

St. Francis De Sales and St. Andrew Parish BULLETIN 16 MARCH 2025





WhileJesus prayed, the appearance of his face changed.

Office

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

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Contact Us

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

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

Secretary: Nancy Barton Email: francisdesales@shaw.ca Phone: 403-652-2203 Sacramental Prep : Nancy Barton Email: francisdesales@shaw.ca

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**

CONTESSIONS

Monday - Saturday: 45 minutes before Masses

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



WWW.FRANCISDESALESHIGHRIVER.COM

VOLUME 10/3/2025

2nd Sunday of Lent



March 16, 2025

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18) The Greek word "exodus" means "departure." But the word is chosen deliberately here to stir our remembrance of the Israelites' flight from Egypt.

Second Reading: (Philippians 3:17, 4:1) By His death and resurrection, Jesus will lead a new Exodus—liberating not only Israel but every race and people; not from bondage to Pharaoh, but from slavery to sin and death. He will lead all mankind, not to the territory promised to Abraham in today's First Reading, but to the heavenly commonwealth that Paul describes in today's Epistle.

Gospel: (Luke 9:28b-36) Today's scene closely resembles God's revelation to Moses, who also brought along three companions and whose face also shone brilliantly (see Exodus 24:1; 34:29). But when the divine cloud departs in today's Gospel, Moses and Elijah are gone. Only Jesus remains. He has revealed the glory of the Trinity—the voice of the Father, the glorified Son, and the Spirit in the shining cloud.

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



Experience the world premiere of *Litany of St. Joseph in Song*, an inspiring musical event celebrating the Patron Saint of Canada.

Featuring beautiful choirs from the Diocese of Calgary and a special performance of an original musical score by award-winning conductor Carlos Foggin, this event coincides with the 2025 Jubilee Year Celebrations. We are also honoured to welcome the Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, Arcbishop Ivan Jurkovic, who will be in attendance for this momentous occasion. Experience the power of faith through music!

> For Tickets call the Jack Singer Concert Hall Ticket Inquiries & Assistance 403-294-9494boxoffice@artscommons.ca

PLEASE NOTE: The escalators are out of order in the Jack Singer Concert Hall. We're here to help. Call 403-294-9494 for mobility assistance.

Religious Truths

During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:

- 1. Muslims do not recognize Jews as God's Chosen People.
- 2. Jews do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah.
- **3.** Protestants do not recognize the Pope as the leader of the Christian world
- 4. Baptists do not recognize each other at the liquor store.





Stations of the Cross /Soup and Buns Please join us for Stations of the Cross will held every Friday during Lent, Mar. 21 – Apr. 11, 2025 at 6:30 pm followed by soup and buns.

All Are Welcome!

Date	Ministry
March 21, 2025	CWL
March 28, 2025	Music Ministry
April 4, 2025	Knights of Columbus
April 11, 2025	NDC/HSA





St. Francis de Sales CWL **Easter Basket Sales**

Once again, the CWL is having our Easter Basket Ticket Sale fundraiser. We have 4 beautiful baskets, 2 adults and 2 children's.

Ticket Sales commence on the following dates: Sat., March 22, 2025 to Sunday, April 6, 2025 after all Masses in the Church Hall. Draw will be made on Palm Sunday, April 12, 2025.

Cost of tickets:

\$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 You can purchase tickets at the church after Masses or by E-Transfer.

E-transfer works as follows:

- You must purchase a minimum of \$10.00 worth of tickets. - You can send your e-transfer to "sfscwl25@gmail.com". Please indicate in the message area of the transfer your phone # and your ticket distribution (i.e. 3 adults or 1 adult and 2 children)

All Proceeds will be donated to a High River local charity within our community.

Thank you so much for your support for these very worthwhile causes.

