



Oct 15, 2023

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

Sat Oct 14, 2023	Confession w/ Fr John and Fr Jiver Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Oct 15, 2023	Holy Mass w/ Fr Gurnick	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM - Olds
Tues Oct 17, 2023	Weekday Mass**	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Oct 18, 2023	Weekday Mass**	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Oct 20, 2023	Weekday Mass **	9:00 AM Olds
Sat Oct 21, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Oct 22 , 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 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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 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

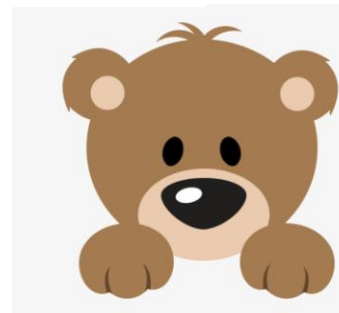
Dear Parishioners: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you on this Sunday of the Laity! We are now on the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. How easy it is, especially in these times, to be consumed by the cares and distractions of the “here and now,” forgetting about what matters most — living for the Kingdom of Heaven. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the virtuous use of our Time, Talent and Treasure, allows us to embrace daily life and all its demands — with eternity in mind. In our First Reading, the prophet Isaiah paints a beautiful and compelling picture of what we can hope for in Heaven. “The LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines.” And not only that, our loving Father will personally heal us of each and every suffering we endured during our lives. “The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face.” How can we say “no” to such an enticing invitation? Yet, so often we are tempted to do just that. We ignore our relationship with God, neglect our prayer and sacramental life, and the call to put others ahead of ourselves. We prioritize the “immediate” over the “eternal.” How do we keep focused on the Kingdom of Heaven? St. Paul shares his secret for an eternity-driven life. In our Second Reading from his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says, “I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need.” In other words, Paul has learned to live the stewardship way of life. What is the secret? It is this: “I can do all things in him who strengthens me.” How? Through this: “My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.” It is so simple! But it is not easy. It takes both courage and humility to live this way. God will supply these to us if we ask. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we return to the image of a feast. To describe the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus shares the parable of a wedding feast that a king gives for his son. The king sends several groups of servants to call the invited guests to come and join the feast. By virtue of our Baptism, we are the “invited guests” that Jesus is describing. How do the invited guests respond? The first group of guests refuses to come. Among the second group of guests, “some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business.” Is this how we respond? Our Heavenly Father is continuously inviting us (reminding us, prodding us) to come and join Him in the Kingdom of Heaven. Not in a far-off future, but right here and right now. If we will put Him first, partake of the sacraments He gives us (especially the gift of His own Son in the Eucharist) we can enter into the Kingdom of Heaven right now. And our example can lead others to join us. So let us embrace the stewardship way of life today! Let us put God first with our Time, our Talents and our Treasure, knowing that we can do all of this through Christ Who gives us strength. God is calling to us today to live with eternity in mind. If we do this, we will be feasting now and forever! 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

Our babies are continuing on their journey. In the fifth week, their little brains and face are starting to develop and the little buds that started to sprout last week start to take on the form of little paddles. Every day something new is happening as growth is continuous and ongoing. A miracle is in the making!



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.

THIS WEEKEND - 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 this weekend – Sunday at 10AM.

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. Join us THIS FRIDAY for the Pro Life Candlelight Rosary Rally at 7 PM. 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. ** The forecast is for wind, so we will plan to have our Rally in the Parish Hall instead. Please bring a candle or lantern. Afterwards, there will be coffee, tea, and hot chocolate with goodies in the parish hall. Bring your family and friends to pray for those who cannot pray for themselves! For more information, contact Maria at 587-796-0903.

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.

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. .

ANNUAL PARISH TURKEY SUPPER

There are still a number of blank spots on the sign up board. This is the last week to sign up. The more spots we can fill, the less work it is for our Turkey Supper team to do to seek out volunteers.

The sign up board is located in the foyer. Please take a moment to see where you can be of help. Make note of the items or time you are needed at the church as the sign up board will be removed after this week-end. . 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

THOUGHT-FUL CORNER

This section is where I would like to include quotes or passages that parishioners have shared with me. We had someone drop off an insert from the dailyword.com.

"I lift up my heart with gratitude"

The author speaks to the impact that gratitude has on them, how it elevates them, gives them a lift of consciousness and circumstance and they go on to say, how is it possible to obsess on topics while they are giving thanks? Similar to a passage I shared earlier from Matthew Kelley, this author shares how Spiritual guidance shines through their mind and heart through their grateful thoughts, how they experience a lightness in their soul as they allow doubt and disappointment to dissolve as they focus on gratitude. Isn't this timely as we just celebrated Thanksgiving – as many went around the table with their loved ones to express what they are grateful for; God, family, good friends, good food – but now we can challenge ourselves to focus on gratitude in our daily lives and allow it to lift us up and guide us to better and more fulfilling outcomes.