



**Nov 5, 2023**

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

Sat Nov 4, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Nov 5, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Nov 7, 2023	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM
Wed Nov 8, 2023	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM
Fri Nov 10, 2023	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM
Sat Nov 11, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Nov 12, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds

**\*\*\* Daylight Savings this Weekend – don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!\*\*\***

*The Book of Remembrance is located in the foyer. Enter the names of your loved ones who have passed, and the book will be placed before the altar before each Mass. .*

#### **PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF**

Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac  
Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired  
Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin  
Office Admin – Mia MacDonald  
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403-556-3084  
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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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass – Nov 3, 2023**  
**Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM**  
**Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –**  
**Friday - 10:00 AM**

#### **St. Anthony - Didsbury**

**Second Saturday Monthly Mass**  
**Nov 11, 2023 – 7 PM - Fr Nilo**

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Parishioners: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you! Thank you for your participation in the life of the parish, in humble service and in sharing your gifts. We are grateful for the gift of our Catholic Faith and the Holy Trinity Catholic School in Town of Olds. Today, we are celebrating Catholic Education Sunday. Blessings to our Catholic educators, Board of Trustees, teachers, and Catechists. Well, we are now on the 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. In many ways being a Christian and being a good steward have everything to do with humility. Jesus is the absolute epitome of humility and today's readings once again emphasize that fact. However, we also must recognize that it is a way of living to which He calls us as well. St. Paul understood what it meant to be humble. For him the focus was always on the faith and on Christ, not on any personal glorification. In the Second Reading drawn from his First Letter to the Thessalonians Paul says, "We were determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as well." This idea of serving, of giving self, is key to living a stewardship way of life. In the Gospel, as we will see, Christ really emphasizes it. Paul makes it clear he was among the Thessalonians to give something to them, not to take something from them. Paul also stresses the love aspect of giving in this way: "...so dearly beloved you had become to us." Paul clearly liked and respected the Thessalonians for many reasons. He points out one particular cause that also has an obvious message for us. Paul says, "And for this reason we too give thanks to God unceasingly, that, in receiving the word of God from hearing us, you received not a human word but, as it truly is, the word of God." Paul consistently taught that the Word comes from God. For Paul this Word was beyond human opinion. Paul did not have "blind faith." He could see how effective it is with those who hear it and believe it. Paul knew that there was power in the Word of God to change lives. The Word of God could not be more powerful than it is the Gospel Reading from St. Matthew. As the Lord has been doing throughout our recent Gospel Readings, He takes to task the "scribes and the Pharisees." Jesus points out that it is all right to "do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example." It is the same message that God provides through Malachi in the First Reading. Nevertheless, it is in Jesus' final reminder in this reading that we find the real jewel among His Word. The Lord says, "The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Jesus was truly the greatest among them, but He always spoke of Himself and viewed Himself as a servant. The basic issue for us as His followers is, "Are we more like the Pharisees or more like the Lord?" We are called to imitate Him and to pursue His philosophy and style. His kingdom is different. In the Lord's kingdom we are measured by how we serve and honor others, not by how we may be served. Do we serve and honor others at all times? 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 to all who promote our catholic-Christian faith and also fostering the Culture of Vocations. This Sunday begins the National Vocation Awareness here in North America. Please include us clergy in your prayers for the success of our study days and mid-term assembly at the Providence Centre in Edmonton next week on November 7, 8, & 9, 2023. Blessings!

Yours devotedly in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

## *Spiritual Adoption of the Unborn Child*

***"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of ....., the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."***

- Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Your prayers CAN make a difference between whether a baby will be born...or aborted. Our prayers can also be a form of spiritual support for both of the parents. Please share the love of life given to you by the Lord of all life and join in spiritually adopting a baby. ([www.spiritualadoption.org](http://www.spiritualadoption.org))

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION** - The second Baptism Class will run this Monday Nov 6, 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 - 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. If you have a child who will be at least 12 yrs old on or before this date, they are eligible to sign up. Registration forms are available in the foyer and can be submitted to Donna in the office. For more information, contact Maria at 587-796-0903. Classes this weekend – Sunday at 10AM.

