






## May 23, 2021

### Father Nilo Macapinlac

Sat May 22, 2021	Confession – Olds - <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> Holy Mass – <b>LIVESTREAM ONLY</b>	 <b>SACRAMENTAL MASS</b>	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – <b>Livestream*</b>
Tues May 25, 2021	Holy Mass - <b>LIVESTREAM**</b>		6:00 PM – <b>Livestream **</b>
Thur May 27, 2021	Holy Mass – <b>LIVESTREAM**</b>	 <b>SACRAMENTAL MASS</b>	6:00 PM – Olds- <b>Livestream**</b>
Fri May 28, 2021	Holy Mass – <b>LIVESTREAM**</b>		9:00 AM – Olds- <b>Livestream**</b>
Sat May 29, 2021	Confession – Olds Holy Mass – <b>LIVESTREAM +</b>	 <b>SACRAMENTAL MASS</b>	11:00 AM 5:00 PM – Live stream*

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

\*\*Live stream – Father Nilo's personal face book page

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

In response to the new AHS restrictions of May 5, 2021 and directive from the Archdiocese of Edmonton, St. Stephen's will move to a Livestream ONLY Mass until further notice. During this time, we will continue with Sacramental Masses for our families with First Communion and Confirmation candidates. The Livestream Mass on Saturday evening will continue to be posted on our St. Stephen's Facebook page, while Father will continue to post the weekday Masses on his personal Facebook Page.

#### **PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF**

Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac  
Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired  
Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin  
Office Admin – Mia MacDonald  
4302 57<sup>th</sup> Ave Olds, AB  
[Ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto: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**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Communion**

If you haven't already booked a Mass with Donna in the office, please so do immediately.  
403-556-3084 Ext 4

Please pay office for resource material if you haven't done so already via etransfer to the office – [ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto:ststephen102@gmail.com).

#### **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation classes are completed. Our candidates will be celebrating during scheduled Masses throughout May, June and July. We invite you to keep them in your prayers.

If you haven't scheduled a Mass with Donna in the office, please do so immediately. We recommend that you find time to attend Confession on Saturday morning at 11:00 with your Confirmation Candidate.

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear friends & parishioners;

Blessings! It was on this day, Pentecost, that Jesus fully united with His followers through the Holy Spirit. This is a great day of joy for us as it was on this day that Christ fulfilled His promise to us. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#732) points out, "On that day (Pentecost), the Holy Trinity is fully revealed. Since that day, the Kingdom announced by Christ has been open to those who believe in him: in the humility of the flesh and in faith, they already share in the communion of the Holy Trinity." In a sense today is a day of the Holy Spirit. Our First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles reports, "Then there appeared to them tongues of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." Often you may see a painting or other rendering of the Apostles with a flame above their heads. That image comes from the descent of the Holy Spirit as described in this reading. Pentecost had another name in the time of Jesus. It was also called "the day of the first fruits." Occurring 50 days after the Passover, the people would bring the first fruits of the wheat harvest to present them to God. Although wheat was at the center, it was not necessarily the only gifts presented to God to acknowledge His gifts. Barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and honey were also brought. The people believed that not just the first, but also the best of the crop should be given to God. This is, of course, one of the basic tenets of our idea of stewardship — that is, presenting our gifts to God in thanksgiving for God's many gifts to us. We no longer live in an agrarian society. Many people make their living in non-agricultural ways. But for those who do, this practice, especially among Christians, is still followed. In the potato raising area of Columbia, harvesting the potatoes is a prime event. Everything shuts down as entire families go through the potato fields and harvest the potatoes, but it is also still a tradition that they do not harvest every tenth row. When the harvest is complete, the people of the local churches return and pick that tenth row as a gift to the Church and thus to God. Do we give of our own first fruits? Do we fully understand and appreciate the many blessings God gives to us?

