



May 5, 2024
St. Stephen's, St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima
Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

Fri May 3 2024	24 Hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Weekday Mass First Friday Mass - Our Lady of Fatima	24 hrs 9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Sundre
Sat May 4, 2024	Confession Holy Mass Annual General Meeting - Olds Parish Pastoral Council w/ potluck	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds Following Mass
Sun May 5, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues May 7, 2024	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed May 8, 2024	Weekday Mass Candle lit Rosary for Life	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM - Olds
Fri May 10, 2024	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Sat May 11, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun May 12, 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 - 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
May 11, 2024 - 2nd Sat Mass - 7PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners, People of God,

Prayerful 6th Sunday of Easter and God's manifold blessings to you!

"I no longer call you slaves, [...] I have called you friends" (John 15:15). These words, spoken to us by the Risen Lord, should be a source of abundant joy and the certain hope for whatever the future holds for us. They are the roots of our life, ever new, always given in a passionate love for Christ, for the Truth and for all humanity. These words are the bearers of a radical new relationship between God and humanity. They reveal something that humanity, in its human condition and sinfulness, could never have imagined: that the Son of God, the only Son of the Father, calls us His friends. We should probably think again about what this word 'friendship' really means. Like 'love', it has been used and abused to such an extent that it seems today to be almost emptied of its real meaning. But Jesus explains to us in today's Gospel what the authentic friendship of God really means. The Lord tells us that the status of friends is, as we might put it, qualitatively superior to that of servants. This seems obvious to us today when think of the idea of servitude as against our rights. The condition of a servant seems to us to be clearly unworthy of a human being, who should be able to live freely and able to achieve our great ideals. Yet we can see that this way of understanding the words of Jesus is incorrect. It's incorrect in the historical context of the time, and in terms of the unique relationship which is being discussed. The relationship between God and humanity goes deeper than our simple understanding of the words 'friend' and 'servant'. It is not just a relationship between one person and another, but a relationship between man and His Creator and Redeemer. The situation of servitude before God was, in fact, what made Israel the chosen nation. Israel was called out of slavery in Egypt and put above all the nations of the world to serve the Lord. It was, and is, an honour and privilege for a people to be chosen and called to be servants of God. Now, through grace, we can say that God has truly descended into our midst in order to raise us up to His Presence. In Christ, we see the plan of the Father fulfilled. He is the real promised land, that was prepared for us in the womb of the Virgin Mary. We are not like Moses, the servant of the Lord (c.f. Deut 32: 52), destined only to see the promised land from a distance. We are able to enter and dwell there: *"as the Father has loved me, so I have loved you [...] I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father"* (John 15: 9, 15). This is what is so radically new in this friendship. Humanity, chosen and loved by God, created and called to serve Him, is now destined for a love which is beyond compare. *"A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). The Son of God, made man, gives His whole Self and lifts us up towards the Father. He opens the door of his dwelling and welcomes the faithful to the wedding feast. By choosing us, which really means that He called each of us personally, Christ gives us the joy of sharing in His Life and Sonship. We become participants, as St Peter says, in the divine nature (c.f. 2 Peter 1:4). Animated by this new and profound communion with the Risen Lord, that accompanies us always and everywhere, we implore the Blessed Virgin Mary, Refuge of Sinners, Protectress of the Unborn, Our Lady of Fatima, to help us to 'remain' in the love of Christ, to love one another and bear fruit as befits the children of God. Amen! Let us be vigilant and be prayerful for the Culture of Life and civilization of Love. We are called by God to defend human life from conception to natural death. Easter blessings to all!

Yours devotedly in Christ the Lord, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

"A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

CALL TO PROTECT – UPCOMING TRAINING

Here are the registration links for the next two Called to Protect Workshops:

May 11, Saturday (On-line), 9:30 am: <https://forms.gle/CVWQjsJK6YvsQqkD8>

May 16, Thursday (In-Person at St Charles), 6:30pm: <https://forms.gle/G4RZ793xGknwTJEo8>



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST COMMUNION – Next class will be 11, 2024.

CONFIRMATION - Class this Sunday at 10:00. The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with us on June 9, 2024

PARISH LIBRARY – VOLUNTEER NEEDED

If you are someone who has a love of books, and would be interested in leading our group of volunteers in the library, we need you! We need someone to work with our small team to oversee the process of reviewing books that get donated, assess current inventory to ensure they are timely and appropriate for the library and oversee our little library. This is a very flexible role that can work with any schedule. If you are interested, please see Mia or Donna. Thank you to Gerry Wiper for her many years in this role. Her dedication and passion for the library is very much appreciated.

Parish Council AGM and Potluck – THIS WEEKEND



The annual Parish AGM with potluck is this Saturday, May 4th, 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

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 – Wheelchair Fundraiser & Highway Clean up

~ You may have noticed the wheelchair on display in the foyer as you entered the church. In past years, the K of C has sponsored the delivery of thousands of wheelchairs to destinations in Canada and around the globe. They are asking for your help to purchase more of these chairs. Each chair costs \$195.00 and for contributions of \$20.00 or more you will receive a tax-deductible receipt. Last year, our Parishioners helped to purchase 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, please see Paul Caves.

~Join the Knights of Columbus, your premier Catholic partner for financial services, for a free financial webinar to learn more about how life insurance can help you protect your family's financial future. Online webinar on **Wednesday May 15th at 5:30 pm**. Our Council number is 4748 (to be entered when registering.) The link for registration is: <https://tinyurl.com/KofCMay15>. You will receive a return email with a link to be used on the day. For more information or guidance, please contact Dan Killoran 403-415-5627. Thanks!

~**THIS WEEKEND** - The Annual Highway Clean up is this weekend. The Knights are looking for volunteers/families from the Parish to assist with the Highway clean up. We will meet at the Parish at 8:30 am on Saturday May 4, 2024 in the church parking lot and will form a convoy and head out to our section of highways.



MARCH FOR LIFE

March for Life: Please join us for the following events as we unite our prayers and support for Life at all ages and stages.

- Wed. May 8 @ 7pm Candle Lit Rosary for Life
- Thurs. May 9 bus trip to Edmonton for the March for Life with Our Lady of Peace Parish – see poster for details.
- Fri. May 10 7pm Pro-life movie in the church hall –All are invited.

Please contact Sandra (403-507-9021) or Naamah (403-507-2377) if you have any questions.

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.



People of Mission BULLETIN

If anyone is interested in receiving the People of Mission Bulletin that comes from the Archdiocese, you can follow the link below. On the first page of the bulletin, there is a subscribe button that will guide you. In the People of Mission bulletin, you can find links to Archbishop Smith's articles and interviews, events within the Archdiocese, what's happening at different Parishes, etc.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzGxStpPHCqXFQbxGsqbBQmVXGrL>

TRAINING KIDS TO BE CHAMPIONS FOR CHRIST

This year's VBS program is Cat-Chat's: Cathletics and is an Olympic/Sports-themed program where kids will be inspired to set GOALS and AIM for a commitment to excellence in their Catholic faith.

Cathletics VBS will focus on TRAINING kids in the Word of God with teaching on:
The Greatest Commandments, 10 Commandments, Beatitudes, Fruits of the Spirit, and Evangelization.

Date: July 29 – August 2 **Y** 9:00 to Noon

Cost: \$25.00 for one child or \$40.00 per family (two or more children)

Registration Forms are available in the foyer

Are you interested in helping with:

◆Faith Lessons ◆Music ◆Crafts ◆Snacks ◆Games ◆Skits

Please contact Donna in the parish office at 404-556-3084 ext. #4