Blessings, The CWL Committee:

Barb Wiszt, Geraldine Gervais, Susan Horn, Bae Taylor



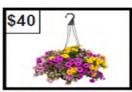


ORDER DEADLINE **TUES APRIL 22, 2025** 6-00 PM https://r

\$28

Scan QR Code to go to Online Order Form or try clicking link 1 na cor

\$28



here hanging baskets are perfect for sunny spots, blooming with gorgeous flowers & trailing plants. With beautiful eties & mixes, they're here to add a special



Joseph

Cramer Coun-

cil 9521

OUTH RETREAT

GRADES 6 - 12 Living for Greatness

SOCIETY TELLS US THAT THE PURPOSE OF LIFE IS TO GET A GOOD JOB AND MAKE A LOT OF MONEY. HOWEVER, OUR GREATNESS IS NOT MEASURED BY WHAT WE DO, BUT WHO WE ARE. GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EACH OF US. IN THIS EVENT WE EXPLORE HOW TO HEAR HIM AND HAVE THE STRENGTH TO FOLLOW HIM.

MARCH 23, 2025

3PM - 8PM ST. JAMES PARISH, OKOTOKS

MASS @ 5PM

DINNER PROVIDED Contact: youthgroup@stjamesparishrc.com

SCAN OR CODE TO REGISTER

Knights of

Columbus'

will be hosting a 3rd degree

exemplification on March 29, 2025

at 6:30 PM after the 5:00 pm Mass at St. Francis de Sales Church.

Any parishioners that are interested

in joining the Knights of

Columbus, may contact the Membership Committee at 403-472-9977.

All Knights and their guests are

encouraged to attend.

antl Our Outdoor Patio Planters feature a blend of our top-performing and upgraded plant collections, all set to thrive in full sun. They're your ticket to springtime paradise right in your very own backyard!



The Knights are

hosting a

pancake

breakfast on

Sunday March 16, 2025 after

the 11:00 am Mass.

Donations are welcome!

Knights of

Columbus'

Add a souch of elegance to your gardeel Planted in a 2-galion pot, these Floribunda roses are bred to brave colder weather and bring back color year after

COLORS CANNOT BE SELECTED & MAY COME IN:



Savor the Savor the goodness of your own homegrown veggles right from your own garden or planter! Variesies may include: Tomatoes (s4), Cucumber, Euchini, Peppers (x2), Kale, & Romaine.



PEDPTN.FZEIN NELAKCER EIN KOF Lievel up your gandning gemel Crafted with organic granular kelp, this blend is a game changer for both fowers 8 weggies. Say goodbye to complicated innihing and helio to a vitram, thriving garden with our skey-to-use Fertilizer Shaler!

\$40

eat for kids & strawberry lovers alike! Ele A treat to kits a snawberry overs a ket cenae snack time with homegrown strawberries all growing season long. With charming blossoms in white or pink, these everbearing varieties are as

beautiful as they are delicious!

the door to a garden of endless possibilities! early-to-grow bedding plants available in red, or pink, stay resilient again pesky intruders er & rabbits. Get ready for a burst of color!

CANNOT MAX & MARCH COURSES WARAAT

\$40

Transform your place with botanical charm! These hanging baskets boast cascading fronds that bring a breath of fresh air to both indoor & outdoor spaces. Don't miss out on this new addition; ready to redefine your space



Intelevacia, if we are incrementation Plant your own outdoor canned Dur cascading Wave Petamise, available in purple, white, or pink, will set the tone and elevate your garden, planter bases, and harging backets. Don't miss out cannot mite a match occess in a rust.



Your very own Propical indoor retreat is here! Welcor the cascade of a trailing Pothos, the vibrant pop of color from a Tradescantia, 8 the elegant stature of a Dieffenbachia - all now part of our program?



Experience a season-long visual treat! Our Marigolds, sold in orange, promise more than just a pop of color - the/re also great companions for writes veggies. It doesn't get much better than the perfect balance of color & companionship!







