



St. Francis De Sales Parish BULLETIN



12 NOVEMBER 2023

Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



Office Hours

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

Office Phone # 403-852-2203
Fax # 403-601-3886
Email: francisdesales@shaw.ca

Contact Us

Parish Priest : Fr. Mariusz Sztuk, SDS
Email: dzombel@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

Monday - Saturday: 45 minutes before Masses

XXXII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



November 12, 2023

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Wisdom 6:12-16) We need to keep vigil throughout the dark night of this time in which our Bridegroom seems long delayed. We need to keep our souls' lamps filled with the oil of perseverance and desire for God— virtues that are extolled in today's First Reading and Psalm.

Second Reading: (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) As St. Paul warns in today's Epistle, Jesus is coming again, though we know not the day nor the hour.

Gospel: (Matthew 25:12-16) In the parable's symbolism, Jesus is the Bridegroom (see [Mark 2:19](#)). In this, He fulfills God's ancient promise to join Himself forever to His chosen people as a husband cleaves to his bride (see [Hosea 2:16-20](#)). The virgins of the bridal party represent us, the members of the Church. <https://stpaulcenter.com/reflections> for more info.

TEN BEST THINGS TO SAY IF YOU GET CAUGHT SLEEPING

THESE ARE THE TEN BEST THINGS TO SAY IF YOU GET CAUGHT SLEEPING AT YOUR DESK:

10. THEY TOLD ME AT THE BLOOD BANK THIS MIGHT HAPPEN.
9. THIS IS JUST A 15 MINUTE POWER-NAP LIKE THEY RAVED ABOUT IN THAT TIME MANAGEMENT COURSE YOU SENT ME TO.
8. WHEW! GUESS I LEFT THE TOP OFF THE WHITE-OUT. YOU PROBABLY GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!
7. I WASN'T SLEEPING! I WAS MEDITATING ON THE MISSION STATEMENT AND ENVISIONING A NEW PARADIGM.
6. I WAS TESTING MY KEYBOARD FOR DROOL RESISTANCE.
5. I WAS DOING A HIGHLY SPECIFIC YOGA EXERCISE TO RELIEVE WORK-RELATED STRESS. ARE YOU DISCRIMINATORY TOWARD PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE YOGA?
4. DARN! WHY DID YOU INTERRUPT ME? I HAD ALMOST FIGURED OUT A SOLUTION TO OUR BIGGEST PROBLEM.
3. THE COFFEE MACHINE IS BROKEN . . .
2. SOMEONE MUST'VE PUT DECAF IN THE WRONG POT . . .

AND THE #1 BEST THING TO SAY IF YOU GET CAUGHT SLEEPING AT YOUR DESK . . ." . . . IN HIS NAME. AMEN.



The Living Nativity
In the Village of Bethlehem

St. James Parish
338060-32nd St. East
Okotoks Alberta

Saturday December 9th 4pm-8pm
Live Actors, Live Music, Live Animals
Refreshments Available for Purchase in the Church Hall
Event To Be Held Outdoors

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 4 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."



"Only one thing is necessary: that is to do at every moment what is most pleasing to Jesus."

- St. Charles de Foucauld

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.
JEREMIAH 1:5



Memorial Liturgy

FOR THOSE MOURNING THE LOSS OF A CHILD THROUGH MISCARRIAGE OR STILLBIRTH
with Most Rev. William T. McGrattan

WHEN
TUESDAY
NOV. 14, 2023
at 7 pm

WHERE
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL
219 18 Ave SW
Calgary, AB

When families lose a baby in the womb, the cries of birth go unheard, the grasp of tiny fingers slips away. This profound loss needs articulation. Join Bishop McGrattan in a prayer gathering to commend our children communally into the embrace of our merciful God and to support those who are grieving the loss of a child.

