



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 24, 2022

Father Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Apr 23, 2022	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Apr 24, 2022	Holy Mass Divine Mercy Sunday Mass (Prayers to begin at 2:00 PM)	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds 3:00 PM Sundre
Mon Apr 25, 2022	Divine Mercy Chaplet - Weekly	9:00 AM Olds
Tues Apr 26, 2022	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Apr 27, 2022	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Friday Apr 29, 2022	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM
Sat Apr 30 2022	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM Olds
Sun May 1, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 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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Sstephen102@gmail.com
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<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>
Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic
Be sure to follow our Youth group
@st.stephens_youth_ on Instagram
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

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre

OLF celebrates a monthly Mass on
the first Friday of every month.

OLF Weekly Schedule

Friday – Divine Mercy Chaplet &
Rosary – 10:00 AM
April 24- Divine Mercy Sunday
2:00 Prayers & Confession
3:00 Mass

St. Anthony

May 14th – 7 PM – Holy Mass

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear People of God,

Blessed Octave of Easter! Today is the Second Sunday of Easter; more recently in our Church's history it has become known as Divine Mercy Sunday. Our Gospel reading from St. John is often referred to as the story of "Doubting Thomas" but the passage involves so much more than the encounter with skeptical apostle. It is rich with lessons of Christ's mercy to all, including an encouraging word from our Lord especially for us, His modern-day disciples. While Thomas traditionally takes the entire bad rap for his doubts, we see that none of the Apostles were at their best when Christ first appears to them after His resurrection. The passage says that they were in hiding, cowering behind a locked door because they were afraid of what the Jews might do to them for their association with Jesus. They were paralyzed by fear and doubt. But Jesus appeared right in their midst in spite of the lock on the door. Was it to rebuke them for their lack of faith? To chide them for abandoning Him when He needed them most? To call them out for being so wimpy? Quite the contrary. He comes on a mission of mercy. He comes to offer them peace and the restoration of their relationship with Him. And even more, He commissions them to become ministers of His mercy, by giving them the authority to forgive sins. "Peace be with you," He says. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you.... Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." At that moment Christ gives to all of us the supreme gift of mercy — the sacrament of Reconciliation. What a precious and powerful gift is this divine mercy. This Sunday of mercy in this Easter season of mercy is a perfect time to reflect on how well we make use of the gift of Reconciliation. Do we really appreciate the healing power of this sacrament? The infusion of grace, the freeing power of knowing we are forgiven, the increase in self-knowledge, and intimacy with our Lord? Could we become better stewards of this gift by going to Confession more often and by encouraging our loved ones to do so as well? Today is also an opportune time to examine how generously we offer the gift of mercy to those around us. When Thomas obstinately declared he would not believe in the risen Christ unless he could see for himself the mark of the nails in His hands and put his fingers into the nail marks and put his hands into His sides, our Lord does not become indignant. He offers mercy. Jesus graciously gives Thomas the very thing Thomas is asking for — a real and personal encounter with Him, the chance to literally touch His sacred wounds so as to heal Thomas from his doubts. When we are disbelieved or disrespected, do we respond as Jesus did, with humility and magnanimity and compassion, the very hallmarks of mercy? Interestingly, we will find that the more deeply we embrace the gift of mercy through regular Confession, the greater will be our capacity to offer mercy to others because we will see ourselves as really truly are — forgiven sinners deeply loved by God. Let's commit ourselves to becoming faithful disciples, stewards of Christ's mercy 2,000 years after His Resurrection. We will be those very ones to whom Jesus gave a "shout out" during His encounter with Thomas: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" — in His merciful love. Jesus, King of mercy, we trust in you! Alleluia!

Yours in God's Unfathomable Mercy,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT FOR THE UKRAINE

The Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada has partnered with the Canadian branch of the Papal charity, *The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA)*, to provide immediate humanitarian support for the people of Ukraine. Donations to CNEWA will help equip local Caritas centres to assist struggling families, including those who are displaced and in desperate need for food, shelter, medical attention, and more. Please pray. Stay informed. And if you are able, please consider donating.

