



St. Stephen's Parish Bulletin

September 10, 2023

St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima

Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Sept 9, 2023	Confession is cancelled due to scheduled Funeral Services. Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Sept 10, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15AM Trochu 7:00 PM - Olds
Tues Sept 12, 2023`	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Sept 13. 2023	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Sept 15, 2023	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Sept 16, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Sept 17, 2023	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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Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic

Office Hours Mon- closed

Tue – Thurs 9-2pm

Fri – closed

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 – Sept 1, 2023

Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –

Friday - 10:00 AM

St. Anthony - Didsbury

Mass is cancelled for September.

Any changes will be noted during
the announcements at St. Stephen's
Mass and shared on Facebook.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear Parishioners: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you! We are now on the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. Today's readings are all about relationships. Among the many lessons we have learned as a result of the global pandemic is the deep importance of the relationships and communities in our lives. Our families, our neighbors, our friends and our parish family need us and we need them — not just for survival, but to be our best selves, and to help each other on the path to heaven. Our readings today show us how we can be good stewards of these vital relationships, beginning with the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel. God says to Ezekiel, "You... I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me." Because of our Baptism, we are all "watchmen" for one another. We have been given the gift of our Catholic faith and we have a responsibility to lovingly and generously share that gift. As Christian stewards, we must take this call to heart every day of the week and in every setting in which we find ourselves. This can seem overwhelming at first. Are we called to keep a sermon in our back pocket at all times? Not exactly. St. Paul gives us simple instruction in our second reading from Romans to guide us in our dealings with others. He reminds us what Christ Himself taught: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love is the overarching principle that guides us to be good stewards of our relationships and communities. True love means seeking the good of the other. Sometimes, love requires us to speak up when it would be easier to remain silent — other times, love calls us to keep our mouths shut when we would prefer to "put someone in their place." In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus further refines this instruction on good stewardship of our relationships, even when they involve conflict. He says, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." What timely advice for the modern-day steward. In this age of social media, it is tempting and all too easy to take to Twitter or Facebook to vent our frustrations about someone who has offended us. This is not love. But neither is allowing a brother (or sister) to sin against us without speaking up. Jesus teaches us to confront the offending person directly and discretely — with the goal of restoring the relationship if possible. This is how we steward our relationships even through rocky waters. Later in this passage, Jesus speaks to us of the power and beauty of community life. "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Christian stewards, God has designed us in such a way that we must help each other on the journey towards heaven. Let us take care to steward our relationships well. As part of our renewed life as disciples 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. Blessings!

Yours devotedly in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION - Confirmation

The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on that day. Sign up for the *Journey with Jesus* to prepare! Registration forms will be available on the Spiritual Development table in the foyer, and can be submitted to Donna in the office. This is for all youth who will be at least 12 yrs. old on or before June 9, 2024! **There will be a short information presentation following the 11:15 Mass on Sunday September 17th for all parents or guardians of the confirmandi.** Registration forms will be available as well as the *Decision Point* books which will be used this year. Cost of books is \$12.50. For more information, contact Maria at 587-796-0903.

Classes will continue for those who began their journey last spring.

THE SECULAR FRANCISCANS

The secular Franciscan's will begin gathering again in September in the upper room at St Stephens. This year they will be using the book "Ten evenings with God" by the amazing theologian and author Ilio Delio.

If interested in learning more about Saint Francis of Assisi and the secular Franciscan's, please call Audrey Gross 403-586-4260 or Kathy Caron 403-507-7288 for more

RCIA

If you know anyone interested in entering the Catholic Church and/or completing their Sacraments of Initiation, please contact Dan Killoran at 403-415-5627 (call or text) or leave your name at the office. We will be having classes starting this Fall. Before then, we will need to have an interview to get each person's background so proper plans can be made. Thank you

PRO LIFE ROSARY PROJECT - CANDLELIGHT ROSARY RALLY

1. In combination with the Spiritual Adoption program beginning this month, Zoe has made some pro-life rosaries that will be for sale following the Masses this weekend. Proceeds from the sale will go to funding future rosaries, and the rest will go to a non-profit pro-life organization. If you would like to donate towards this worthy project, please write Rosary Project on an envelope with your donation which can be placed in the collection plate, or cash/cheque brought to Mia or e-transferred to the parish office. Donations of beads of all sizes, broken rosaries or ones no longer used would also be gratefully accepted. There will be a basket on the Rosary table.
2. A Candlelight Rosary Rally to be held Fri. Oct. 13th at 7 p.m. in the church to pray for pro-life causes. There are so many issues today- Our Lady's rosary has won many battles in the past, and we need Her more than ever now!

CATECHISM

CATECHISM TEACHERS NEEDED!! Please contact Theresa Templeton 403-559-6843

Catechism classes for Grades 1-4 will be starting up on Sunday, September 24 at 10am. To register please contact Donna in the parish office

FORMED SUBSCRIPTION – TRY IT TODAY

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.

FOOD BANK DRIVE & PREP

Mark your calendars for the annual Mtn View Food Bank Drive with the Church of the Latter Day Saints and our Parish on September 23rd. It requires some walking, dropping off the donation bags Sept 18, 19th or 20th, and picking up the donations on the 23rd. Sounds like lots of work but really isn't and better yet there is no door knocking, no soliciting and no stress. For more information contact Tara Miller. Signup sheets will be in the foyer of the Church in September.

Bag Preparation - On September 12th we will be meeting in our church hall to count out the donation bags for each route, all are welcome, just bring a stapler with you.

ANNUAL PARISH TURKEY SUPPER

Look for a sign up board in the foyer. Please sign up NOW and make note of the date and time that you or your items are required at the church. The sign up board will be removed on Tuesday Oct 10th. A phoning committee will be calling parishioners who have not signed up to fill in any spots after that date.

“THOUGHT” – FUL CORNER

I am hoping to collect thoughts or quotes from you, the parishioners, to share in our Corner full of thoughts. If you have a favorite, or something you come across that resonated with you, I would love to hear about it. You can share it with me via email or drop a note in the collection if that’s easier. Thank you to those who have already shared one of your favorites.

“GOD DOES NOT GIVE US MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE”

The Parish has a number of families who have had to test this theory – families who have young adults and teens with serious medical issues that they are encountering, others with loved ones they are accompanying on the final leg of their journey and families with loved ones, young and old that are struggling with their day to day lives. I can only imagine the number of times that they questioned if God had overestimated their ability to deal with hard things. It is true we don’t always get exactly what we ask for because God can have different plans in mind for us. However, have you ever stopped to think of how much confidence God has in you? How much he believes that you can weather the storm and come out the other side. How much love and faith he has in your ability to support your loved ones? How many times he has been there in the quiet moments where you doubted yourself, but yet you carried on, and how many times he has put someone in your path just when you needed them? This little statement is so profoundly powerful in its meaning. If you accompany this with “Jesus, I trust in You”, you put that same confidence in him to guide you in your journey.