



St. Stephen's Parish
St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima
Nilo Macapinlac
April 2, 2023

Sat April 1, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00AM Olds 5:00PM Olds
Sun April 2, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00AM -Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00PM Olds
Tues April 4, 2023	Weekday Mass	6:30PM Olds
Wed April 5, 2023	Weekday Mass w/ Lenten Lunch	12:05PM Olds
<i>Easter Triduum Schedule</i>		
Thurs April 6, 2023	Holy Thursday	7:30 PM Olds
Fri April 7, 2023	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES Our Lady of Fatima St. Anthony's Parish St. Stephen's Parish	11:00 Sundre 3:00 Didsbury 3:00 PM Olds
Sat April 8, 2023	Easter Vigil	9:00 PM Olds
Sun Apr 9, 2023	EASTER SUNDAY MASSES Our Lady of Fatima St. Anthony's Parish St. Stephen's Parish	8:00 AM Sundre 10:00 AM Didsbury 11:15 AM Olds No Evening Mass

The collection on Good Friday will be designated to the Holy Land.
There will be envelopes available in the pew.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners,

On this glorious Palm Sunday we rejoice with those who greeted Jesus upon His entrance into Jerusalem, "Hosanna in the highest." As humble as His entrance must have been (He entered the city riding on a donkey.), the crowd, knowing the Messianic prophecy from Zechariah, produced a festive and glorious scene. Of course, as Catholics, we pronounce "Hosanna" at each and every Mass throughout the year just prior to kneeling for the Consecration: "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of hosts... Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest." Thus, this shout of Hosanna is repeated by us over and over and over. However, on this Palm Sunday it trumpets Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem as the Lord prepares to give His life for each of us on the Cross. There is so much meaning throughout our celebration today, so much substance in the readings, that it is almost impossible to truly grasp the totality of it all. Our Lenten journeys are almost over and our exultation on Easter is fast approaching. The reading of the Passion is central to what we do on this Sunday. For one thing it explains the Eucharist, which is at the heart of our faith. In Matthew's recounting of the Passion (It is two full chapters in Matthew's Gospel.) the phrase Son Of God is included four times; the phrase Son of Man is also included four times. Others refer to Jesus as the Son of God; however, He consistently refers to Himself as the Son of Man. In fact, in the four Gospels Jesus refers to Himself as the Son of Man more than 60 times. This is significant to our understanding of the Lord's dual role as God and human. It is as if Jesus wants us to understand that He is human when he calls Himself the Son of Man. Jesus Christ is, of course, conjoined as man and God in one person. In addition, Jesus is consubstantial with God the Father — that is, of the same substance. Palm Sunday is a time when we need to view and accept the Holy Trinity in its entirety. Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday) is a solemnity in the Church. That means it is among the highest ranking feasts in our Church year. According to the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship in their *Paschalis Sollemnitatis*, "Holy Week begins on 'Passion (or Palm) Sunday' which **joins** the foretelling of Christ's regal triumphant proclamation of the passion. The connection between **both** aspects of the Paschal Mystery should be shown and explained in the celebration and catechesis of this day." As we begin Holy Week and prepare for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection on Easter, it is important that we continue to embrace this manifold role represented by Jesus — triumph, joy, death, Resurrection, and salvation. Also, this is a time when we should have a full appreciation of what it means to be a steward — to accept the Lord as our Savior, to recognize that we are gifted, to commit ourselves to sharing those gifts with others, and to take the Light of Christ and bring it to all we know and meet. Now is the time for us to proclaim, "Truly, this is the Son of God." As part of our gratitude, 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

~Are you Catholic and in your last year of High School? Are you planning to attend post-secondary school after graduation? If so, the Didsbury CWL is offering one (1) \$500.00 Scholarship.

Note: The application process requires an essay and two (2) letters of reference.

Deadline to submit application is May 26, 2023

Applications can be emailed to Maxine Moreau max22moreau@gmail.com

~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.



PLEASE NOTE: Please do not park beyond the 4 available Handicap parking spots in front of the church during weekend Mass times. Any vehicles that go beyond the 4 designated spots impede the Fire Lane. We thank you for your attention to this.

FAITH FORMATION

Junior Altar Servers There will be a practice for the senior and junior altar servers on Sunday April 2nd following the 11:15 Mass to prepare for the Triduum the following weekend. Families of servers are invited downstairs for a potluck lunch and social.

The Chosen is an American historical drama television series... It is the first multiseason series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. **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 hall as we watch episodes from *The Chosen* as seen on FORMED

Next Confirmation Class - April 2, 2023

Please join the Journey with Jesus Confirmation class this Friday March 31st as they lead Stations of the Cross.

FORMED 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.

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.

THIS 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

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

Deacon Charles will lead the Stations of the Cross at St Anthony's on Friday evenings at 7:00 PM. All are invited to join him.

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

WHEELCHAIR FUNDRAISER

Father Forsythe Council of St Stephen Parish, K of C, would like to thank all the parishioners, who contributed to the wheelchair fundraiser.

We would like to wind up the drive by April 2, 2023. If you would care to donate, the pledge forms can be found on the display table at the back of the church.

If you have any questions please contact
Paul Caves: 587 796 1179

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 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.

EASTER FLOWERS AND EASTER BREAD



For anyone wanting to donate flowers to help beautify our Church for the Easter Celebrations, they can be delivered on or before April 5th, 2023. There will also be a basket out on Holy Thursday to collect Easter Bread that will be shared with coffee & tea following the Easter Vigil. Your donations are always appreciated 😊

We will have a basket out in the foyer to collect non perishable food items for those in need on Holy Thursday.

EASTER BASKET BLESSINGS



Families are invited to bring a basket of foods to be blessed, that will be shared and eaten among your friends and family on Easter. On Saturday April 8th, 2023, Father will bless Easter Baskets for those that practice this Ukrainian and Polish Easter tradition in the foyer at 12:00 noon. Everyone is invited to bring a basket of food to be blessed.

