



March 14, 2021

Father Nilo Macapinlac

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat Mar 13	11:00AM – Confession – Olds- <i>Sietzema Family</i> 5:00PM Mass – Olds (Live stream)	Sat March 20	11:00AM – Confession – Olds – 5:00PM Mass – Olds (Live stream)
Sun Mar 14	9:00 AM Mass – Olds 11:15AM Mass – Trochu	Sun Mar 21	9:00 AM Mass –Trochu 11:15 AM Mass - Olds
Tues Mar 16	6:00PM Live stream Mass – <i>Sietzema Family</i>	Tues Mar 23	6:00PM Live stream Mass
Wed Mar 17	6:30 PM Confession – Trochu 7:00PM Mass – Trochu	Wed Mar 24	6:30 PM Confession – Trochu 7:00PM Mass – Trochu
Thurs Mar 18	6:00 PM Mass – Olds	Thurs Mar 25	6:00 PM Mass – Olds – <i>Deceased members of the ^TCorsiatto Family</i>
Fri Mar 19	9:00 AM Mass 10-2 (Exposition) <i>Masses without Intentions are assigned as Pro Populo – Mass for the people</i>	Fri Mar 26	9:00 AM Mass 10-2 (Exposition)

My dear People of God and parishioners;

May the joy and smile of the Lord be with you! Today, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is what is called Laetare Sunday. Most of us are quite accustomed to the Mass being conducted in our native tongue, and we may have lost track of the fact that Latin is still the official language of the Church. On occasion Latin reasserts itself. This Sunday is one of those times as *Laetare* means “Rejoice” in Latin. In the Introit to the Mass (the entrance antiphon) it begins *Laetare, Jerusalem* (“Rejoice, Jerusalem. As part of this more upbeat attitude and approach to our celebrations of Mass this weekend, there is a focus on salvation and redemption, which is the reason we have to “rejoice.” Our First Reading comes from the final chapter of Second Chronicles, so it includes the beginning of the Babylonian Exile (607-586 B.C.). The chronicler spent a lot of time addressing the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem (thus the statement *Laetare, Jerusalem or “Rejoice, Jerusalem”*). Our PPC is mindful on how we can rebuild as a parish after a new normal as optimistic as we are. With God’s blessing to re-evaluate our mission –vision with radical re-think, we ask His providence and direction which we are open. May the days ahead will unfold with our commitment that our future be bright, faith leads us to hope and hope to joy. In our first reading the Chronicles points out to the Jewish people, and to us also, that they are strongly connected to God’s overall plan. “Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up (return to Jerusalem) and God be with him.” The people were released from exile by King Cyrus of Persia in the first year of his reign. Where the Books of Kings seems to be centered on stern moral judgments, Chronicles is essentially a book of hope. That is why we rejoice. Christ’s saving grace gives us hope during this time of Lent. St. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, our Second Reading, reminds us “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God.” What a reason to rejoice. God loves us even when we are not lovable. He loves us even when we do not give Him a reason to do so. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but might have eternal life.” (John 3:16) As we consecrate ourselves to St. Joseph, patron of Canada & Archdiocese of Edmonton, we may feel a deep connection to Jesus our Lord whom St. Joseph raised, nourished and defended. Don’t forget to smile on this Sunday of Joy. God bless you richly!

Yours devotedly in Christ
Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

ST. JOSEPH'S CORNER

The Year of St. Joseph – Dec 8, 2020 – Dec 8, 2021

Act of Consecration to Saint Joseph

by Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

Beloved Saint Joseph, as we solemnly celebrate your Blessed Year, I humbly consecrate myself, my family and our entire parish under your fatherly honor and protection.

God the Eternal Father has entrusted under your care His Only Begotten Son Jesus and His Immaculate Mother Mary to you, and so with great confidence we consecrate and entrust ourselves also to you under your care and patronage.

Be not only a foster father to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah but be a spiritual father, custodian, mentor, protector and our guide on the path to eternal salvation.

Intercede for me and for everyone who need most of God's mercy, so that I may obtain necessary graces for my sanctification and a profound love for God that reflects on how I relate with everyone.

St. Joseph as I consecrate myself, our family and our parish to you, be my defender and advocate even at the hour of death that I may enter into the heavenly glory of your Son whom He has paid by the price of His precious Blood through the Cross and His resurrection. Amen

St. Joseph, pray for us!

