



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nilo Macapinlac

Feb 12, 2023

Sat Feb 11, 2023	Confession Holy Mass Holy Mass	4:15 PM Olds ** 5:00 PM Olds 7:00 PM Didsbury
Sun Feb 12, 2023	Holy Mass (<i>Catechism and Confirmation classes at 10:00 am</i>)	9:00 AM -Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 5:00 PM Olds **
Tues Feb 14, 2023	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM Olds
Wed Feb 15, 2023	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM Olds
Fri Feb 17, 2023	Morning Prayer	9:00 AM
Sat Feb 18, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	4:15 PM Olds *** 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 19, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds **

CHANGES TO NOTE FOR FEBRUARY

**** Confession Will Be Available Prior To Mass On Saturday Evening Beginning At 4:15. Sunday Evening Mass Will Be At 5:00 PM For The Month As Fr Wilson Has Another Obligation On Sunday Evening.**

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
Sstephen102@gmail.com
 403-556-3084
<http://www.sstephens-olds.ca>
 Facebook – St Stephen's Catholic
 Office Hours 9-2pm

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 - Sunde
 Mass is celebrated on the first Friday of every month.
 Feb 3, 2023
 Adoration 1-6 pm
 Holy Mass –7:00 PM
 Every Friday – Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary – 10:00 AM
St. Anthony
 Mass is celebrated on the second Saturday of every month.
 Feb 11, 2023
 7:00 PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear friends and parishioners, Grace & peace to you! We are now in the 6th Week in Ordinary Time. This week falls the Saint Valentine's Day and special greetings of a Happy Valentine's day especially to our engaged people preparing for their marriage. Today's readings challenge us to reflect on the true state of our hearts as it relates to stewardship. Do we think of stewardship as something we take care of once a year, simply a matter of ticking off boxes on a commitment card — or do we choose to embrace it as a spirituality and way of life that allows us to grow in conformity to Christ every day? Our first reading, from the book of Sirach, teaches that our good God has given us freedom to make this choice: "If you choose you can keep the commandments. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him." What great dignity the Father bestows on us that He does not force us to commit to Him — rather He allows us the freedom to choose Him, even though He emphatically does not want us to reject Him through selfishness and sin. (We read at the end of this passage, "No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin.") Our second reading, from Corinthians, reminds us of the great joy that will be ours if we do choose to commit to God by the way we live our lives. "Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard... what God has prepared for those who love him." Our Heavenly Father is more eager than we can comprehend to fill us with His grace and blessings. But we must choose Him. How do we do this? By keeping His commandments as our first reading instructs — by putting the teachings of our Lord and the Church into practice every day, The concept of stewardship helps us to live out the fundamental choice to put God first. Stewardship is not meant to be a mere external exercise in which we participate on an occasional basis. It is meant to be embraced as a way of life a life that involves a continuous conversion of heart. In our Gospel passage, from Matthew, Jesus illustrates the difference between an external observance of the law and a true conversion of heart. He says to His disciples, "Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." The scribes and Pharisees were the spiritual heavyweights of their day. They checked all the boxes when it came to the proper exercise of the religious practices required of them. Yet our Lord says it wasn't enough. Why? They did not allow those practices to penetrate their hearts and change them internally. Jesus explains with a further illustration saying, "You have heard that it was said... you shall not kill... But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment." Our Lord is asking us not only for exterior acts, but for a true change of heart. In stewardship terms that means seeing everything as a gift from Him, to be used for His glory and the good of others. In the week ahead let us examine the state of our hearts to ask ourselves if we have chosen to allow stewardship to become a way of life for us. Only then we will experience its true depth and heart-changing possibilities. The choice is ours. We are also stewards of relationships, spirituality and mysteries of God. Let us always be ready in looking after the needs of those around us. 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. Thank you!

Yours devotedly in Christ,
Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

We welcome Father Wilson Thankachan back to our Parish Community. He will be presiding over the weekend Masses for the month of February in addition to Ash Wednesday Masses as well.

If you are interested in picking up a print copy of Father's synopsis of the weekend's homily from the bulletin, and they will be available before the Masses on the weekend

If you know of someone who is new to the Parish or have crossed paths with an individual who is having trouble finding their way back after the Pandemic, we encourage you to touch base with Father Nilo or the office. We would love to hear from you.



