

February 27, 2022
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Father Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Feb 26, 2022	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 27 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Mar 1, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM
Wed Mar 2, 2022	Ash Wednesday	9:00 AM Olds 5:30 PM Olds 7:30 PM Trochu
Fri Mar 4, 2022	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Mass Holy Mass w/ Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross	24 Hr Adoration 9:00 AM Olds 6:30 PM Sundre 7:00 PM Didsbury
Sat Mar 5, 2022	Holy Mass	5:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 6, 2022	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds

We welcome Father Joseph Nguyen who will be joining us this weekend.

Ash Wednesday Mass times are listed.

Stations of the Cross will begin on Friday March 4th in Sundre and Didsbury. St. Stephen's will begin the second week of the month due to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament .

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
 Be sure to follow our Youth group
 @st.stephens_youth_ on Instagram
 Office Hours 9-2pm

NEW 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

The new schedule is in effect until
 March as authorized by the
 Archdiocese.

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre

OLF celebrates a monthly Mass
 on the first Friday of every
 month.

OLF Weekly Schedule

Friday – Divine Mercy Chaplet
 & Rosary – 10:00 AM
 Stations of the Cross – 7 PM

St Anthony's - Didsbury

March 12, 2022 – 7 PM.
 Stations of the Cross – 7 PM

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear People of God,

My dear friends in Christ, Blessings to all of you! We are now on the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Next Wednesday we will begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday liturgical celebration. Ashes will be blessed and the rite will be celebrated. Fasting and abstinence is highly observed unless you are exempted due to age and health reasons. Prayer is also the key on this journey of faith. Charity is the queen of all virtues, a grace moments of extending a hand to the needy and the poor around us through our almsgiving. Today's readings exhort us Christian disciples to form ourselves — mind and heart — in imitation of Christ so we can better reflect His goodness in our daily lives. The first reading from Sirach offers timeless counsel: "the fruit of a tree shows the care it has had: so too does one's speech disclose the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he speaks." Jesus uses the very same analogy in today's Gospel reading from Luke. "A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit." Jesus explains, "A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good... for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." Everything we have is a gift from God to be used for His honor and glory. This includes the gift of speech and, even more broadly, all forms of modern-day communication — email, text, Twitter, Facebook and the rest. What comes forth from our mouths, or keyboard, or phone, is a reflection of what is in our minds and hearts. Our ability to communicate with each other is itself a gift that we must steward well. In the same Gospel passage, Jesus reminds us, "No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher." We must therefore be trained by Jesus our teacher so that our minds and hearts will be aligned with His mind and heart, and our speech (and actions for that matter) will reflect His goodness. How do we obtain this training? Thankfully, we have an abundance of supernatural "training materials" at our disposal. First and foremost, we can spend time with the Teacher, our Lord: we can study His life through reading the Scriptures, and we can listen and speak with Him in quiet, regular times of prayer. We can expand our faith knowledge through study of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. We can find healing and strength in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Amazingly, we can partake of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. The more intentionally and frequently we make use of these means, the more we will become like our Teacher and Lord. Then, all that we do and say (and tweet and post) will bring others closer to Him. This is the life's work of the Christian steward. It is privileged work indeed.

Devotedly yours in Christ, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

LAUDATO SI – Our Parish Community

Following Pope Francis' leadership and the 1.3 billion Catholics who care for creation, Laudato Si has come up with ways for you, your family and community to pray and take action for God's creation this year. For example, please feel free to add to the *Laudato Si* display on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please write any acts of love on the sticky notes, and attach them to which of the *Laudato Si* goals they fulfill. Examples: writing a letter on a prolife issue to the government, praying the rosary for the unborn, taking bottles and cans to the recycling depot, shoveling the sidewalk for an elderly neighbour, etc. Check the board to see what the school is doing.

"A lovely idea is to plant a tree in honor of a Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation or in memory of a loved one. Trees highly contribute to a clean environment as they improve air quality through the process of photosynthesis – producing oxygen and taking in carbon dioxide."

SYNOD DISCUSSION – *Companions on the Journey*

The Synod on *Synodality in the Church* will be focusing on how the Church journeys together. The next topic and question we will explore is: **DIALOGUE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY**

Dialogue requires perseverance and patience, but it also enables mutual understanding.

