



St. Francis De Sales and St. Andrew Parish BULLETIN



Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB

4 MAY 2025



Office

St. Francis de Sales Parish
206 - 9th Avenue West,
High River, Alberta T1V 1A4

Office Phone # 403-652-2203
Fax # 403-601-3886
Email: secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com

Contact Us

Parish Priest : Fr. Mariusz Sztuk, SDS
Email: Fr-Marius@francisdesaleshighriver.com
Phone: 403-992-2313

Deacon: Larry R. Driver
Email: deacondriver@gmail.com

Secretary: Nancy Barton
Email: secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com
Phone: 403-652-2203
Sacramental Prep : Nancy Barton
Email: secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com

Music Coordinator: Donna Abramson
Email: droseabramson@gmail.com

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Third Sunday Of Easter



May 4,
2025

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Acts 5:28-32, 40b-41) In light of the success of these apostles, the Jewish leaders decide to take action against them (5:17-42). This section repeats Peter's earlier statement that one "must obey God rather than human beings" (5:29; cf. 4:19), and the narrative itself also makes clear that the Jews are not standing on the side of God. After the Jews first arrest the apostles, "an angel of the Lord" comes to deliver them (5:19). This becomes an emphatic statement indicating that the Jews are opposing the work of God himself.

Second Reading: (Revelation 5:11-14) God, the Creator, is on his throne (4:1-11): In his vision, John is invited to come up to heaven for additional revelation (4:1). He is once again "in the Spirit" (see 1:10; 4:2; 17:3; 21:10), and arrives to see God in all his glory seated on the throne (4:2-3). In Revelation, the throne becomes a central symbol of the absolute power, majesty, and sovereignty of God (4:5-6). "Flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder" are reminiscent of the theophany on Mount Sinai and recur throughout the book as signs of God's presence.

Gospel: (John 21:1-19) This final section of John ties up loose ends related to the main characters of the story and describes the upcoming mission of the church in a symbolic fashion. First, in 21:1-14 we read about Jesus appearing a third time to his disciples and miraculously enabling them to catch a large number of fish. At first they don't recognize this stranger on the shore who tells them to put down their nets on the right side of the boat (21:4-6). After their nets are filled with fish, however, John recognizes the man as "the Lord," and Peter immediately puts on his clothes and swims to shore (21:6-8).

Heaven's Multitasker – A Note on the Blessed Virgin Mary

You think your mom could do it all? Well, the Blessed Virgin Mary has been helping *billions* of children for over 2,000 years – and she still remembers where you left your keys.

She's the only mother who can be in Fatima, Lourdes, Guadalupe, and your kitchen – all before you've finished your morning coffee.

Need help? Ask Mary. Lost something? Ask Mary. Burnt the pierogis? Okay... that might be on you.

But seriously – she's not just a spiritual mother. She's *the* spiritual mother. Always listening. Always loving. And always one step ahead – like every good mom.



SFDS Helping Hands

There will be a SFDS Helping Hands meeting in the church hall on Thursday, May 8, at 10:30 pm.

If you are interested in joining SFDS Helping Hands, or would like to know more about it, you are welcome to attend.



By nature, each of us is enclosed in our own personality, but supernaturally, we are all one. We are made one body in Christ, because we are nourished by one flesh. As Christ is indivisible, we are all one in him.

- St. Cyril of Alexandria

St. Andrew's Parish Mystery Envelope

Can the owner of **Envelope #29**, from 2024 please call Nancy in the church office at 403-652-2203.

The # was not recorded so it is unknown who it belongs to. It was used **Easter weekend** of this year, but the date on the envelope is **May 5, 2024**

Saint Francis de Sales High River, AB	
	
Name _____	Amount \$ _____
Address _____	
Postal Code _____	
Are you interested in:	How did you hear about us?
Learning more about our ministry?	_____
Having a visit from the pastor?	_____
Joining our church?	_____

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



Report for the months of January—April, 2025

The St. Francis de Sales Ministry has helped a total number of **11** people for the months of January to April, 2025. We paid out a total of **\$15,321.51** for bills, rent, or mortgages, as well, we gave a total of **\$1125.00** in fuel cards, and **\$2200.00** in grocery cards.

The total assistance we have given this period is **\$18,646.51**

It is rewarding to be able to assist these people who are genuinely struggling. The help we give is so appreciated. We try to listen and give help as much as we can as quickly as possible.

