

# LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

*Nilo Macapinlac*

*Feb 26, 2023*

Sat Feb 25, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	4:15 PM Olds ** 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Feb 26, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM -Olds 11:15 AM Trochu 5:00 PM Olds **
Tues Feb 28, 2023	Weekday Mass w/ Holy Trinity School	9:15 AM Olds **
Wed Mar 1, 2023	Weekday Mass w/ Lenten Lunch	12:00 PM Olds
Fri Mar 3, 2023	24 Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Holy Mass Stations of the Cross + First Friday Mass Stations of the Cross	24 hrs 9:00 AM Olds 6:30 PM Sundre 7:00 PM Didsbury
Sat Mar 4, 2023	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM Olds 5:00 PM Olds
Sun Mar 5, 2023	Holy Mass	9:00 AM Trochu 11:15 AM Olds 7:00 PM Olds

## CHANGES TO NOTE FOR FEBRUARY

**Confession Will Be Available Prior To Mass On Sat Eve Beginning At 4:15.**

**Sun Eve Mass Will Be At 5:00 PM during Feb. as Fr. Wilson Has Another Obligation On Sun Eve.**

**Our regular schedule will resume the first weekend in March.**

### 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  
[Stephen102@gmail.com](mailto:Stephen102@gmail.com)  
403-556-3084

<http://www.ststephens-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 - Sundre

First Friday Mass  
Mar 3, 2023  
Adoration 1-6 pm  
Stations of the Cross – 6:30  
Holy Mass – 7:00 PM  
Friday's – Divine Mercy Chaplet &  
Rosary – 10:00 AM  
St. Anthony - Didsbury  
Second Saturday Mass  
March 11, 2023  
7:00 PM

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

Dear friends and parishioners, Grace & peace to you! We are now in the First Sunday of Lenten season. Our readings for this second Sunday of Lent offer us Christian stewards motivation to continue on our 40-day journey towards deeper holiness. The first reading from the book of Genesis describes God's call to Abram (who would later be called Abraham). God instructs Abram to leave his home and set out to a land that God had chosen for him. Abram's response is an ancient example of a good stewardship. Instead of clinging to his comfortable way of life, to the only home he has ever known, he recognizes that all he has is gift from God, puts his trust in God and obeys. And God rewards him saying, "I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." To "be a blessing" is the true aim of a stewardship way of life. It is also an excellent way to live out the season of Lent. The sacrifices we take on, the spiritual disciplines we practice, the extra acts of service we perform during this season — all give glory to God and transform our lives into a blessing for others. St. Paul encourages us on this path in our second reading taken from his letter to Timothy. "Bear your share of hardship for the gospel..." adding this critical phrase, "with the strength that comes from God." On our own we are weak, inclined towards selfishness and comfort seeking. Relying on God's strength, however, we can persevere in the fight to attain holiness. Paul reminds us that, in fact, we were made for this! "[God] saved us and called us to a holy life." To be "holy" means to be set apart for God. This means that our lives as Christian stewards will look different from those around us who do not know the Lord — but different in a way that is attractive, that draws them to the Lord as well. It is a way of life that is counter-cultural in our individualistic, "me first" day and age. The generous offering to God of our time, talents and treasure at times can feel like the "hardship" Paul mentions in our second reading. But this way of life is a path to holiness. Lest we grow weary on this path, our Gospel passage today, from Matthew, offers us a powerful image of the great God we serve. It is the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, when our Lord takes His key apostles up to a high mountain and reveals Himself in His true glory. "He was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." And not only that, but the voice of the Father was revealed to them with the words, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." This revelation of the glory of God was so overwhelming to the apostles that they fell to the ground in fear when they saw Him this way. But our loving Savior is quick to reassure them to "Rise, and do not be afraid." As we continue on our Lenten journey, let us take these two verses, "Listen to Him," "Rise, and do not be afraid" to heart. Let us rely on God's strength to aid us in our spiritual disciplines as we move through Lent. We will arrive at Easter with deeper holiness, as a blessing to God and others — and as better stewards of all God's gifts to us. Let us put God's Word into Action by living the true spirit of Christian Stewardship. 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

*Thank you to Father Wilson who was with us for the month of February. This will be his last weekend with us. We bless him on his continued journey and look forward to his next visit with us.*

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.

**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.**

## 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.

*Senior Altar Servers*- There will be a **senior** altar server practice on Sunday Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> following the 11:15 Mass. There will be refreshments provided for the servers and their families. Since junior altar servers are now participating in the Mass, there are a few changes to be made in the serving duties.

*The Chosen* is an American historical drama television series.. It is the first multiseason series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centers on Jesus and the different people who met and followed him. **Catholic Commentary on The Chosen** with Dr. Michael Barber and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger aims to help Catholics actively engage with this immensely popular TV series. Please join us on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the parish hall at St. Stephen's for 5 weeks as we watch episodes from *The Chosen* as seen on FORMED. Notes on the Catholic commentaries will be distributed, and discussed.

**THERE WILL BE NO CONFIRMATION CLASS THIS WEEK - Feb 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

*Confirmation Journals*- The season of Lent is upon us. 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.9<sup>th</sup> and Fri Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Stations of the Cross – Fridays throughout Lent – Olds, Sundre, Didsbury .  
Parish Penitential Service - Fri Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Knights of Columbus Silver Rose Pro-Life Program.** On Saturday March 4th, 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 4:20pm. 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.

## CWL

Please note revised time:

St. Stephen's CWL is hosting World Day of Prayer on FRIDAY MARCH 3@ 2P.M.

The program has been prepared by the WDP committee from Taiwan.

The theme is "I Have Heard Your Faith" (Ephesians 1:15-19).

All men & women are invited to attend & bring your friends.

The format is different this year so please come & join us for great fellowship, prayer & song.

Coffee & goodies in the Parish Hall following service.

## ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH

Deacon Charles will lead Stations of the Cross every Friday throughout lent – 7:00 PM.  
All are invited to join him.

## 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 28<sup>th</sup> – 9:15 AM

Wednesday March 15 – 9:15 AM

Wednesday April 19 – 9:15 AM

Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> – 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

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](mailto:monica.andrew@rdcrs.ca)

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION, BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION & CATECHISM CLASSES

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION** - Thank you to Tara Miller and our group of volunteers that help to provide the Baptismal Prep Course to our new parents. Our next program will run again in the Fall.

### **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION:**

For students in grades 5 and up who haven't yet made your Confirmation, please come for classes resuming Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup> 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

This is the last weekend for Income Tax Receipts in the foyer. We have held onto a few for parishioners that attend weekend Mass. If they are not picked up this weekend, we will be mailing them out on Monday. Some have been mailed out already, so if you don't see it, it may be en-route. We thank those that were able to pick up as it helps to reduce our postage costs.

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](mailto:Reception.SHRD@caedm.ca) P-403.346.2618 for more information.