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\$36

\$18



Confession or Communion to the Homebound id you 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 Sunday Offering **Adoration** Did you know we now take Donations Please join us for our electronically! You have the following op-Adoration after the 9:00 tions: Direct Debit, Visa, Master Card. am mass on Thursdays, We also have **E-transfer set up**. from 9:45 am-9:00pm. If you would like to come The email address is for an assigned time, please The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning dontion@francisdesaleshighriver.com contact Nancy in the office to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world. at 403-652-2203 Let Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is If you are interested in switching over to one the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: he is God or email her at of these payment methods, please call Nancy francisdesales@shaw.ca with us. Seek him without tiring, welcome him without reserve, love him in the church office at403-652-2203 or without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever." Saint John Paul II All are welcome! email her at francisdesales@shaw.ca St. Francis de Sales 2025 Offering Envelopes Just a reminder that the 2025Offering Envelopes "For it is 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 Octobe OCTOBER 20 Saint Francis de Sales High River, AB Welcome ostal Code unt S did you hear e you interested in: ng more ab Having a visit from the pastor ing our church? St. Francis de Sales Special Envelope Days New Year's Day January 01, 2025 SFDS 2025 Calendars SFDS Helping Hands February 09, 2025 **Fundraiser for Pro-Life** Together in Action April 06, 2025 - St. Francis of Assisi Needs of the Church in the Holy Land April 18, 2025 April 20, 2025 Easter Dear Parishioners, Good Shepherd Sunday May 11, 2025 We are thrilled to invite you to pur-SFDS Helping Hands May 18, 2025 chase our 2025 parish calendar! This The Pope's Pastoral Works unique calendar not only helps you May 25, 2025 organize the upcoming year but also Together in Action June 01, 2025 beautifully showcases the life and SFDS Helping Hands June 08, 2025 moments of our parish community SFDS Helping Hands August 10, 2025 through stunning photographs. September 07, 2025 Together in Action SFDS Helping Hands September 14, 2025 Let this calendar serve as a daily October 19, 2025 World Mission Sunday reminder of our shared faith, Catholic Education Sunday November 02, 2025 community spirit, and dedication to If you are in the hospital, November 09, 2025 life-affirming causes. Thank you for Together in Action standing with us and making a positive and are Roman Catholic, please SFDS Helping Hands November 16, 2025 impact through your support. Holy Childhood Sunday December 14, 2025 insure you or a family member Christmas December 25, 2025 contacts Nancy in the Church The suggested price is 10\$ Office at 403-652-2203. With prayers and blessings, Fr. Marius This will ensure that you will Saint Francis de Sales High River, AB be visited by the Priest or Pastoral Care Team.

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Welcome

Thank Yos

ining us

Amount 5

Learning more about our ministry?

Having a visit from the pastor Joining our church? How did you hear about us?





Joseph the Worker

St. Joseph's patronage over the Church symbolizes the role of fatherhood and guardianship. His example of sacrificial love and care for Mary and Jesus continues to inspire fathers and families. In a world often marked by uncertainty, St. Joseph provides a model of stability, trust in God's providence, and service to the greater good.

Pope Francis has often spoken of St. Joseph as a model for all Christians. In his Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), released in December 2020, Pope Francis highlighted the qualities of St. Joseph as a model of fatherhood, courage, and faith. The letter was especially significant during the Year of St. Joseph, which was declared by Pope Francis in honor of the 150th anniversary of Joseph's proclamation as Patron of the Universal Church.



Patron of Canada

In addition to his universal role, St. Joseph is also the patron saint of Canada. The association between St. Joseph and Canada dates back to the early days of European settlement in the country. The French settlers who arrived in Canada brought with them a deep devotion to St. Joseph, and by the 17th century, he had become the country's patron saint.

In 1624, a group of French Catholic settlers in Quebec established the first parish dedicated to St. Joseph, and over time, the devotion to him spread throughout the nation. One of the most significant symbols of this devotion is the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, which remains one of the largest churches dedicated to him in the world. The Oratory, built in the 20th century, is a place of pilgrimage for millions of Canadians and visitors from around the world.

