

# September Bulletin

**St. Anthony      St. Stephen      Our Lady of Fatima**  
**Father Nilo Macapinlac**

My dear friends and parishioners,  
Grace and peace to you all!

September 8 is the feast of the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. How do we know that? Tradition of the Church declares that the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Virgin Mary happened in the womb of her mother, St. Anne on December 8 and so we count 9 months forward and appropriated approximately September 8 is the solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary's birthday. There are only three birthdays celebrated within the liturgical calendar of the Church, firstly, our Lord's on Dec. 25, then our Lady's which is this forth coming September 8 and thirdly, St. John the Baptist on June 24 and nothing more.

The Sacred Scriptures or the Holy Bible calls her the New Eve, mother of many nations and indeed she is blessed among women, full of grace. The Torah of the Jewish People had recognized Mary as the daughter of Zion, the Koran of the Islam mentioned her several times and she is known as "Mariam" which means "Star of the Sea."

As we venerate Mary, the mother of our Lord, she is also our mother because at the foot of the Cross, she stood there and Jesus declared to St. John the beloved Apostle who represents not only the apostles but the Church, saying: "Son, behold your mother!" As Jesus inaugurated the new family and the reign Kingdom of God, the ever-Virgin Mary has a special place in the Sacred Heart of God. God Himself commands: "Honor your father and your mother." Above all earthly parents and authorities, the Blessed Virgin Mary has the special place not only in our Church but worthy of our veneration and honor. It is unthinkable for a follower of Christ to be a faithful disciple of our Lord without respect and due honor to Mary, the mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

The most ancient motto of our Church: "AD JESUM PER MARIAM" which means "All to Jesus through Mary." The papacy of St. John Paul II was aided by the powerful intercession of our Lady as his motto states: "Totus Tous, Oh Maria" which means "I am totally yours, Oh Mary!" Truly he is the saint of the Blessed Mother Mary.

As we strive to be faithful disciples of Christ, let us learn from the wisdom of our Lady, she placed Jesus at the center of her life, she pondered everything in her Immaculate Heart even those things that she cannot totally understand in the course of her life. On this unprecedented time of pandemic, let us trust God more like Mary whose faith and total confidence was solely placed in the hands of the Almighty God. We knew after all that everything will be well and in His time, God will make all things beautiful. God bless you richly and keep you safe always!

Totally yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Fr. Nilo Macapinlac, pastor

## PARISH ADDRESS

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403-556-3084

[ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto:ststephen102@gmail.com) – Office

[ststephenPA@outlook.com](mailto:ststephenPA@outlook.com) – Pastoral Ass't

[www.ststephens-olds.ca](http://www.ststephens-olds.ca) - Website

## 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 – Tuesday – 7 PM

Coffee Party – Wed AM – 10 AM

Call to Protect Volunteer Training – TBD

Book of the Month Club – TBD

## CALL TO PROTECT

Deacon Charles is planning a training session for Call to Protect for all of our volunteers who need training. If you are involved with one of our committees, are signed up as an essential volunteer or are hoping to volunteer your time in the upcoming months for Mass, this training is mandatory. Contact the office or Deacon Charles directly to register

## PARISH COMMUNITY

**Community Life** — Shelley Bennett is the chairman of our Community Life Committee.

This committee works to plan and host coffee parties, potlucks, Christmas parties and different events to bring our Parish family together. If you would like to join Shelley and her committee in their efforts, please contact Shelley after coffee on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **Coffee Get Together - Visiting Covid Style**

Community Life and Family Life are hosting a Coffee get together after Mass on Sunday September 13, 2020. Coffee, tea and juice will be provided. We will be set up in the South Parking Lot. Come and join in the fun. Please bring your own chair.

### **Wednesday Coffee Party**

Change up the scenery for your coffee party with the guys or gals and join us on Wednesday mornings at 10 am under the parking canopy of the Church. We will meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday.

## FAMILY LIFE

**Welcome Wagon Team-** We are looking for people to join our Welcome Wagon Team. We are wanting to welcome new Parishioners as they join our Parish – help them discover what our Parish offers and educate them on our various committees and offerings within the parish. Please contact Maria if you are interested in being involved.

**Cultural Traditions-** Our Tri Parish Community is blessed with a diverse community that we would like to recognize. We would like to learn about each other's Catholic Traditions – some examples would include Santa Niño de Cebu (Filipino), St. Patrick's Day (Irish), St. Nicholas Day (European), the Blessing of Easter Breakfast (Croatian) and so many more. We would like to share in these traditions through our coffee parties (when we are able) and through the bulletin. Please share how these traditions are celebrated through food, processions, blessings, etc so that our Parish Community can celebrate together. Our Catholic traditions are so rich, and give "flesh" to our faith.