A huge **Thank You** to all those who have made a donation to this rewarding ministry.

Saint Francis de Sales
High River, AB

Welcome
Thank You for joining us today.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Amount \$ _____

Are you interested in: _____ How did you hear about us? _____

☐ Learning more about our ministry?

☐ Having a visit from the pastor?

☐ Joining our church?

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 _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Amount \$ _____

Are you interested in: _____ How did you hear about us? _____

☐ Learning more about our ministry?

☐ Having a visit from the pastor?

☐ Joining our church?



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.





Why May is the Month of Mary in the Catholic Church

May holds a special place in the heart of the Catholic Church as the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. This tradition, deeply rooted in centuries of devotion, reflects the Church's desire to honour Mary with particular reverence during one of the most beautiful and life-affirming times of the year.

Historical Roots of the Devotion

The association of May with Mary dates back to at least the 13th century. By the Middle Ages, Christians began dedicating the entire month of May to the Mother of God, seeing it as fitting to honour the one who gave life to Christ during a season that celebrates natural life and renewal.

A Month of Beauty and New Life

May is a time of blooming flowers, warmer weather, and the reawakening of the earth after the cold of winter. This sense of renewal mirrors the spiritual life Mary calls believers to embrace — a life open to grace, peace, and new beginnings. Just as nature bursts into bloom, so too does the Church's devotion to Mary flourish in May, marked by May crownings, Marian processions, and the daily praying of the Rosary.

Theological and Spiritual Significance

Mary holds a unique place in Catholic theology as the Mother of God (Theotokos), the first disciple, and the model of perfect faith and obedience to God's will. Dedicating May to Mary provides the faithful an opportunity to reflect on her role in salvation history and her ongoing presence in the life of the Church. She is seen as a powerful intercessor, a source of comfort, and a guiding star leading Christians to Christ.

Pope Paul VI, in his 1965 encyclical *Mense Maio*, emphasized May as a time to seek Mary's intercession for peace in the world and for the Church's needs. He wrote, "We are delighted and happy to recall that the month of May is especially dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary... during this month, Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage."

Expressions of Marian Devotion in May

Many Catholic communities hold special devotions during May, such as:

- **May Crownings** – Statues of Mary are crowned with flowers, often by children, symbolizing her queenship and purity.
- **Rosary Processions** – The faithful gather to pray the Rosary and Litany to the BVM, meditating on the life of Christ through the eyes of Mary.
- **Marian Altars** – Homes and churches set up altars with flowers, candles, and images of Mary.
- **Feast Days** – May includes several Marian feasts, such as Our Lady of Fatima (May 13) and the Visitation (May 31).

Conclusion

Dedicating May to Mary is a long-standing tradition that continues to inspire Catholics around the world. It is a month that lifts hearts and minds to the Mother of God, inviting all to follow her example of love, humility, and unwavering trust in God's plan. In the beauty of spring, the Church finds a perfect reflection of Mary's own spiritual beauty and her essential place in the Christian journey.

The Litany of Loreto: An Ancient Prayer for Today's World

The **Litany of Loreto**, also known as the **Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, has been a cherished part of Catholic prayer for centuries. Approved by Pope Sixtus V in 1587, it takes its name from the Marian shrine in Loreto, Italy — a place of pilgrimage and deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

This beautiful litany offers a series of invocations to Mary, each one highlighting a different aspect of her identity: **Mother Most Pure, Health of the Sick, Queen of Peace, Mirror of Justice**, and many more. Each title reflects not only a theological truth, but a source of hope and encouragement for the faithful in every age.

Why It Still Matters Today

In our modern world — marked by uncertainty, conflict, and anxiety — the Litany of Loreto is more relevant than ever. Through these ancient titles, we call upon Mary to help us navigate our times:

- As **Mother of Mercy**, she reminds us that God's love never abandons us.
- As **Comforter of the Afflicted**, she stands with all who suffer — in body, mind, or spirit.
- As **Queen of Families**, she offers a model for unity and peace in our homes.
- As **Help of Christians**, she intercedes for the Church as we face new challenges to our faith.

These invocations are not empty poetry; they are heartfelt pleas from a people who trust that the Mother of God still walks with us.

