

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Website: www.holyfamilymh.ca FORMED.ORG. Parish code: GPQWK7 Phone: 403-527-6933

AUGUST 20TH – 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Times: Saturday - 5:00 pm, Sunday - 8:30am, 10:30am & 6:00pm, Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00-4:00pm

1451 Strachan Road SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1B-4V3 Fax: 403-526-2482 email: contact@holyfamilymh.ca

Office Hrs. Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 4:30pm - Closed on Statutory Holidays

Pastor - Rev. Philip Le – pastor@holyfamilymh.ca, **Assoc. Pastor** – Fr. Albert Sayson – assoc.pastor@holyfamilymh.ca

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Robert Risling - Robert.Risling@calgarydiocese.ca, **Care of the Sick** – Fr. Francis Tran - 403-977-

4656, **Youth Ministry** – youth@holyfamilymh.ca, Medicine Hat Catholic Youth also on Facebook

Sacramental Preparation – Sally Myers– sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca,

Catholic Women's League (CWL President) Jackie Metcalfe – jmetcalfe2016@gmail.com 403-581-5479

Knights of Columbus 9502 – (Grand Knight) Fabian Delwo – fdelwo@gmail.com 403-526-1580

Parish Pastoral Council – (Chair) Michael Stafford-Mayer – Michael.stafford-mayer@scotiabank.com – 587-289-3877

Parish Pastoral Council - (Sec.) Pat Ries – pjries@memlane.com – 403-527-8915

Parish Finance Council – (Chair) Karen Melle – klmelle@telus.net – 403-526-4604

Parish Planning Committee – (Chair) George Kambeitz - gjkam@shaw.ca - 403-527-5675

Calgary Diocesan: www.rcdiocese-calgary.ab.ca



The Canaanite Woman's Faith

Matthew 15.21-28

Welcome To Holy Family Parish

My church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

Anyone who wishes to practice the Catholic faith by attending this church may consider this parish as his/her own parish. You simply need to register. Please indicate whether you are a new parishioner or have moved and are providing a new address. Thank you.

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Would you like Weekly Offering Envelopes? Yes _____ or No _____



AUGUST 19TH-20TH - 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH UPCOMING EVENTS & INTENTIONS

Weekday Mass may be cancelled in the case of a funeral.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Shannon's Choir Practise @ 8:00am
- **Mass 8:30am** (Intention: Joe, Mary & Clara Liboiron †)
- **Mass 10:30am** (Intention: Holy Family Parish)
- Maria's Choir Practise @ 5:00pm
- **Mass 6:00pm** (Intention: Paul & Martina Schneider †)

MONDAY, AUGUST 21ST

MEMORIAL OF ST. PIUS X

- **Mass 9:00am** (Intention: Sr. Clem Liboiron)
- **Chinook Village 10:00am Mass**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22ND

- **Funeral 10:30am**
- **Mass 7:00pm** (Intention: Ralph Dietz †) **Followed by Adoration until 8:30pm**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23RD

- **Mass 9:00am** (Intention: Simonne Flynn)
- Sunnyside 1:30pm Communion
- Light Weigh 7:00pm Charity Room

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24TH

- Men's Prayer 6:30am Charity Room
- **Mass 9:00am** (Intention: George Errington †)
- **Holy Hour 6:00pm**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH

- **Mass 9:00am** (Intention: Anne Wagner †) **Followed by Adoration until 10:30am**
- **Wellington 10:00am Mass**
- Meadowlands 10:30am Communion

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH

- **Reconciliation 3:00pm – 4:00pm**
- Jeanne's Choir Practice 4:00pm

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- **Mass 5:00pm** (Intention: HFP Benefactors †)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Shannon's Choir Practise @ 8:00am
- **Mass 8:30am** (Intention: HFP Deceased †)
- **Mass 10:30am** (Intention: Holy Family Parish)
- Maria's Choir Practise @ 5:00pm
- **Mass 6:00pm** (Intention: HFP Deceased †)

FM 90.1 Hear Mass better through your Radio.

