









# February 2023 ~ St Stephen Parish



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1 Holy Mass 9:00</b> Marion Cenacle 7:00 (Sundre) SFO Meeting 7:30 	<b>2</b> Homeschool Gathering 1-4:00  <b>Presentation of the Lord</b>	<b>3 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> 24 Hour Adoration (Olds) CWL Exec Meeting 10:00 (Olds) Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:00 (Sundre) Adoration 1-6:00 (Sundre) <b>Holy Mass 7:00 (Sundre)</b>  <b>Saint Blaise/Saint Ansgar</b>	<b>4 Holy Mass 5:00</b> **Reconciliation 4:15
<b>5 Holy Mass 11:15</b> Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 <b>**Holy Mass 5:00</b>  <b>Saint Agatha</b>	<b>6</b> PPC Meeting (Didsbury) 7:00 Baptismal Prep (Olds) 7:00  <b>Saint Paul Miki &amp; Companions</b>	<b>7 Morning Prayer 9:00</b>	<b>8 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> Marion Cenacle 7:00 (Sundre) KC Meeting (Didsbury) 7:30	<b>9</b> Homeschool Gathering 1-4:00 CWL Meeting (Didsbury) 6:30	<b>10 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:00 (Sundre) CWL Meeting (Olds) 10:00  <b>Saint Scholastica</b>	<b>11 Holy Mass 5:00</b> **Reconciliation 4:15 <b>Holy Mass 7:00 (Didsbury)</b>  <b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b>
<b>12 Holy Mass 9:00</b> Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 <b>**Holy Mass 5:00</b> 	<b>13</b>	<b>14 Morning Prayer 9:00</b>  <b>Saint Cyril &amp; Saint Methodius</b>	<b>15 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> Marion Cenacle 7:00 (Sundre)	<b>16</b> Homeschool Gathering 1-4:00 CWL Meeting 6:00 (Olds)	<b>17 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:00 (Sundre)  <b>Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order</b>	<b>18 Holy Mass 5:00</b> **Reconciliation 4:15
<b>19 Holy Mass 11:15</b> NO Catechism NO Confirmation Class <b>**Holy Mass 5:00</b>	<b>20 Family Day</b> <b>Parish Offices Closed</b> Baptismal Prep (Olds) 7:00 Adoration (Didsbury) 9-2:00 	<b>21 Morning Prayer 9:00</b>  <b>Saint Peter Damian</b>	<b>22 Holy Mass 9:00 (Olds)</b> <b>Holy Mass 5:30 (Olds)</b> <b>Holy Mass 7:30 (Trochu)</b> 	<b>23</b> Homeschool Gathering 1-4:00 PPC Meeting (Sundre) 7:00 Benedict Gathering 6:00 Biblical Walk 7:15	<b>24 Morning Prayer 9:00</b> Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:00 (Sundre)	<b>25 Holy Mass 5:00</b> **Reconciliation 4:15
<b>26 Holy Mass 9:00</b> Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 <b>**Holy Mass 5:00</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28 Holy Mass 9:15</b> With Students & Staff from Holy Trinity School 			<b>**Please Note that the time change is during the month of February Only</b>	

# 5 Surprising Facts About St. Valentine

A man named Valentinus was martyred on February 14 late in the third century A.D.—this much we know. But when it comes to details about the life of St. Valentine, legend often replaces fact. As you celebrate this Valentine’s Day, find out the truth about the man for whom the day is named, as well as some other intriguing facts about history’s most romantic holiday.



## 1. The St. Valentine who inspired the holiday may have been two different men.

Officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, St. Valentine is known to be a real person who died around A.D. 270. However, his true identity was questioned as early as A.D. 496 by Pope Gelasius I, who referred to the martyr and his acts as “being known only to God.” One account from the 1400s describes Valentine as a temple priest who was beheaded near Rome by the emperor Claudius II for helping Christian couples wed. A different account claims Valentine was the Bishop of Terni, also martyred by Claudius II on the outskirts of Rome. Because of the similarities of these accounts, it’s thought they may refer to the same person. Enough confusion surrounds the true identity of St. Valentine that the Catholic Church discontinued liturgical veneration of him in 1969, though his name remains on its list of officially recognized saints.

## 2. In all, there are about a dozen St. Valentines, plus a pope.

The saint we celebrate on Valentine’s Day is known officially as St. Valentine of Rome in order to differentiate him from the dozen or so other Valentines on the list. Because “Valentinus”—from the Latin word for worthy, strong or powerful—was a popular name between the second and eighth centuries A.D., several martyrs over the centuries have carried this name. The official Roman Catholic roster of saints shows about a dozen who were named Valentine or some variation thereof. The most recently beatified Valentine is St. Valentine Berrio-Ochoa, a Spaniard of the Dominican order who traveled to Vietnam, where he served as bishop until his beheading in 1861. Pope John Paul II canonized Berrio-Ochoa in 1988. There was even a Pope Valentine, though little is known about him except that he served a mere 40 days around A.D. 827.

## 3. Valentine is the patron saint of beekeepers and epilepsy, among many other things.

Saints are certainly expected to keep busy in the afterlife. Their holy duties include interceding in earthly affairs and entertaining petitions from living souls. In this respect, St. Valentine has wide-ranging spiritual responsibilities. People call on him to watch over the lives of lovers, of course, but also for interventions regarding beekeeping and epilepsy, as well as the plague, fainting and traveling. As you might expect, he’s also the patron saint of engaged couples and happy marriages.

## 4. You can find Valentine’s skull in Rome.

The flower-adorned skull of St. Valentine is on display in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome. In the early 1800s, the excavation of a catacomb near Rome yielded skeletal remains and other relics now associated with St. Valentine. As is customary, these bits and pieces of the late saint’s body have subsequently been distributed to reliquaries around the world. You’ll find other bits of St. Valentine’s skeleton on display in the Czech Republic, Ireland, Scotland, England and France.

## 5. You can celebrate Valentine’s Day several times a year.

Because of the abundance of St. Valentines on the Roman Catholic roster, you can choose to celebrate the saint multiple times each year. Besides February 14, you might decide to celebrate St. Valentine of Viterbo on November 3. Or maybe you want to get a jump on the traditional Valentine celebration by feting St. Valentine of Raetia on January 7. Women might choose to honor the only female St. Valentine (Valentina), a virgin martyr in Palestine on July 25, A.D. 308. The Eastern Orthodox Church officially celebrates St. Valentine twice, once as an elder of the church on July 6 and once as a martyr on July 30.