

Dear friends and parishioners,

Peace be with you! How easy it is, especially in these times, to be consumed by the cares and distractions of the "here and now," forgetting about what matters most — living for the Kingdom of Heaven. The stewardship way of life, with its emphasis on the virtuous use of our Time, Talent, and Treasure, allows us to embrace daily life and all its demands — with eternity in mind.

How do we keep focused on the Kingdom of Heaven? St. Paul shares his secret for an eternity-driven life. In our Second Reading from his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says, "I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need." In other words, Paul has learned to live the stewardship way of life.

What is the secret? It is this: "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." How? Through this: "My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." It is so simple! But it is not easy. It takes both courage and humility to live this way. God will supply these to us if we ask. On October 31, Fr Michael Mcgivney, founder of the Knight of Columbus, the biggest Catholic men's organization will be beatified. His ancestors knew how to live in humble circumstances which they passed on to him and he fully lived the Christian way of life and as good pastor, he was true steward of families. Let us learn from his heroic virtues. I humbly congratulate all our worthy brother knights and their families on this glorious event of the beatification of their founder unto the altar of the Universal Church. May the Lord protect you from all harm in this time of pandemic. God bless you richly!

Yours in the Lord always,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

PARISH ADDRESS

4302 57th avenue Olds, Alberta T4H1C5 403-556-3084

<u>ststephen102@gmail.com</u> – Office <u>ststephenPA@outlook.com</u> – Pastoral Ass't <u>www.ststephens-olds.ca</u> - Website

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening – 5 PM 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday – 11:15 AM 2nd, 4th Sunday – 9:00 AM Daily Live stream – 6 PM

Office Hours of Father Nilo (Parish/Rectory) Tues – Friday 10 AM – 2 PM

PASTORAL / OFFICE STAFF

Pastor – Father Nilo Macapinlac Deacon – Charles Johnston – Retired Pastoral Ass't – Donna Litwin Office Admin – Mia MacDonald

PARISH EVENTS

Bible Study w/Fr. Nilo – Tue – 7 PM - Zoom "Bring Mary Home Rosary Rally – Fri Oct 16, 2020 – 6:30 PM – Parish Back lawn) Book of the Month Club - TBD Sac Prep – 1st Communion – Oct 24, 2020

CALL TO PROTECT
Call to Protect course is rescheduled to

Sat. Oct 17, 2020 9:30-12:00
All Essential Volunteers and those who work with our seniors and Youth are required to take this training. Please contact the office to register.

God Bless and Be Well

FAMILY LIFE

Candlelight Rosary Rally- "Bringing Mary Home" will be held at 6:30 p.m. behind St. Stephen's on the lawn on **Friday Oct. 16**th. We will be following the guidelines from the Archdiocese concerning the covid restrictions. Dress accordingly since the evenings can be quite cool. Please bring a candle, either wax or battery-operated. A lawn chair would also be handy.

Before you come, if you wish to write a petition, there will be a basket at the registration table. The basket will be carried in the procession at the beginning of the rally, and placed before Our Lady. They won't be read aloud. Afterwards, the papers will be burnt, so all will be kept confidential.

Procession of Our Lady with the Couples for Christ.

Opening prayer -the Pandemic prayer that we pray at the beginning of Mass

Litany to Our Lady

Consecration Prayer to Our Lady

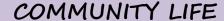
Prayer to St. Joseph, Protector of the Church.

Rosary- each group will lead a decade. A group may be one of the groups such as K of C, CWL, Franciscans etc.: one of the cultural communities, i.e. Filipinos, East Indian, Indigenous or a group could consist of a family. As each bead is prayed, someone will light their candle.

Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be served.

September's Book of the Month are now on sale. They are on the table just inside the first set of doors. Each book is \$10. Please pay the ladies in the office. October's Book of the month is *Rediscover the Saints*. It will be a great preparation for All Saints' Day on November 1st.

Family Life wishes Ted and Naamah Leischner a Happy Anniversary on October 12th. Blessings on you and your family!





Due to Covid restrictions we are not able to run the fall supper this year. However, we still love connecting with our people and supporting our Parish community, therefore our committee has come up with an alternate way do this.

We would love to help you stock your freezer with amazing food from Coco Brooks this Christmas to make things a little easier on you.

It really is easy.

- 1. Go to: cocobrooks.com
- 2. Scroll down a little and Click on Fundraising
- 3. On the left you will see a place to put an invitation code, put in **nervy-save**
- 4. Next you will be asked to create an account. This is so we know who orders what.
- 5. Scroll through their fundraising menu, order what you like and pay for it online. You also have the option to pay for it with cash or cheque with Donna at the church. Just make sure your cheque is made out to St. Stephens Parish and that you label it Coco brooks on the bottom left.

Donna has a copy of the menu and order numbers if you need any help or do not have access to

You can order online until **November 9th** and collect your frozen food from our Tailgate Party at St. Stephens Parish on **November 23rd**. This is a great way to take some of the burden off cooking as there are many appetizer menu items as well as main dishes available to order.

