



April 25, 2021
Father Nilo Macapinlac
Calendar of Events

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|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Sat April 24, 2021 | Confession – Olds Holy Mass | 11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream* |
| Sun Apr 25, 2021 | Holy Mass Holy Mass | 9:00 AM – Olds 11:15 – Trochu |
| Tues Apr 27, 2021 | Holy Mass | 6:00 PM – Live stream only** |
| Wed Apr 28, 2021 | Confession – Trochu Holy Mass - Trochu | 6:00 PM 7:00 PM – Live stream ** |
| Thur April 29, 2021 | Holy Mass | 6:00 PM - Olds |
| Fri April 30, 2021 | Holy Mass | 9:00 AM - Olds |
| Sat May 1, 2021 | Confession – Olds Holy Mass | 11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream* |
| Sun May 2, 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 face book page

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

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 e-transfer \$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

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends and parishioners,

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is also called Good Shepherd Sunday and also known as World Day of prayer for Vocations. Let us constantly pray for our pastors, seminarians and for those discerning the religious life. Jesus is certainly our Good Shepherd. It always occurs at this time of year, although Jesus is our Good Shepherd every day and every hour. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for His sheep, which is what Jesus did for us, His children. Throughout the Acts of the Apostles we are treated to St. Peter preaching. Today's First Reading is another example of that. Five separate times in Acts Peter preaches. His emphasis is always on Christ's Resurrection. In one way or another in every sermon Peter states, "God raised him from the dead." In association with Peter's stress of Jesus' resurrection is the call for repentance. Peter tends to remind us that if we truly repent, our sins are forgiven. He tells us that not only are we forgiven, but we are saved. But Peter did not merely proclaim Jesus as a way of salvation, but that He was really the only way to salvation. As he states in today's reading, "There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved." Peter explains many times that Jesus provides us all hope that "our hope is in the Lord." He is the Good Shepherd on whom we must rely. Just as St. Peter wants us to understand and appreciate what Jesus did for us, St. John (in his First Letter, our Second Reading) wants us to know how much God loves us. John asks us to "see what love the Father has bestowed on us." John tells us we need to not only be aware of it, but also to ponder and meditate on it intently. Do we really do that? It is important. What might keep us from doing that? Perhaps we feel God must prove His love before we accept it. It may also be doubt, the unwillingness to trust God's love because our lives may be filled with hurts and the pain of living especially at this time of pandemic. Sometimes it may just take us time to gain a complete understanding of God's love for us. The idea that we are all God's children is reinforced many times in Holy Scripture. In Second Corinthians, Paul tells us that God says, "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters." In his letter to the Romans Paul cites the Holy Spirit, saying "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." The Easter Season is a continual celebration of the once central mystery of our Church, that Jesus gave His life for us by dying on the Cross. He saved us from our sins. We have reflected previously on why the image of a shepherd and sheep is an important one during Jesus' time. To be a shepherd in Jesus' time required living a life of total self-giving. The area where Jesus lived and worked had ground that was mostly rough and rocky. Raising sheep was, nonetheless, possible. However, it required moving constantly to find pastures for grazing. Every flock of sheep needed a shepherd who would lead the flock from place to place so the sheep could eat and survive. ("The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.") Thus, being a shepherd could be very difficult. The shepherd was on duty every hour of every day. In the midst of that sheep could get lost, they could be attacked by predators, and they could be stolen by others. We as people are not that different from the sheep. Sheep without a shepherd were virtually defenseless. Look at our society. We have children who are orphans even though they have parents; we have people who long to be loved and protected. We are among those people. But we have a Good Shepherd, Who loves us and who is with us always, because we are His children. May the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ watch over and protect us at this time of pandemic. Amen

Devotedly yours in the Good Shepherd, Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER SILENT AUCTION

Donated woodwork and craft items to be dropped off on or before May 1, 2021.

Items on display – Beginning May 8th and all throughout the Weekend Masses.

Silent Auction – May 21 - May 30th

Bidding closes – May 30th – 3 PM. Highest bid at 3 PM takes the item.

The official Auction will run on Face book, where you can bid online, and for anyone that cannot access Face book, you can contact Maria at 403-415-6833 to place your bid. All proceeds will go towards our Parish Food Bank, and beautifying the Church property – potential projects include Prayer Garden, Rosary Garden, beautifying the Grotto, Painting etc.

Perfect way to get Mom give you hints for a Mother's Day or get ideas for Dad for Father's Day or treat yourself to a beautiful Garden Angel – or outbid your neighbor just for fun and then gift them with the item ☺

Join us to honor St. Joseph, recognize the talents and gifts of our fellow parishioners and support our wonderful Parish.

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

Weekly 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!

DIDSBURY CWL SCHOLARSHIP – Tri Parish Area

ENDING SOON

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.

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!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Our humble thanks to all parishioners who have expressed their condolences, offered prayers and Masses for the Sietzema – Arbuckle families. Your love and caring has truly been of comfort to us. God Bless, Murray and Diane Arbuckle, Linda Sietzema and family

COVID PROJECT – Denim quilt update

Thanks in part to the generous donations of jeans and fabric from parishioners we have been able to create 30 quilts to date. Quilts have been donated to agencies both in Red Deer and Olds. We have also donated a few items to the Parish for the St. Joseph the Worker Silent Auction. Get your bids in!

If you are aware of an agency that would be able to use quilts, we would love to hear from you.

Although our original plea asked for jeans, we can also use pants made of heavier fabrics such as corduroy, wool and khaki. Colored jeans are welcome as well.

Thanks again for your generosity. Keep those jeans coming! Any questions – call Jack or Jo-Anne Sell 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!
- The Knights of Columbus is excited to bring you an evening of insightful information by Best Selling Canadian author Jim Ruta ~ **How to Eliminate Essential Financial Insecurity in the Pandemic** (60 minutes). Please register at the link below.
 - https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OMvBuO2fSU28PATkKN8DZw
- **Wheelchair Foundation:** The Knights of Columbus organization have sponsored the delivery of thousands of wheelchairs to destinations around the globe, including Canada. St. Stephen's Knights of Columbus are asking for your help in the purchase of some chairs for those in need. Any donation amount is a blessing as each chair is \$195.00. Any contribution, \$20 and over, is tax deductible. If you are interested, information and pledge forms are in the foyer near the wheelchair. For questions concerning this project, please call Paul Caves at 587-796-1179.
- **Highway Cleanup:** The Knights are once again helping the community by cleaning 18kms of ditches in Mountain View County. St Stephen parishioners have been a great help with this project and so we are asking again for your help on Saturday May 1st, 2021 starting at 9am at St. Stephen Church. Please consider helping and call Dave Hogarth at 403-994-0054.
- **Successful Mundare Sausage Sale:** Thank you to all who participated in our sale last Saturday. Your purchases help fund our programs in our parish and in our community. It was great weather and we sold out again early. *Thank you!*
- **Knights of Columbus Family of the Month** – for March - was awarded last Sunday with a presentation to Brother John Trenholm and his wife Mary. Congratulations to the Trenholm Family for showing your *Faith in Action*.
Vivat Jesus!



A Prayer for our Confirmation Candidates

Gracious and Holy Father, please give our Confirmation Candidates; intellect to understand you, a reason to discern you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, a spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you, ears to hear you, eyes to see you, a tongue to proclaim you, a way of life pleasing to you, patience to wait for you and perseverance to look for you.

Grant them a perfect end, your holy presence, a blessed resurrection and life everlasting. Amen

