



*Jan 28, 2024*

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

Sat Jan 27, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Jan 28, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Jan 30, 2024	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Jan 31, 2024	Weekday Mass Marian Cenacle - Our Lady of Fatima	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Sundre
Fri Feb 2, 2024	24 Hr Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Weekday Mass Divine Mercy Chaplet - Our Lady of Fatima First Friday Mass - Our Lady of Fatima	24 hrs 9:00 AM Olds 10:100 AM - Sundre 7:00 PM - Sundre
Sat Feb 3, 2024	<del>Confession</del> - CANCELLED Holy Mass	<del>11:00 AM Olds</del> 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 4, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds

*Confession on Saturday Feb 3, 2024 is cancelled as Father will be away at the Vocation Rally in Edmonton.*

**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  
[Ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto:Ststephen102@gmail.com)  
 403-556-3084  
<http://www.ststephens-olds.ca>  
 Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic  
 Office Hours  
 Mon – Thurs 9-3:00  
 Friday 9-Noon  
 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 – Feb 2, 2024 7PM  
 Marian Cenacle – Wed - 7:00 PM  
 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary –  
 Friday - 10:00 AM  
 In case of inclement weather, the  
 Marian Cenacle and Chaplet may be  
 cancelled.  
  
**St. Anthony - Didsbury**  
 Feb 10, 2024 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Mass – 7PM

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners, People of God,

Greetings of joy, love, peace and God's manifold blessings!

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Book of Deuteronomy, from which the first reading is drawn, is a series of speeches delivered by Moses to the Israelites. Our reading today is part of the second speech, the major point of which is the importance of the concept of one God and the importance of devotion and allegiance to that one God. Nevertheless, as is true throughout the Old Testament words are spoken and thoughts given that lead us directly to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Moses states, "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen." Moses spoke the word of God as would this new prophet to come. And Moses implored us to listen to Him. Moses cautions about false prophets, but he is very clear on the fact that this new prophet, Jesus, would give us the Word of God with clarity and in ways that we had never heard before. Jesus would truly become for us "the Light of the world." He is one of us; He loves us; and He can guide us to paths of righteousness. This Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time is one of those Sundays when the connection among the major readings is more difficult to see, as each reading makes an important point that can only be connected with an overall view. St. Paul, in the second reading taken from his letter to the Corinthians, speaks of the importance of a single, non-married way of life. Paul is neither condemning a married way of life nor making an abstract statement about the priesthood. Keep in mind that Paul himself never married so it is natural for him to explain the values of being single. For St. Paul the purpose of life was to please God. Paul is not being critical of those who are married, but he is making it clear to them that one of their main purposes should be to please their spouse. Considering being single to be a particular gift so he could concentrate on serving the Lord, Paul is encouraging other single people to see that opportunity and pursue it. The Gospel reading from Mark reminds us how the Four Gospels are unique unto themselves (John's being the most distinctive), and each has a history unto itself. Most scholars agree that Mark was closely associated with St. Peter, and many ascribe Mark's Gospel to what he heard from Peter. For example, Mark has more dramatic details than the other Gospels, and St. Mark uses more Aramaic phrases than any of the other Gospels. It is believed that Peter spoke exclusively Aramaic, and, of course, that was the native tongue of Jesus. In this particular Gospel reading we find Jesus in the synagogue in Capernaum teaching. In those days there was something called the "freedom of the synagogue" so anyone could teach there. However, the people find Jesus different because He teaches "with authority." When You are God, teaching with authority comes naturally. Jesus knew what He was talking about, and He was able to teach the Word of God so effectively because Jesus understood how important it was to be obedient to God. That is sometimes our difficulty. We may understand, as Moses predicted, that Jesus was the Chosen One; He was the One sent by God to teach us and to save us. We may even appreciate St. Paul's perspective that focus on God is so important in our lives. However, when it comes to submitting completely to God, to becoming disciples and stewards as Jesus expects of us, we may not be able to get past the idea of serving, of being subservient to God and others. Even the "unclean spirit" presented in the Gospel acknowledges this respect by saying, "I know who you are — the Holy One of God." We need to yield to the power and presence of the Lord, and we need to be good stewards in that regard. It is also God's call to care and look after our sick and elderly, the dying and those who need the last rites of the Church whether it day or night, please do not hesitate to contact me at 780-3521524 or 403-4156183. Blessings!

