



St. Francis De Sales Parish BULLETIN



26 NOVEMBER 2023

Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



Office Hours

St. Francis de Sales Parish
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Contact Us

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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

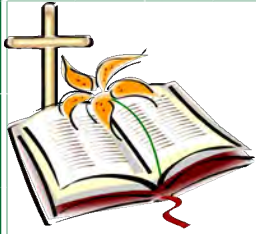
Monday - Saturday: 45 minutes before Masses

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November
26, 2023



Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17) The nations have been gathered to see His glory and receive His judgment (see [Isaiah 66:18](#); Zephaniah). The King is the divine shepherd Ezekiel foresees in today's First Reading, judging as a shepherd separates sheep from goats.

Second Reading: (1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28) At "the end," He will come again to hand over His kingdom to His Father, as Paul says in today's Epistle.

Gospel: (Matthew 25:31-46) Each of us will be judged upon our performance of the simple works of mercy we hear in the Gospel today. Let us strive to be following Him in right paths, that this kingdom might be our inheritance, that we might enter into the eternal rest promised for the people of God (see [Hebrews 4:1, 9-11](#)).

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

TWINKIES & ROOTBEER!

Once there was a little boy who wanted to meet God. He knew it would be a long trip to where God lived, so he packed a suitcase full of Twinkies and cans of root beer (his two favorite foods) and set off on his journey. He had only gone a few blocks when he passed an older man sitting on a park bench and just staring at some pigeons. He looked sad and lonely, so the boy went over and sat down next to him. He opened his suitcase, took out a package of the Twinkies and offered it to him.

He gratefully took it and smiled at him. His smile was so warm and wonderful that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a can of his root beer. Once again, he took it and smiled at him. The boy was delighted. They sat there all afternoon, eating the Twinkies, drinking the root beers and watching the pigeons, without saying a word to each other.

As it grew dark, the boy realized that he had better get started home and got up to leave. But before he had just a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the older man and gave him a big hug. He gave him the biggest smile of all.

When the boy got home, his mother noticed how happy he seemed. So she asked him what he had done all day. He told her: "I had lunch with God. And you know what? He has the most beautiful smile that I've ever seen."

Meanwhile, the older man had returned to his home. His son also noticed how happy and contented he seemed so he asked him what he had done that had made him so happy. He said to him: "I sat in the park and ate Twinkies with God. You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Rorate Mass

In our parish, there are Rorate Masses every Saturday morning during Advent at 7:00 am.

- December 9, 2023 at 7:00 am
- December 16, 2023 at 7:00 am
- December 23, 2023 at 7:00 am.

We cordially invite you to join us in prayer.
Please note that there will be no mass at 9:00 am on Saturday mornings during Advent.

Peace & Development – Ukrainian Relief Fundraiser

I would like to thank the parish for letting me do the cookie sale and especially thank all the parishioners that generously donated. We raised \$421.30, which is absolutely fantastic. I was truly astonished at how generous this community is and I hope everyone enjoyed the cookies.

Thanks again!
Gavin, Shirley and Jim Palahicky



"A church that does not join the poor in order to speak out from the side of the poor against the injustices committed against them is not the true Church of Jesus Christ".

— St. Oscar Romero

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@mc.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



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

donation@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**



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!**

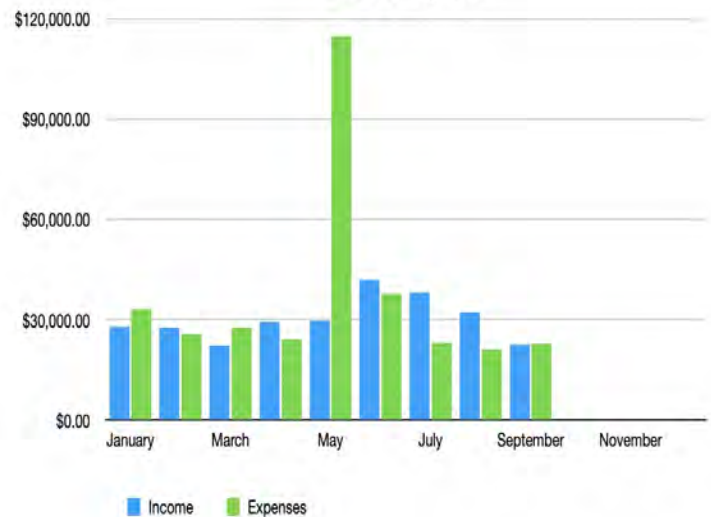
SFDS Financial Report May— September 2023

Monthly Financial Report

Summary by Category

Category	Income	Expenses	Difference
January	\$27,931.28	\$33,080.49	(\$5,149.21)
February	\$27,785.95	\$25,643.40	\$2,142.55
March	\$22,363.90	\$27,738.07	(\$5,374.17)
April	\$29,208.75	\$24,034.67	\$5,174.08
May	\$29,681.00	\$114,553.36	(\$84,872.36)
June	\$41,907.62	\$37,658.43	\$4,249.19
July	\$38,156.05	\$22,963.11	\$15,192.94
August	\$32,085.74	\$21,218.91	\$10,866.83
September	\$22,473.10	\$22,692.55	(\$219.45)
October	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
November	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
December	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$271,593.39	\$329,582.99	(\$57,989.60)

Income vs. Expenses



“For it is
in
giving
that
we
receive.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi



Hospital Stay

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.



