



Let us fix our gaze upon the Lord...

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

FATHER NILO MACAPINLAC

Jan 23, 2022 Bulletin

Sat Jan 22, 2022	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Jan 23, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Jan 25, 2022	Holy Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Jan 26, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Trochu
Fri Jan 28, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Jan 29, 2022	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Jan 30, 2022	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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<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>

Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic
Be sure to follow our Youth group
@st.stephens_youth_ on Instagram
Office Hours 9-2pm

NEW 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

The new schedule is in effect until
March as authorized by the
Archdiocese.

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre

OLF celebrates a monthly Mass
on the first Friday of every
month.

OLF Weekly Schedule

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

St Anthony's - Didsbury

The monthly Mass schedule will
resume in February on Feb 12,
2022. .

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear friends & parishioners,

We are now on the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Blessings to all of you this New Year 2022! New Year has come and indeed time flies, we are now 2022. Every new year we begin our year with gratitude for the gift of life, hope in the midst of fourth wave, a life anew in the Lord. Some of us strive to have a better lives. As Christians, we believe that there is no better life than a life fully live and rooted in Christ. Some of us aspire to grow more with a deep and intimate relationship with God and so proposes to have a new year's resolution. We've just finished our advent penitential service and reconciliation which lead our hearts inflamed with love and joy at Christmas, the birth of Jesus. Our hearts were purified by the mercy, loving forgiveness and the balm of healing of our Lord in the Sacrament. What a grace-filled gift to oneself and to Christ, the Lord who is our joy at Christmas. I will lead you to reflect this New Year about the piece of a story from the Titanic, a spiritual rescue and total abandonment to the will of God through the ministry of His servant, the priest. An untold story that I hope it would help you ponder how to journey with God this New Year, 2022. The untold story of the Titanic's Catholic priest who went down hearing confessions. The Catholic priest gave up two spots on a lifeboat in favour of offering spiritual aid to the other victims as they all went down with the "unsinkable" vessel. This story is being shared by Patrick B. Craine. He said that amidst all the tales of chivalry from the Titanic disaster there is one that's not often told. It is that of Fr. Thomas Byles, the Catholic priest who gave up two spots on a lifeboat in favour of offering spiritual aid to the other victims as they all went down with the "unsinkable" vessel. A 42-year-old English convert, Fr. Byles was on his way to New York to offer the wedding Mass for his brother William. Reports suggest that he was reciting his breviary on the upper deck when the Titanic struck the iceberg in the twilight hours of Sunday, April 14th, 1912. According to witnesses, as the ship went down the priest helped women and children get into the lifeboats, then heard confessions, gave absolution, and led passengers in reciting the Rosary. Agnes McCoy, one of the survivors, says that as the great ship sank, Fr. Byles "stood on the deck with Catholics, Protestants and Jews kneeling around him." "Father Byles was saying the rosary and praying for the repose of the souls of those about to perish," she told the New York Telegram on April 22, 1912, according to the website devoted to his memory, FatherByles.com. In the words of the priest's friend Fr. Patrick McKenna, "He twice refused the offer of a place in a boat, saying his duty was to stay on the ship while one soul wanted his ministrations." Nearly two weeks after the disaster, The Church Progress in St. Louis, Missouri wrote this moving tribute to the heroic priest: In almost every line that has been written, and in every sentence that has been spoken, there stands boldly out above every other expression a picture of sublime heroism that will be copied into the pages of history. And well it may, for it is deserving of that honor. But when it is, mention should be made of one whom pens and tongues have almost forgotten in their accounts of this awful sea tragedy. Among those who safely reached the land again no one seems to have been aware of his presence on the ship, but we may hope that many who meet him in a blissful eternity will praise God that Father Thomas Byles was there to administer absolution unto them. At this point that we are able to survive this over two years of sinking and almost drowning brought by covid-19 and its variants, let us thank those who serve and minister to us. God sent them to us that we may find a way to get out from this darkest tunnel. With faith in God that lead us to hope, let us fix our gaze upon the Lord whose words are spirit and life. As one Body in Christ, let us be united in our goals in winning souls. Let us be united with the Lord who has come to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, freeing the captives, restoring sight to the blind and proclaiming the year of God's favor. I hope and pray that this new year be a time of safe voyage, a voyage of friendship with God that lead us to a right direction. A new year full of hope and knowing that God is with us, with His grace we can accomplish many things, fulfilling His holy will as we strive daily to conform to His Holy Will. As we pray, "May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven! Amen. Happy New year everyone!