Yours devotedly in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

## PARKING LOT RULES

*Please do not park in the area beyond the 4 handicap parking spots at the front of the church. Any vehicle that is parked along the bend risks the chance of impeding emergency vehicles.*

*Thank you*

## MARRIAGE PREP

St. Stephen's will be offering a Marriage Preparation course on the weekend of March 1 & 2nd. The Marriage preparation course is mandatory for anyone planning to get married in the Catholic Church. This includes newly engaged couples and couples who have been married in a civil ceremony that plan to have their Marriage convalidated or blessed in the Catholic Church. Preregistration is required. Please contact Kathy Kemmere (403-994-3364 or Judy Wahlstrom (403) 556-3661 as soon as possible. St. Stephen's offers the course once a year, but there are other courses throughout the Archdiocese that are available.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**FIRST COMMUNION** – First Communion classes will resume in March. Watch for details in the bulletin.

**CONFIRMATION** - If you haven't already booked your date for the Church tour and lunch with Father, please contact Maria – 587-796-0903. Our 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 available to purchase on the table in the foyer where proceeds will go towards a nonprofit pro life organization and to rosary supplies. If you would like to donate towards the Rosary project, you can place money in the envelopes provided or write Rosary Project on an envelope with your donation can be placed in the collection plate or etransferred to the parish office @ Ststephen102@gmail.com Donations of beads of all sizes, broken rosaries or ones no longer used would also be gratefully accepted. . Thank you to Zoe Ginter who is running this project and is responsible for making the beautiful Rosaries

## BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Our next Baptism Prep Course will be held Feb 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. The Baptism preparation course is mandatory for anyone planning to baptize their first child in the Catholic Church. The course helps guide your preparation – to ensure that all new parents understand what it means to baptize their child, to be fully engaged and knowledgeable about your child's first sacrament. If you have any questions, please call Tara at **403-507-1793**. If you are currently parents of a new born or are expecting and will deliver following February, this class is for you.

## IN HOUSE FOOD BOX

We are in need of non-perishable items for the In house food box. We have been able to assist a number of families through Christmas and into the New Year's and are finding our shelves bare. All staples including pasta, rice, soup, cereals, kids snack items, tea, coffee, peanut butter, jams, canned beans and vegetables, canned tuna, ham and chicken etc are needed. If you have any questions or need help deciding what to donate – please call Donna in the Parish office. 403-556-3084 x4



## OFFICE NEWS- ENVELOPES

The envelopes are out on the back table ready to be picked up. They are in alphabetical order by first letter of last name. If you cannot find your envelope, check with the office .

If you need envelopes or automatic contribution for the upcoming year, please see Mia in the office. If you have not used your envelopes or envelope # for more than a year, the number will be reassigned. If you are in this situation and would like to continue with envelopes, please see Mia.

Income tax receipts will be available before the end of January – watch for them on the back table where the envelopes are.

## THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

If you are interested in learning more about The Secular Franciscan Order, we will be beginning an Inquiry Phase here at St Stephen's in February. This introduces you to the formation process of the Secular Franciscan Order. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Audrey Gross – 403-556-2288 or Kathy Caron – 403-507-7288.

## COFFEE PARTY – THIS SUNDAY

There will be coffee following Mass this Sunday – come down to the Parish Hall while the kids are at Sunday School or in Confirmation Class and join in some fellowship. We look forward to seeing you.

## ST STEPHEN'S GARAGE SALE – THIS WEEKEND

It is officially here – Our Annual CWL Garage sale is happening this weekend on Friday and Saturday. Please pop in to support our Parish. So many wonderful items to peruse – one man's junk is another man's treasure!! Our team puts so much time and energy into preparing for this event – we send a big Thank you to all involved!

Don't forget to pick up your baking and get your raffle tickets ☺

**Garage Sale Wrap up Meeting** - Friday Feb 2, 2024 -10 AM – All are invited to come to the meeting and share your experiences. The CWL Garage Sale committee is always looking for ways to improve the process – prep, set up, layout, sale day , etc.

## COMMUNITY – BRIDGES OF LOVE – CERT TRAINING

Our PPC had a brief presentation from Marg and Tom of Bridges of Love. They encourage church communities to be prepared to respond to the needs of the local community if disaster strikes. They have an upcoming CERT course – Community Emergency Response Team training that is aimed at strengthening community safety and preparedness through civil participation. The goal is to increase the ability of a community to provide disaster assistance, bridging the gap between the time of disaster and the arrival of emergency services, encouraging "Neighbours Helping Neighbours".

February 9, 2024 – 6:30 – 8:30 Friday Dessert Evening with Key note speaker – Laura A Stewart – Fire Smart Specialist – "Wildfire Preparedness".

February 10, 2023 - 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM – Training

February 17, 2023 – 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Training

Register through Eventbrite or call 403-649-0087 or email [margpollon@bridgesoflove.net](mailto:margpollon@bridgesoflove.net) for more information. Training Course is \$199.00/person

If you can gather 5 or more parishioners from St. Stephen's to attend the training, the course fee is 150.00/person