

Jesus the good Shepherd

John 10:11 | believers4ever.com

April 21, 2024

**St. Stephen's, St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima
Fr. Nilo Macapinlac**

Sat Apr 20, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Apr 21, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Apr 23, 2024	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Apr 24, 2024	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Apr 26 2024	Weekday Mass w/ Holy Trinity School	9:15 AM Olds
Sat Apr 27, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Apr 28, 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
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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 – May 3, 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 4th Sunday of Easter and God's manifold blessings to you!

In the First Letter of St. John, from which our Second Reading comes, John declares, "Beloved, we are God's children now." St. John also provides us with our Gospel Reading. In that passage the Lord speaks of being the Good Shepherd. It reinforces the idea of us being the children of God as Jesus says, "...and there will be one flock, one shepherd." Jesus is certainly our Good Shepherd. Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is also called Good Shepherd Sunday and "World Day prayer for Vocations. It always occurs at this time of year, although Jesus is our Good Shepherd every day and every hour. Let us pray for the increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life and not to forget to pray for our respective pastors and parish priests who shepherd the parishes, the flock that God entrusted to them. May their hearts be patterned to the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for His sheep, which is what Jesus did for us, His children. Throughout the Acts of the Apostles, we are treated to St. Peter preaching. Today's First Reading is another example of that. Five separate times in Acts Peter preaches. His emphasis is always on Christ's Resurrection. In one way or another in every sermon Peter states, "God raised him from the dead." In association with Peter's stress of Jesus' resurrection is the call for repentance. Peter tends to remind us that if we truly repent, our sins are forgiven. He tells us that not only are we forgiven, but we are saved, But Peter did not merely proclaim Jesus as a way of salvation, but that He was really the only way to salvation. As he states in today's reading, "There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved." Peter explains many times that Jesus provides us all hope, that "our hope is in the Lord." He is the Good Shepherd on whom we must rely. Just as St. Peter wants us to understand and appreciate what Jesus did for us, St. John (in his First Letter, our Second Reading) wants us to know how much God loves us. John asks us to "see what love the Father has bestowed on us." John tells us we need to not only be aware of it, but also to ponder and meditate on it intently. Do we really do that? It is important. What might keep us from doing that? Perhaps we feel God must prove His love before we accept it. It may also be doubt, the unwillingness to trust God's love because our lives may be filled with hurts and the pain of living. Sometimes it may just take us time to gain a complete understanding of God's love for us. The idea that we are all God's children is reinforced many times in Holy Scripture. On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, we need to be aware that we remain in the Easter Season. The Easter Season is a continual celebration of the once central mystery of our Church, that Jesus gave His life for us by dying on the Cross. He saved us from our sins. We have reflected previously on why the image of a shepherd and sheep is an important one during Jesus' time. To be a shepherd in Jesus' time required living a life of total self-giving. On our sacred journey with the Risen Christ, our Good Shepherd let us be mindful of the needs of our sick brothers and sisters, **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.**

Due to changes regarding patient privacy within Alberta Health Services (AHS), if you or someone you know is admitted to the hospital, please inform those admitting staff that you are of the Catholic faith and consent to a visit from a Catholic Chaplain. It is essential that you state your Catholic religion and that you give consent for a visit from the Catholic Chaplain. You will not be able to receive a visit unless consent is given and noted on your file. If you have an upcoming surgery/procedure, you can ask your Parish Priest for the Sacrament of the Sick before being admitted to the hospital.

Easter Blessings to all!

Yours devotedly in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song."

- John Paul II

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST COMMUNION – The next class for Sacramental Prep will be on April 27, 2024 from 9:00 – noon.

CONFIRMATION - There will be no class this weekend. The next class will be April 28 th, 2024. Donna will be taking pictures on this day, so come prepared with your best smile. 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, the n this training is mandatory. <https://caedm.ca/calledtoprotect/>

MENS' BOOK STUDY – *The Screwtape Letters*

Attention **men** of the parish! If you are interested in participating in a book study of C.S. Lewis's classic Christian story, *The Screwtape Letters*, we will be holding our second meeting Monday, April 22nd at the church. The book offers a thought-provoking look into the little ways the devil tries to separate us from God. We will read the passages during the meeting, so you do not need a copy of the book to participate. If you have any questions, please contact John Templeton (403) 438-0548

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

THIS WEEKEND !! 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 as well this week-end. For more information on membership contact Dan Killoran 403-415-5627.

You may have noticed the wheelchair on display in the foyer as you entered the church. The Knights of Columbus have, in the past, sponsored the delivery of thousands of wheelchairs to destinations here in Canada and around the globe. They are asking for your help again this year to help purchase more of these chairs. Each chair costs \$195.00 and for any contribution of \$20.00 or more you will be sent a tax-deductible receipt. Last year, you helped raise enough money to pay for 14 wheelchairs and the Knights thank you for your generosity! If you are interested in contributing to this worthy cause, information and pledge forms are available in the foyer. If you have any further questions regarding this project please see Paul Caves.

OUR LADY OF PEACE – 2ND ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP

Our Lady of Peace is planning a bus trip to Edmonton in support of the March for Life on May 9, 2024. You can pre-register by email olpeace.innisfail@caedm.ca by calling the Our Lady of Peace parish office which is open : Tuesdays – Fridays 9:30am – 2:30pm 403-227-3932 .

The poster attached to the bulletin has more info for anyone interested.

Youth Night – Holy Trinity School – Red Deer Catholic School Board

Attention all youth!

This coming Tuesday, April 23rd, at 7:00 is **EDGE** Night here at St Stephen's. Youth in grades 6 – 8 are invited to attend this Catholic Middle School Youth Ministry Program that provides a safe, fun place for youth to find a solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about the faith, and most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way.

We hope that we will see you there!

MARIAN DEVOTION

A Block Rosary is a Marian devotion connected with the visit of an Icon or Statue of Mary that travels from house to house or from one family to another over a set period of time.

We are looking for individuals or families who would be willing to open their homes to Mother Mary and to a weekly gathering of your friends and neighbours during which you would pray for each other, your neighborhood, our town, our country, etc. before passing the statue of Mary on to the next household. For anyone interested there is a sign-up sheet available in the foyer. If you would like more information contact Sheila Dela Cruz or Donna in the parish office.

Listening for God's Voice

Almighty Father, you who have given us life and love, whose creation we are, whose Son redeemed the world, lead us home. We are like sheep listening for your voice, turning to you for guidance. May our hearts find in you an open gate and open arms of love even when we stumble and fall, and hear other voices beckoning. May your voice be clear and calm, and welcome us home to your Kingdom, through Christ, your Son and our Shepherd, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