Online: <http://eeparchy.com/donate> and select "Aid to Humanitarian Crisis." OR

Mail: The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, 9645 -108 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 1A3. Payable **to:** Eparchy of Edmonton **Memo Line:** Aid to Humanitarian Crisis

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES

The next Baptism Preparation Course will be held on May 2nd & 9th. Anyone who is planning to have a child baptised is required to attend this 2 evening program. Your baby does not have to be born in order for you to participate. Please contact Tara Miller for more information and to register (403-507-1793)

FAMILY LIFE

If you haven't yet shared your thoughts about the synod questions that have been presented in the bulletin, please submit online at <https://caedm.ca/synod/> or call Maria at 403-415-6833 to arrange a meeting.

Our next Prayer and Praise Evening on Monday April 25th at 7 p.m. in the parish hall. Our Lord loves to hear His family singing and praying together. Bring your voices and instruments!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Becoming a member: For any Catholic man, 18 years of age or older, looking to join the local Knights of Columbus and help us put our Faith in Action please contact our Membership Director Brother Dan Killoran at 403-415-5627 or by email at: dankilloran0521@gmail.com

-LAST CHANCE: The Knights of Columbus – Alberta/NWT State Council **Charities Appeal Raffle** ticket sales end on Sat Apr 23, 2022 with the draw on the same day. The Charities Appeal is an online 50/50 Fundraiser. Tickets can be purchased at www.koC5050.com. Please consider making your “In Support Of” selection, at the time of purchase, to our council **04748 Father Forsythe**.

- Are you running out of Sausage? It's time to fill your freezer with Mundare Sausage – the Knights will be hosting a drive thru sale on April 30th from 10-2. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to support the Ukraine. Come on by and get your sausage and support your local Knights of Columbus.

CWL – GARAGE SALE

Our Annual Garage Sale is fast approaching. It will be held Friday May 13 and Saturday May 14. Continue to save your items and watch the bulletin for dates when your items can be dropped off. We need volunteers. Please sign the work board in the foyer. Thank You!

*Anyone who works at the garage sale is allowed to shop early.

Donations Wanted - Garage Sale Raffle Table - The CWL are looking for items for the raffle. If you have a new item you would like to donate, purchased or crafted, it would be greatly appreciated. Please leave your donation in the photocopy room, marked as being a raffle item. Also, donations for the bake table are welcome on May 13 or 14. Thank-you.

ST STEPHEN'S YOUTH – Upcoming events

May 19th - St. Stephen's Youth Night – 7:00-9:00 in the church hall. Join Jeannette for a Hunger Games activity for youth in grades 6-9. We invite youth in grades 10-12 to join us as youth leaders, and we are looking for adult supervisors in order for this event to run. Please contact Monica Andrew if you are able to help. More details to follow.

June 17th - Holy Trinity School – Live Action Crusades - from 7:00-9:00. Join Peter for live action Crusades. More details to follow.

FRANCISCAN SOCIETY

Did you know..... that there is a local Franciscan fraternity that meets on a monthly basis at St Stephens? With St Francis of Assisi as our Seraphic Father, we are lay people who try to more closely follow the gospel way of life through both contemplation and action in our day to day lives. If you would like to deepen your spirituality, are 18 years or older, a practicing Catholic and wish more information please call either Audrey Gross (403 586-4260) or Kathy Caron (403 507-7288) for more information. Pax et Bonum!

FOOD BOX - Donations

Thank-you to all who have been donating food items for our parish food bank. Due to your generosity, we can't accept anymore donations at this time because we have no space to store the food. Dropping your donations in the bins at the grocery/pharmacy stores would be appreciated by the Olds and District Foodbank.

BREATHE – Catholic Marriage Conference

Catholic Marriage Conference – Canmore May 27-28 – The Shrine Church of our Lady of the Rockies. *Early Bird* special from April 5th to 12th \$275 per couple – Limited Capacity. Regular Price after April 13th – 350.00.

Includes 7 sessions, His and Hers Marriage guidebooks, complimentary coffee, tea and snacks. Hotel accommodations and meals not included. Couples are responsible for booking their own accommodation. www.catholicmarriageandfamily.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are excited to offer our Children's Liturgy program again! Two amazing volunteers have stepped forward to run the program starting Sunday, May 8 until the end of June. This program is for preschool aged children to participate in during Sunday Morning Mass. No need to register, but if you have any questions, please call Theresa at 403-559-6843

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

