

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 7, 2024

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

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

Fri Apr 5, 2024	24 Hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Weekday Mass Holy Mass - 1 st Friday Mass - OLF	24 hrs 9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Sundre
Sat Apr 6, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Apr 7, 2024	Holy Mass <i>Confession and Prayers - Our Lady of Fatima</i> <i>Divine Mercy Sunday - Our Lady of Fatima</i>	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds 2:00 PM - Sundre 3:00 PM - Sundre
Tues Apr 9, 2024	Rosary Weekday Mass - <i>Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	6:00 PM - Olds 6:30 PM Olds
Wed Apr 10, 2024	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Apr 12 2024	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Apr 13, 2024	Confession Holy Mass Holy Mass - 2 nd Saturday - St. Anthony's	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds 7:00 PM Didsbury
Sun Apr 14, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds

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
 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 – Sundre
 1st Friday Mass – April 5, 2024 7PM
 Divine Mercy Sunday – April 7, 2024
 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

My dear parishioners, people of God;

Pope Francis exhorts us with these words: "Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven." The Church is a mother and also a teacher who guides all her children to grow in love and holiness. The Church is also an institution established as the Bride of Christ whose relationship is inseparable and indissoluble, shed by the blood of the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This second Sunday of Easter has been established by the late Pope St. John Paul II as Divine Mercy Sunday. He wrote the beautiful encyclical letter, "Dives in Misericordia" meaning our God is Rich in Mercy. The world is the biggest hospital because the entire humanity has been wounded by original sin that brought death or mortality. But let us not lost hope because we have a divine physician who can heal us, save us and bring life in abundance to us, Jesus Christ.

The key answer is Jesus Christ indeed, who is the medicine and balm of healing Himself for all of us. He who is the fruit of that immortal tree of the Cross becomes the remedy for our salvation and eternal life which He wanted to perpetuate this everlasting memory. At the Last Supper during the institution of the Holy Eucharist, he said: "Do this in memory of Me." What a spiritual paradox that His own very body is wounded and His own glorified body in the Eucharist is the remedy and healing. The Sacraments are instituted by Christ Himself to pour out sanctifying grace for our sake and for our salvation. In the midst of the brokenness of the heart wounded by sin, Christ reconciled us to the Father through His Cross, and poured out this immense grace of healing in the Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation. Do we apply this redeeming grace of God revealed by Jesus to us in this Sacrament? How often do you come to apply this grace in your life? If you come to see your doctor in a regular basis, do you apply this also in your spiritual growth to holiness? To enjoy the merits of His Divine Mercy, we are invited by Jesus to bath ourselves with His redeeming grace and mercy through the Sacrament of Confession. " Whose sins you forgave, they are forgiven them." (John 20: 23)

In the midst of our vulnerability to sickness and dreaded diseases, Christ Himself is our Divine physician. He caress our soul with the oil of healing which probably Adam and Eve were longing at the Garden but they cannot find any herb for medicine. If you felt that you are terribly sick or someone in your family almost dying, do you request that this sacrament would be applied to them? In the midst of spiritual hunger and being famished in the desert, in the land of slavery of sin, vices and drowning to addiction and impurities, do we reconcile to God and nourish ourselves with the Bread of Life, the Holy Eucharist? Do we go to Church every Sunday?

One of my friends emailed this article to me, which we can make as a tool for our reflection on this Divine Mercy Sunday,
THE LORD'S CLINIC.

" I went to the Lord's clinic to have my routine check-up and I confirmed that I was ill.

When Jesus took my blood pressure, He saw I was low in compassion and tenderness, above all with patience.

When He read my body temperature, the thermometer registered 40 degrees of useless anxiety. He ran an electrocardiogram and found that I need several "love bypasses" since my arteries were blocked with loneliness, rejection and could not provide for an empty heart. I went to orthopedics because I could not walk by my brother's side and I could not hug some of my friends since I fractured myself when tripping with envy and jealousy. He is also a great ophthalmologist which he found out I was short sighted, since I could not see beyond the short comings of my brothers and sisters. When I complained about deafness, the diagnostic was that I had stopped listening to the voice of the Lord, I had stopped attuning to the voice of Jesus who spoke to me on a daily basis in my interior life which led to the deterioration of my spiritual life, a life of prayer.

