



St. Francis De Sales Parish BULLETIN



10 SEPTEMBER, 2023

Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



Office Hours

St. Francis de Sales Parish
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Secretary: Nancy Barton
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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

XXIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September
10, 2023



Photo By: Amor Santo

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Ezekiel 33:7-9) Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them.

Second Reading: (Romans 13:8-10) This is the love that Paul in today's Epistle says we owe to our neighbors. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back, to turn them from the false paths.

Gospel: (Matthew 18:15-20) As Ezekiel is appointed watchman over the house of Israel in today's first Reading, so Jesus in the Gospel today establishes His disciples as guardians of the new Israel of God, the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

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

DISHARMONY IN WORSHIP

There was a church where the pastor and the minister of music were not getting along. As time went by, this began to spill over into the worship service.

The first week the pastor preached on commitment and how we all should dedicate ourselves to the service of God. The music director led the song, "I Shall Not Be Moved."

The second week the pastor preached on tithing and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. The director led the song, "Jesus Paid it All."

The third week the pastor preached on gossiping and how we should all watch our tongues. The music director led the song, "I Love to Tell the Story."

With all this going on, the pastor became very disgusted over the situation and the following Sunday told the congregation that he was considering resigning. The musician led the song, "Oh Why Not Tonight?"

As it came to pass, the pastor did indeed resign. The next week he informed the church that it was Jesus who led him there and it was Jesus who was taking him away. The music leader led the song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."



St. Andrew's Parish, Vulcan

For those parents wanting to learn more about the **Sacramental Prep. for 1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion**, please come to the Parent Info Session on Sunday, **September 17, 2023** 3:00 pm at St. Andrew's Parish.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy at the church office at 403-652-2203 or by email at francisdesales@shaw.ca

1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist 2023/2024

The registration link is now open online to register your child for **1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion**.

Your child must be in Grade 2-6 for this Sacrament.

(please note: deadline for registration is October 8, 2023)

Please go to our website to register for these Sacraments
www.francisdesaleshighriver.com

The **Parent Info Sessions** for Sacramental Preparation is **September 23, at 6:00 pm in the church**. Dates for the classes will be provided at this meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy at the church office by phone: 403-652-2203 or by email: francisdesales@shaw.ca

"Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude."

St. John Chrysostom



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

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** 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!**