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION – FIRST COMMUNION

**Don't Forget** – we have Sacramental Prep Books and CD's here at the Church for our little people who are signed up and preparing for their First Communion (2020) These are fantastic resources for you to review as a family with your child.

1 child - \$20

2 children - \$30.

## BIBLE STUDY W/ FATHER NILO

Father Nilo will be running a bible study starting Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm on Zoom. 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.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

We will be beginning a Book of the Month club with resources from Dynamic Catholic. They are easy-to-read, yet have spiritual content that makes you think. There are several ways to utilize these books:

1. For your own enjoyment and personal reading. Think about stocking up for Christmas gifts!
2. Find a *Book Buddy*. Do you know anyone who may be a senior, housebound, or alone, who enjoys reading books and discussing them? It could be done live or by phone.
3. Start a *Neighbourhood Book Club*. Perhaps there are others in your area that would like to gather to enjoy discussing? Again, it could be done live, socially distanced of course, or by Zoom

Maria will be ordering books each month. There are two titles available for our first order, and thereafter, we will bring in one book a month. The cost of each book is \$10 CAD. Let Maria know by Sept.15 if you would like to order either of the following two books. You can leave the money in an envelope with parish staff, or e-transfer to [maria@bluemantle.ca](mailto:maria@bluemantle.ca)

**Book 1- *Beautiful Hope***- When everything seems chaotic and we are faced with a multitude of negative realities, we might be tempted to say that nothing makes sense anymore. But we are not alone—God walks with us and his presence fills us with hope. Because of this we are able to smile in the midst of our difficulties. Despair is defeated because God is with us. The contributors to this book share stories that are meant to spark your own exploration of hope and increase its abundance in your life. We need an infusion of hope so we can see more clearly and live boldly as children of God.

**Book 2- *The Mission of the Family***-When asked to name the most important things in our lives, many of us put “family” near the top of our list. But what is the purpose, what is the meaning, of family? How can the family practice the Catholic faith at home, in its parish, and in today’s society? Discover God’s important mission and purpose for you, your spouse, and your children.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

~Father Forsythe Council of the Knights of Columbus - covering Olds, Didsbury, and Sundre - has achieved the Knights of Columbus **Star Council Award** for the fraternal year 2019-2020 - under the leadership of our Immediate Past Grand Knight Terry Cody. A very important achievement for our Council. Congratulations and thanks to all!

~**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)).

~Our Council’s **first meeting of the new Fraternal Year** will be by video conferencing at 7:30 on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Look to your email for the link to join in.

~Our Council will be participating in an **Alberta Highway Cleanup** again this year (postponed from June) on Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Would you be able to help us? We are open to and need the help from all the parish – in particular the Youth – and all KofC members. Please consider giving us some time for this Alberta Community project. Call Dave Hogarth at 403-994-0054 for more information and to advise him of your participation. Meet at the front of the church at 9:00am.

~The Knights of Columbus – **Alberta/NWT State Council usual Charities Appeal Raffle** has been indefinitely cancelled. NOW 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: <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/kocab>. Please consider supporting the charity work of the Knights. Ticket sales end Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with the draw on Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Thanks!

## FORMED.ORG

The parish has acquired a subscription to [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG) and would like to encourage you to sign-up online and take advantage of this wonderful Catholic resource. FORMED pulls together the best of Catholic movies, children's programming, Bible studies, documentaries, books and audio talks from leading Catholic experts that will help you grow in understanding your faith. The main categories offered are: Bible studies, Sacramental Preparation, Faith Formation, FORMED Live, Lighthouse CDS, Books on exploring the faith, DVDs, Youth Programs.

See the office for more details OR follow the steps below;

- 1) Go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)
- 2) Sign up under "Parish"
- 3) Select "St. Stephen's Catholic Parish – Olds, Alberta"
- 4) Enter your name and email address
- 5) *Voila!!* – you are now signed up with Formed.org

## MINISTRY OR PARISH GROUP

Every week there will be one special highlighted group from the parish. They will include:

**Ministry or Parish Group-** One ministry or group in the church will be described with contact information for the head of that ministry. Please consider using your gifts and talents to help St. Stephen's grow!

*Community Life* – Shelley Bennett is the chairman of our Community Life Committee.

