

April 11, 2021
Father Nilo Macapinlac
Calendar of Events

Sat April 10, 2021	Confession – Olds Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream*
Sun Apr 11, 2021	Holy Mass Holy Mass Divine Mercy Mass	9:00 AM – Olds 11:15 – Trochu 2:30 Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00 PM - Olds
Tues Apr 13, 2021	Holy Mass	6:00 PM – Live stream only**
Wed Apr 14, 2021	Confession – Trochu Holy Mass - Trochu	6:00 PM 7:00 PM – Live stream **
Thur April 15, 2021	Holy Mass	6:00 PM - Olds
Fri April 16, 2021	Holy Mass	9:00 AM - Olds
Sat April 17, 2021	Confession – Olds Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream*
Sun April 18, 2021	Holy Mass Holy Mass	9:00 AM – Trochu 11:15 AM - Olds

Live stream – St. Stephen's Catholic Parish – Olds Alberta Facebook page *

Live stream – Father Nilo's personal facebook pag

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin Office Admin – Mia MacDonald 4302 57 th 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	Sacramental Prep 1st Communion Mar 13 April 10 May 1 Meetings are via Zoom Packages are available to pick up at the Parish office. Please etransfer \$20 to ststephen102@gmail.com . As this does not fully cover the cost of materials, donations are appreciated	CONFIRMATION Confirmation classes are scheduled for April 10 April 24 May 8 May 15 Classes are 8:45 – 11:45 AM. Watch for an email with more information. Contact Dana Overwater – danaoverwater@gmail.com
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A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear People of God & Parishioners;

Alleluia! We have the Lord God who is rich in Mercy, Jesus Christ! Despite His Sacred Heart was bleeding under the excruciating heat of the sun and extreme suffering on the Cross, still sweet words came out from His mouth: "Forgive them Father, for they do not know what they are doing." His love is unconditional that He has compassion and forgiveness even towards His enemies. He is the Divine Mercy for the world to know, to believe and to whom we can lean on, for without Him we have no eternal destiny. We celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter today, but we also celebrate Divine Mercy. This feast was proclaimed by St. Pope John Paul II on April 22, 2001 during his pontificate. The Pope announced it at the Canonization of Faustina Kowalska who included in her writings her devotion to Divine Mercy, saying "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity." The week after we celebrate Easter is the perfect time for us to celebrate the Lord's Mercy. Mercy is the emphasis of the readings on this Holy day. The First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles speaks of the early Church, its sense of community, and its understanding of stewardship. When it is written that "they had everything in common," that is really recognition on their part that God owns everything. Everything belongs to God and through Him to His people. God had touched their lives very deeply, which made it easier for them to share all things. That is part of our stewardship challenge as well — to realize that all that we have and all that we are come from and belong to God. That is what allows us to be good stewards — the trust that results from that belief. The reading also points out "With great power the apostles bore witness." This is an indication that they put God first, other people second, and material things were a distant third at best. In our society that promotes the gather, save, and keep attitude that can also be a difficulty for us. First John offers our Second Reading. John writes, "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God." Several times in his writings John uses that term "begotten by God." To be "begotten" we must accept the Lord as our Messiah, not just the Savior in a general sense, but our personal Savior. John provides great emphasis to the idea of love. However, he is not saying that we earn salvation by just loving others, although that is a significant part of what we need to do. We also must put our total trust in the Lord and on His infinite mercy and saving grace in our lives. John is not speaking of an intellectual acceptance of the Lord. He is calling us to a total trust and reliance on Jesus. To have that heartfelt acceptance, we have to not only understand that we are begotten by God, but also all others are begotten as well, our community in Christ. This appreciation is our common ground as Christians. It goes way beyond race or class or culture or language. That is the secret of salvation, and the key to being a good steward. And then we get to St. Thomas, a story most of all about trust. Thomas is often called "Doubting Thomas," which is a bit of a mis-statement. It was not that Thomas doubted; quite frankly he did not believe. Thomas, like perhaps most of us, wanted proof and evidence of the resurrection. That is what he states: "I will not believe." Yet Thomas was present one week later; clearly he still wished to be in the company of those who did believe. In the long run, Thomas does not place his fingers in Jesus' wounds although the Lord invites him to do so. What is Thomas' reaction to the presence of the Lord? He declares, "My Lord and my God." For a Jew, for anyone, this is a remarkable affirmation. In the original Greek the two words "Lord" and "God" are **kyrios** and **theos**. Those are titles of deity and divinity. In a way Thomas may have believed more strongly at that moment than any of the others. Seeing Jesus may have made Thomas believe that the Lord was truly risen, but it was something far deeper and more inward that had him calling Jesus God. Thomas more openly states his belief in the Lord than the others did. Thomas, like the others, was "called" and "sent." We, too, are called and sent. The word missionary has at its root the Latin word meaning "to send." We are all missionaries if we are disciples of the Lord. This Gospel Reading appears virtually at the end of John's Gospel. One might say that it is the climax of the book. Thomas represents the final accomplishment of the Lord — the triumph over unbelief. May this Divine Mercy Sunday brings forth increase in our faith and total trust to the incomprehensible Mercy of Jesus, transforms self-reliance to total abandonment to the will of God and to increase His mercy in us so that we can love and be merciful the way Jesus has done for us. Jesus King of Mercy, we trust in You!