A Parish Tradition of Prayer

To deepen our devotion to Mary during the month of May, **we will pray the Litany of Loreto after each Mass in our parish**. We invite all parishioners to stay after Mass and join in this time-honoured prayer. Together, we will lift up our intentions, entrust our needs to Mary's maternal care, and renew our faith in her powerful intercession.

Let us make this May a time of renewed love for the Blessed Mother — and through her, grow closer to Christ her Son.

"Holy Mary, pray for us. Queen of Peace, pray for us. Mother of the Church, pray for us."

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Litany of Loreto)

(When praying in a group, the leader says the first part. Then, everyone else says the refrain, written in capital letters.)

Lord have mercy. CHRIST HAVE MERCY. Lord have mercy. Christ hear us. CHRIST GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.

God, the Father of heaven, HAVE MERCY ON US.
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, HAVE MERCY ON US.
God, the Holy Spirit, HAVE MERCY ON US.
Holy Trinity, one God, HAVE MERCY ON US.

Holy Mary, PRAY FOR US.
Holy Mother of God, PRAY FOR US.
Holy Virgin of virgins, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of Christ, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of the Church, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of mercy, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of divine grace, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of hope, PRAY FOR US.
Mother most pure, PRAY FOR US.
Mother most chaste, PRAY FOR US.
Mother inviolate, PRAY FOR US.
Mother undefiled, PRAY FOR US.
Mother most amiable, PRAY FOR US.
Mother most admirable, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of good counsel, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of our Creator, PRAY FOR US.
Mother of our Saviour, PRAY FOR US.

Virgin most prudent, PRAY FOR US.
Virgin most venerable, PRAY FOR US.
Virgin most renowned, PRAY FOR US.
Virgin most powerful, PRAY FOR US.
Virgin most merciful, PRAY FOR US.
Virgin most faithful, PRAY FOR US.

Mirror of justice, PRAY FOR US.
Seat of wisdom, PRAY FOR US.
Cause of our joy, PRAY FOR US.
Spiritual vessel, PRAY FOR US.
Vessel of honour, PRAY FOR US.
Singular vessel of devotion, PRAY FOR US.
Mystical rose, PRAY FOR US.
Tower of David, PRAY FOR US.
Tower of ivory, PRAY FOR US.
House of gold, PRAY FOR US.
Ark of the covenant, PRAY FOR US.
Gate of heaven, PRAY FOR US.
Morning star, PRAY FOR US.
Health of the sick, PRAY FOR US.
Refuge of sinners, PRAY FOR US.
Solace of migrants, PRAY FOR US.
Comfort of the afflicted, PRAY FOR US.
Help of Christians, PRAY FOR US.

Queen of angels, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of patriarchs, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of prophets, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of Apostles, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of martyrs, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of confessors, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of virgins, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of all saints, PRAY FOR US.
Queen conceived without original sin,
PRAY FOR US.

Queen assumed into heaven, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of the most holy rosary, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of families, PRAY FOR US.
Queen of peace, PRAY FOR US.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,
SPARE US, O LORD.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,
GRACIOUSLY HEAR US, O LORD.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world,
HAVE MERCY ON US.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE
PROMISES OF CHRIST.

Let us pray,
GRANT, WE BESEECH THEE, O LORD GOD,
THAT WE, YOUR SERVANTS, MAY ENJOY
PERPETUAL HEALTH OF MIND AND BODY;
AND BY THE INTERCESSION OF THE BLESSED
MARY, EVER VIRGIN, MAY BE DELIVERED
FROM PRESENT SORROW, AND OBTAIN
ETERNAL JOY, THROUGH CHRIST,
OUR LORD, AMEN.

Find online rosary prayers and more on our website:

www.ourladyofgracemary.ca



St. Francis de Sales CWL Flower Fundraiser

Hello Everyone,

We are, once again, inviting you to be a part of our Fundraising plant order this spring! As always, there is a great selection of hanging baskets and potted annuals, with several new items this year. **Prices are the same as last year!**

Here are the instructions for our group. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me. Supplies are limited, plants are in high demand, and this platform is open to other groups as well, so **for best selection, order early!**

The password will be activated and the website will be open for orders starting on **Monday, April 21st** and will remain open until **May 16th**. Do not submit any orders after this date - our group code will be closed at that point and you will not be able to link to our group.

Please read through all of the instructions below.
The most important step is the GROUP CODE.

