



St. Francis De Sales Parish BULLETIN



26 JANUARY 2025

Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



Office

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Music Coordinator: Donna Abramson
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LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 pm - High River

Sunday 9:00 am - Vulcan

Sunday 11:00 am - High River

CONFESSIONS

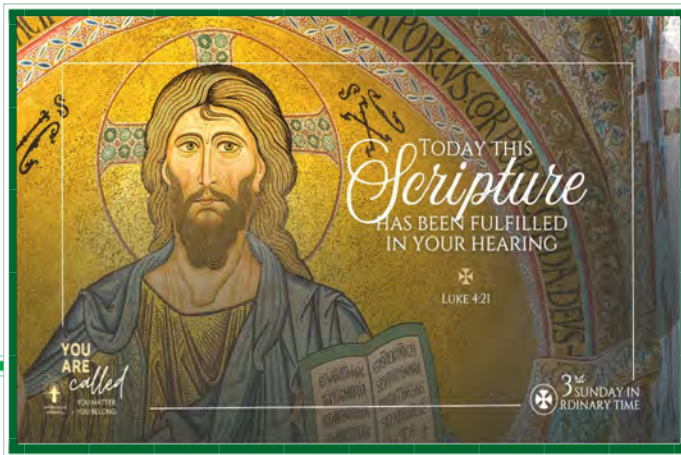
Monday - Saturday: 45 minutes before Masses

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 2025



Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Nehemiah 8: 2-4, 6-10) The meaning of today's liturgy is subtle and many-layered. We need background to understand what's happening in today's First Reading.

Second Reading: (1 Corinthians 12:12-30) The people greeted Ezra "as one man." And, as today's Epistle teaches, in the Spirit the new people of God—the Church—is made "one body" with Him.

Gospel: (Luke 1:1-4, 4: 14-21) We witness in today's Liturgy the creation of a new people of God. Ezra started reading at dawn of the first day of the Jewish new year (see [Leviticus 23:24](#)). Jesus also proclaims a "sabbath," a great year of Jubilee, a deliverance from slavery to sin, a release from the debts we owe to God (see [Leviticus 25:10](#)).

<https://stpaulcenter.com/reflections> for more info.

The Lord has authority over demons

The Lord has authority over demons. That's the good news for the day. No demon can stand up to Christ. Now obviously, few of us are conscious of being demon possessed.

You may have heard about the preacher who asked one elderly lady how it was with her soul.

"Oh," she replied, "the old devil has been giving me a rough time."

Immediately, her husband protested. "Now hold on," he said, "she's not too easy to live with herself."



REASON for your HOPE

Jubilee Parish Mission

FRI, FEB 21 SAT, FEB 22 St. Martha's Parish, Lethbridge

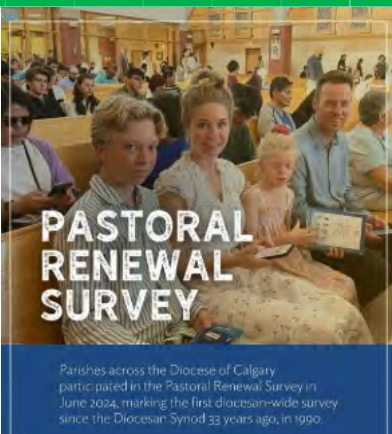
FRI, FEB 28 SAT, MAR 1 St. Peter's Parish, Calgary

FRI, MAR 7 SAT, MAR 8 St. Bonaventure Parish, Calgary

REGISTER AT CATHOLICYC.CA/ REASONFORYOURHOPE



Renewal Invitation You're invited!



The St. Francis de Sales Parish Renewal Team will present the key takeaways from the 2024 parishioner survey. We want to share our insights on the survey results and discuss some of the feedback we have already received.

Additionally, we will outline the next steps our team will take in creating a renewal plan for our parish. Please note that we will not be proposing any specific renewal efforts at this time, as they have not yet been developed.

A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

Presentation Date:

Tuesday, February 4, after the evening Mass

We hope to see you there!

Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.



Join us for a weekend to bring great change to your life.