READINGS

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A AUGUST 19/20

First Reading (1 Kings 19) calls upon the People of God to open wide its doors to welcome whoever is sincerely searching for the truth. We are to form a house of prayer for all nations

Second Reading ((Rom. 9:1-5) describes the great sorrow of St Paul at the thought of the chosen people turning their backs upon Jesus. But he still believes that God can 'write straight with crooked lines', and that there is a merciful design in all of this.

Gospel (Mat 15:21-28) is a story of a pagan woman who responds to Jesus with a degree of humility and trusting faith which was often lacking among his fellow Jews. Jesus moved with her faith and answered her prayer.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

Just a reminder that all Bulletin Submissions must be in by Wednesday Morning for the Weekend Bulletin. Please submit by email to contact@holymfamilymh.ca

FORMED.ORG. Parish code: GPQWK7

- Go to Formed.org
- Enter our PARISH CODE: **GPQWK7**
Create a personal account with your personal user name/email and password.
- Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

IMPORTANT: Do not sign up as an individual. Our parish access code provides more content than an individual subscription and it costs you nothing!

****IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING SIGNED IN PLEASE COME SEE TERESA IN THE OFFICE 403-527-6933****



PARISH INFORMATION

WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES FOR RCIA?

The RCIA (Rites of Christians Initiation of Adults) is for men and women who, responding to an often inexplicable call, are formed at the hands of the local community around the Word of God, discerning and welcoming God's invitation to embrace life in the Catholic Christian community, and thus serving the mission of Jesus in the world today. The candidates for RCIA may be:

1. The UNBAPTIZED ADULTS.
2. The BAPTIZED ADULTS IN ANOTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATION.
3. The BAPTIZED CATHOLIC ADULTS WHO ARE UNCATECHIZED.

If you or anyone you know would like to join RCIA, please let Fr. Philip know. We also want to send invitation letter to those who might be good candidates for RCIA. Please give us their names. The RCIA process will begin September 20th.

RCIA: TRANSFORMING THE CHURCH

The RCIA (Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults) is not a program but a sacramental formation process that prepares individuals and communities for a particular way of life. The principles of RCIA are:

1. The RCIA is intended to facilitate the experience of conversion and the response of faith. At the heart of this experience is the proclamation of the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
2. The RCIA respects the individual experience of conversion, offering a process that accommodates and adapts to one's journey in faith in the midst of the community.
3. The RCIA creates a dynamic for adults to share faith together.
4. The RCIA is celebrated in the midst of the community and is a challenge to the community to deepen its own conversion.
5. The RCIA emphasizes the close relationship between liturgy and catechesis. Growth in faith is ritualized in various ways throughout the RCIA.
6. The RCIA recognizes that growth in faith that leads one to commitment happens gradually and in discernible periods.
7. The RCIA bears a markedly paschal character. The proper time for celebrating the sacraments of initiation is the Easter Vigil.
8. The RCIA affirms the responsibility for ministry and service of all baptized. Furthermore, both explicitly

and implicitly, the rite calls for a variety of ministries for full implementation.

9. The RCIA recognizes the importance of incorporating the particular needs and demands of the community and the candidates. The ritual celebrations need to authentically express the conversion experience of the candidates.
10. The RCIA provides a new context and model for sacramental catechesis: evangelization, conversion, the response of faith and mission. All of this is formative and dynamic, responding to the initiative of God.

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH???

If you or anyone you know needs a ride to mass on Sundays, please be advised that a bus is available for you for the **10:30 mass every week.**

This bus is available to most parishioners who live on the **South Side of the River.**

It can serve most of the seniors' residences or private homes. The cost is **\$5 per Sunday.** Please call the church office at 403-527-6933 with your name, address and contact number.

