

MARCH

2024

St. Stephen Parish

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Holy Mass 9:00 24 Hour Adoration (Olds) Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 Adoration (Sundre) 1-6:00 Holy Mass (Sundre) 7:00	2 Holy Mass 5:00 Reconciliation 11:00 Marriage Prep Weekend Friday - Saturday
3 Holy Mass 11:15 Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 3rd Sunday of Lent	4 RCIA 2:00 PPC Meeting (Didsbury) 7:00 Saint Casimir	5 Holy Mass 6:30 Knights of Columbus Silver Rose Service before & after Mass	6 Holy Mass 12:05 Lenten Lunch after Mass SFO Meeting 7:00	7 CWL Meeting (Sundre) 7:00 Saint Perpetua & Saint Felicity	8 Holy Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 CWL Meeting (Olds) 10:00 Stations of the Cross 7:00 (Olds, Didsbury & Sundre)	9 Holy Mass 5:00 KC Basketball Free Throw 9-Noon Holy Mass (Didsbury) 7:00 Saint Frances of Rome
10 Holy Mass 9:00 Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 Daylight Saving Time Begins 4th Sunday of Lent	11 RCIA 2:00 CWL 7:00 (Olds) 	12 Holy Mass 6:30 Lenten Mission 7:00 "Homelessness"	13 Holy Mass 12:05 Lenten Lunch after Mass KC Meeting (Olds) 7:30 Lenten Mission 7:00 "Human Trafficking"	14 PENITENTIAL SERVICE 7:00	15 Holy Mass 9:15 HTS Mass Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 Stations of the Cross 7:00 (Olds, Didsbury & Sundre)	16 Holy Mass 5:00 Reconciliation 11:00 St. Patrick's Day Family Jam following Mass *all are welcome*
17 Holy Mass 11:15 Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00 Saint Patrick 5th Sunday of Lent	18 Adoration (Didsbury) 9-2:00 RCIA 2:00 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem	19 Holy Mass 6:30 PPC Meeting (Olds) 7:15 Choir Practice  Saint Joseph	20 Holy Mass 12:05 Lenten Lunch after Mass	21 PPC Meeting (Sundre) 7:00	22 Holy Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 Stations of the Cross 7:00 (Olds, Didsbury & Sundre)	23 Holy Mass 5:00 Sacramental Prep 9:00 Reconciliation 11:00 Saint Turibius
24 Holy Mass 9:00 Catechism 10:00 Confirmation Class 10:00  Palm Sunday	25 Chrism Mass - Edmonton	26 Holy Mass 6:30 Choir Practice	27 Holy Mass 12:05 Lenten Lunch after Mass HTS Grade 2 Retreat	28 HOLY THURSDAY Holy Mass 7:30 	29 SERVICES: O O D FRIDAY Sundre 11:00 Didsbury 3:00 Olds 3:00 Stations of the Cross 2:30 (Olds)	30 EASTER VIGIL Reconciliation 11:00 Holy Mass 9:00 
31 Holy Mass 11:15 Holy Mass 8:00 (Sundre) Holy Mass 10:00 (Didsbury)  Happy Easter					Stations of the Cross on Fridays During Lent (Didsbury, Olds, Sundre) 7:00 PM (with the exception of March 1 in Olds & Sundre)	

March 2024 – Overview for the Month

The entire month of March except the very last day falls during the liturgical season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color violet or purple – a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. All saint days that are usually Memorials are shifted to Optional Memorials during the season of Lent. The last day of the month is the beginning of the Easter season.

March 17 - [St. Patrick](#)

St. Patrick is called the "Apostle of Ireland." He established the Catholic Church throughout Ireland on lasting foundations. He traveled all over the country preaching, teaching, building churches, opening schools and monasteries, converting chiefs and bards, and everywhere supporting his preaching with miracles.

Saint Patrick's Saltire or Saint Patrick's Cross is a red saltire (X-shaped cross) on a white field, used to represent the island of Ireland or Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.



[St. Joseph](#)

The only record of St. Joseph is found in the Gospels where it states that he was a just man, of Davidic descent, who worked as a carpenter. His symbol is a carpenter's square and a lily of the Madonna.



[St. Cyril of Jerusalem](#)

The Bishop of Jerusalem, a teacher and scholar, who triumphed in his struggle against Arian doctrines. The moneybag refers to a story that he sold the ornaments of the church to provide food for the poor.



The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of March 2024

For the new martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

A Time of Penance and Promise: Here and there in the stark March landscape, a few plants and trees are beginning to give evidence of the new life that winter's frost and chill had concealed from our eyes. The Church's vibrant new life has been obscured, too, by the austerity of the penitential season of Lent. But that life is indisputable, and it will burgeon forth on Easter as Christ coming forth from his tomb!

We will continue our journey to the cross with our acts of penitence. We will reflect on our mortality (*Remember man thou art dust*) and the shortness of life (*and to dust thou shall return*). We will heed the call, *Now is the acceptable time, now is "the day of salvation* (2 Corinthians 6:2)." Just like Our Lord's earthly life every moment of our lives is leading up to the last moment—when for eternity we will either go to God or suffer the fires of hell.

During this month we will go from the suffering of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday. We will trade the purple of penance for the white of victory and resurrection. The feast of the Annunciation, normally celebrated on March 25, has been transferred to April 8 since it falls during Holy Week.

As the weeks of Lent progress let us not tire of doing our good works and penance, but continue with the enthusiasm of the catechumens on their way to Easter and Baptism. May our Lenten observance be a joyful journey — and not a forced march.

GO TO ST. JOSEPH: John Paul II said, "Because St. Joseph is the protector of the Church, he is the guardian of the Eucharist and the Christian family. Therefore, we must turn to St. Joseph today to ward off attacks upon the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist and upon the family. We must plead with St. Joseph to guard the Eucharistic Lord and the Christian family during this time of peril."