Retrouvaille Weekend Programme

- Friday, Feb 28 6pm
- Saturday, Mar 1
- Sunday, Mar 2

TO REGISTER:
Contact: Ken & Isabelle 403-276-4547
HelpOurMarriageCalgary.com

RETROUVAILLE
A TRIFECTA FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Knights of Columbus Notice

The Knights of Columbus are selling tickets on the score of the Super Bowl game with all profits going to the **Sisters of the Precious Blood** who besides their life of prayer, their main works are the distribution of altar breads to our Parish and throughout the diocese.

Parishioners are encouraged to visit the Knights of Columbus ticket seller in the church hall after Mass and support this worthwhile cause.



Greeting Cards, Christmas Cards & Stamps!

Not sure what to do with your stack of greeting cards? Did you know the **Diocesan Mission Council** collects used and unused greeting cards for donation for their card making program, which supports Overseas missions, as well they collect used stamps.

All donations can be dropped off at SFDS in the basket in the church hall.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy in the office, 403-652-2203, or email at francisdesaleshighriver.com



An Evening of Wine and Cheese Tasting

Kick those Winter Blues away!

Mark your calendars. The **CWL** are hosting an evening of wine and cheese tasting.

When: Friday, January 31st, 2025

Where: St. Francis de Sales Church Hall

Time: 6:30-9:30 pm

Cost: \$40.00 per person

Only **100 tickets** will be available. This event is open to all parishioners **not just** CWL members. Those interested in purchasing tickets may contact Susan Horn at 403-601-4584, or email her at dghlinks@telus.net **OR** money can be **E-transferred** to sfscw125@gmail.com

Tickets for the Wine Tasting Event will be on sale before and after Mass this weekend. The last day to purchase tickets will be Wednesday, January 29th.

Looking forward to an evening of learning about wines and the regions of the world that they come from.



YOU ARE called
YOU MATTER. YOU BELONG.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS

The Diocese of Calgary invites married couples to attend our Marriage Enrichment Workshops.

- ◆ **THURSDAY AT 7 PM JAN 30, 2025**
Natural Family Planning
- ◆ **THURSDAY AT 7 PM FEB 20, 2025**
Conflict Resolution
- ◆ **THURSDAY AT 7 PM MAR 20, 2025**
Communication
- ◆ **THURSDAY AT 7 PM APR 10, 2025**
Financial Stewardship
- ◆ **THURSDAY AT 7 PM JUNE 5, 2025**
Marriage & Addiction

Catholic Pastoral Centre, 120 17th Ave SW
Calgary, AB

REGISTER HERE

\$20 FEE PER SESSION*
*Discounted rate of \$75 if registering for ALL sessions

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 403-218-5521
mara.capilli@calgarydiocese.ca

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CALGARY
DIOCESE OF CALGARY
of Calgary



The Sunday of the Word of God, instituted by Pope Francis in 2019 through the Apostolic Letter **Aperuit Illis**, is celebrated annually on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Its purpose is to deepen the devotion, understanding, and love of Sacred Scripture among Catholics. This celebration highlights the central role of the Word of God in the Church's life and mission.

Meaning and Purpose:

- 1. Encounter with Christ:** Sacred Scripture is not just a collection of writings; it is the living Word through which we encounter Jesus Christ. The Sunday of the Word of God reminds us of the unity between Scripture and the Eucharist, both nourishing our faith.
- 2. Invitation to Study and Pray:** Pope Francis emphasized that this day is an opportunity for Catholics to reflect on the importance of reading, studying, and praying with Scripture so it becomes a transformative force in our lives.
- 3. Mission and Witness:** The Word of God is not only meant to be heard but lived. This celebration encourages us to embody the teachings of Christ in our individual lives, our families, and our parish communities.

Importance for Individual Life

- **Spiritual Growth:** Spending time with Scripture helps us grow in faith and allows God's Word to guide us in our decisions, struggles, and joys.
- **Personal Conversion:** The Word calls us to examine our hearts and align our lives with God's will.
- **Daily Prayer:** Meditating on Scripture daily strengthens our relationship with Christ and gives meaning to our lives.

Family Life

- **Foundation of Faith:** When families gather to read and reflect on Scripture, it fosters a shared faith and values rooted in Christ.
- **Source of Unity:** Praying and discussing the Word of God as a family can build deeper relationships and promote understanding and forgiveness.
- **Teaching Children:** Parents can use this opportunity to introduce children to the stories, teachings, and values of Scripture.