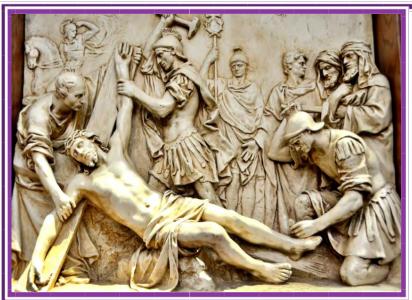
St. Joseph's patronage of Canada reflects the nation's Catholic heritage and the importance of family, hard work, and commitment to faith in Canadian culture. It also highlights the enduring influence of St. Joseph's virtues in the life of the Canadian Church and its people.

St. Joseph's Relevance Today

St. Joseph's legacy continues to have profound relevance in today's world. As families face the challenges of modern life, St. Joseph offers a timeless example of fatherhood, humility, and devotion. He is a model for fathers who seek to protect and care for their families with integrity and compassion. His role as a quiet but steadfast worker also speaks to the dignity of labor and the value of serving others without seeking recognition or reward.

In times of crisis, many turn to St. Joseph for his intercession, asking for his guidance and protection. As a patron of the Universal Church, he offers comfort and hope to the faithful, reminding them that God's plans are often realized in ways that surpass human understanding.

St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Patron of the Universal Church and Canada, continues to inspire and guide millions of Christians worldwide. His example of faith, courage, and love for the Holy Family serves as a beacon of hope for all who seek to follow Christ in their daily lives. As we honor St. Joseph, let us strive to emulate his virtues and trust in God's plan, knowing that, like Joseph, we too are called to be faithful servants of God's will.



Origins of the Stations of the Cross

The devotion has its roots in the early Christian practice of pilgrimage to Jerusalem. As far back as the 4th century, after Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity and the Holy Land became accessible, pilgrims began visiting sites associated with Jesus' life, including those of his Passion. They would walk the Via Dolorosa ("Sorrowful Way"), the path tradition holds Jesus took to Golgotha, stopping at key points to pray and reflect. The Byzantine Empress Helena, Constantine's mother, played a role in this by identifying and preserving these holy sites, such as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

By the 5th and 6th centuries, accounts from pilgrims like Egeria and the anonymous "Piacenza Pilgrim" describe processions and pravers at specific stops along this route. However, the exact number and nature of these stops varied, and there wasn't yet a standardized devotion.

Medieval Evolution

The Stations of the Cross as a structured devotion began to take shape in Europe during the Middle Ages, largely because pilgrimage to Jerusalem became dangerous or impractical due to Muslim control of the region after the 7th century and later the Crusades (11th-13th centuries). Christians in Europe sought ways to replicate the experience locally.

Early Forms: By the 13th century, the Franciscans, who were granted custody of the Holy Land sites in 1342 by Pope Clement VI, became key promoters of the devotion. They encouraged the faithful to meditate on Christ's Passion by creating representations of the Via Dolorosa in their churches and monasteries. Early versions varied widely, with anywhere from 7 to 37 stations, depending on local traditions.

Influence of Mysticism: Medieval mystics, like St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Francis of Assisi, emphasized personal, emotional connection to Christ's suffering, which fueled the devotion's popularity. St. Francis' own meditations on the Passion, along with the Franciscans' efforts, helped standardize the practice.

Standardization in the 17th-18th Centuries

The modern form of 14 stations began to solidify in the 17th century, largely through the work of the Franciscans and other religious orders. A key figure was Leonard of Port Maurice (1676–1751), an Italian Franciscan preacher who tirelessly promoted the devotion. He erected hundreds of Stations of the Cross across Italy, including a famous set at the Colosseum in Rome in 1750, encouraging its use as a Lenten practice. His efforts led to its widespread adoption in Catholic churches.

The traditional 14 stations, based on a mix of scriptural accounts and pious tradition, were largely fixed by this time:

- 1. Jesus is condemned to death
- 2. Jesus carries his cross
- 3. Jesus falls the first time
- **4.** Jesus meets his mother
- 5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry the cross
- 6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
- 7. Jesus falls the second time
- 8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
- **9.** Jesus falls the third time
- 10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
- **11.** Jesus is nailed to the cross
- **12.** Jesus dies on the cross
- 13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
- **14.** Jesus is laid in the tomb

Some of these (e.g., Veronica's veil, the three falls) are not explicitly in the Gospels but stem from centuries-old Christian tradition and apocryphal sources like the Acts of Pilate.