FAITH FORMATION

Junior Altar Servers Calling all young people! We have several junior altar servers in training, but we need more! If you have made your First Communion, we can sure use you! Are there any children or young people from Didsbury who would like to serve at St. Anthony's Masses? Please contact Fr. Nilo, Donna at the parish office or Maria at 403-415-6833.

Biblical Walk Through the Passion - Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be studying *A Biblical Walk through the Passion* during this Lent. Instead, we will be watching episodes from *The Chosen* as seen on FORMED. Notes on the Catholic commentaries will be distributed, and discussed. Beginning on Thursday Feb. 23rd, at 7 p.m. in the parish hall at St. Stephen's, it will run for 5 weeks.

Anniversary Celebrations - Congratulations to our special anniversary couple, Joe & Isabelle Blatz, who will celebrate their 65th in July! Many blessings and prayers to you!

The season of Lent is coming very soon!

As we *Journey with Jesus* towards the Lenten season, the confirmandi are taking notes in their journals during Mass. If you, too, would like to write down something that really touched you during Mass, such as a line of music, a verse from one of the readings or one of the prayers, or an idea that Father expressed during his homily, there will be pencils and paper available on a table in the foyer. Please don't let your children write in the songbooks.

Mark your calendars for upcoming dates during Lent;
The Parish Mission - Thurs Mar.9th and Fri Mar. 10th.
Stations of the Cross – Fridays throughout Lent.
Parish Penitential Service - Fri Mar. 24th

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Becoming a member: For any Catholic man, 18 years of age or older, looking to join the local Knights of Columbus and help us put our Faith in Action please contact our Membership Director Brother Dan Killoran at 403-415-5627 or by email at: dankilloran0521@gmail.com

CWL

St. Stephen's CWL extends a big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed in any way to the garage sale. Despite the inclement weather, it was a huge success! Our final tally will not be available until all expenses have been determined, however, it would appear we should net approximately \$7,800.00. Our volunteers contributed in excess of 975 hours! Great job! Also many thanks for all the donations, without which we would have nothing to sell!

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL MASSES

Once a month, we welcome the students and staff from Holy Trinity School to Morning Mass. They will join us on the following dates:

Tuesday Feb 28th – 9:15 AM
Wednesday March 15 – 9:15 AM
Wednesday April 19 – 9:15 AM
Wednesday May 24th – 9:15 AM

Mass will begin at 9:15 AM on these dates to allow time for the students to be transported by bus. We encourage you to join us at Mass.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Youth grades 6 and up - mark your calendars!

Friday March 3rd - All Night Glow Bowling in Innisfail

Thursday May 4th - Mantracker

Thursday June 1st – TBD

Times and locations are coming.

For more information, please email monica.andrew@rdcrs.ca

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION, BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION & CATECHISM CLASSES

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION - The second class will be on Feb 20th 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 Fall, 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)

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION:

For students in grades 5 and up who haven't yet made your Confirmation, please come for classes resuming Sunday January 15th at 10 a.m. for an hour in the Upper Room. See Donna at the parish office to register. Cost of the book is \$12.50. We are using the *Decision Point* program by Dynamic Catholic.

Our dates for First Holy Communion gatherings will begin in March.

Saturday, Mar 25, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

Saturday, Apr 29, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

Saturday, May 27, 2023, 9 am-noon Children with parents

OFFICE NEWS

Just a quick reminder to all Parish Committees, Parish groups and all who have occasion to use the Church for meetings and practices that it is necessary to book with Mia in the office. It is important for the office to know when user groups are in the building. We ask that all visitors who come into the church after office hours sign in to the book in the entrance.

For all after hour visitors, we also thank you in advance for ensuring that lights are off, toilets are flushed and a quick clean up is done to the area that was in use. We thank you for your cooperation!

Income Tax receipts are available in the foyer. We encourage you to pick them up from the church to reduce the letters we have to send in the post. However, we will mail them out after two weeks. Again, thank you for your help with this!

Sacred Heart Parish in Red Deer is hiring a Full Time Office Manager. If you are interested or know of someone who would be interested in this position, please have them contact Karen Boston at Sacred Heart - Reception.SHRD@caedm.ca
P-403.346.2618 for more information.

DUE TO ICY CONDITIONS IN THE PARKING LOT DURING WINTER MONTHS,
WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO DROP OFF YOUR FAMILY AT THE DOOR OF THE
CHURCH.