Yours in the Lord always,

Father Nilo Macapinlac

MARIAN CENACLE PRAYER GROUP

If you are a confirmed Catholic – young or old, you are welcome to join the Marian Cenacle Prayer Group on Tuesday evenings from 5-6 PM prior to Mass. If you have a desire to increase and magnify your love for Jesus and Mary, this is the place for you. A personal Cenacle Purpose/Guide will be provided. Please contact Jann at 587-444-1100 if you are interested in joining.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION

Upcoming sessions for Reconciliation gatherings are:

Saturday, Feb 12, 2022, 9 am – noon

Friday, Mar 25, 2022, after school, retreat and sacrament.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

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

ST. STEPHEN'S CWL

CWL is still taking new membership. If you are interested, please contact Laurel Arvey. Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Feb 11 following morning Mass. If you have any concerns contact Jo Fewster.

FAITH & FORMATION

EVERYONE is invited to the Celebration of Marriage weekend to be held on Feb. 12-13th. We will be especially honouring those with milestone anniversaries of 5th, 10th, 12 1/2th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 70th during the year 2022. They will have an opportunity to renew their vows. There will be a special blessing for all those with in-between anniversaries. All parishioners are encouraged to come to support the honorees. In order to plan, we request that all people register for Masses, only for this weekend. Please use the Eventbrite links in the bulletin to register. There is no cost. **We are looking for a photographer to take pictures to commemorate this event.** Please let Maria know if you are available.

If you prefer not to register on Eventbrite, please call Maria at 403-415-6833 and leave a message indicating the names of the couple, which anniversary you are celebrating, and how many family and friends will be attending with you OR stating your name and number of people who will attend with you if you are just coming to support the community by attending Mass.

Eventbrite links

Saturday at 5pm: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebration-of-marriage-weekend-saturday-5pm-mass-registration-248189279817>

Sunday at 9am: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebration-of-marriage-weekend-sunday-9am-mass-registration-251530493477>

Sunday at 7pm: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebration-of-marriage-weekend-sunday-7pm-mass-registration-251535849497>

MUSTARD SEED BACKPACK PROJECT

The collection of items for the Backpack project for the Mustard Seed will wrap up before the end of the month. If you have any items to bring, please do so this weekend. The items that we have collected go toward providing people in need with comfort and hope in these trying times.

If any questions please call Cathy @ 403-556-7784

SYNOD DISCUSSION – *Companions on the Journey*

In the Church and in society we are side by side on the same road.

“Evangelizing the poor: this is Jesus’ mission. According to what he says, this is also the mission of the Church, and of every person baptized in the Church. Being a Christian is the same thing as being a missionary. Proclaiming the Gospel with one’s word, and even before, with one’s life, is the primary aim of the Christian community and of each of its members... In Jesus’ time these people probably were not at the centre of the community of faith. Let us ask ourselves: today, in our parish communities, in our associations, in our movements, are we faithful to Christ’s plan? Is the priority evangelizing the poor, bringing them the joyful Good News? Pay heed: it does not only involve doing social assistance, much less political activity. It involves offering the strength of the Gospel of God, who converts hearts, heals wounds, transforms human and social relationships according to the logic of love. The poor are indeed at the centre of the Gospel.” Taken from: [Angelus, 24 January 2016 | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

- a. To your knowledge, who would you say makes up our church community and by extension, the greater communities of Olds, Didsbury, or Sundre (depending on where you live)?
- b. How do you see yourself interacting or “journeying” with the group(s) you mentioned?

On Wednesday, January 26th following the 9 a.m. Mass, we welcome all who are interested and available to join us in the Upper Room to discuss the Synod questions following a short introduction video by Archbishop Smith. Starting in February, there will be an online opportunity to submit your feedback individually. Pope Francis is calling a synod of bishops throughout the world to discuss the topic: *What is the Holy Spirit asking of the Church for the 21st century?* To aid in their discussion, he has asked all the dioceses of the world to invite all their parishioners to help identify what they feel the Spirit is doing through prayer, reflection and discernment. This synod is an opportunity to listen to what we have to do as a FAITH community walking together toward God. Please read the attached sheet for a more detailed explanation. Over the coming weeks, we will explore the synod questions one at a time on a weekly basis and provide more information. Our prayerful feedback will be entered onto an online portal to the archdiocese. We need to hear from everyone!

Envelopes For 2022 Are Ready To Be Picked Up. These Envelopes Begin in January 2022. Please Remember To Provide Your Name And Address On Your Envelope For The First Month To Allow The Office A Chance To Process Changes.

