



Epiphany of the Lord

Father Nilo Macapinlac

Jan 8, 2023

Fri Jan 6, 2023	24 hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Mass	24 hrs 9:00 AM Olds
Sat Jan 7, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Jan 8, 2023	Holy Mass <i>(Join us for coffee after Mass)</i>	9:00 AM – Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Jan 10, 2023	Holy Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Jan 11, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Jan 13, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Jan 14, 202	Confession Holy Mass	11:00AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Jan 15, 2023	Holy Mass <i>(Catechism and Confirmation classes at 10:00 am)</i>	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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403-556-3084

<http://www.sstephens-olds.ca>
Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic

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

Confession every Saturday in
Olds at 11:00 AM Unless
otherwise posted. .

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre

Mass is celebrated on the first
Friday of every month.

Jan 6, 2023

Adoration 1-6 pm

Holy Mass –7:00 PM

Every Friday – Divine Mercy Chaplet
& Rosary – 10:00 AM

St. Anthony

Mass is celebrated on the second
Saturday of every month.

January 14, 2023

7:00 PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My Dear Friends and Parishioners,

Merry Christmas & a grace-filled New Year 2023! As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God’s countless manifestations in our lives. And, as Christian stewards we are all called to manifest God’s love to each other in the sharing of our gifts. St. Paul describes this beautifully in our second reading in his letter to the Ephesians, saying, “You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for your benefit.” We have all been given unique and wonderful gifts from our good and generous God. He wants us to share these gifts to benefit others and so to give Him glory. Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, also has much to teach us about stewardship — through the actions of the magi. These three kings from ancient days display many aspects of stewardship spirituality which we can apply as modern-day stewards right now. First, we observe that their overriding priority is on honoring the long-awaited King. The magi travel a great distance in search of him. Upon arrival in Jerusalem they immediately begin to ask others where this King may be found, unashamedly declaring that they “have come to do him homage.” Is honor and worship of God our highest priority? Do we order our lives so that Sunday Mass is the most important act of the week for ourselves and our families no matter what else is going on? Second, we observe that the magi, as good stewards, were watching for manifestations of God’s presence in their lives. “We have seen the star at its rising,” they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the “star” of God’s presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others. Third, we observe in the magi that a stewardship journey is not without its difficulties, its twists and turns. Herod tried to take advantage of their goodness, feigning a desire to join them in worshiping the newborn Jesus, in order to hide his deadly intentions. Yet God protected and guided them along their way, and through their cooperation with God’s plan, He accomplished great things through them. Fourth, we observe that the magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God’s presence in their lives, “were overjoyed.” Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God’s presence and gifts to them, simply can’t help but be filled with joy — not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy that the world promises if we just obtain enough wealth or power or comfort — but rather, the deep, unalterable joy that only God can give. Finally, we observe that the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, that they prostrated themselves before him. To prostrate oneself is to make a total offering of oneself in humility, recognizing the greatness of the One before them; it is an act of worship. And as a further act of worship, they “opened their treasures and offered him gifts.” This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagantly loving God. Let us rejoice in God’s manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead. 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

If you are interested in picking up a print copy of Father’s synopsis of the weekend’s homily from the bulletin, please sign up on the list on the Spiritual Development table in the foyer and they will be available before the Masses on the weekend

If you know of someone who is new to the Parish or have crossed paths with an individual who is having trouble finding their way back after the Pandemic, we encourage you to touch base with Father Nilo or the office. We would love to hear from you.

FAITH FORMATION

To start off the New Year with good spiritual reading, you may wish to listen to the *Bible in a Year* podcasts or *Catechism in a Year* podcasts with Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins on the *Ascension Press Presents* website. Both will help to deepen and know our faith. For families, consider the *Holy Heroes* website or Kendra Tierney's *Catholic All Year* for family faith activities all year round in addition to the wonderful resources that can be found on FORMED.org with the free membership through the Parish.

Calling all young people! We have several junior altar servers in training, but we need more! If you have made your First Communion, you are eligible! Please contact Fr. Nilo, Donna at the parish office or Maria at 403-415-6833.

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.

A quote from "A Biblical Walk through the Mass"

The Mass involves a real sacrifice- the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who in His death on the Cross offered His life as a total gift to the Father and redeemed the world. This is crucial to understand-and absolutely amazing to realize! The Mass does not merely recall or symbolize Jesus' death on the Cross. It sacramentally makes present Christ's redeeming sacrifice, so that its saving power may be more fully applies to our lives. " *Dr. Edward Sri- A Biblical Walk through the Mass*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Contest Winners – Thank you to all who entered the Keep Christ in Christmas contest sponsored by our Knights of Columbus. The response was great!

Congrats to the following winners;

Grade K-2 – Seinna Torres

Grades 3-4 – Eli Robertson

Grades 5-6 - Matt Torres

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

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster

Contest – Make sure to grab the entry form for the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest from the back of the church. We look forward to seeing your creative entries. Entries are due on Dec 21, 2022

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION, CONFIRMATION & CATECHISM CLASSES

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION:

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.

ST. STEPHEN'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Our Annual Garage Sale is fast approaching.

It will be held Friday January 27/23 and Saturday January 28/23.

Continue to save your items.

Watch the bulletin for when your items can be dropped off.

We need many volunteers. **Please** sign the work board in the foyer. Thank You!

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

RAFFLE TABLE ITEMS - Once again, we will have a Raffle Table at the Garage Sale. We are collecting donated items to be included in the Raffle. If you have an item that is new in box or never used or if you are a talented and crafty person who would like to donate a piece of your work, we appreciate the donations. The Raffle table is always well received by those in attendance and we appreciate the donations from our Parishioners! Items that generate some excitement include: Paintings, woodwork, handcrafted items, decorative items, small appliances, If you have any questions – please contact Sandy Heilman – 403-556-0264.

Made me smile

I had a great start to the New Year ! On a morning stop at Tim Horton's, I made my way through the drive thru and when it was my turn to pay, I was told the vehicle in front of me paid for my order. After a few moments of "oh my goodness" and "oh how nice" I was able to pay it forward to the car behind me.. I can only hope that they decided to do the same.

It is never ceases to amaze me how one simple act of kindness can have such a big impact – how one person's actions can set in motion the course of a day for another. I guess that's why there are numerous books on the topic.

I encourage us all to find ways to make someone smile. I found a website that discussed different biblical stories of Jesus that overflow with acts of kindness – the article tells us to consider how Jesus impacted the world with such a gentle force that we still see the fruit of his kindness today – through love, joy and healing. Jesus may not have had a Tim Horton's drive thru, but if we strive to be like Jesus, just think of the impact we can have.. MM