1. To what extent do diverse peoples in our community come together for dialogue?
2. What are the places and means of dialogue within our local church?
3. How are differences of vision, or conflicts and difficulties addressed?
4. What issues in the church and society do we need to pay more attention to?
5. What experiences of dialogue and collaboration do we have with believers of other religions and with those who have no religious affiliation?
6. How does the church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics, economics, culture, civil society, and people who live in poverty?

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

On March 5th, prior to the 5pm Mass, the Knights of Columbus will be offering the rosary and an act of consecration and displaying the Our Lady of Guadalupe Icon with the Silver Rose. We will start about 4:25pm. The Silver Rose program is a prayer service promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady. Each year, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



"A reminder to all members that dues for the 2022 Fraternal Year can be paid by sending an e-transfer to matthewcadrian@hotmail.com."

CWL

Deadline for 2022 CWL memberships is January 28th. If you haven't already paid please contact Laurel so she can send your name & money in to National. Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 7 – 7 PM. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jo Fewster.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – FIRST RECONCILIATION &

Final Weekend – First Reconciliation - Friday, Mar 25, 2022, after school, retreat and sacrament

YOUTH GROUP – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The parish is in need of a youth committee to help with planning and supervision of events. The activities themselves are taken care of but there are organizational pieces to go along with these. If this is something you feel like you can help with or have any questions, please contact Monica Andrew at 403-994-0323 or monica.andrew@oldsnet.ca. There are paper copies of the bulletin at the front door. Please do not take one, if you already

FAITH & FORMATION

Photos of the couples who had them taken at the *Celebrate Marriage* weekend are available in the foyer. Please take only ONE print. The other will go in a parish photo album. If you don't see your photo there, it was because the image did not turn out well. Unfortunately, due to a camera malfunction, the photos of the 9 a.m. Mass did not turn out. For that reason, the wedding trellis will remain until Ash Wednesday, so you are welcome to use it to take your own photos.

Also, to celebrate Marriage month, there are books on marriage and family life for sale on the table under Mia's window. Please sign your name by the book you want on the list on that table. Please put the money or cheque in the envelope that is in each book, and give the envelope to Mia or Donna.

SOCIAL JUSTICE- Coldest Week of the Year Walk

The social justice committee is planning our 2nd annual "Coldest Week of the Year Walk" to raise money for the Mustard Seed in Red Deer to support their efforts in assisting the homeless in our larger community. They provide warm meals, clothing, basic necessities, overnight shelter, counseling and employment assistance. We are looking for walkers and sponsors!

The walk will be on February 28th at 12:00 noon. We will meet at the Olds College Parking Lot D (across from library), and walk from there. It will be a 2km Covid friendly walk. Come dressed for the weather. If you would like to support our walk for the Mustard Seed you can drop a cheque off with Mia at the church payable to the Mustard Seed or contact Cathy Wright catherine_wright@hotmail.com 403-559-8571

Thank-you for taking the time to consider a donation. I can't imagine what it must be like to be homeless and trying to find help in our crazy cold Alberta winter. Fortunately options do exist with the help of our support.

FRANCISCAN SOCIETY

Did You know..... that there is a local Franciscan fraternity that meets on a monthly basis at St Stephens? With St Francis of Assisi as our Seraphic Father, we are lay people who try to more closely follow the gospel way of life through both contemplation and action in our day to day lives. If you would like to deepen your spirituality, are 18 years or older, a practicing Catholic and wish more information please call either Audrey Gross (403 586-4260) or Kathy Caron (403 507-7288) for more information. Pax et Bonum!

LIBRARY NOTICE

As in pre-pandemic times, we will again a selection of books in the lobby for the next two weeks for Lenten reading. Anyone from our Tri-Parish community is welcome to borrow books. Just sign the card at the back of the book and put in the container provided. If you prefer to take a book directly from the library, please do, but sign it out and return when finished.

We hope your reading will bring you closer to the Trinity and your friends at St. Stephen's as we transition back into a visible parish community after the restrictions of this terrible pandemic. God Bless.

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

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