

St. Stephen's Parish Bulletin

Sept 4, 2021

Father Nilo Macapinlac

Sat Sept 4, 2021	Confession – Cancelled – Father is away Holy Mass – Father Thomas Vadassery	5:00 PM - Olds
Sun Sept 5, 2021	Holy Mass	9:00 AM - Trochu 11:15 AM - Olds
Tues Sept 7, 2021	Morning Prayer	
Wed Sept 8, 2021	Morning Prayer	
Fri Sept 10, 2021	Morning Prayer	
Sat Sept 11, 2021	Confession Holy Mass	11:00 AM 5:00 PM - Olds
Sun Sept 12, 2021	Holy Mass	9:00 AM – Olds 11:15 AM - Trochu

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

NEW

There will be a change to our evening Mass schedule.

Tuesday – 6:30 PM

Thursday – NO evening Mass

Sunday – 7:00 PM

Morning Mass will continue on Wednesday and Friday AM with Tuesday switching to Evening Mass. .

The new schedule will begin Sept 14, 2021.

Our Lady of Fatima - Sundre
First Friday of the Month
Confession – 6:00 PM
Mass – 7:00 PM

St. Anthony's - Didsbury
** to be announced.
** Monthly Mass to resume in October.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER NILO

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
This Sunday's readings once again illustrate the timeless message of stewardship interwoven throughout the Word of God. Today's readings offer beautiful illustrations of two of the "Four Pillars of Parish Stewardship" — hospitality and service — and the joy that a life lived for others can bring. The first reading from Isaiah starts off with a powerful message of hope meant to be shared. "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared." What a message of encouragement and consolation the prophet is instructed to give! By virtue of our Baptism, we modern-day prophets are entrusted with this same message. We, too, are called to share the good news of salvation with others, starting in our own families and circle of friends and extending to all in our parish and community. Sharing this Good News is the true goal of hospitality. In our second reading, from the letter of St. James, we see that all are equally worthy of our hospitality. "If a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Sit here, please,' while you say to the poor one, 'Stand there,' or 'Sit at my feet,'...have you not become judges with evil designs?" Clearly, we are to welcome and serve everyone who walks through our church's doors, extending warmth and a dignified greeting to all. The person who wanders in late to Mass, who is not dressed to our personal standards, may be just the person who is most in need of the message of hope we read of in Isaiah this week. Sometimes we can offer that message simply with a smile and offer to come and sit next to us in "our" pew. The Gospel reading from Mark gives further illustration of hospitality and service, and the connection between the two. In this passage we find Jesus on the go, and "people brought to Him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged Him to lay His hand on him." These people had already heard the Good News that Jesus was preaching. In response, they reached out to a man who literally could not hear and brought him close to Jesus so that he could receive the Good News, too. This is true service. This is hospitality at its finest. Jesus responds immediately to this act of service and hospitality, opening the deaf man's ears and removing his speech impediment! And what about the people whose service and hospitality had made this encounter possible? Jesus blessed them for it, confirming their faith to such a degree that they were "exceedingly astonished" and could not stop themselves from proclaiming the miracle they had witnessed. This scripture passage illustrates a wonderful aspect of stewardship living — we simply cannot outdo our God in generosity. The more we give of ourselves to welcome and serve others for His sake, the more He blesses and strengthens our own faith. This week let's challenge ourselves to step out of our comfort zone to reach out to someone who needs to hear the Good News of Jesus. We may just find ourselves astonished at what miracles He accomplishes! Happy birthday to Our Blessed Mother Mary and to all in this month of September. God bless everyone and with my heartfelt prayers for all of you as I continue my holiday-retreat. See you soon....

In Christ always,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor



ST. JOSEPH'S CORNER – The Year of St. Joseph – Dec 8 2020 – Dec 8 – 2021



Prayer to St. Joseph
Hail, Guardian of the redeemer
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you, God entrusted his only son
In you, Mary placed her trust;
With you, Christ learned to be man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
Show yourself a Father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
AMEN

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

Please visit the Archdiocese website and Facebook page in addition to St. Stephen's Facebook page to find links and listings of faith events that are scheduled to remember the Indigenous Children of the former Residential Schools that have been discovered. We hold these children in our hearts and prayers. Members of our community have dropped off Teddy Bears and shoes to remember these little ones.

BOOK CLUB – Starting in September

Who is this Jesus? Is the title of a 133 page book to be used in a book club hosted by John Palardy. It is a very readable life of Jesus in 12 short chapters. Weekly meetings will start in early September. The first class is scheduled to begin on Wednesday September 29th @ 7 pm at 126 Balsam Crescent, Olds, AB. For more info or to sign up contact John Palardy 403 556 7855 or email him at palardyjj@gmail.com

IN HOUSE FOOD BOX – Update

Thanks for all your donations to the food bank. As a result we are well stocked in all areas except canned meats such as salmon, chicken or tuna.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

ATTENTION all those who were involved in liturgical ministry prior to Covid. If you were a Greeter, Adult Server, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, or Usher we would like to know if you will be returning to active duty this fall. Perhaps you were part of the Point of Entry Team during Covid and would like to continue in some capacity, or maybe you are new to the parish and would like to offer up your time and talents by serving during Holy Mass.

Please contact Donna as you are needed to help fill in the next Liturgy Schedule.
(403-556-3084 ext. #4)

MOUNTAIN VIEW FOOD BANK – FOOD DRIVE

On September 25th St. Stephen's is joining the Church of the Latter Day Saints to participate in the Fall Food Bank Drive in support of the Mountain View Food Bank. We are asking for volunteers to help drop the collection bags off on September 20th, 21st or 22nd. The food donations will be picked up on September 25th between 9am and noon. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer of the church. Call Tara Miller for more information.

CATECHISM NEWS

Are you in Grade 1-4? Would you love to learn more about God through fun lessons, songs, and activities? Come and join us Sunday mornings at 10am for catechism classes. First class will be on September 19. Please call Theresa to register at 403-559-6843 or email theresa.templeton@gmail.com. She will also be available to chat after Mass on Sundays at the back of the church.

Are you looking for a way to share your talents and give back to our church community? We are looking for volunteers to help teach Catechism and Children's Liturgy this year. The season will run from mid-September to the end of May. Please prayerfully consider and give Theresa a call at 403-559-6843 or email theresa.templeton@gmail.com.

ALTAR SERVER RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

Any child who has received their 1st Communion and is at least in grade 3 is eligible to serve on the altar during Mass. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming an Altar Server, contact the parish office, ASAP, as we are trying to put together a training session.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Are you running out of Sausage? The K of C have you covered... they will be hosting a Drive thru **MUNDARE SAUSAGE SALE** on Saturday Sept 11, 2021 from 10 – 2 PM. They seem to sell out quickly, so get there early! The Knights of Columbus appreciate your support for these events – their fundraising efforts go towards helping our Parish and our community!



As we transition into Fall with our children and teachers going back to school, University students starting their new lives and busy family schedules resuming; it is good to remember...

We can do all things through Christ.