**\*The Journey with Jesus (Confirmation) class would like to invite parishioners of all ages to their All Saints' Day Potluck and Party on Sunday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> following the 11:15 Mass. Please bring a dish to share in the parish hall and enjoy all our little "saints."**

Thank you to all who attended the Culminating Rosary Rally for the month of the Rosary last Friday Oct. 27<sup>t</sup>. Many thanks to Sheila and the Confirmation class for their efforts to make the Rosary so beautiful.

## PRO LIFE ROSARY PROJECT

Rosaries are still available on the table in the foyer in support of pro-life. Proceeds from the sale will go to Rosary supplies and the rest will be donated 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. Thank you to Zoe Ginter who is running this project and is responsible for making the beautiful Rosaries.

## 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. Ex. Thanksgiving Supper, All Saints' Day Party. .

## PIES, PIES, AND MORE PIES

"We had an over abundance of pie donations for our turkey supper. Leftover pies will be sold in the foyer after mass for \$10.00 each." Proceeds will go towards the Turkey Supper.

## CWL MINI ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, November 25 St Stephen's CWL will host a mini retreat to help us prepare for the coming of Christmas. Father Dan from Mount St. Francis will be here to lead the retreat. The theme is "Rise Up With the Christ Child". The retreat runs from 9 AM until 3 PM. Soup will be provided. Please bring your own sandwich. A love offering will be taken for Father Dan. All ladies are welcome to attend. **Please RSVP to Joanne at 587 796-1634**

## MUSTARD SEED PROJECT

St. Stephens Social Justice Committee is seeking your help with our 5th annual Street Backpack project in partnership with The Mustard Seed. As our weather is getting colder, our hearts go again to the people living in the streets dealing with the upcoming freezing winter. . 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 items, a cheque can be left with Mia at the office made out to the Mustard Seed. Thank- you so much for your generosity!

Backpacks Coats Toques/Mitts Jogging pants boots jeans/ cords socks Small Towels  
Deodorant trail mix and granola bars Underwear (New) Hairbrushes reusable water bottle  
sleep Masks / Ear plugs Hand lotion, body wash, tissues (travel size) coffee thermos belts  
blankets chapstick, nail clippers female hygiene products hand warmers down vest notebook/pen  
small paperback books shamp/cond (travel size) Mens/Women's T-Shirts  
Winter Items: Can be new or clean gently USED

## OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE - CARETAKING

We need to fill our Caretaking role temporarily for the upcoming months. The individual/individuals would be responsible for the cleaning of the Church Building – Main floor, upper level and basement. This does not include Bathrooms or the rectory. It is based on approx 37 hrs a month. If you are interested in this paid position, please contact Mia in the office for more details. 403-556-3084 or [ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto:ststephen102@gmail.com)

## THOUGHT- FUL CORNER

*"Our lives are full of opportunities we don't see. As we make our way through the midlife passage, we begin to question all the expectations that we have allowed to shape our lives. You get to decide – you can have a midlife crisis or a midlife opportunity. You get to choose."* Matthew Kelley – Rocking Chair Prophet

As someone who has a milestone birthday coming up, I find this resonates with me. I have always been someone who chooses "the glass half full" perspective versus the alternative, and I imagine I will continue to do so, therefore I look forward to the "opportunities" that await me. I am a firm believer in making lemonade out of lemons, and looking for the good in a situation. Recently, this perspective was challenged, and my glass was leaning towards less than half full, but it took a moment of prayer and consideration to fill it back up and realize that everything that happens, happens for a reason. We don't always get to choose what happens, but we get to choose how we respond to it –and that simple act can determine whether we face a crisis or an opportunity. MM