



March 21, 2021
Father Nilo Macapinlac
Calendar of Events

Sat Mar 20, 2021	Confession – Olds Holy Mass – <i>Ann Volk</i>	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream*
Sun Mar 21, 2021	Holy Mass Holy Mass	9:00 AM – Trochu 11:15 Olds
Tues Mar 23, 2021	Holy Mass	6:00 PM – Live stream only**
Wed Mar 24, 2021	Confession – Trochu Holy Mass - Trochu	6:00 PM 7:00 PM – Live stream **
Thur Mar 25, 2021	Rosary Holy Mass – <i>Deceased members of the Corsiatto family</i>	5:30 PM 6:00 PM
Fri Mar 26, 2021	Holy Mass - Olds	9:00 AM
Sat Mar 27, 2021	Confession – Olds Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream *
Sun Mar 28, 2021	Holy Mass – Olds Holy Mass - Trochu	9:00 AM 11:15 AM
<p><i>Masses without Intentions are assigned as Pro Populo – Mass for the people</i> <i>Live streamed on St. Stephen's Catholic Parish Facebook page *</i> <i>Live streamed on Father Nilo's personal Facebook page **</i></p>		

Easter Triduum Schedule

Holy Thursday – 7:30 p.m. (live streamed)*

Good Friday – 11:00 a.m.

Good Friday – 3:00 p.m. (live streamed)*

Good Friday – 5:30 pm

Easter Vigil – 9:00 p.m. (live streamed)*

Easter morning – 9:00 a.m

Easter morning – 11:15 a.m. (live streamed)*

All services will be on a first-come; first-serve basis.

My dear people of God & parishioners;

Prayerful Lenten season! The Lenten season is one of penance, reflection, prayer, almsgiving, and fasting, perhaps even in that order, so we can better prepare ourselves for Easter Sunday and beyond. In our first reading from the young prophet Jeremiah, God spoke: 'I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts...for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sins no more.' Lent reminds us that God is gracious and merciful. God's divine mercy is a central theme of Lent. One might say that the priceless gift of God's mercy is highlighted and celebrated in the Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). That should be a key part of our Lenten journey. As mentioned only two weeks remain on that journey so getting to reconciliation is important if we have not done so already. Like the Psalmist this Sunday, let our prayer be: "Create in me a clean heart, Oh God!" (Psalm 51). Moreover, we have a great model to follow despite He does not need repentance, He who knew no sin became sin for us, Jesus Christ our Eternal High Priest (cf. 2Corinthians 5:21). "He learned obedience through what he suffered...he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." (Hebrew 5)

The Sacrament of Penance or Confession is regularly done at our St. Stephen's Parish Library in Olds which is every Saturday at 11:00 am, while in Trochu, St. Anne of the Prairies Parish at the Confessional which is every Wednesday at 6:00 pm prior to 7 pm Mass. God is never tired of extending His Hand for granting us absolution and remission of our sins, forgiving us and healing us from within. In Sacramental confession allows God's loving mercy and His grace-filled absolution to be confirmed to us through a priest. God sees us with love, mercy, and an abundance of forgiveness. Christ, through the priest, helps us to let go of anything that gets in the way of our relationship to God. St. Isidore wrote, "Confession heals, confession justifies, confession grants pardon of sin. All hope consists in confession. In confession there is a chance for mercy." From the lips of Christ Jesus as he instituted this Sacrament of mercy par excellence: "Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven them, whose sins you retain, they are retained." (John 20:23) "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 18:18). In this beautiful Sacrament, every sinner is a potential saint and thus, it gives birth to every saint. Let us find hope in our Lord Jesus whom the Father has glorified at His Transfiguration and again on that Easter glory of resurrection at Calvary whom we await. "I have glorified it and I will glorify it again" (John 12:28). God bless you all!

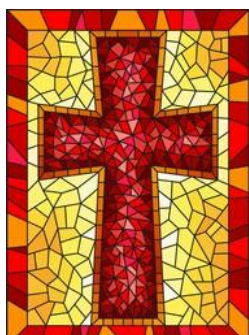
Yours devotedly in Christ,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

ST. JOSEPH'S CORNER

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

Excerpt taken from the Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* of the Holy Father Francis. Thanks to his role in salvation history, Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide, the numerous religious Institutes, Confraternities and ecclesial groups inspired by his spirituality and bearing his name, and the many traditional expressions of piety in his honour. Innumerable holy men and women were passionately devoted to him. Among them was Teresa of Avila, who chose him as her advocate and intercessor, had frequent recourse to him and received whatever graces she asked of him. Encouraged by her own experience, Teresa persuaded others to cultivate devotion to Joseph.



Did you know... The stained glass window of St. Joseph over the tabernacle was donated to St. Stephen's by long time members of our parish, Tom and Carrie Jensen. The stain glass window came from a convent in New York. Tom Jensen a local businessman, owned and operated Jensen's Mens Wear prior to his retirement, and Carrie was our choir director. While Tom and Carrie have both passed away, we thank them for their special gift to honour St. Joseph.

THINK TANK – PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

In anticipation of the Covid crisis finally coming to an end – someday – the Parish Council of St. Stephen is looking towards the future and has begun what we are calling Planning for Tomorrow. The first step is the addition of the Planning for Tomorrow prayer that will be read by the lectors following the Prayers of the Faithful. Secondly, you as members of this parish are invited to attend a “Think Tank” meeting on Thursday April 15th, after the 6:00 PM Mass. The intention of this meeting and any subsequent small group gatherings is to help revise our parish mission statement and then aid the Parish Council in determining where it is that we, as a parish, post-Covid, are going and how we’re going to get there. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks to come.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- **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!
Vivat Jesus!



*K of C Family of the Month
The Leischner Family*

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.



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!

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.

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>

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

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.

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.

CATECHISM

Catechism has started again. We are offering in person classes for grades 1-4. Due to Covid Restrictions, we have limited capacity – so please pre register to secure a spot. For more details, please call or text Theresa – 403-559-6843 or Theresa.templeton@gmail.com All Covid protocols will be followed, so please send your child with a Mask. 😊