FATIMA INDULGENCE FOR 2017

For the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence for the year. One way to obtain the indulgence is to go before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima, solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church on the 13th of each month from May to October, and there devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honor of the Virgin Mary. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father and the Creed.

Therefore, the Legion of Mary are pleased to facilitate such prayers. As per the following schedule, the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be placed for veneration from 6-8 pm and the rosary will be publicly prayed the following dates and times:

Wednesday, Sept 13th Holy Family Parish 6:30pm

Friday, Oct 13th St. Patrick's Church 6:30pm & 7:30pm

The ordinary conditions necessary to gain an indulgence include:

- 1) Confession about 20 days before or after the indulgenced prayer or practice is offered
- 2) Reception of Holy Communion
- 3) Prayers for the intentions of the Pope for each plenary indulgence sought. Praying at least one Our Father and one Hail Mary fully satisfies this condition.

Indulgences can be gained for oneself or applied to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

MHCBE FAITH DAY SEPT 1ST 2017

The Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education invites all parishioners to the annual **Faith Day** on Friday, September 1st, 2017. The morning will feature an inspiring talk by our keynote speaker, Mr. David Wells, a member of the leadership team for the Diocese of Plymouth England whose primary objective is to help individuals grow in their sense of being missionary disciples and to fulfil the fact that "The Church exists to evangelize". Enjoy this fantastic day or part of the day with all 350 staff from our Catholic schools. A very special thank you to the Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation for sponsoring our 2017 keynote speaker!

Keynote Speaker: 8:30 – 11:30 @ Medicine Hat College
Staff Recognition: 1:00 – 1:30 Welcoming of new staff and recognizing employees with service awards @ Holy Family Parish

Celebration of Mass: 1:30 – 2:45 @ Holy Family Parish
No charge to attend. Free parking with parking passes handed out at the Medicine Hat College by MHCBE staff. If you have any questions, please call the Catholic School Board office at 403-527-2292. Hope to see you there!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are better TOGETHER! Volunteering is a great way to do something different with your friends or to maybe meet some new friends. Without our volunteers our Parish would be nothing, we love you and we want more of you to come forward and find the right place for you to be able to give of yourself.

As we are starting a new year of Parish activities, we are looking for people who might like to become part of them. The first is the **"FEEDING THE HOMELESS"** ministry. This involves helping to serve supper to the homeless in our city on Thursdays. You will be part of a team of 4-5 people who serve one Thursday every 3 months or so from 4:30 pm to about 6 pm. Individuals or complete teams are encouraged to take part. The program takes place at Fifth Avenue United Church and is sponsored by the Salvation Army.

The second activity is the parish **"COFFEE TIME"** in the hall after 10:30 mass. This involves a family, or any group who would be willing to prepare coffee and basic snacks for that mass once every 3 months or so. All expenses are covered by the parish.

If you would be interested in becoming part of either of these ministries or have any questions, please contact the

parish office 403-527-6933 with your name and phone number.

OUTSIDE OUR PARISH

LADIES OF THE PARISH

Please consider this faith-filled experience by attending the ladies mid-week retreat at Mount Saint Francis, Cochrane, AB, - September 12th -14th/2017.

In this chaotic world, what better way than to connect with our God during this silent retreat On "Encountering the Sacred intimacy with God."

Contact : Kathy Oczkowski - 403-246-0660

Email : fkoczkowski@icloud.com

RETROUVAILLE

RETROUVAILE: A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES – Married couples struggling and/or confused about difficulties in their relationship with their spouse can find help in taking the Retrouvaille program! The program is starting on the weekend of September 8-10, 2017, but there is still time to register. Information can be found on their website at www.helpourmarriagecalgary.com or by calling 403-879-7893.

PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. TOMY

In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima:

Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, and Spain

From October 24 to November 2, 2017

Led by Rev. Fr. Tomy Manjaly

Itinerary Highlights include: Lisbon, Santarem (site of the oldest Eucharistic Miracle), Fatima, Avila (birthplace of St. Teresa), Loyola (birthplace of St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuit Order), and Lourdes Contact Mystica Tours: 403-872-6303 or Fr. Tomy: 403-866-9940

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

HUGE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR PRAYERS!

I would like to thank all the parishioners of Holy Family Parish and beyond for all the prayers while I have been sick. My surgery was a success and I am very happy to say I am cancer free. I have had some complications since surgery and am working on them but I know God has a reason I am here and I will be well again. In the meantime please be patient with me and if you have a spare Hail Mary you can send my way, it is appreciated. I know that I

have come as far as I have because of you, Thank You All!
And Thank You Jesus!!!

Teresa, your secretary, Holy Family Parish.

THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you Wendy McOmer for helping us six weeks during the summer months. You are a fabulous secretary/receptionist. Enjoy your new position at St. Patrick's Parish. May God bless you.

VACATION NOTICE

Most of our staff have taken vacation. It's now the priests' turn. Fr. Albert will go to visit his family from August 22 to September 24. Please pray for him. Fr. Philip will enjoy his time away from October 9 to November 6.



POPE FRANCIS SOLEMNITY OF ASSUMPTION OF MARY

Pope Francis reflected on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Angelus on Tuesday.

The feast of the Assumption, also known as **Ferragosto**, is an important religious and civil holiday in Italy, and thousands of faithful were present in St Peter's Square to celebrate with the Holy Father.

In his remarks, Pope Francis reflected on the Gospel reading, which relates the meeting of Mary with Elizabeth, and records Mary's triumphant song of praise, the **Magnificat**. "The greatest gift that Mary brings to Elizabeth," the Pope said, "is Jesus, who already lives within her – not in faith and hope, as in so many women in the Old Testament: Jesus has taken human flesh from the Virgin, for His mission of salvation."

Elizabeth, the Pope said, had already received the joy of pregnancy, after having felt for so long the sorrow of not having a baby. Now, at the arrival of Mary, her joy "overflows and bursts from her heart, because the invisible but real presence of Jesus fills her senses." That joy is echoed by Mary in the Magnificat, a song of praise for God, who accomplished His plan of salvation through the poor and humble.

God is able to do great things through the humble because, the Pope said, "**humility** is like an emptiness that leaves room for God." The humble person "is powerful because he is humble, not because he is strong." He challenged the faithful to reflect on their own efforts to foster the virtue of humility.

In the house of Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah, the Pope continued, "the coming of Jesus through Mary creates not only a climate of joy and fraternal communion,

but also a climate of faith that leads to hope, to prayer, to praise."

And we too, Pope Francis continued, desire these things for our homes. "Celebrating Mary Most Holy, Assumed into Heaven," he said, "we would like her, once more, to bring to us, to our families, to our communities, that immense Gift, that unique Grace that we must always seek first and above all other graces that we have at heart: the grace that is Jesus Christ!"

Mary, the Pope said in conclusion, "is the model of virtue and of faith. In contemplating her today assumed into heaven, at the final completion of her earthly journey, we give thanks that she always goes before us in the pilgrimage of life and of faith." And, he said, "we ask that she protect and sustain us; that we might have a strong, joyful, and merciful faith; that she might help us to be saints, to meet together with her, one day, in Paradise."

Following the Angelus, Pope Francis entrusted to Mary, as **Queen of Peace**, "the anxieties and sorrows of peoples who, in many parts of the world, are suffering on account of natural calamities, of social tensions or of conflicts." He prayed, "May our heavenly Mother obtain consolation for all, and a future of serenity and of concord."

TWITTER@PONTIFEX

08/15/2017 - Mary's Assumption regards our future: it turns our gaze heavenward announcing the new heaven and new earth with Christ's victory.

08/14/2017 - The journey of entrusting ourselves to the Lord begins every day, starting each morning.