TO ATTEND

PLEASE REGISTER AT MISCARRIAGELITURGY.CA



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!**

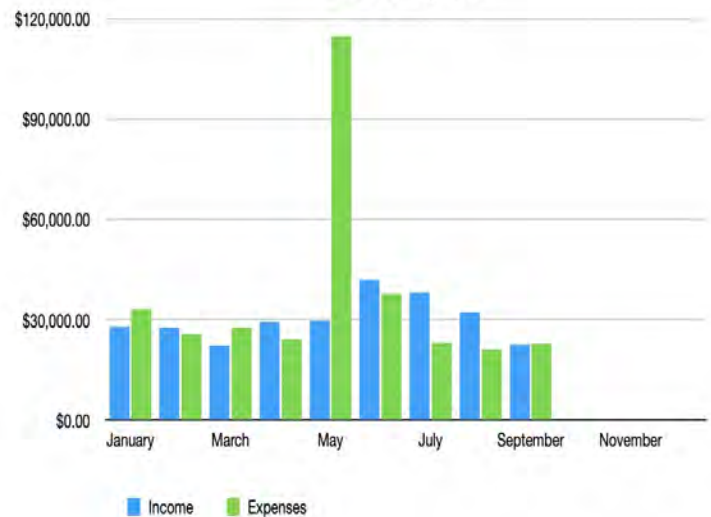
SFDS Financial Report May— September 2023

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.



Knights of Columbus

Grey Cup Charity Notice

The Knights of Columbus are selling tickets on the Grey Cup Charity Raffle predicting the score of the Grey Cup game.

All profits will go to the **Handi-Bus Society of High River** who provides a tremendous service to the elderly in our community and especially the physically challenged of our Parish.

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



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 sfscwl25@gmail.com.



Knights of Columbus

The K of C 9521 November meeting will be on **Monday Nov. 13, 2023, 7:00 pm** in the St. Francis de Sales Church hall



The High River Pro Life meeting will be on **Nov. 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm** in the parish hall.



All are welcome!

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.

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND & JORDAN

Under spiritual leadership of Fr. Marius Szuk, SDS
Pastor, St. Francis de Sales Church in High River, AB
November 4 -15, 2024 12 days \$TBD (Calgary Dep. incl. all taxes & tips)



Nov. 04 Morning departure from Calgary to Tel Aviv.
Nov. 05 Upon morning arrival in Tel Aviv we are transferred to Aqaba in Jordan. Time for rest, dinner and overnight.

Nov. 06 In the morning we travel to Wadi Rum, one of the world's outstanding desert landscapes to observe local life and Bedouin culture. This is where the movie "Lawrence of Arabia" was made in 1962. We have a traditional Bedouin lunch in one of their tents. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 07 Today we travel to Petra, world's wonder and Jordan's most valuable treasure. The city was carved into the sheer rock face by Nabataeans, settled 2000 years ago and made an important junction for silk, spice and other trade routes linking China and India with Egypt, Greece and Rome. We visit the Treasury, Monastery and amphitheater. Late afternoon continue to our hotel in Amman for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 08 This morning we depart to visit other treasures of Jordan. We visit Madaba, best known for its Byzantine and Umayyad mosaics and stop at Mt. Nebo where Moses saw the Promised Land for the first time. Late afternoon we cross the Jordan River and move on to Galilee for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 09 After breakfast we depart for Tiberias. We travel by boat on the Sea of Galilee, visit Capernaum, home of St. Peter and the site of Jesus' preaching, on to Tabgha to see the Church of the Multiplication with its beautiful 5th century fish mosaic. We also visit the Church of Primacy and celebrate Mass on the Mount of the Beatitudes. On our way back to the hotel we stop at the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 10 This morning we start our tour in Cana - the site of Jesus' first miracle. Here we celebrate a marriage renewal ceremony. We move on to Nazareth where we celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Annunciation and we visit Mary's Well and St. Joseph's Carpenter Shop. In the afternoon we ascend Mount Tabor - the Mount of the Transfiguration. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 11 This morning we depart Galilee for Judea and the area of Jerusalem. En route we Mt. Carmel, the "burning place" where Elijah called fire down to confound the prophets of Baal. Here we celebrate Mass. Continue via Caesarea by the Sea to Judea for our dinner and overnight.

Nov. 12 Today's journey takes us to the ancient city of Jerusalem: St. Ann's Church, Pool of Bethesda, Pilate's Judgment Hall, the Chapel of the Flagellation and the Arch of Ecce Homo, the convent of the sisters of Zion. We continue with the Stations of the Cross - Via Dolorosa to the Holy Sepulchre. Mass will be celebrated in one of the many churches of Jerusalem. In the afternoon we visit the Western Wall, also called the "Wailing Wall". We see the place of the Mosque of Omar and El Aksa. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 13 Today we visit Bethlehem - where Jesus was born, celebrating Christmas Mass in one of the grottos. We visit the Manger, Crusaders' Cloister, the Grotto of St. Jerome - Sheppard's field and Milk Grotto. In the afternoon we visit Mount Zion with the Upper Room (Room of the Last Supper) and the Church of St. Peter's in Gallicantu. Continue to Mount of Olives to visit Garden of Gethsamene, Church of All Nations and Pater Noster church. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 14 This morning we leave for a full day excursion to Masada, the Dead Sea and Jericho, the oldest inhabited city in the world. We visit the town and celebrate Mass. Time for floating in the Dead Sea before returning to hotel for dinner and overnight.