Financial Report January - May 2023

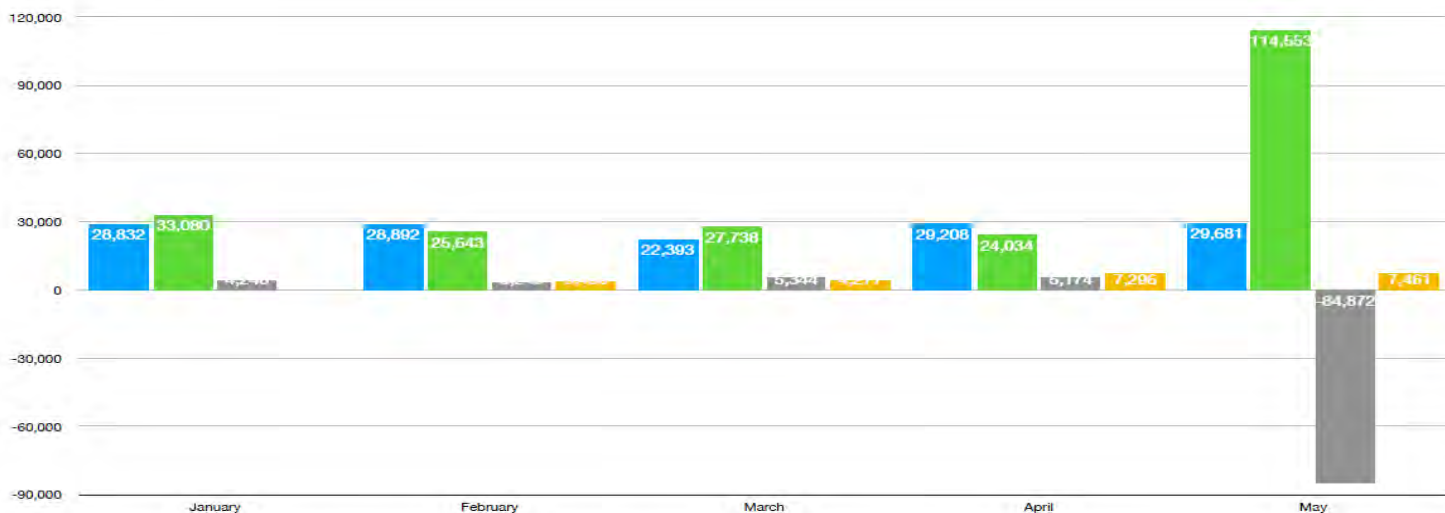


Table 1

	Collection	Expense	Profit/Loss	TIA
January	28,832	33,080	4,248	0
February	28,892	25,643	3,249	3,483
March	22,393	27,738	5,344	4,277
April	29,208	24,034	5,174	7,296
May	29,681	114,553	-84,872	7,461

"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.



St. Francis de Sales Gift Shop!

Looking for that special gift for Baptism, 1st Communion, Confirmation, Birthday or for yourself? Come and check out our new Gift Shop!! If you see something you would like to buy, please see Nancy in the church office during the weekday office hours.

Monday—Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday, 9:00 am to noon





14 of September **Exaltation of the Holy** **Cross - Feast**

The cross is a sign of Christ's Victory over Satan and death. In Jerusalem, from the fifth century, the cross was venerated on the day following the anniversary of the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection, that is, on September 14. From this custom arose a separate feast, which spread throughout the Church.

When Jerusalem was conquered and destroyed by the Romans in 70 BC., Christian experience a great persecution, lasting nearly 300 years. Only after the end of these persecutions, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, St. Helena, order to look for the Cross on which the Lord Jesus died. After a long search, the Cross was found. Historians

disagree on the date of this event; The year 320, 326 or 330 is most often given, while all sources give September 13 or 14 as the day. In connection with this event, two basilicas were built in Jerusalem on Golgotha: the Martyrs (Martyrium) and the Resurrection (Anastasis). The Basilica of the Martyrs was also called the

Basilica of the Cross. On September 13, 335, a solemn consecration and hand-over to the local bishop of both basilicas took place. To commemorate this, the Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was celebrated every year on 13 September. Later, this feast was moved to September 14, because this day is the anniversary of exposing the relics of the Cross to public view, i.e. the first adoration of the Cross, which took place the day after the dedication of the basilicas. The feast was introduced first for those churches that had relics of the Cross, and then for the whole Universal Church.

The Feast of the Exaltation of Christ's Cross invites us to reflect on the mystery hidden in the Cross of the Saviour. We make the sign of the cross in many circumstances of our spiritual life. With this sign we begin and end our prayers. We also do it at the beginning and at the end of Mass. Let us not forget it as we begin our journey. Let us always try to make the holy sign of the cross carefully and respectfully, because it is a sign of our salvation. It reminds us that we were redeemed by Jesus' death on the Cross. On the wood of the Cross the greatest work of love was accomplished, the salvation of everyone, without exception, of man. The sight of the Cross is close to us. We have been brought up in respect for the cross. We see it first in our homes, churches, and many, many other places. We also wear it on our chests.

Let us now turn our thoughts to the old days. Over two thousand years ago, people associated the Cross with great suffering, it was a symbol of the greatest shame and humiliation of man. Christ the Lord, although He did not commit any sin, voluntarily agreed to die on the cross in order to apologize to God the Father on behalf of all people for the sins of the whole world. God accepted His Son's atonement and forgave us. By his resurrection, Jesus showed that he is the true God and is stronger than sin, stronger than death and suffering. That is why we surround the sign of the cross with so much respect and love. Before the cross we kneel, we kiss the cross, because on it the salvation of all humanity was accomplished. On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we want to honor the Cross and thank God for the great love of the Lord Jesus for us and for His death and resurrection. =



15 of September - Our Lady of Sorrow - Memorial

The veneration of Our Lady of Sorrows is rooted in the Gospel from the first centuries of Christianity. From the fourth and fifth centuries there are descriptions and reflections on the life of Mary. In the West, many writers meditated and preached on the suffering of Our Lady.

