



Oct 8, 2023

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

Sat Oct 7, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Oct 8, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15AM Trochu 7:00 PM - Olds
Tues Oct 10, 2023	Weekday Mass**	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Oct 11, 2023	Weekday Mass**	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Oct 13, 2023	Weekday Mass **	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Oct 14, 2023	Confession w/ Father John and Father Jiver Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Oct 15, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM - Olds

*** Fr. John and Fr. Jiver will celebrate Mass as scheduled, otherwise, Morning Prayer will be led by Donna*

**** Fr Gurlick, Fr. John and Fr Jiver will be available for Confession upon request****

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF

Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac
Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired

Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin
Office Admin – Mia MacDonald
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Ststephen102@gmail.com
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<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>
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 – Oct 6, 2023
Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM
Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –
Friday - 10:00 AM

St. Anthony - Didsbury
Second Saturday Monthly Mass
Oct 14th – 7 PM - Fr Gurnick

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear Parishioners: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace & Happy Thanksgiving to you! We are now on the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. We have been given so many gifts and blessings by our Heavenly Father. Yet, in our fallen state it is all too easy to take them for granted. Our readings today teach us that we must live with an intentional awareness of our many blessings and use them gratefully to glorify God. Our First Reading, from Isaiah, foreshadows today's Gospel passage. Both passages employ images of a landowner and his vineyard. The First Reading tells the story of a landowner who, with great love and care, creates the perfect vineyard and fills it with the choicest vines. Yet, it fails to produce good fruit. As a result, the landowner allows the vineyard to go to ruin. This is a reminder that while Our Heavenly Father is merciful and kind, He is also just. As Christian stewards, we must continuously fight the tendency towards complacency and instead use our blessings to produce good fruit. Our Second Reading, from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians, is a reminder of one key blessing that is surprisingly easy to take for granted — the gift of our thought life. Our intellect is a gift from God and we are called to steward it well. Lack of discipline in our thoughts can easily lead us down a path of discontentment and fear. St. Paul instructs us rather to "have no anxiety at all." How are we to do this? He tells us, "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." And as it turns out, by turning our thoughts towards God with gratitude, we will be blessed immediately. Paul continues, "Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Paul gives specific advice for intentionally maintaining an attitude of gratitude in our thought life. "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, and if there is anything worthy of praise" these are the things we should focus on. As we develop this habit we will discover a powerful way to navigate life with peace and joy despite the troubles that surround us. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we return to the image of a vineyard in a parable Jesus uses to teach the importance of using our blessings well. It is the story of a landowner who plants a vineyard and leases it to tenants before he goes on a journey. Instead of tending the vineyard, the tenants mistreat the servants in the vineyard and even the son of the landowner, whom they kill. When the landowner realizes what the tenants have done, he puts them to death and leases his vineyard to tenants who "will give him the produce at the proper times." By Baptism, we have received the gift of salvation and membership in Kingdom of God — we are now "tenants" called to work in the "vineyard" and produce fruit for its owner, our Heavenly Father. This calling is a gift from God to be treasured above all other gifts. Jesus makes it clear that if we squander the gift of salvation, we will lose it. It is a sobering truth. So let us live each day with a profound awareness of all that we have been given by God. Let us use our intellect to think on these gifts throughout the day and resolve to use all our gifts for God's glory. We will find peace, joy and purpose as we do. 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

Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn Child

Did you know that at the 4 week mark, which is 6 weeks after conception, the baby's growth is rapid! The baby's brain and spinal cord begin to develop and the heart and other organs are also starting to form. Little buds that will become the baby's arms have begun to take shape. Our little Arabella's, Brittany's, Mary's, Joseph's and Isaac's are well on their journey.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION - Classes start on Oct 23rd, 2023 with a second class on Oct 30, 2023 in the Upper Room of the Parish. Anyone who is planning to have a child baptised is required to attend this two evening program. Please note, the next course is not planned until the New Year, so if you are expecting in the upcoming months, you are encouraged to attend prior to the birth of your baby. Please contact Tara Miller for more information and to register (403-507-1793)

FIRST RECONCILIATION –Sacramental Prep for First Reconciliation and First Communion will begin for children ages 7 and up and their parents. Children must receive their First Reconciliation before receiving First Communion.

Sat Oct 14 – 9 -12 Children Only

Sat Nov 5 – 9 -12 Children and Parents

Nov 25 9-12 Children and parents

CONFIRMATION - The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with us on June 9, 2024. 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! 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.

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. Our Lady has asked us to commit ourselves to praying the rosary with faith for peace in our families, in countries, and in the whole world. In light of so many pro-life needs, there will be a Pro-Life Candlelight Rosary on Fri. Oct.13th at 7 p.m. on the front lawn of St. Stephen's. If the weather is inclement, the rally will be held in the church. Please bring your winter woollies and a candle or lantern. Afterwards, there will be coffee, tea, and hot chocolate with goodies in the parish hall.

CATECHISM

Catechism has started – still time to sign up if you haven't done so already. See the table in the entrance or contact Donna in the parish office

FORMED SUBSCRIPTION – TRY IT TODAY

Have you had an opportunity to check out the videos and programs available on www.formed.org. You can find many devotionals, novenas, videos for your children and families, programs for Baptismal and Sacramental Preparation and more. The topics and options are endless. The site is easy to navigate – no registration or passwords are required, but if you have any questions, contact Mia in the office.

ANNUAL PARISH TURKEY SUPPER

The sign up board is located in the foyer. Please take a moment and SIGN UP early! Please make note of the date and time that the items you are donating are required at the church. The sign up board will be removed on Tuesday October 16th. A phoning committee will be calling on parishioners who did not get a chance to sign up to fill any open spots after the 16th. This is a Parish Function and we need you!

MUSTARD SEED PROJECT

COMPASSION NEEDED

As our weather is getting colder, our hearts go again to the people living in the streets dealing with the upcoming freezing winter. St. Stephens Social Justice Committee is seeking your help with our 5th annual Street Backpack project in partnership with The Mustard Seed. This year with inflation increasing the cost of food and basic necessary items the need for help and compassion is even greater. The items we put in a special backpack for these folks are necessities that provide immediate comfort.

YOUR gift will give them hope and comfort in knowing that someone cares especially for them.

Please pick an item or two from the list below & bring this item to place in the labelled boxes in the foyer. If you would prefer to donate cash, for the Mustard Seed to purchase needed items a cheque can be left with Mia at the office made out to the Mustard Seed.

Thank- you so much for your generosity!

Small Towels	Socks	Deodorant	trail mix and granola bars	Coats
Backpacks	Underwear (New)	Hairbrushes	reusable water bottle	sleep Masks / Ear plugs
Jogging Pants	Hand lotion, body wash, tissues (travel size)	coffee thermos		
Boots	Jeans/Cords (Men/Women)	chapstick, nail clippers, female hygiene products	hand warmers	
Mitts / Gloves	Belts	small flashlight	notebook and pen	blankets
Hand Warmers	Down vests	paperback books	blankets	shampoo/conditioner (travel size)
Mens/Women's T-Shirts		Shampoo/Conditioner (travel size)		

Winter Items: Can be new or clean gently USED

HOSPITALITY

If you, your family or your group would like to host a coffee party, please sign up on the Hospitality Calendar in the foyer. It would also help organizing if the groups could write their activities on the calendar as well once you have checked with the office, so that everyone could see what dates are still open. E.g. Thanksgiving Supper, All Saints' Day Party. .

The Thought-Ful Corner is on hold until I open up some space in the bulletin and have some more thoughts ;)

A Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to all