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## MASS SIGN IN & PROTOCOLS

If you haven't had a chance to sign up online, we suggest you do so. This process helps us to create a spreadsheet of Parishioners attending Mass and expedites the process upon arriving. If you are unable to do so, we will continue to require each family to fill out a Contact Tracing Form at each Mass. The sign in link is available on our website, on our Facebook page or you can contact the office for assistance. The Archdiocese of Edmonton now requires us to wear Masks for the duration of Mass including entering and exiting of the Church. We are blessed to be able to gather as a Parish Community and thank everyone for their patience and understanding.

## BUSINESSES OWNED AND OPERATED BY YOU- OUR PARISH FAMILY

**Catholic Businesses and Services-** In an effort to help promote the small businesses/services of our parishioners during this time of covid-19, we will offer a business card sized space in the bulletin for you. This is a perfect way to get your business known and an easy way for our Parishioners to shop local through our very own skilled and talented people within the parish. Donations towards the bulletin space are welcome, but not required. You can contact the office to sign up.



Blue Mantle  
Olds AB T4H 1L9  
Local: 587-796-0903  
Maria and Dan Killoran  
Homeschool and Catholic Books  
[www.bluemantle.ca](http://www.bluemantle.ca) ~ 1-877-858-6833

YOUR CARD HERE

Promote your Candles,  
crafts, services, products,  
home based businesses,  
plumbing, carpentry,

We are providing some additional links for sites where contributions towards the Church can be made. Many thanks to our Parish community who have continued to give to the Parish during this trying time for many families

**CAEDM-** [www.caedm.ca/donate](http://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 – use the email address – [ststephen102@gmail.com](mailto:ststephen102@gmail.com). Please include your name and or envelope number in the message section, so donations can be recorded correctly. For anyone who has been looking for an alternate method, here is something for you.

**AUTOMATIC CONTRIBUTION:** Paperwork is also available for anyone wishing to sign up to have their monthly contribution automatically applied through debit or credit. Please contact Mia in the office for assistance.

*Please note:* There will not be a regular collection during Mass, however, a collection basket will be available before Mass. If you prefer to continue to give through e-transfer or alternative methods – your contribution is greatly appreciated.

## FINANCE REPORT FOR JULY

| Income by Month and Year            |               |              |              | Expenses by Month and Year |           |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                     | 2018          | 2019         | 2020         |                            | 2018      | 2019      | 2020      |
| Jan                                 | 28,191.00     | 28,252.15    | 28,881.56    | Jan                        | 17,932.00 | 22,988.00 | 25,070.00 |
| Feb                                 | 21,615.00     | 18,123.98    | 19,441.41    | Feb                        | 29,310.00 | 21,500.00 | 17,365.00 |
| Mar                                 | 25,061.00     | 20,022.20    | 15,296.98    | Mar                        | 17,352.00 | 19,484.00 | 19,999.00 |
| Apr                                 | 23,004.00     | 24,740.27    | 18,206.46    | Apr                        | 56,630.00 | 11,599.00 | 23,124.76 |
| May                                 | 23,526.00     | 26,753.60    | 22,233.88    | May                        | 23,954.72 | 16,351.00 | 19,922.15 |
| June                                | 20,408.93     | 19,480.04    | 27,045.85    | June                       | 20,938.86 | 17,944.59 | 21,141.86 |
| July                                | 25764.73      | 28770.24     | 25798.16     | July                       | 35591.38  | 19296.45  | 18643.03  |
| Surplus (Deficit) by Month and Year |               |              |              |                            |           |           |           |
|                                     | 2018          | 2019         | 2020         |                            |           |           |           |
| Jan                                 | \$ 10,259.00  | \$ 5,264.15  | \$ 3,811.56  |                            |           |           |           |
| Feb                                 | -\$ 7,695.00  | -\$ 3,376.02 | \$ 2,076.41  |                            |           |           |           |
| Mar                                 | \$ 7,709.00   | \$ 538.20    | -\$ 4,702.02 |                            |           |           |           |
| Apr                                 | -\$ 33,626.00 | \$ 13,141.27 | -\$ 4,918.30 |                            |           |           |           |
| May                                 | -\$ 428.72    | \$ 10,402.60 | \$ 2,311.73  |                            |           |           |           |
| June                                | -\$ 529.93    | \$ 1,535.45  | \$ 5,903.99  |                            |           |           |           |
| July                                | \$ -9826.65   | \$ 9473.79   | \$ 7155.13   |                            |           |           |           |
| Cumulative Position:                | -\$ 34138.28  | \$ 36979.44  | \$ 11638.50  |                            |           |           |           |