



DO NOT *Be afraid*

St. Stephen's Parish Bulletin – June 25, 2023

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

Sat June 24, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	Available upon request 5:00 PM Olds
Sun June 25, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 5:00 PM ** Olds
Tues June 27, 2023	NO MASS OR MORNING PRAYER THIS WEEK AS FATHER NILO AND DONNA ARE AWAY.	
Wed June 28, 2023		
Fri June 30, 2023		
Sat July 1, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	Available upon request 5:00 PM Olds
Sun July 2, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM - Trochu 11:15 AM - Olds 7:00 PM - Olds

Please note: Father Thankachan will be presiding over Mass while Father is away from June 21 – July 1st. Mass on Sunday evening will be at 5:00 PM.

Father Thankachan will be available for Confession before or after Mass, however, the scheduled Confession will be cancelled.

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 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
 1st Friday Mass – July 7, 2023
 Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM
 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –
 Friday - 10:00 AM

St. Anthony - Didsbury
 No Weekend Masses during the
 summer months of July and August.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners,

Today's readings call us to tackle the challenging issues of fear and trust — two concepts on opposite sides of the same coin. They must be confronted and dealt with by all of us who wish to live the stewardship way of life. In our first reading, from Jeremiah, the prophet expresses sentiments we have all felt at some point in our lives, when he says, "I hear the whispering of many: 'Terror on every side!'" Perhaps this "whispering" comes from the culture that insists we must think of ourselves, our own interests, our financial comfort first — only when we are certain that our own needs are met can we think of serving God and sharing with others. Perhaps when we consider stepping out of our comfort zones, the fear-inducing whispers come from within us — "you're too weak, too selfish, too broken to really live as Christ's disciple." Yet, just when Jeremiah is nearly overcome with fear, he remembers the truth, and it is just as true for us today. "The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." Of course! St. Paul reminds us in our second reading, from the letter to the Romans, just how amazing this Mighty Champion is. "For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many." In other words, the safest and sanest move we can make is to put all our trust in the Lord, who is so good to us, this God who cannot be outdone in generosity. Even so, the Lord knows that facing down our fears and choosing to trust Him with all areas of our lives is an ongoing challenge for us. He is generous with reassurances to us throughout the Scriptures. Today's Gospel passage from Matthew is a case in point. In the span of eight verses, Jesus addresses the topic of fear four times: "Fear no one. "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.", "Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body." "So do not be afraid." And the reassurance continues. "Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted." Notice that Jesus says, "your Father" in describing God's intimate knowledge and tender care for each one of us. He is truly "Abba," our Dad, Who knows us inside and out. In fact, this intimate knowledge and tender care are precisely why He reassures us over and over again not to fear, but to trust in Him. With that, let us all breathe a huge sigh of relief. All is well. Our Father knows us through and through, sent His Son to save us, and will always take care of us. Let's stop wasting any more time with fear. Instead, let's put all our energy, all our time, our talents and our treasure into trusting this great God, and using all that we are and all that He has given us to bring Him glory. As part of our renewed life and an act of gratitude, let us always be ready in looking after the needs of those around us. Charity begins at home. 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.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

I GO before you always



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL & SUMMER CAMP OUT

Registration forms for the St. Stephen's Campout on Fri. July 21st-Sun. July 23rd will be available on the Spiritual Development table as well in the foyer. There will be someone available at the Spiritual Development table following Sunday Masses leading up to the Campout to accept registrations forms, receive money or answer any questions you might have.

Vacation Bible School 2023 is coming! Vacation Bible School will run from July 10-14 this summer. Ages 3-11 are welcome! This program will run mornings from Mon-Fri with a family wind-up party on our last day! If you are available to volunteer to help us run this camp, please contact Theresa 403-559-6843. We are looking for adult leaders in Faith, Games and Crafts as well as youth volunteers to help guide the children. Sign-up sheets will soon be available in the church foyer.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CAMP

More than a thousand volunteer and contracted hours have gone into preparing Our Lady of Victory Camp for relaunch in July. We need your help with our final push at a work bee on Saturday, June 10, 2023. We are seeking ONE HUNDRED volunteers who can spend the day (or half the day) with us as we get ready for summer 2023. Jobs at camp include cleaning buildings, organizing supplies, yardwork, and finishing work on the projects we've been working on throughout the spring. Please contact Deacon Claude Baril at 403-896-3745 or email cbaril53@gmail.com to let us know you're coming.

VOLUNTEER TEA

Join us this Sunday, June 25th for our annual St. Stephen Volunteer Appreciation Brunch following Mass. It's our way of saying Thank You to all our Volunteers for your time and service to the Parish. We look forward to seeing you there.

ARTS & ENVIRONMENT - *Information for all*

The Arts & Environment committee is missing (3) rectangular glass candle holders that are a main part of their liturgical displays. If you have seen or know where these might be, please notify the office.

The Arts & Environment supplies are available to use "within" the Parish Hall for events and functions. However, it is important that these items be cleaned and returned to the storage room after use. We ask that items do not leave the premises unless you have requested permission from the Arts and Environment committee. Our team comes prepared to decorate or update weekly décor and it can disrupt productivity if items are not where they should be. We thank you for your cooperation with this.



FORMED.ORG

The FORMED subscription has been renewed! We encourage you all to take a moment on a rainy day – check out the videos and programming you can watch as a couple, as a family with young children – there is something for everyone. www.formed.org

We have heard wonderful comments about those that are using it with their families, their prayer groups, in teachable moments with young kids, watching together with your partner and many other situations. We would encourage you to make a donation towards our Formed subscription, as it is a costly subscription. You can include it in your weekly donation with a reference to “FORMED” or you can e-transfer the Parish at ststephen102@gmail.com. If you haven’t had a chance to use it and are interested, call Mia for assistance and she will walk you through it. It is very easy to navigate.

OFFICE NEWS

The office will move to Summer hours beginning the week of July 3rd. The office will be closed on Mondays and Fridays and will have normal hours of 9 -2 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. As always, in caring for our sick and elderly, the dying and those who need the last rites of the Church, please do not hesitate to contact Father Nilo at 780-3521524 or 403-4156183.

The Bulletin schedule for the summer will include one edition for July and a second for the month of August. If you have anything that you would like to see in the July or August bulletin, please get that to the office as soon as possible.

The CWL would like to send a very big *Thank You* to their special Guardian Angel who gave of his time and energy to paint the C- Can. It looks fantastic!

“THOUGHT” – FULL CORNER

“Once we discover that some moments are holy, some moments are unholy, and our choices can guide a moment in either direction, life finally begins to make sense”

Matthew Kelly – Holy Moments

In his book “Holy Moments” Matthew Kelly helps us to identify ways where we can connect our daily activity and our everyday actions with the greater meaning and purpose of life. Throughout the book he delves into the question “What is a Holy Moment?” He describes a Holy Moment “as a single moment in which you open yourself to God. You make yourself available to Him . You set aside your personal preferences and self interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is calling you to do.” Within the book, Matthew Kelly gives us the task to “begin today”. He tells us that this isn’t an idea that needs to be researched or studied for years. There are no special qualifications that are required. We can implement this immediately – we have the ability in this moment “to collaborate with God and create Holy Moments.”

If you haven’t had an opportunity to read this book, I highly recommend it. It is a very simple, yet powerful read that makes you stop and question how you have made decisions in your life up to this point and to ask yourself what truly guides you in this process?

If you come across a passage or read something you would like to share, feel free to email Mia at ststephen102@gmail.com. I will do my best to find room in the bulletin in our “Corner full of thoughts”