Please ensure that you understand the instructions before proceeding. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you!

Instructions:

Click or copy the link to find your way to the Greenhouse Effects website: www.greenhouseeffects.ca

Click "Shop" and find the Fundraising Program.
Click "Shop Now" and enter **Guest Password:GE125**
This will give you access to the online store for ordering.
There are 32 Hanging Basket mixes and 80 individually potted plants for you to choose from.

Once you have made your selections, continue to your Cart. This is where you will enter your
GROUP CODE: Francis25 in the promo code box.

This is very important. The purpose of the code is to link your purchase to our group. The code does not provide any further discount. However, please ensure you complete this step! Thank you!

From here you can proceed to Payment. You will go through the usual steps for an online purchase, and be asked for your **GROUP CODE** once more. Once you submit your payment you are all ready to go!

Your order will be processed and delivered to St. Francis Parish, High River, **for pickup on May 20, 2024.**

Happy shopping!



SFDS Game Night

Some parishioners had a great time at game night on April 25th! Join us for next game night, it will be fun!

Our next game night will be May 23rd!

Your change
changes lives



Your generosity supports real families facing real challenges! By filling a bottle, you're joining a community of generous people, coming together to bring hope to young families in our community. The bottles added together provide support for today and impact for generations.

Participating is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1

Put your cash, coins, or a cheque in the bottle, or donate online.

2

Bring your bottle back on Father's Day (June 15th).

3

Sign up for our newsletter and keep us in your prayers.

Other Ways to Give:

- **Donate online** <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/mainsprings/>
- **E-transfer** to accounting@mainsprings.com
- **Send a cheque** payable to Mainsprings
- **Scan our QR code**

*Donations \$25 or more will be issued a donation receipt.

Donate Today!



Rosaries for 1st Communion for Sale

There are some 1st Communion Rosaries for sale, as well as regular Rosaries in our Gift Shop in the Church Hall. They are made by one of our parishioners, Rhona-Mae Arca.

If you are interested in buying one, please see Nancy in the church office during office hours, or call her at 403-652-2203, or email at secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com



Mainsprings Pregnancy and Family Support Association is planning to raise an estimated amount of \$500,000 this year on fundraising campaigns. It will cost our organization an estimated \$30,000 to raise this. The money raised will go to board-approved programs. For further information, please contact Dennis Kiebler at 403-269-3110. Our address is 205, 925 - 7 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 1A5.

MASS INTENTIONS

May 1– 31, 2025

May 1	9:15 am	Alex Richards
May 2	9:15 am	Pope Francis †
May 3	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Larry & Therese Driver Our Parish
May 4	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Tom Rosell † Peter Thome †
May 5	9:00 am	Meyers/Walters Families †
May 6	7:00 pm	Alijandrino & Milagras Floresca †
May 7	6:00 pm	Bereavement Mass
May 8	9:15 am	Al & Agnes Downs †
May 9	9:15 am	McKinley & Corazon Baylado †
May 10	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Michael Floresca † George & Antonina Sztuk †
May 11	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Doug Mowat †
May 12	9:00 am	Tarcesio & Fe Crisilda Pongasi †
May 13	7:00 pm	Bessie Amores †
May 14	4:00 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	SFDS Pastoral Care Team SFDS CWL Sisters
May 15	9:15 am	Tony & Adeline Mayer †
May 16	9:15 am	Grant & Vivianne Fraser
May 17	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Stuart Curzon † Brijdo Mejia & Delfina †
May 18	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Nancy Barton
May 19	9:00 am	George & Antonina Sztuk †
May 20	7:00 pm	Baxter Family
May 21	3:15 pm—(Seasons) 6:00 pm	Fr. Philip Le SFDS Helping Hands Teams
May 22	9:15 am	Wendell & Noelle Hoffart
May 23	9:15 am	Lloyd Richardson †
May 24	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Stuart Curzon † Darlene Gillis †
May 25	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	George & Antonina Sztuk † Our Parish
May 26	9:00 am	Felix & Carmen Amores †
May 27	7:00 pm	Stuart Curzon †
May 28	3:30 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Barbara Charette Stuart Curzon †
May 29	9:15 am	Stuart Curzon †
May 30	9:15 am	Alejandrino & Milagras Floresca †
May 31	9:00 am 5:00 pm	John Lupyckukz † Pam Curzon



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