Nov. 15 After breakfast we are transferred to the airport in Tel Aviv for a flight to Calgary. Evening arrival.

Travel Arrangements by
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- 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
- Food Paper
- Kleenex Tissue



"I don't want to go to church anymore. I don't believe in God, it's not my religion,"

....she was told by her teenage daughter. It is only up to parents what we will do with our pain in such a situation. We can get stuck in despair and guilt. But we can also follow in the footsteps of St. Monica and draw from this drama a lesson, as beautiful as it is difficult.

In such a situation, it is easy to get stuck in your own suffering, guilt and failure. There is a temptation to give up. Bitterness, self-pity, manifestation of suffering. Reactions can be really different, but almost each of them carries a powerful load of difficult emotions. It happens that parents reach for the heaviest weapon and, wanting to punish a "wandering" family member, decide to cut themselves off from him. However, one can try to look at what happened a little differently and follow the path that St. Monica chose. This pious woman, with boundless love and persistent prayers, led to the conversion of her son. And probably there would be nothing extraordinary about it, if not for the fact that she waited 17 years for it! In this way, the biggest sinner in the area, who in his life indulged mainly in lust and debauchery, was... a saint and one of the most famous theologians in the history of the Church. A child's departure from faith (like any other drama in life) can be treated as an opportunity for conversion. It can be both a beautiful and very difficult lesson in unconditional love, freedom and gratitude. They are parents who, although they have lost their children to the Church, have not ceased to give them love and acceptance. Although they carry an open wound in their hearts, they redirect attention from their own suffering to gratitude and an attempt to build an intimate relationship with them. For some it comes naturally, for others it costs a lot of sacrifices and years of hard work. But all draw strength from the same source: a close relationship with God.

As a parish, we want to join your prayers, so we invite you to a Holy Mass and special devotion on the last Tuesday of the month, in the intuition of children who have fallen away from the faith and the church.



**Your Voice.
Our Wellbeing.**



Hello and welcome to the Town of High River's "Your Voice. Our Wellbeing." Survey! We are very excited for you to share your opinions with us today. We have a lot of ideas about how to make High River a great community for all its residents, but we realize that what WE think doesn't really matter. **It's what you think. What you need.**

Here's what you need to know...

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes, depending on your responses (but don't feel the need to rush - you can take as long as you like!). This survey is being conducted by Stone-Olafson, an independent market research company. That means **any information you provide here today will remain completely confidential.**

To begin the survey now, go to this link https://stoneolafson.azure.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_38hKovCCRFH0Wuq?s=10 if you can't complete the entire survey in one sitting, you can exit and then return to the survey at a later time. But until you finish the survey, your responses cannot be included, so please be sure to come back and finish! The survey will be **open until December 1st, 2023.**

Let's get started!



Cookie Bake Sale

There will be a Bake Sale on Sunday November 12, 2023 after mass. All proceeds raised will go to **Peace & Development.**

Please Note: Cash Only



Holy Spirit Academy Fundraising Society

**We are selling Seasonal Christmas Plants to raise money for our HSA Fundraising Society's school initiatives!
Please call HSA to place an order—403-352-2889**

IMPORTANT: The deadline to place your order is Friday, **November 24, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.** Pick Up is scheduled for **Friday, December 8, 2023,** at the tentative scheduled time of **12 Noon** to coincide with pick up. Shawna, our School Council Fundraising Director, will confirm pick up times.

Note: You can place your cash and cheque orders online and return payment to HSA front desk before the deadline. **Alternatively,** Order Forms will be sent home with the students.

Note: Our online website also accepts credit card or you can select the PayPal.me option and use the same PayPal account you are using for HSA Hot Lunch Program. Feel free to email us if you have any questions. Contact information located at the TOP RIGHT corner of this website. **Thank you for your support!**

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\$15.00

6.5" PREMIUM POINSETTIA



\$15.00

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HOLIDAY WREATH



\$40.00

HANGING GREENERY BOUGH



\$35.00

OUTDOOR GREENERY ARRANGEMENT



\$50.00

Renewal Gathering 2023





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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