In Christ's Infinite Mercy, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

Jesus, We Trust In You

ST. JOSEPH'S CORNER – The Year of St. Joseph – Dec 8 2020 – Dec 8 – 2021

Excerpt taken from the apostolic letter *Patris Corde* of Pope Francis

Just as God told Joseph: "Son of David, do not be afraid!" (*Mt 1:20*), so he seems to tell us: "Do not be afraid!" We need to set aside all anger and disappointment, and to embrace the way things are, even when they do not turn out as we wish. Not with mere resignation but with hope and courage. In this way, we become open to a deeper meaning. Our lives can be miraculously reborn if we find the courage to live them in accordance with the Gospel. It does not matter if everything seems to have gone wrong or some things can no longer be fixed. God can make flowers spring up from stony ground. Even if our heart condemns us, "God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything" (*1 Jn 3:20*).

FAMILY LIFE



Volunteers needed - Please consider joining the volunteer teams for Masses. Volunteers are especially needed for Thursday 6 p.m. and Sunday mornings. It is because of our Volunteers that we can continue to have Mass -without volunteers, we would be unable to hold Mass during the pandemic!

Attention all wood workers and craft-people! During the month of May, we will be holding our St. Joseph the Worker Silent Auction. If you have any items that you wish to donate, projects big and small, crafts of all kinds, gift certificates or crocheted wash cloths - please let the parish office or Maria know. All items will be displayed for the month of

May so everyone has a chance to see what is available, covid-restrictions applying. Reserve bids allowed. Proceeds from the auction will go to the parish Food Bank and beautifying the Church property, e.g. Prayer Garden, Rosary Garden or walk, Pro-life grotto, painting, etc. St. Joseph took good care of his family and home and is our inspiration to do the same!

CALL TO PROTECT TRAINING

There is a **Called to Protect** training session for volunteers next week. Volunteers who still require training are encouraged to attend. All participants need to register following the link below as they will receive confirmation and a link to login at the time for the workshop.

Here is the registration link for Called to Protect Workshop on **Friday, April 16, 2021**.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkcu2qqDsrHddr6Vkkpls0ryBYu3BB09cS>

THINK TANK – PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

Our pastor and Parish Pastoral Council are looking forward to a "new normal" when Covid restrictions finally lift. As we plan for the bright future of our parish, we invite you to attend a "Think Tank" on Thursday April 15th in the church starting with Mass at 6 p.m. and session afterwards. Your insights and commitment to building our parish post-covid are welcomed and needed. Please sign up on Eventbrite so we can plan accordingly. Once the 48 person capacity is reached, you can sign onto the waiting list and we can schedule another session.

COVID PROJECT – MATERIAL NEEDED

We need your old blue jeans (in any condition) for a Covid 19 project to supply denim quilts for people in need. Jeans can be dropped off in the container marked for them in the foyer of the church. Any questions call Jack or Jo-Anne 587 796-1634.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- **Charities Appeal Raffle** by the Knights of Columbus Alberta/NWT State Council is now available. The Charities Appeal is an online 50/50 Fundraiser. Tickets may be purchased by residents of Alberta, 18 years of age or older, at the website: www.koc5050.com. Please consider making your "In Support Of" selection to our council **04748 Father Forsyth**.

Ticket sales end April 28th 2021 with the draw on April 30th 2021. Thanks!

- **Mundare Sausage Sale** organized by the Knights is coming to St Stephen Parish Saturday April 17th from 10am to 2pm. Drive through for your purchases. No need to get out of your vehicle! Hope to see you there to help us support our charities.
- **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 Richard Bodnar (403-559-9885 ~ skrbodnar@live.ca).

Vivat Jesus!

- The Knights of Columbus organization has sponsored the delivery of thousands of wheelchairs to destinations around the globe, including Canada. St. Stephen's K of C are asking for your help in the purchase of wheelchairs for those in need. Any donation is a blessing as each chair is \$195.00. Any contribution of \$20 and over is tax deductible. If you are interested, information and pledge forms are in the foyer near the wheelchair on display. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Caves – 587-796-1179.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE

St. Stephen's is recruiting CWL members to join our present 70 members to take part in the exciting changes & strategic plans in motion over the next 2 years. There is so much to learn from this group of over 8000 women nationwide. Are you interested in becoming a part of a spiritual, faithful, & active group of local women? If you would like to join or find out more, please contact one of us. Laurel Arvay @403 556-2360 or Joanne Fewster @403 791 1186. Thank you!

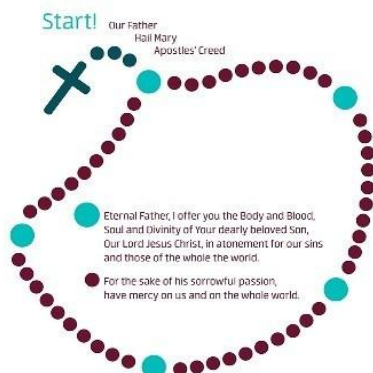
DIDSBURY CWL SCHOLARSHIP – Tri Parish Area

Are you Catholic and in your final year of High School? Are you planning to attend post-secondary school after graduation? If so, the **Didsbury CWL** is offering **one (1) \$500.00** scholarship.

To receive an application, please email Maxine Moreau, president of the Didsbury CWL at dumax22@hotmail.com. The application process will ask for an essay and two (2) letters of reference. Deadline to submit application is April 30, 2021.



HOW TO PRAY THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY?



Finally three times

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One,
have mercy on us and on the whole world.

~Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and the Blood, Soul and Divinity of the dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

~For the sake of his sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

~Holy God, Holy Mighty one, Holy immortal one, have mercy on us and on the whole world.