This is a really great opportunity to help support St. Stephens Parish as all proceeds will go towards St. Stephens.

If you have any questions or need more information please feel free to contact Dawn Elphick-Woodbury 780-872-6174 or dawn.woodbury@gmail.com.

SACRAMENTAL PREP - FIRST COMMUNION

We are now accepting Registrations for children who will be taking their First Reconciliation/ First Communion this year. Classes will start via Zoom on Saturday October 24th, 2020. Please call the office to register your child.

There are Prep Books and CD's for those who started their Sacramental Prep in Fall of 2019. These are fantastic resources for you to review as a family with your child. (1 child - \$20 2 children - \$30.)

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

In lieu of our regular Baptismal Preparation classes, new parents wishing to get their child baptized will meet with Father Nilo for an interview and discussion. We are also advising new parents to use the wonderful resources available through Formed.org on preparing for Baptism.

Contact the office for more information.

BIBLE STUDY W/ FATHER NILO

Father Nilo will be running a bible study on Tuesdays at 7 pm on Zoom. It's not too late to sign up. He will be using a FORMED.ORG program for all to follow. If you are interested in participating, please contact the office or touch base with Father Nilo directly.

BOTTLE DEPOT - ST. STEPHEN'S FUNDRAISING

Members of our Filipino community have helped us set up an account/bin at the Bottle Depot. You drop your bottles off and inform the staff that they are for St. Stephen's OR we have a wonderful Volunteer that is able to pick up your bottles for donation. Please contact Joseph at 403-586-45909. Thank you to those who are contributing to this campaign!!

FORMED.ORG

The Parish office would like to know if you have been able to enjoy all that FORMED has to offer. If you could take a few minutes to email Mia with your recommendation. She will share your suggestion in upcoming bulletins. If you are having issues or need assistance, please don't hesitate to call the office. Ststephen102@gmail.com

Life and Witness of Mary - <u>https://watch.formed.org/life-and-witness-of-mary</u>

During the month of October, look to Formed.org for many different resources discussing our mother Mary.

VOLUNTEERS

We are still in need of Essential Volunteers to help with our weekend Mass. We need to continue to recruit people to fill our list as we have lost some of our original volunteers due to work schedules, travel, etc.

- Videographer We are looking for someone to help in the role of Videographer, helping to live stream our Saturday Mass this does not require a lot of technical knowledge, we can show you what to do. We would love to see one of our Youth in the Parish step into this role.
- Point of Entry, Usher's, Cleaner's all of our Essential roles require more people as we prepare for Advent and Christmas. We hope to have people trained and ready to Volunteer for Christmas Masses. Please notify the office if you are interested in helping as an essential volunteer. If you require Call to Protect Training, there is a class scheduled on Oct 17, 2020.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAQUE NEWS

The National Catholic Women's League is undergoing many changes, hopefully to be integrated by 2022. The new Vision, is to empower members with gifts of the Holy Spirit, to respond in joyful service of patience, kindness and goodness.

If you enjoy some meaningful social time with women of Faith, and want to be more educated in what's happening in Council, feel more welcome and needed, we are accepting memberships.

Due to COVID19, we have postponed our Annual Garage Sale.

We are reminded October is Rosary Month. Join the CWL members to pray 1 decade of Rosary, in a Candlelight Rosary Rally, Friday, October 16 @ 6:30PM outside at St Stephens

We have been asked by Diocesan to extend our executive terms by one year, so if you have any questions, please contact: President – Joanne Fewster @ 403-791-1186, or Laurel Arvay, membership chairperson @ 403-556-2360.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, will be beatified on Oct 31st of this year by Pope Francis. The Saturday Oct 31st Mass at 5 pm at St. Stephen's will be for Father McGivney in thanksgiving, as well as for his canonization. Brother Knights, please plan to attend with your families, if possible. The Rosary will be said before Mass. As usual, the volunteer team will open the doors at 4:30 pm.

Thank You! The Knights would like to thank all those who supported our Mundare sausage sale last Saturday. We sold out again in record time with your help and from the community at large. God bless you all.

Interested in becoming a K of C Member - If you are a 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).

50/50 Ticket - Please consider supporting the Charity Work of the K of C by purchasing a 50/50 ticket online Tickets may be purchased by residents of Alberta, 18 years of age or older, at the website: https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/kocab Ticket sales end Oct 21st, 2020 with the draw on Oct 28th, 2020. Thanks!

PARISH GIVING

We continue to be thankful to our Parish Community who have been able to continue to give to the Church during these unprecedented months. We are seeing a **decrease** in our weekend contributions at Mass, but we have seen Contributions coming through E-transfers and the use of Automatic withdrawals. If you are interested in finding out more about our Alternate methods to contribute, please see Mia in the office.

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 – ststephen102@gmail.com. Please include your name so donation can be recorded correctly.

Automatic Contribution – Forms are available at the church to set up your weekly donations through Debit/Credit Automatic withdrawals.

May the Blessings of this day fill your heart and home Happy Thanksgiving