead the Teen Stations of the Cross on Friday Mar. 22nd at 7 p.m.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

On behalf of the couples who attended the Marriage Preparation course at St. Stephens on March 1-2, We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Judy & Kathy and their band of fabulous angels. You shared your love of Christ with us in a way that truly made us feel blessed. We appreciate all the hours of preparation and work that went into making the weekend memorable. God bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely,
C & J Bach

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – PARISH BATHROOMS

Have you ever wondered how the washrooms stay clean or how there is always toilet paper on the roll? We have a wonderful group of volunteers who help with this, however, our group is getting smaller. Some of our teams are getting older and no longer physically able to do the job as easily as they once could, and we need to find some replacements. We are looking for individuals or teams of 2 who would be able to dedicate approx 1 hr, one week a month, on a rotating schedule. Please contact Sandy Heilman if you are able to help out. 403-556-0264.

CALL TO PROTECT - TRAINING

Next Session is Saturday March 23rd, 2024. 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM via Zoom.

Register :<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GAobpmjacMseyyLCr4xoEuiNmphJkJFxiIxP07r2Eg>

Click on this link below to learn more about the Call to Protect Training. If you are volunteering within the Parish with our vulnerable – working with the youth of all ages, seniors and other, then this training is mandatory. <https://caedm.ca/calledtoprotect/>

HANDICAP PARKING

As we move through the busy Lenten season and approach the Triduum weekend where we will see extra visitors and higher attendance for Mass, it is very important that we DO NOT PARK beyond the Four Handicap spaces allocated in the front. Cars or trucks parked beyond the four spots impede the Fire Lane and make it difficult for vehicles to drive through to the parking by the rectory. We thank you in advance for adhering to this parking rule.

YEAR AT A GLANCE -



MONTH	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
Total Income	39366.77	20692.4
Total Expense	49091.75	26496.69
Total - End of Month	58596.59	52183.29

We are seeing a discrepancy between our income and our expenses as 2024 rolls out. January reflects Insurance payments to the Archdiocese as well as the first installment of the Cathedricum payment. We have noticed that we haven't recovered 100% from the pandemic. Envelope boxes that haven't been picked up, parishioners who haven't returned completely back to Mass – both young and old, has an impact on our monthly contributions.

We will include an update like this again in April to reflect where we are at the end of March.

EASTER TRIDUUM MINISTRIES

Sign-up sheets are posted in the foyer for Liturgical ministries for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. If you are able to assist, please sign up as soon as possible. Sign-up sheets will be removed on March 25, so please sign up prior to that date. Please note: if you are signing up for either Adult Server or Altar Server for Good Friday, you are expected to participate in the Stations of Cross as Cross Bearer and Candle Bearers prior to the Good Friday Service. The Stations of the Cross start promptly at 2:30 p.m.

TRIDUUM MASS SCHEDULE

ST. STEPHEN'S MASS TIMES

Holy Thursday	7:30 PM	Olds
Good Friday	11:00 am	Sundre
	3:00 PM	Didsbury
	3:00 PM	Olds
Easter Vigil	9:00 PM	Olds
Easter Sunday	8:00 AM	Sundre
	10:00 AM	Didsbury
	11:15 AM	Olds

ST. ANNE'S MASS TIMES

Holy Thursday	7:30 PM
Good Friday	3:00 PM
Easter Vigil	8:30 PM
Easter Sunday	9:00 AM

The Donation on Friday will go to the Holy Land and the donation on Sunday will go towards Development and Peace. Watch for the envelopes in pew/foyer.