For all of that, Jesus gave me a free consultation at confession. Thanks to his gentleness and richness in mercy. And so, I humbly pledge that once I leave this clinic, I only take the natural remedies he prescribed through His words of wisdom and truth:

Every morning, take a full glass of gratitude and of sense of appreciation. When getting to work, take one spoon of peace and meekness. Every hour, take one pill of patience, one cup of friendship and one table spoon of humility.

When getting home, take one dose of loving tender care. When getting to bed, count your blessings and take two caplets of clear conscience. Do not give in into sadness or desperation for what you are going through today. God knows how you feel because He became human in Jesus Christ. He embrace you dearly close to His Sacred Heart.

God's purpose for you is simply perfect. He wants to show you things that only you can understand by living what you are living and by being in the place where you are now. May God grant you for every storm, a rainbow, for every tear, a smile, for every care, a promise. A blessing in each trial and for every problem life sends---a loyal and faithful friend to share! For every sigh, a sweet song and an answer to each prayer, let God carry you for there is no problem too big that our God cannot solve it.

I humbly entrust you to God's loving mercy and tender embrace....I implore His priestly blessings to you and to all your loved

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

CONFIRMATION - Apr 7, 2024 – Class this weekend. The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with us on June 9, 2024

CALL TO PROTECT - TRAINING

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/>

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Annunciation is regularly celebrated on March 25th, but due to the fact that date was in Holy Week, it was moved to April 8th. In honour of Our lady of the Annunciation, we will have a special rosary at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday April 9th, immediately preceding Mass. Let us pray for all unborn babies, and all pregnant mothers.

The Solemn Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 PM – please note that incense will be used at this Mass for those with sensitivities. Refreshments will be enjoyed following Mass.

Parish Council AGM



The annual Parish AGM is fast approaching on Saturday May 4, 2024 following the 5:00 PM Mass.

Your presence at the Parish Pastoral Council Annual General Meeting is highly encouraged as we need your representation so all the parish community can gather to better understand the activities within St Stephen's Parish. We look forward to seeing you on May 4th

.Annual reports will be available beforehand for you to review.

DIDSBURY CWL – HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Are you Catholic and in your final year of High School? Are you planning to attend post-secondary school after your 2024 graduation? If so, you may be interested to know the **Didsbury CWL** is offering **one (1) \$500.00** high school scholarship.

Applications are available by emailing Maxine Moreau at: max22moreau@gmail.com

Deadline to submit application is May 24, 2024.

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus are holding a pancake breakfast on April 21st after the 11:15 Mass. All are welcome to attend. Free-will offering only. For information, text or call Paul Caves 403-438-3713 OR Jessie Bugaoisan 403-443-9217. Also the Knights are having a membership drive that same week-end. For more information on membership contact Dan Killoran 403-415-5627.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The following was found on www.thedivinemercy.org. I have pulled an excerpt from this page to share in the bulletin.

A MERCIFUL ACTION

“Our world is starving for God’s love and mercy. Be the one who gives it freely to those in need. Ask St. Faustina to guide you and to pray for you. Search your heart and pray to stretch yourself more than you have in the past when carrying out your merciful actions. Ask our dear Lord for his help. Do your very best to teach other about Divine Mercy. You can be an important part of getting Jesus’ Divine Mercy to the world- one person at a time. “

A PRAYER OF MERCY FOR THIS WEEK

Dear Merciful Jesus, help me to pray with greater fervor

Light a holy spark in me and help me spread Your Divine Mercy message everywhere, never shirking this duty from embarrassment or laziness.

I want to do my best to carry out this devotion so that others will be enlightened about Your Divine Mercy.

Mother Mary, please protect me from all evil and grant to me the graces that I need.

Saint John Paul II, please pray for me, Saint Faustina, pray for me, All the angels and Saints, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in you. Amen

