



*Nov 19, 2023*

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

Sat Nov 18, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Nov 19, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Nov 21, 2023	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Nov 22, 2023	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM
Fri Nov 24, 2023	Weekday Mass	9:00 AM
Sat Nov 25, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Nov 26, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Trochu

*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  
 4302 57<sup>th</sup> Ave Olds, AB  
[Sstephen102@gmail.com](mailto:Sstephen102@gmail.com)  
 403-556-3084  
<http://www.sstephens-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**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Mass – Dec 1, 2023  
 Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM  
 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –  
 Friday - 10:00 AM  
 St. Anthony - Didsbury  
 Dec 2 – Festival of Faith, Hope and  
 Thanksgiving 6-7 Mass 7:00 PM

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear Friends, Parishioners: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you! We are now on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. Today's readings challenge us to live not for the "here and now," but rather with eternity in mind. We are reminded that we will be called one day to give an account for the gifts God has given us — our physical, intellectual and material gifts — as well as the gift of time itself. We must examine our lives to determine whether we are making the best use of our gifts with the time we have been given to use them. St. Paul gives us a wonderful lens through which to do this type of self-examination, in our Second Reading from 1 Thessalonians. He reminds us of our true identity as disciples of Christ. "All of you are... children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober." We are to live in a way that is counter to the prevailing wisdom, living not for ourselves and for the pleasure of immediate gratification, but rather to advance the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus illustrates this Kingdom-oriented way of living in our Gospel passage from Matthew. He tells the story — commonly known as the Parable of the Talents — of a wealthy man who is about to go on a journey. Before he leaves, the man calls his three servants to "entrust his possessions to them." This should sound familiar. As Christian stewards, we know that all the gifts we have been given are, in truth, the possessions of our Heavenly Father, who has entrusted them to us for our good and His glory. The master in our parable gives to the care of each servant a portion of his money ("talent") commensurate with that servant's abilities. He then goes off and we learn what those three servants do with the talents they have been given. The first two prove to be good and faithful servants — they "immediately" put the talents to use, doubling what had been entrusted to them. The third servant reacted to this responsibility with fear. He did not make an effort to use the talent entrusted him. In fact, he did the opposite — he hid the master's talent, burying it in the ground. He took the safe way, the easy way out. What a tragic response! This servant did not understand his master at all. He failed to see what a privilege he had been given, what an opportunity he had squandered. The master wanted to give all his servants the joy and satisfaction of helping him grow his kingdom. This is what our Heavenly Father wants for us, too — the incredible privilege of helping to advance the coming of the Kingdom of God. Let us embrace the stewardship way of life, using all the gifts entrusted to us — Time, Talents and Treasure — in such a way that at the end of our life on this earth, we will hear these words from our Father: "Well done, my good and faithful servant... Come, share your master's joy." 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

### ***SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY***

**Come and celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary with Solemn Mass on Friday, Dec 8, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Please note, Morning Mass for that day will be cancelled**

### ***FESTIVAL OF FAITH, HOPE AND THANKSGIVING***

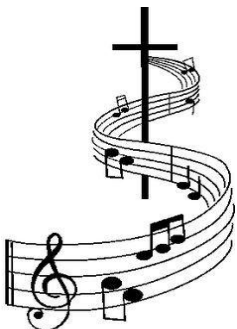
Join the Tri Parish Communities of St. Stephen's, Our Lady of Fatima and St. Anthony's for a Festival of Faith, Hope and Thanksgiving on the weekend of Dec 1 – 3, 2023

Friday Dec 1, 2023 – Our Lady of Fatima – Singing and Praise 6-7 Mass 7:00 PM

Saturday Dec 2, 2023 – St. Anthony's - Singing and Praise 6-7 Mass 7:00 PM

Sunday Dec 3, 2023 – St. Stephen's - Singing and Praise 11:00- 11:15 Mass 11:15 AM

Join us following Mass on Sunday at St. Stephen's for a Potluck Meal to wrap up the weekend. St. Stephen's has received a donation of Alberta Beef and Turkey with potatoes and salad to start off the potluck. Bring a potluck dish to share – suggestions include buns, butter, salads and desserts. Please see insert in bulletin for more information.





## St. Stephen's Music Ministry

St. Stephen's music ministry invites and welcomes ALL children ages 6 and up to join our Children's leader of song, Jenny, in singing songs of praise during scheduled weekend masses. If you have a child who would like to join Jenny, please contact Mary Trenholm. 403-507-9249 or [maryjohntrenholm@hotmail.com](mailto:maryjohntrenholm@hotmail.com). It is approx 1 Mass per month and practices flex as per Jenny's work schedule. They will be leading one of the Christmas Masses, so please let Mary and Jenny know as soon as possible.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**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.

## 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.

## CALL TO PROTECT

Called to Protect training, an abuse prevention training session, will be offered on **Monday November 20, 2023, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm**. The two-and-half-hour session is mandatory for all clergy, employees and volunteers of the Archdiocese who have not yet participated in this training. This will be a Zoom session open for all. Please register. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2zwKx-sA8duBTJ0oOm5Uo7fIWFD3fuHqJ5IDBuhdNIK-1Vg/viewform>

## FAMILY BALLROOM DANCE AND POTLUCK SUPPER



St. Stephen's Family Ballroom dance will be held on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> after 5 pm Mass. Bring a dish to share, and come for the fun!! There will be instructions and then dancing! \$20 / family \$10 / single See you there!

## 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)

## CWL MINI ADVENT RETREAT

On 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**

## ST. STEPHEN'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE - 2024

Once again our annual garage sale is fast approaching. The garage sale will be on Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27, 2024. Please mark your calendars and save your items for donation.

Please note –we do not accept the following items: shoes, undergarments, swimsuits, magazines, encyclopedias, old TVs, VHS cassettes, used mattresses, large sports equipment such as treadmills or spin bikes, no car seats, cribs, strollers or stuffed animals. No big electrical appliances such as stoves, fridges, washing machines, or dryers. Electrical appliances must be in working condition.

We appreciate and rely on the donated items and goodwill of our parishioners and the volunteer hours that go into preparing and organizing this huge sale. We ask that you DO NOT drop off anything that isn't suitable for selling as this causes extra work for the volunteers and additional costs involved in disposing of these items. Thank you for your cooperation!! Watch the bulletin for more details in January 2023.

## MUSTARD SEED PROJECT

This project will be closing soon as we come into Advent. If you have anything you would like to drop off still for the Mustard Seed. Please do so soon. 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

## RDCRS presents an Evening w/ Chris Stefanik - Dec 7, 2023

Red Deer Catholic School Division is proud to host an evening with Chris Stefanick for parents and parishioners. Chris Stefanick is an internationally acclaimed author, speaker, and television host who has devoted his life to inspiring people to live a bold, contagious faith. Chris will be speaking on the ways we can live the Joy of our Faith. Make living joy a part of your Advent journey this year, and join Chris on Dec 7, 2023 at 7 pm at St. Mary's Parish, Red Deer, AB. as he shares the ways we can build new habits, change our thinking, and live a more joyful life.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who helped in making our fall supper a success! We greatly appreciate the help of all our volunteers, the food donations, and the support of our Tri-parish community in this yearly fundraising event.

This year, we had approximately 393 guests who attended or bought take out for our delicious turkey supper. Profits for this year were approximately \$4975.00. Leftovers were donated to Safe Harbour in Red Deer. As well, complimentary meal vouchers were given through the parish office and the local food bank. On behalf of the Fall Supper committee- Thank You!

