



Mar 3, 2024

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

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Mar 2, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 3, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds
Tues Mar 5, 2024	Weekday Mass	9 AM Olds
Wed Mar 6, 2024	Weekday Mass w/ Lenten Lunch	12:05 PM Olds
Fri Mar 8, 2024	Weekday Mass Stations of the Cross- ALL	9:00 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds, Didsbury, Sundre
Sat Mar 2, 2024	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 3, 2024	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 7:00 PM Olds

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF
 Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac
 Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired
 Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin
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 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,

Prayerful Lent and God's manifold blessings!

Today's readings on this third Sunday of Lent present us with the theme of "thirst" and show us that a stewardship way of life can both satisfy our spiritual thirst for Christ and help us to satisfy Christ's thirst for souls. Our first reading, from the book of Exodus, begins with the words, "In their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses." What little faith and lack of trust they show after all God has done to free them from slavery. But Moses cried out to God for help, and sure enough God provided abundantly to quench their thirst, instructing Moses to strike a rock "and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." God continued to provide generously for them. And He continues to provide generously for us these many centuries later. Our second reading, from Paul's letter to the Romans, is a further reminder of God's graciousness to us: "The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." And not because we are deserving, but because God is so very good: "God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." If we spent the rest of our Lent truly contemplating that latter verse, we would surely be inspired to become more passionate stewards in response to such overwhelming love. We would become stewards who, by the heroic sharing of all the gifts God has given us, lead many of those around us to Christ and help to quench His thirst for souls. Our Gospel passage from John recounts the life-changing encounter that Christ has with the Samaritan woman at the well beginning with His words to her, "Give me a drink." She is puzzled by this request so our Lord adds, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." Christ is speaking these same words to us today: "Give me a drink" and "If only you knew..." These two verses encapsulate the call to stewardship. Christ asks us to "give him a drink" by sharing what we have with Him and with others for His sake. Yet, it is Christ Himself who provides the water — the living water that is His grace: "Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." For some mysterious reason, God has chosen to include us in His plan for bringing all people to salvation through Him. We live out our part in His plan through a stewardship way of life. It is an indescribable privilege to live this way. Yet, our Lord does not wish us to be concerned about our unworthiness for such a high calling. He demonstrates this throughout the Scriptures by calling the "unworthy." In today's passage He chooses the Samaritan woman. She is a woman with a "past" and even a current living situation that is scandalous. But He calls her to conversion, and she responds to His call, becoming a disciple for her whole village. He is calling to us too, to live as His modern-day disciples. This Lent, let us resolve to respond to His call with passion and commitment. Let us do our part to quench His thirst for the salvation of all. Penitential Service & Confession will be next week, please avail to this amazing Sacrament. It is also God's call and tremendous blessing to pray and to care and look after our sick and elderly brethren, especially 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



MARRIAGE PREP

Our couples taking the Marriage Prep course will be gathering this weekend at St. Stephen's. We welcome the seven couples who will be strengthening their love and their faith over the course of the weekend. We ask that you keep the participants, the leaders and the presenters in your prayers as they share this weekend together. 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 on Saturday March 23, 2024. Participants will have received an email from the Sacramental Prep team.

CONFIRMATION - Feb 25th – Class this weekend. The Archbishop will be coming to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation with us on June 9, 2024

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAQUE

A friendly reminder that memberships are now due. Please see Laurel Arvay, Jo-Anne Sell or Joanne Fewster to pay. If you are interested in joining CWL please speak to any member. First year memberships are free. Come out and see what we are about, you have nothing to lose. Our next meeting is Monday, March 11 at 7:00 PM. All are welcome.

CWL is collecting travel size personal care items to be included in welcome bags for refugees. We also collect toiletries and clothing for Morningstar an organization in Red Deer that provides aide to women who live on the street. Donation baskets are in the upper room to avoid congestion in the foyer

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – SILVER ROSE SERVICE

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the Silver Rose Prayer Service on the evening of Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at St. Stephen's Church, Olds, in conjunction with the Mass regularly scheduled for that evening. The prayer service will commence prior to Mass, and will continue after the Mass. Details of the commencement of the prayer service will be provided in the next week's Bulletin.

The Silver Rose is a reminder of the challenge before us to teach the world that the life of each human being, unique and unrepeatable, begins at the moment of conception and ends with natural death. The service includes the praying of the rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the Sanctity of life.

This is an opportunity for you to support the Sanctity of Life movement.

Alvin Ganser, member Knight

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

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

We have a few books still that have been donated to our Parish Library that are being made available to our Parishioners to take home with you. They will be out on a table in the foyer leading up to Lent. A donation towards the parish is welcomed and appreciated.

EVENING OF EMPOWERMENT – St. Stephen's Parish Mission 2024

Join us on Tuesday March 12th, 2024 for Mass at 6:30 PM followed by a presentation by Joe Carignan – a retired RCMP officer who will speak to us about Domestic Violence and share some information about the future Women's Shelter and the importance of that facility to our community. The Mission will continue on Wednesday with Mass at 6:30 PM followed by a presentation by Naomi Holland – Redeemed with Purpose who will speak on "Human Trafficking today – What we need to know". Lastly, we will wrap up our Lenten Mission with our Penitential Service on Thursday March 14th at 7:00 PM.

CALLING ALL MEN OF ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH

There is still one conference available to any Men interested in attending at the end of March. This conference is very worthy of your consideration as an opportunity to grow in your walk with the Lord. It is good once or twice a year, as men, to refocus ourselves on our relationships with god, our spouses, our families, fellow men, our workplace colleagues and our communities. Many men from our parish have attended events like this in the past and it would be good to get a group together to attend this event. It is a Catholic based ministry and the benefits would be substantial in many ways. Please consider signing up and attending. It would be great if we could get some groups of men from our parish to attend and travel together to reduce the cost. Please pray about what god is asking you to do. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Larry - 403-556-2360.

In HIS most Holy name, AMEN

God Squad – Way to the Father – March 22 and March 23 – Ascension Parish, Calgary, AB

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – MARCH 1, 2024

THIS FRIDAY - Please join in the World Day of Prayer, a prayer movement that invites you to enrich your faith experience with the experience of Christians from other countries and cultures and to bring hope to women touched by injustice. The service was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine. Everyone is Welcome. Refreshments to follow. Event to be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on March 1, 2024 at 1 pm

ST PATRICK DAY KITCHEN PARTY – MARCH 16, 2024

You are all invited to the **St. Patrick's Day Kitchen Party** to be held Saturday, March 16th after the 5:00 Mass. Please bring a plate of your favorite finger food or appetizers to share, and stay for the music and the fun! This is a jam-session, so you are asked to bring your musical instruments, if you've got'em. You don't have to be Irish to take part in this gathering, but you are encouraged to wear the green.



OFFICE NEWS- Income Tax Receipts

The last of the envelopes are on the back table ready to be picked up. Income Tax Receipts are out. If you have any issues or notice a need for an address change etc, please let Mia in the office know. 403-556-3084, email – ststephen102@gmail.com or pop in to see her. Any receipts not picked up will be mailed out at the beginning of next week. We encourage you to pick up your receipt as any that haven't been picked up will be mailed out.