St. Paul expands on this idea in the Second Reading from his First Letter to the Corinthians. The idea of stewardship is also quite definite here when Paul writes, "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." This tells us clearly that stewardship involves more than just material goods. We are all part of the Body of Christ, and our particular talents and gifts are necessary for the Body to fully function. We are called to serve God and one another and whatever our gifts may be, they are to be shared with others, especially those in our own faith community. Do you feel that your presence at church is your gift or do you understand that you may need to do more? The Gospel from St. John tells of Christ visiting His Apostles after His Resurrection. This meeting happened on Easter Sunday, and it is part of the preliminary to what we celebrate today. After rising from the dead, Jesus could have gone anywhere, and He could have done anything, but He wanted to be with His people. He wants to be with us in the same way. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you," says the Lord on that occasion. He gives us a mission; He commissions for us to do what He did. Now, just as then, the Lord sends us out in the world, our world, where we live, where we work, wherever we go, to represent Him and to model Him as best we can. St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mother Teresa, had a real awareness of what it meant to be sent by God. She said, "I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, Who is sending a love letter to the world. Do we also grasp what it means to share that love with all around us? We have been gifted with the Holy Spirit to assist us. Let us invite always the Holy Spirit to enkindle the fire of Divine love in our hearts. Amen

Yours in the Lord always,  
Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

### ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER SILENT AUCTION

**Items on display** – Beginning May 8<sup>th</sup> and all throughout May during the Weekend Masses.

**Silent Auction** – May 21 - May 30<sup>th</sup>

**Bidding closes** – May 30<sup>th</sup> – 3 PM. Highest bid at 3 PM takes the item.

The auction has begun!!! Go to Facebook and check out the wonderful items in our St. Joseph the Worker Silent Auction. The Auction will close on Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm. If you are unable to access Facebook, you can view the items in the foyer and contact Maria to assist you with your bidding. Maria - 403-415-6833

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.

## 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*).

### 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!

### COVID PROJECT – Denim quilts

Jack and Jo-Anne Sell are busy making wonderful quilts to be donated.

If you have any jeans or heavier fabrics such as corduroy, wool and khaki that you would like to donate, there is a donation box just outside of the Parish office.

If you are aware of an agency that could use quilts, please let them know

Thanks again for your generosity. Keep those jeans coming! Any questions – call Jack or Jo-Anne Sell 587-796-1634.

### BRIDAL SHOWER – Covid style – ARVAY FAMILY

Curtis Arvay, son of Larry and Laurel, and his fiancée, Andrea, are to be married this weekend in Canmore. Congratulations to the Happy couple and the proud parents – Larry and Laurel Arvay. Thank you to all who dropped off a card for the new couple. Their wedding was cancelled last summer and rescheduled to this year. Please include them in your prayers 😊

### 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!

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- K of C Wheelchair Fundraiser: We would like to thank parishioners of St Stephen's Parish for their generosity at this time during the COVID Pandemic by raising funds to purchase 8 wheelchairs. Our campaign for this year will end on May 31, 2021. If you still wish to contribute, please contact: Paul Caves: H 987 796 1179 C 403 438 3713 or leave your donation at the church office. Thank you.
- **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](mailto:skrbodnar@live.ca)
- **Alberta/Northwest Territories Knights of Columbus State Scholarship** is open to Knights, their children, grandchildren, wives or widows of Alberta Knights of Columbus who are in good standing in their councils. The scholarships having a value of \$750.00 will be awarded on the basis of all-round achievement, rather than for strictly academic performance. Achievement in the areas of academics, athletics, the arts, school, community and church involvement will be considered as well as the question of financial need in determining the successful candidates. It helps:
  - To provide opportunities for youth to pursue further
  - To encourage those applying for state scholarships to pursue the development of their faith life and spiritual knowledge

For more information and the Application form, please contact Dan Killoran at 403-415-5627. Applications close May 31st, 2021 **Vivat Jesus!**

## FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES – PRAYER WARRIORS

If you have been praying for one of our First Communion Candidates and would like to present them with a card (with or without a token), you can drop it off to the office and we will make sure they receive it. The First Communion candidates will celebrate throughout Masses in May, June and July.

The list of young people below will be celebrating their Sacraments in the month of May. Please include them in your prayers.

### *First Communion Candidates*

Jude Webb  
Joshua Sproule  
Camile Templeton  
Sarah Planken  
Everett Crampton  
Georgia Crampton  
Adam Bradley  
Clara Bradley  
Matt Torres  
Hans Tadle

### *Confirmation Candidates*

Joss Webb  
Emily Sproule  
Jon Sproule  
Andrew Bradley  
Harleigh Tadle  
Hyacinth Tadle

*Congratulations and God Bless!*