SFDS HELPING HANDS

Report for the months of March—September 2023

The St. Francis de Sales Ministry has helped a total number of **13** people for the months of March to Sept.2023. We paid out a total of **\$8546.12** for bills, rent, or mortgages, as well we gave a total of **\$1250.00** in fuel cards, and **\$700.00** in grocery cards. We were also gifted **\$1500.00** in grocery cards from St. Vincent de Paul in Okotoks, and have given out \$1200.00 of that so far. The total assistance we have given so far is **\$11, 696.12**

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.



**Grey Cup
Charity Notice**

The Knights of Columbus Council 9521 Grey Cup Charity Pool ended last weekend. The event was a complete success with all tickets/squares being purchased. The winning prizes belong to:

Final Score: **Evan Browne**

1st Quarter Score: **Geraldine Gervais**
 2nd Quarter Score: **Julaine Hamer**
 3rd Quarter Score: **Nora Fowler**
 Reverse Final Score: **Jo Monaghan**

Our members wish to thank all the Parishioners for generously supporting this Charity Fundraiser. Proceeds will be distributed to the **Handi-Bus Society of High River** who provide such a tremendous service to the elderly in our community and especially the physically challenged of our Parish.



SFDS Catholic Women's League

**2024 CWL
Membership Fees are Due**

It's that time of year once again where the CWL will be collecting membership fees for the year 2024 beginning on **Saturday, October 28th** and running through to **Sunday, November 26th**. Fees will be collected both before and after Mass.

The membership fee is **\$35.00** which can be paid either by cash, cheque or e-transfer sfscw125@gmail.com.

CWL Christmas Food Drive



Christmas is coming and I'm sure we are all aware that Food Banks are already currently overwhelmed with families needing help.

The following is a list of items, that was taken from an Advent Calendar for Food Banks.

If you are able, please pick up some of the items (many will be on sale) every time you shop within the next couple of weeks and start a Food Bank Box to be delivered to the church hall beginning November 15th.

- Box of Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Stuffing Mix
- Boxed Potatoes
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tomatoes
- Canned Tuna/Salmon
- Dessert Mix
- Applesauce
- Canned Regular or Sweet Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce
- Box of Crackers
- Package of Rice
- Package of Oatmeal
- Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Tomato Soup
- Canned Mixed Vegetables
- Canned Corn
- Canned Carrots
- Canned Beans
- Baby Food and Formula
- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex Tissue



**CWL
CHRISTMAS
BAKE SALE**

Saturday December 2, 2023
St. Francis de Sales Church Hall

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Hope to see you there!!!



Please mark your calendars for the **St. Francis de Sales CWL Christmas Bake Sale, Saturday December 2, 2023 from 1:00-4:30 in the church hall.**

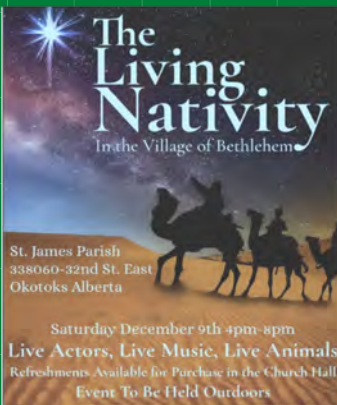
Come and get your baking for the Christmas Season and enjoy a tea or coffee while browsing.

Hope to see you there!!!

St James Parish

As we prepare for Christmas this year, St James Parish, in Okotoks, invites you to come and walk through the Town of Bethlehem and meet the Holy Family in this live replica of the Christmas Nativity. The Living Nativity will take place on Saturday, December 9, 2023 from to 8 pm in the field next to the Church parking lot.

The address is **338040 32nd St East, Okotoks.**



Admission is free. Donations will be gratefully accepted and given to charity. There will be light, warm refreshments available for a small fee in the Church hall. We hope to see you there!

"The Living Nativity is looking for assistance with people to help portray the citizens of Bethlehem, live animals such as sheep and/or a donkey, and 15 small straw/hay bales. Please contact mummers5x@gmail.com or gvanterve@redeemer.ab.ca to help us in any way."

Teen Youth Night!

Teen Youth Group on Saturday, **December 2nd from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**, for Grades 7-12, right here at the church after 5:00 o'clock Mass. Pizza, prayer, games, fun!

Wear your Ugly Advent sweater!

Please let us know if you're able to make it so that we can be sure to have enough pizza and other supplies.