Parish Life

- **Community Focus:** Celebrating the Word of God as a parish reminds the community that Scripture is at the heart of liturgy and evangelization.
- **Bible Studies and Lectio Divina:** Encouraging participation in communal study or prayer of the Bible strengthens the parish spiritually and fosters fellowship.
- **Mission Outreach:** A parish deeply rooted in Scripture is inspired to share God's Word through acts of charity, justice, and mission work.

Pope Francis summed it up: *"The Word of God opens our eyes and allows us to emerge from individualism, which leads to suffocation and sterility. Celebrating this day helps us re-center our lives, families, and communities around Christ, the Word made flesh.*



Feast Day
St. Thomas
Aquinas 28 of
January

St. Thomas Aquinas was a famous philosopher and theologian from Italy. He was born around 1225 in a place called Roccasecca, which was part of the Kingdom of Sicily. He became a Do-

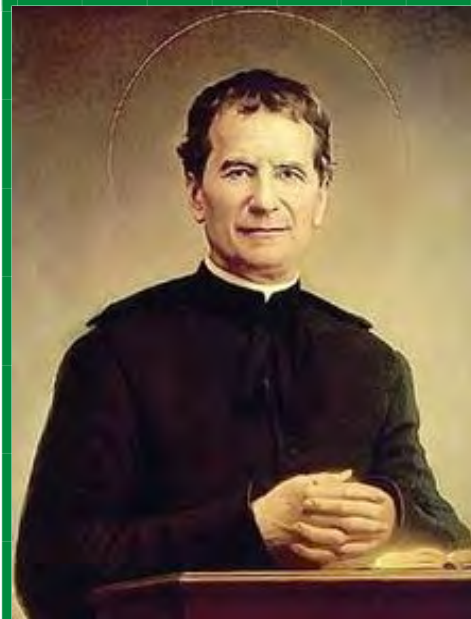
minican friar, which means he was a member of a religious order known for their dedication to study and teaching.

Thomas Aquinas is best known for his work in combining the ideas of ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle with Christian theology. He believed that reason and faith could work together to understand the truth. One of his most famous works is the "Summa Theologica," a comprehensive guide to theology that is still studied today.

Aquinas developed the concept of natural law, which suggests that certain rights and moral values are inherent in human nature and can be understood through reason. This idea has had a lasting impact on philosophy and law.

He was also known for his five proofs of God's existence, which are logical arguments that aim to demonstrate the existence of God. These proofs include the argument from motion, the argument from cause, and the argument from necessity, among others.

St. Thomas Aquinas passed away on March 7, 1274, but his teachings continue to influence Christian thought and philosophy. He was canonized as a saint in 1323, and his feast day is celebrated on January 28.



Feast Day
St. John
Bosco 31 of
January

St. John Bosco, also known as Don Bosco, was a beloved Catholic priest and educator from Italy. He was born on August 16, 1815, in a small village near Turin. Growing up in a poor family,

he faced many challenges, but his strong faith and determination helped him overcome them.

Don Bosco dedicated his life to helping young people, especially those who were poor and neglected. He believed in educating them not just with books, but also with love and kindness. He used fun activities like magic tricks and games to teach important lessons and keep the children engaged.

In 1859, Don Bosco founded the Salesian Society, a religious order named after St. Francis de Sales. The Salesians focused on providing education and support to young people in need. Don Bosco also started the Salesian Sisters, a group of nuns who worked to help poor girls.

One of Don Bosco's most famous students was St. Dominic Savio, a young boy who became a saint because of his deep faith and dedication to God. Don Bosco wrote a biography about Dominic Savio, which inspired many people.

Don Bosco passed away on January 31, 1888, but his legacy lives on. He was canonized as a saint on April 1, 1934, and his feast day is celebrated on January 31. Today, the Salesian Society continues to help young people all over the world, following the example set by St. John Bosco.



Confession or Communion to the Homebound

If you are homebound and desiring to receive communion or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please call the parish office at 403-652-2203 or email Father Marius at dzambel@me.com to request a visit. He will do his best to schedule a visit with you



"The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world. Let Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: he is God with us. Seek him without tiring, welcome him without reserve, love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever." Saint John Paul II



Sunday Offering

Did you know we now take Donations electronically! **You have the following options: Direct Debit, Visa, Master Card.** We also have **E-transfer set up.**

The email address is **dontion@francisdesaleshighriver.com**

If you are interested in switching over to one of these payment methods, please call Nancy in the church office at **403-652-2203** or email her at **francisdesales@shaw.ca**



Adoration

Please join us for our Adoration after the 9:00 am mass on Thursdays, **from 9:45 am—9:00pm.** If you would like to come for an assigned time, please contact Nancy in the office at **403-652-2203** or email her at **francisdesales@shaw.ca** All are welcome!