Especially the saints, Ambrose, Anselm or Bernard. But the extraordinary development of this pious devotion dates from the thirteenth century. Mainly thanks to the preachers of the Franciscan and Servite orders. From this period comes, among others, the sequence "Stabat Mater". From the fourteenth century onwards, the motif of the seven sorrows of Mary often appeared. They are:

1. Simeon's prophecy (Lk 2:34-35)
2. The Flight into Egypt (Mt 2:13-14)
3. The Loss of Jesus (Lk 2:43-45)
4. The encounter with Jesus on the Way of the Cross
5. The crucifixion and death of Jesus (Mt 27:32-50; Mk 15, 20b-37; Lk 23: 26-46; Jn 19:17-30)
6. The Removal of Jesus from the Cross (Mk 15:42-47; Lk 23:50-54; Jn 19:38-42)
7. The entombment of Jesus (Mt 27:57-61; Mk 15: 42-47; Lk 23: 50-54; Jn 19:38-42)

Cardinal Wyszyński of Poland said: 'It is impossible to count how many swords pierced Mary's heart. Because her whole life was one great sword, one great suffering. To give birth to a Son so that he may die, and on the cross.' Mary's presence on Calvary corresponds to God's plan, since on the day of the presentation of Jesus, Simeon, inspired by the Holy Spirit, spoke the prophetic words: "Your Son will be a sign of contradiction, and your soul will be pierced by a sword". The mystery of redemption began in Mary who, having known the Incarnation of Christ through the angel's annunciation, was incorporated into his Passion, Cross and Resurrection through a personal experience. That is why Mary, the Sorrowful Mother, can be called co-redemptrix and our mother, according to the testament of the dying Saviour, who said to the disciple, "Behold your mother," and to Mary, "Behold your son."

Mary, who welcomed every human being as her child in the person of John, is our model. A model of faith in situations of trial and suffering, a model of hope when all seems lost. Above all, she is a model of love that is not afraid of suffering, loneliness, sacrifice to the point of co-dying. Mary, grieving at the foot of the cross of her Son and our Lord, teaches us to be faithful to God to the end. Through her intercession, we too can unite our sufferings to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, offer them as reparation to God for the sins of the whole world and implore God's mercy.

The feast of Our Lady of Sorrows was popularized by St. Bernard of Clairvaux and the Cistercians, as well as the Servites. Pope Pius VII, after returning from Napoleonic captivity (1814), established it as obligatory for the whole Church, while Pius X ordered it to be celebrated on September 15.

Through the memory of Mary of Sorrows, we become aware of the sufferings of Our Lady who, like no other, was united to Christ, also in his passion, suffering and death.



There will be a Finance Council meeting on **Tuesday, Sept. 19, after the 7:00 pm mass,** in the church hall



The High River Pro Life meeting will be on **September 11 2023, at 7:00 pm** in the parish hall. **All are welcome!**



The K of C 9521 September meeting will be on **Monday Sept. 11, 2023, 7:00 pm** in the St. Francis de Sales Church hall

Heating System at St. Francis De Sales Parish in High River

Last December 2022 and January of 2023, we experienced a major issue with our heating system. Some temporary repairs were done by the end of January 2023 to stop any further damage and to ensure that we have heat in our church building during winter time. But during that time it became evident that we need to look into our heating system.

After a long conversation with GM Mechanical, the company that has serviced our furnaces for many years, the conclusion was reached that all three units must be replaced due to their advanced age (30 years) & increasing unreliability. After reviewing quotes from a few firms, and after the approval of Parish and Financial Councils, GM Mechanical in High River was awarded the contract for following reasons:

- They have satisfactorily serviced our system for years
- They are local for rapid emergency response & indeed are our neighbours
- Their quote is considerably less (about \$60,000 or 25% lower) than the one of the Calgary firms.
- Approximately 14 - 20 weeks deliver to ensure that we have heat entering winter season.

