



St. Anthony St. Stephen Our Lady of Fatima

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My dear friends and parishioners,

Blessings to all of you on this 12th Sunday in Ordinary time!

Welcome you all to our second phase of opening the door of our Church with Mass on physical distancing. Christ delights on your physical presence as we missed all of you. Let us be patient, considerate and understanding for the good of one and for the well being of all. Thanks a lot to our parish staff, and "Essential Volunteers" for without them our Masses will not be possible. We learnt a lot out of this pandemic because of our faith in God. We hold fast in God, trusting Him that the good and even the best will come out after our hardships and many challenges that we had just encountered.

Today's readings call us to tackle the challenging issues of fear and trust — two concepts on opposite sides of the same coin. They must be confronted and dealt with by all of us who wish to live the stewardship way of life.

In our first reading, from Jeremiah, the prophet expresses sentiments we have all felt at some point in our lives, when he says, "I hear the whispering of many: 'Terror on every side!'" Perhaps this "whispering" comes from the culture that insists we must think of ourselves, our own interests, our financial comfort first — only when we are certain that our own needs are met can we think of serving God and sharing with others.

Perhaps when we consider stepping out of our comfort zones, the fear-inducing whispers come from within us — "you're too weak, too selfish, too broken to really live as Christ's disciple."

Yet, just when Jeremiah is nearly overcome with fear, he remembers the truth, and it is just as true for us today. "The Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." Of course!

St. Paul reminds us in our second reading, from the letter to the Romans, just how amazing this Mighty Champion is. "For if by the transgression of the one that many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many." In other words, the safest and

sanest move we can make is to put all our trust in the Lord, who is so good to us, this God who cannot be outdone in generosity.

Even so, the Lord knows that facing down our fears and choosing to trust Him with all areas of our lives is an ongoing challenge for us. He is generous with reassurances to us throughout the Scriptures. Today's Gospel passage from Matthew is a case in point. In the span of eight verses, Jesus addresses the topic of fear four times:

- "Fear no one."
- "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul."
- "Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body."
- "So do not be afraid."

And the reassurance continues. "Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted." Notice that Jesus says, "your Father" in describing God's intimate knowledge and tender care for each one of us. He is truly "Abba," our Dad, Who knows us inside and out. In fact, this intimate knowledge and tender care are precisely why He reassures us over and over again not to fear, but to trust in Him.

With that, let us all breathe a huge sigh of relief. All is well. Our Father knows us through and through, sent His Son to save us, and will always take care of us. Let's stop wasting any more time with fear. Instead, let's put all our energy, all our time, our talents and our treasure into trusting this great God, and using all that we are and all that He has given us to bring Him glory.

Today we recognize also our biological fathers who are the moral pillars of our family. They are the fortitude and strength that we can lean on and we can place our confidence. May God our Eternal Father bless all of them with good health and strength to persevere in their vocation and role in our family and society. "Happy father's day and may the Lord enrich you with His manifold blessings!" Keep safe, keep well, keep healthy and keep holy!

Your spiritual father and parish priest,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

Community Life / Family Life

The Community and Family Life committees are looking forward to scheduling small group events as parish life gets up and running.

In the meantime, here are a couple of virtual conferences that you may enjoy.

The Ocean of Mercy Virtual Catholic Conference for Kids

is free and is being held on Saturday and Sunday June 20-21.

The LUX Virtual Women's Summit is fast approaching this weekend, June 19-21. It's the first Catholic virtual conference by women for women, addressing real issues and illuminating the role women have to play in healing our Church and world. There will be LIVE Keynotes, Breakout Sessions, a Workbook, access to the LUX Store, Giveaways and much more! Register on the website www.theluxsummit.com \$59 for a General Pass and \$99 for a VIP Pass.



Congratulation to our 2020 Graduates of

St. Stephen's & the Tri Parish area

Dear God,

We ask that you help our children to walk in your wisdom and grace. We pray for spiritual eyes and discernment in all things. Help them to be wise leaders and influencers in this generation, not conformed to the world but transformed by your power. We ask that you equip them with all that they need to make a difference for your purposes. Help them to live as salt and light in a dark world that so desperately needs to know your truth.

We ask for your power to help them to walk continually in honesty and integrity. Build within them deep godliness, that they would be more concerned about their character than their reputation.

We pray that they would seek to bring honor to You throughout their lives, that they would have a vision and heart for the world. Extend their boundaries and give them incredible influence with people and nations. Make their hearts and spirits open to every plan and purpose you have for them, and help them to be willing to boldly go wherever you call.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Parish Giving

We are providing some additional links for sites where contributions towards the Church can be made. Your financial contributions at this time are needed more than ever. Thank you to all who have taken time to drop off or mail your donations, every little bit helps to keep us going during this time.