We will celebrate The Feast of Joseph the Worker on May 1, 2021. We invite all wood workers and crafters in the parish to donate a small project – bird house, bird feeder, shelf, toque, mittens, painting, string art, etc which we could sell/raffle. The proceeds will be donated to a charity – following the theme of “Home”. The items will be placed on display in the foyer and on Facebook. Whether you are a carpenter by trade, a woodworking enthusiast or a weekend crafter, we welcome your contributions.

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.

FAMILY LIFE

Look for *St. Joseph's Passport to Spiritual Treasures* that can be picked up on the display table in the foyer at the church. An instruction sheet will give 7 different activities to do during the Year of St. Joseph. You only need one information sheet per family, but you can pick up enough of the “passports” for each member of your family or just one for all. Stickers are included to represent the “stamps” as each program is completed.

For the Year of St. Joseph, please don't forget the *100 Acts of Kindness* to do with your family. During the month of February, there were 20 posted on our bulletin board. Wonderful deeds were done! Remember, if you see an act of kindness done, you can add that as well. Let's see if we can hit 100 this month!

The time for the prayers in the church for an end to the pandemic on Thursdays evenings **has been changed to 5:30 p.m.**, followed by Mass at 6 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Virtual

We have now entered the season of Lent. During Lent, traditionally we as a parish would gather together every Friday evening to pray and meditate on the Stations of the Cross. Despite COVID we are still going to try to do this. However, things are going to be a little different. At 7:00 every Friday evening during Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be led by various small groups of parishioners and will be Live streamed to our parish Facebook page. We hope to see you online.

CATECHISM NEWS

Youcat For Kids catechisms are available for purchase at the church for \$30.00/book. This is a great resource to read with your child(ren) that will encourage discussion about the truths of our faith! Supplemental activities can be found on their website: www.youcat.org/products/youcat-for-kid

Catechism is starting again! We have resumed in-person classes with limited capacity. Classes this weekend for Grades 3-4 - Saturday, March 13 from 10-10:45am. Due to COVID restrictions, you will need to pre-register. For more details please call or text Theresa @ 403-559-6843 or email: theresa.templeton@gmail.com. All COVID protocols will be followed, so please bring your mask.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Knights of Columbus News

- **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).
- The Knights of Columbus – Alberta/NWT State Council **Charities Appeal Raffle** 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!
- Our council Family Committee has selected a **Knights of Columbus Family of the Month** for February. A presentation will be made to **Ted and Naamah Leischner and family** at the end of the 9am Mass. Congratulations!
Vivat Jesus!

CWL

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!

LENTEN JOURNEY

We will be sharing suggestions throughout Lent to guide you on your Lenten Journey. FORMED.ORG offers “Living Lent as a Family” – a four part series that focuses on Living more Liturgically as a family in the domestic church – your home.

<https://watch.formed.org/living-lent-as-a-family>

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS - SPRING AHEAD ON MARCH 14, 2021



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.

OFFICE

- If you would like more information on setting up Automatic Contribution via Debit or Credit or E-transfers at this time, please contact Mia in the office
- Please note: The carpets in the Church are being cleaned on Wednesday March 17. The Parish staff will be available for phone calls and Father will be available in the morning as needed. However, if your query can be answered on the phone we recommend calling instead of visiting. If you do plan on stopping in, we ask that you come prepared with a pair of indoor shoes or slippers as the carpet will be damp throughout the main floor. Thank you for your understanding.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

A great big thank you to everyone who contributed to the Coldest Night of the Year walk in support of the homeless across Canada. We raised over \$1700 for the Mustard Seed in Red Deer. They have reported record contributions this year. They had a goal of \$25 000, but received over \$88 000! Across Canada over \$9,700,000 has been raised for Homeless Shelters.

The Mustard Seed in Red Deer helps provide for the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness and poverty. This is done with prayer and love. They have a Homeless Shelter for 46 people and provide meals for the hungry. They have a school lunch program that feeds 350 students per day for lower income children. They also have social programs to help people apply for jobs, social support and access community resources. They also provide Health and Wellness Services as well as many other programs. This is one of many great organizations in Canada that helps care for those in need. Thank you so much for your prayers, generous donations and walking feet!

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_](https://www.instagram.com/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

Mar 8-12 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.

St. Andrew's Parish in Edmonton has extra copies of "Consecration of St. Joseph" written by Fr. Don Calloway. If you are interested, please contact Jovine – 780-451-6601 to make arrangements.

CONFIRMATION

If you have a child that is Grade 6 / Age 11 and up who will celebrate Confirmation this year, please contact Donna in the office to register. Classes will run through Zoom and will begin soon. 😊