The cost of the project is estimated to be \$173,670 + GST. however this cost could change based on unforeseen work requirements. Thanks to your generous support, we have a portion of the funds needed in our building and maintenance savings account, however we welcome any support from parishioners and supporters of St. Francis's Church.

If you would like to help:

Make a donation using the special collection envelopes. To Donate with a credit card or other method, please contact the office at 403-652-2203.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Fr. Mariusz Sztuk, SDS



MARY

A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Dr. Edward Sri



Dates, Times, Location

Wednesday 27, 2023 at the Parish Hall,
The sessions will start at 6:45 PM

Cost/Registration

Cost of the materials is: Workbook: 30\$

For More Information

For more information Please go www.francisdesaleshighriver.com
Bible Study page, or call the office at 403.652.2203

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this study will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys ... and her sorrows.

You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her Divine Son. **Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever.**

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- See the significance of Mary as you explore the Biblical roots of our beliefs about her.
- Deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way.



"Dr. Sri's amazing teaching and unique insights gave me a deeper understanding and appreciation of Our Blessed Mother."

—John W.



Visit BibleStudyForCatholics.com to learn more!

RCIA 2023/24
FR. MARIUS



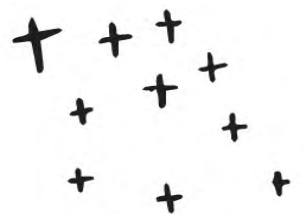
R.C.I.A PROGRAM

First Meeting

28 September
2023

Thursday at
7:00 PM

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS
(PARISH HALL) FROM 7-00 - 8:30 PM



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OUR LADY OF SORROWS & MOTHERHOOD

spirituality

Our Lady of Sorrows and the Power of Prayer

Discover the value of redemptive motherhood by tuning in to Anna Mitchell, co-host of EWTN's "The Son Rise Morning Show." Anna shares the story of her five-year-old's serious illness along with the miraculous intercession of a fourth-century martyr.

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An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and gracious press

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Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows by Kimberly Hahn

Speaker and author Kimberly Hahn, is a convert to the Catholic Faith. Although honoring Mary was difficult for her to understand initially, she began to encounter Mary's loving guidance in little ways on a daily basis. In this presentation, Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.

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Fun with Exalting the Holy Cross | Catholic All Year w/ Kendra Tierney

In honor of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14, let's talk about . . . talking to kids about Jesus' suffering. Plus a family-friendly at-home Veneration of the Cross, and our favorite feast day foods.

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MASS INTENTIONS

September 1– 30, 2023

September 1	9:15 am	Wendel & Noelle Hoffart
September 2	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Francis Lovoie † Ann-Marie Stokes †
September 3	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Eva Jean Macdonald †
September 4	9:00 am	Isabelle Nicol
September 5	7:00 pm	Moyra Walton †
September 6	6:00 pm	Bereavement Mass
September 7	9:15 am	Terry Strang †
September 8	9:15 am	Don Crawford †
September 9	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Owen Abma Tony Van Wezel †
September 10	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Maria Naag †
September 11	9:00 am	Fr. Bryan Frank
September 12	7:00 pm	Barbara Zimmer
September 13	4:00 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	Chris Magosse SFDS CWL Sisters
September 14	9:15 am	Ilene Clance †
September 15	9:15 am	Steve Abma
September 16	9:00 am 5:00 pm	George & Antonina Sztuk † Jan McNelis †
September 17	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Maria Naag †
September 18	9:00 am	Emily Brookwell †
September 19	7:00 pm	George & Antonina Sztuk †
September 20	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR) 6:00 pm	Bernard Amlin † Theresa Fallows †
September 21	9:15 am	Edna Langenberger †
September 22	9:15 am	Paul Pilon †
September 23	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Danny & Mary Rehak † Victor & Bernice Zelinski
September 24	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am	Our Parish Jill Barton †
September 25	9:00 am	Paul D. Praught †
September 26	7:00 pm	Theresa Fallows †
September 27	3:30 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Edna Langenberger † Norbert Wasylenko
September 28	9:15 am	John Palmer
September 29	9:15 am	Claude Labre †
September 30	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Gail Daniels † Ilene Clancy †



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