CAEDM- www.caedm.ca/donate - You can select St. Stephen's in the drop down box

CANADA GIVES - <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/890356249RR0001-the-catholic-parish-of-st-stephen/>

E-TRANSFERS ARE AVAILABLE NOW: A Donation can be sent via interact transfer to St. Stephen's Catholic Parish – use the email address – ststephen102@gmail.com. Please include your name and or envelope number in the message section, so donations can be recorded correctly. For anyone who has been looking for an alternate method, here is something for you.

Automatic Contribution: Paperwork is also available for anyone wishing to sign up to have their monthly contribution automatically applied through debit or credit. Please contact Mia in the office for assistance.

Please note: There will not be a regular collection, however, a collection basket will be available before Mass. If you prefer to continue to give through e-transfer or alternative methods – your Contribution is greatly appreciated.



Vacation Bible School – Cat Chat at Home

Great news! Our parish is providing your family with a free At Home VBS this summer. Your family can enjoy our “Cat Chat At Home VBS” in the comfort and safety of your living room or maybe in the backyard with a few friends!

Our fun 5-DAY AT HOME VBS begins on Monday June 29, 2020

Cat Chat At Home VBS includes:

- A daily Cat Chat Action Song Video for your children to watch, sing, and dance along to
- A Bible Verse Music Video to help kids memorize God's Word and plant seeds of faith
- 10 Cat Chat VBS songs (2 songs daily) to stream from your device anywhere/anytime
- Printable faith and craft activities
- Snack and game activities
- A daily saint story and coloring page
- Prayers
- Connection questions to spark meaningful conversations
- Plus, an opportunity for kids to enter a SUMMER VBS coloring contest and win exciting prizes.

Make sure to select our VBS start date: 06/29/2020 when you sign up.

Then, look forward to receiving your At Home VBS email for 5 consecutive days.

Note: You will have access to this At Home VBS starting on your start date up until August 28th, 2020. SIGN UP to receive your AT Home VBS:

[Sample Day 1 and SIGN UP HERE for your At Home VBS Experience](#)

Thank you for being intentional about giving your kids the opportunity to grow in their faith! This At Home VBS experience will bless your entire family. In Christ, Your St. Stephen's Parish Family

Sacramental Prep – First Communion

Just a reminder that we have Sacramental Prep Books and CD's here at the Church for our little people who are signed up and preparing for their First Communion. These are fantastic resources for you to review as a family with your child.

1 child - \$20

2 children - \$30.

Payment can be made at the office.

Holy Mass

We are happy to inform you that we will be celebrating Holy Mass at St. Stephen's going forward. We would like to thank all of you who have participated in our Volunteer sessions to help prepare for Mass. We will be offering more Volunteer sessions in the near future, please contact the office if you are interested.

We are using Google Forms to help our Parishioners sign in. This is not mandatory to attend, but it does help expedite the process when you arrive to Mass. We are still required to Social Distance, therefore we are limited by our ability to seat everyone safely. This sign in form is available on Facebook, has been sent via email, and on our website.

You can expect the following:

Arrive

Line up

Masks are required before you proceed further

Volunteer will guide you through the Health & Safety Questions

Proceed to foyer – Confirm sign in or fill our Information

Line up to be ushered in

Ushers will seat you.

Ushers will guide the procession to Communion

Ushers will guide the exit of Parishioners.

Hand Sanitizing is required

Masks are required to enter the Church, while you are signing in and being seated and to and from Communion, and upon exiting. You are able to remove your mask while seated in the pew.

Mass times:

Saturday – 5 pm

Sunday – Alternating weekends with Trochu – 9 & 11:15 am.

Live stream will continue on Saturdays at 5 pm for those still unable to attend.

We thank you for
and your prayers
time. We
that this isn't the
used to doing
are doing our
the directives
come down from
Archdiocese in
communication
Health.



your patience
during this
understand
way we are
things, but we
best to follow
that have
the
with Alberta

Be Safe

Be Well

Be Holy



A Father's Day Prayer

A Happy
Blessed
Day
to
all in
Parish who
this hat.

**God,
Bless all the fathers in the
world. Father, we ask that You
guide them to be good role
models and loving to their
children. We also ask that You
help them to be a father like
You are. Give them grace and
patience to handle situations
in a loving way.**

Amen

and
Father's

our
wear

Resources

Quid Novum: www.caedm.ca/quidnovum

EWTN: www.ewtn.com

Find Dynamic Catholic on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/DynamicCatholic>

Follow Father Mike on Ascension Presents:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=ascension+presents

Living with Christ – free download - <https://www.livingwithchrist.ca/index.php/intentions>

<https://caedm.ca/covid-parishes> - for more info regarding reopening of Mass