



Feb 4th , 2024

St. Stephen's, St. Anthony's, Our Lady of Fatima

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Feb 3, 2024	Confession —Cancelled Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 4, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Feb 6, 2024	Weekday Mass	6:30 PM Olds
Wed Feb 7, 2024	Weekday Mass Marian Cenacle – Our Lady of Fatima	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Sundre
Fri Feb 9, 2024	Weekday Mass Divine Mercy Chaplet – Our Lady of Fatima	9:00 AM Olds 10:100 AM - Sundre
Sat Feb 10, 2024	Confession - Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 11, 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 57th Ave Olds, AB
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
 1st 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 - 2nd 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 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This week's readings extend from Job, a man who needed to be healed, to Jesus healing many in Galilee. Healing is something of which we all are in need, whether it is physical or psychological or spiritual. As much as we may try to avoid it, our lives are filled with pain and suffering of one type or another. Jesus understood that and speaks to it extensively in His teachings. Most of us are familiar with Job, a man who might seem to have been dealing with more than he could handle. Job is the ultimate pessimist. He bemoans his state in life, and in truth he was faced with many challenges. It was as if he wanted to die because he felt that only in death would he find relief from his pain and suffering. As we learn, however, God has other plans for Job; God will offer him both relief and joy in eternity. At times we, too, might focus so much on our own difficulties that we fail to see positives. The greatest positive is that the Lord is with us, both to share and relieve our suffering. Jesus is our hope, and that is where our focus should be. The struggles of Job in many ways parallel our own. Job suffers and he questions how God can let that happen. In spite of his doubts Job comes across as a holy man. As difficult as that may be for each of us, that should in fact be our goal. In spite of all, we need to continue to strive to achieve holiness. St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, our second reading, shows some of the same thoughts and concerns as Job. Of course, we do not view Paul as suffering in the way and to the extent of Job. However, Paul does recognize that he, as is the case with each of us, must fulfill his charge from God, and that is not always easily done. Paul the Evangelist points out that God gives him the strength to preach the Gospel in spite of the response and reaction of his listeners, and regardless whether he receives support from those to whom he is preaching. As lonely and isolated as that may seem, as stewards and disciples, we, too, must be prepared to do what is right and to live out our Christian way of life no matter the consequences. Job and Paul make somewhat indirect references to healing, but today's Gospel from Mark speaks directly to healing done by Jesus. He heals in privacy (Peter's mother-in-law), and He heals publicly: "He cured many who were sick with various diseases." And then the Lord prays. Jesus demonstrates to us that being busy is no reason not to pray; instead it is a reason to pray. Jesus always found time and made time to pray. We need to do the same. A consistent and regular prayer life is an important way we live out our stewardship of time. The Lord prayed not because of helplessness but because of the power He gained from prayer. Lent will soon be here. If we make one change in our lives, perhaps it should be to intensify and increase our own prayer lives. Jesus knew the value of public prayer, but He also knew and experienced the joy of praying alone. "He left and went off to a deserted place where He prayed." St. John Vianney wrote, "Prayer is the inner bath of love into which the soul plunges itself." It is also God's call to pray and to care and look after our sick and elderly, the dying and those who need the last rites of the Church whether it is day or night, please do not hesitate to contact me at 780-3521524 or 403-4156183. This is also a ministry and the Sacrament of Healing entrusted by Jesus to His Church. 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.

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 - Feb 4 – Church tour and potluck for the assigned group this weekend. 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.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAQUE – GARAGE SALE UPDATE

Many thanks to all those who helped with the garage sale in any way and to all those who came out to shop. Your support is overwhelming! Sales are being tallied and we hope to net over \$8000. Thank you from your St. Stephen's CWL.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Our next Baptism Prep Course will be held Feb 5th and 12th 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

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.

OFFICE NEWS- ENVELOPES

The last of the envelopes are on the back table ready to be picked up.

Income Tax Receipts are coming soon! I have a few calls out to people to confirm addresses, etc and then I will prepare the receipts. They should be out by next weekend. If YOU have a change of address or change of info that needs to be shared with the office, please contact Mia at 403-556-3084, email – ststephen102@gmail.com or pop in to see me.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon – Saint Joseph. On Sunday February 18th, prior to the 11:15 Mass, the Knights of Columbus will be offering a prayer service in honour of Saint Joseph and displaying the Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon of Saint Joseph. We will begin about 10:15 and hope you all might plan to attend as we join together to give honour to Saint Joseph – Principal Patron of Canada, patron of the universal Church, and patron of the archdiocese of Edmonton. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Killoran at 403-415-5627. All are most welcomed!

A reminder that K of C dues can be paid via etransfer to matthewcadrin@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY – BRIDGES OF LOVE – CERT TRAINING

Our Pastoral Council hosted Marg and Tom from Bridges of Love at the last PPC meeting. 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 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

THERESA COUPAL - UPDATE

An update from the Coupal family : Theresa has been transferred back to Olds Hospital this week to further her care and rehabilitation. Theresa has been blessed with excellent Caregivers and Therapists on her journey to recovery from her stroke. At this time, No Visitors are allowed as rest is critical during these early days of recovery. The family thanks everyone for respecting this request. They will update our Parish community when the time is appropriate for Visitors. Robert is back home and is managing well with help from drivers and meal delivery. Many thanks to Kathy Kemmere for arranging the Food Train - anyone wanting to help with Meals, can contact Kathy. The family is thankful for all the Love, Support, Acts of Kindness and Concern, and especially grateful for the Prayers. They ask that you continue to storm the heavens with prayers for a positive outcome on Theresa’s journey. God is good!