Modern Practice

In 1731, Pope Clement XII officially approved the Stations as a devotion and granted indulgences for its practice, cementing its place in Catholic spirituality. By the 19th century, it became common to see Stations of the Cross-often as plaques or images-installed in Catholic churches worldwide, allowing the faithful to "walk" the Way of the Cross without leaving their parish.

In the 20th century, Pope John Paul II introduced an alternative, scripturally based version in 1991, used occasionally in papal celebrations, which eliminates non-biblical stations (like Veronica's veil) and adds events like Jesus' agony in the garden. However, the traditional 14 stations remain the most widely practiced.

Cultural Impact

The Stations have inspired art, music, and literature across centuries—think of the vivid depictions in European churches or the haunting settings in Passion plays. Today, it's especially prominent during Lent, particularly on Good Friday, when many Catholics pray the Stations individually or in groups, often with meditations like those composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori.

So, the devotion evolved from a physical pilgrimage in Jerusalem to a universal spiritual exercise, shaped by historical circumstances, religious orders, and a desire to connect deeply with Christ's sacrifice. Does that cover what you were curious about, or is there a specific aspect you'd like me to dig into further?



March 1– 31,

2025

Mar. 1	9:00 am	Bob Lainchbury † Theresa Fallows †
	5:00 pm	
Mar. 2	9:00 am–(Vulcan)	Our Parish
Mar. 3	11:00 am 9:00 am	Ambrose Walton † Sharon McLean & Family
		C C
Mar. 4	7:00 pm	Cecilia Bleile †
Mar. 5	6 :00 pm	Bereavement Mass
Mar. 6	9:15 am	Marina Boyle †
Mar. 7	9:15 am	Kay Wild
Mar. 8	9:00 am	Sophie Lemermeyer †
	5:00 pm	Darlene Hallet †
Mar. 9	9:00 am–(Vulcan)	St. Andrew's CWL Sisters
	11:00 am	Our Parish
Mar. 10	9:00 am	Jerome Schmitz †
Mar. 11	7:00 pm	Marg McCallum
Mar. 12	4:00 pm–(HR Hospital)	Margaret Ryan †
	6:00 pm	SFDS CWL Sisters
Mar. 13	9:15 am	Dan Holukoff †
Mar. 14	9:15 am	Rose Pilan †
Mar. 15	9:00 am	Monica Dorian
	5:00 pm	Theresa Fallows †
Mar. 16	9:00 am–(Vulcan)	Our Parish
	11:00 am	Jack & Sharon Turner
Mar. 17	9:00 am	Lillian Schmitz †
Mar. 18	7:00 pm	Joan Bolger †
Mar. 19	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR)	Geroge & Antonina Sztuk †
	6:00 pm	Rev. Isaiah Rice †
Mar. 20	9:15 am	Pat Ziebart †
Mar. 21	9:15 am	Loretta Kuntz †
Mar. 22	9:00 am	Wayne Chayer †
	5:00 pm	Our Parish
Mar. 23	9:00 am—(Vulcan)	Bill Ryan †
	11:00 am	Carmela Gonzalez †
Mar. 24	9:00 am	Norma Rosell †
Mar. 25	7:00 pm	Sr. Mary Rice †
Mar. 26	3:30 pm—(The Manor)	Elizabeth Rice †
	6:00 pm	Rita Crockford †
Mar. 27	9:15 am	Alex DeGagne †
Mar. 28	9:15 am	Grace Lintz †
Mar. 29	9:00 am	Ken Chatsick †
	5:00 pm	Adrianna Curzon
Mar. 30	9:00 am—(Vulcan)	Our Parish
	11:00 am	Judith Demchuk †
Mar. 31		Harold Chatsick †