Contact Mark Mercier at mmercier@redeemer.ab.ca, or Cathy Dudgeon at cdudgeon@redeemer.ab.ca or contact Nancy at the church office by phone **403-652-2203** or email at francisdesales@shaw.ca



Congratulations to our new Permanent Deacons!



Congratulations to our twelve new permanent deacons, ordained on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023 at St. Mary's Cathedral by Bishop William T. McGrattan. Join us in rejoicing as we welcome new permanent deacons, ready and eager to serve Christ and His Church.



Have a Merry Christmas!



GMP HOMEMADE TASTE
EST 2005

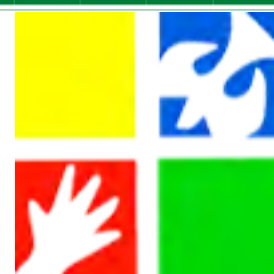
FROZEN PORK SPRING ROLLS
\$35 - 50 pieces

FROZEN PORK SIOMAI DUMPLINGS
\$35 - 35 pieces



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

Holy Spirit Academy School Council Fundraiser



Holy Spirit Academy School Council is working to enhance and increase the availability of sensory items in classrooms throughout the school to promote regulation as part of our healthy schools' initiative. This includes purchasing a variety of therapy toys, fidget toys, and tactile items providing sensory input for grades K-6, and additional assistive technology, such as tablets with intentionally targeted regulation and educational apps, for grades 3-6.

Please help Holy Spirit Academy achieve this goal by purchasing *GMP Homemade Taste* spring rolls or dumplings at [GMP Homemade Taste Appetizer HSA Fundraiser \(google.com\)](http://GMPHomemadeTasteAppetizerHSAFundraiser.google.com) or by calling the **HSA Office @ 403-652-2889**. \$10 from each sale will go directly towards supporting Holy Spirit Academy students.

Orders can be placed from November 20th – December 15th and payment must be made via e-transfer as per instructions order form, which includes further details. Thank you to *GMP Homemade Taste* and Holy Spirit Academy School Council for their generosity in this initiative to support our students.

Dear Parishioners,

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent devotion popular in many places in the Catholic Church. I still remember as a child bringing my own lamp to the Rorate Mass with my brothers and other people in my parish. The Mass is for the Blessed Virgin Mary in Advent and is offered just before dawn. This Mass captures the hearts and minds of many people, the interplay of light and darkness speaking to the meaning of Advent and the coming of the Light of the World. The Mass takes its title, Rorate Caeli, from the first words of the Introit, which are from Isaiah 45:8 "Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum, aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem."

"Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour."



The Rorate Mass is lit only by candlelight. Because it is a votive Mass in Mary's honour, white vestments are worn instead of Advent violet. In the dimly lit setting, the Priest and faithful prepare to honour the Light of the World, who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds and sunrise approaches, the church becomes progressively brighter, illumined by the sun as our faith is illumined by Christ. The readings and prayers of Advent foretell the prophecy of the Virgin who would bear a Son called Emmanuel, and call on all to raise the gates of their

hearts and their societies to let Christ the King entered; asking for the grace to receive eternal life by the merits of the Incarnation and saving Resurrection of Our Lord.

This Mass will be on every Saturday during Advent morning at 7.00 am.

Fr. Marius



MASS INTENTIONS

November 1– 30, 2023

November 1	6:00 pm	All Saints Mass
November 2	9:15 am 6:00 pm	Al Gyorkos † All Souls Mass
November 3	9:15 am	Jack Pilon †
November 4	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Linda Dudley † Lynn John Marshall †
November 5	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	St. Andrew's CWL Sisters Our Parish
November 6	9:00 am	Terry Van Wezel †
November 7	7:00 pm	Bob & Lil Rehak
November 8	4:00 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	Jim Walton † SFDS CWL Sisters
November 9	9:15 am	Norbert Gabriel
November 10	9:15 am	Terry Van Wezel †
November 11	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Danny & Mary Rehak † Theresa Fallows †
November 12	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Adam Rosell
November 13	9:00 am	John MacIsaac †
November 14	7:00 pm	Kidane Weldesielassie †
November 15	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR) 6:00 pm	Paul Pilon † M. Jensen
November 16	9:15 am	Joe Pollock
November 17	9:15 am	Joseph Pilon †
November 18	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Brittany Pineo Extended Hoffart Family †
November 19	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish George & Antonina Sztuk †
November 20	9:00 am	Gerard Farrell †
November 21	7:00 pm	Jerome Schmitz †
November 22	3:30 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Cathy Nesselbeck Madeline Laliberte
November 23	9:15 am	Betty Farrell †
November 24	9:15 am	Agnes Downs †
November 25	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Wayne & Diane Chayer Theresa Fallows †
November 26	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Sydney Barton †
November 27	9:00 am	John MacIsaac †
November 28	7:00 pm	Wayne Hamer †
November 29	4:00 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	Alex Russell Esther Magoose
November 30	9:15 am	Sheila Rosell



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