St. Francis de Sales 2025 Offering Envelopes

Just a reminder that the 2025 Offering Envelopes are ready for pick up in the church hall.

If you do not have an assigned envelope #, but would like one, Please contact Nancy in the church office by phone, **403-652-2203** or email **francisdesales@shaw.ca**



“For it is in giving that we receive.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis de Sales High River, AB

Welcome
Thank You for joining us today.

Name _____
Address _____
Postal Code _____ Amount \$ _____

Are you interested in:
 Learning more about our ministry?
 Having a visit from the pastor?
 Joining our church?

How did you hear about us?

St. Francis de Sales Special Envelope Days

- New Year's Day January 01, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands February 09, 2025
- Together in Action April 06, 2025
- Needs of the Church in the Holy Land April 18, 2025
- Easter April 20, 2025
- Good Shepherd Sunday May 11, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands May 18, 2025
- The Pope's Pastoral Works May 25, 2025
- Together in Action June 01, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands June 08, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands August 10, 2025
- Together in Action September 07, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands September 14, 2025
- World Mission Sunday October 19, 2025
- Catholic Education Sunday November 02, 2025
- Together in Action November 09, 2025
- SFDS Helping Hands November 16, 2025
- Holy Childhood Sunday December 14, 2025
- Christmas December 25, 2025

Saint Francis de Sales High River, AB

Welcome
Thank You for joining us today.

Name _____
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Postal Code _____ Amount \$ _____

Are you interested in:
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SFDS 2025 Calendars Fundraiser for Pro-Life

Dear Parishioners, We are thrilled to invite you to purchase our **2025 parish calendar!** This unique calendar not only helps you organize the upcoming year but also beautifully showcases the life and moments of our parish community through stunning photographs.

Let this calendar serve as a daily reminder of our shared faith, community spirit, and dedication to life-affirming causes. Thank you for standing with us and making a positive impact through your support.

The suggested price is 10\$
With prayers and blessings,
Fr. Marius



If you are in the hospital, and are **Roman Catholic**, please insure you or a family member contacts Nancy in the Church Office at 403- 652-2203. This will ensure that you will be visited by the Priest or Pastoral Care Team.





February 1– 28, 2025

Feb. 1	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Ruby Ben & Janet MacLeod †
Feb. 2	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Myrna Stokes
Feb. 3	9:00 am	Edna Horne
Feb. 4	7:00 pm	Katherine Curzon
Feb. 5	6 :00 pm	Bereavement Mass
Feb. 6	9:15 am	Bud
Feb. 7	9:15 am	Kyle Desjareles
Feb. 8	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Bob Lainchbury † Sickel Family †
Feb. 9	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Tim McLean †
Feb. 10	9:00 am	Matthew Curzon
Feb. 11	7:00 pm	Don Fallows †
Feb. 12	4:15 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	Jensen Family SFDS CWL Sisters
Feb. 13	9:15 am	Benny Uchaz †
Feb. 14	9:15 am	Rosalina Bartolone †
Feb. 15	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Rebecca Enright & Austin Ho MacLeod Family †
Feb. 16	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Brijido & Delfina Mejia †
Feb. 17	9:00 am	Moyra Walton †
Feb. 18	7:00 pm	Cathie McNelis †
Feb. 19	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR) 6:00 pm	Geroge & Antonina Sztuk † Theresa Fallows †
Feb. 20	9:15 am	Collen Kindt
Feb. 21	9:15 am	Don & Heather Baldwin
Feb. 22	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Sr. Marie Hagen † Fabian Family †
Feb. 23	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Pat MacDonald
Feb. 24	9:00 am	Zatko Family
Feb. 25	7:00 pm	Bob Lainchbury †
Feb. 26	4:00 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Kilmer Hagen † Rebecca Enright & Austin Ho
Feb. 27	9:15 am	Bella Family
Feb. 28	9:15 am	Stretch Family



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