08/13/2017 - In Mary we see that humility is not a virtue of the weak but of the strong who don't have to treat others badly to feel important.

08/12/2017 - Dear young people, you are the hope of the Church. Do you dream about your future? Then take part in #synod18! <https://t.co/XNDm29yp3s>

08/11/2017 - When something makes us suffer, let us listen to the voice of Jesus in our hearts: "Do not fear! Go ahead! I am with you!"



FR. PHILIP

The racial tension this week in the United States reminds me of a story that happened during the Vietnam War. One day a soldier crept into a trench and told a Buddhist Monk chaplain that a wounded Catholic American was at

the point of dying, and was begging that a Catholic priest should come to him with a crucifix. However, the priest chaplain could not be found. The Buddhist Monk rapidly borrowed a cross from one of the soldiers and ran out with it in his hand. The next day, people saw the Monk dead,

holding the cross before the eyes of the American soldier who was also dead.

This story shows a wonderful unity that can exist between people of different nationalities and religions. The monk did not stop to think the dying man was a Catholic and not his concern. Rather, he knew that a man was in need of God's consolation. The man may have been a Muslim, or a Catholic, or a Hindu, a white or black, it did not really matter. The monk selflessly went to the man's aid because the man was his brother through the faith they shared in the Creator.

Jesus had come in the first instance to his own people, the Jews. Yet the miracle in today's Gospel reinforces an essential truth of our faith: that Jesus welcomes all people into his home. He came for everyone. Even 700 years before Christ's coming, there were some people, who looked forward to the unity of all humankind. The Prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, looked to the break-down of distinctions between the Jews and the Gentiles. All were to be united through faith in the one God. This vision has 2 implications, and many of us tend to forget them.

Firstly, as Catholics we believe that we have an advantage in enjoying the fullness of the truth as revealed by Christ and we have a responsibility to share our faith with others by the way we live; but there are many of us do not accept others as children of God. For example, many Christians, including Catholics, sympathize with the growing popularity of racist groups that seek to retain division among peoples, nations, communities, and parishes. Yet our lives, as St. Paul realized, should be a source of jealousy to others so that they may be encouraged to join

us. We are not an exclusive club but a family open to all .

Secondly, the bond of faith that unites all God's children extends to more people than sometimes we realize. In the interesting exchange between Jesus and the Canaanite woman Jesus seems to be convinced by the woman's nimble tongue. The woman wanted a cure of her daughter and she would not accept NO for an answer. Her love for her daughter gave her a spirit of persistence and simplicity that Jesus called "great faith." Such, indeed, are the essential qualities of faith. Love accompanied by persistence and simplicity is the quality so often possessed by men and women who have never had the opportunity to hear about Christ and his teaching.

The fact is that the hand of God is not tied. He can give his grace to any person in any situation. And when anyone turns from sins to follow the will of God as it is seen through conscience, the Holy Spirit is able to enter into that person's heart.

But this is not to say that it does not matter what religion we hold or what we believe. Quite the contrary! The purpose of Jesus' ministry is to win people for God. Like Jesus, we are to work for the salvation of all people. We can never rest content until Isaiah's vision of all people united in the worship of one God realized. Christ's desire for a world of peace and harmony is not an impossible vision. The kingdom of God is an open house. The Church is a field hospital. But God has to depend upon each one of us to do whatever we can, to make that dream into a reality.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Good Food & Great Company

Holy Family Parish Corn Roast

September 10, 2017

After the 10:30 Mass

Everyone is welcome.

SACRAMENT PREP 2017-18

Registration for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Communion and Confirmation will be as follows...

AT St. Patrick's Parish Hall at 7:00pm
Tuesday, September 19th or
Tuesday, September 26th

AT Holy Family Parish Hall at 7:00pm
Wednesday, September 20th or
Wednesday, September 27th

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT...

Sally Myers at 403-527-6933 or email
sac.prep@holyfamilymh.ca