

St. Francis De Sales Parish BULLETIN

24 SEPTEMBER 2023



Roman Catholic Parish



Office Hours

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

Office Phone # 403-652-2203 Fax # 403-601-3886 Email: francisdesales@shaw .ca

Contact Us

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

Deacon: Larry R. Driver Email: deaconIdriver@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

XXV SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WWW.FRANCISDESALESHIGHRIVER.COM

VOLUME 4/1/2023

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



September 23, 2023

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Isaiah 55:6-9) This provokes grumbling in today's parable. Doesn't the complaint of those first laborers sound like that of the older brother in Jesus' prodigal son parable (see <u>Luke</u> <u>15:29–30</u>)? God's ways, however, are far from our ways, as we hear in today's First Reading. And today's readings should caution us against the temptation to resent God's lavish mercy.

Second Reading: (Philippians14:7-9) Our task is to continue laboring in His vineyard. As Paul says in today's Epistle, let us conduct ourselves worthily, struggling to bring all men and women to the praise of His name.

Gospel: (Matthew 18:21-35) Israel failed to yield good fruits, and the Lord allowed His vineyard, Israel's kingdom, to be overrun by conquerors (see <u>Psalm 80:9–20</u>). But God promised that one day He would replant His vineyard and its shoots would blossom to the ends of the earth (see <u>Amos 9:15</u>; <u>Hosea 14:5–10</u>). This is the biblical backdrop to Jesus' parable of salvation history in today's Gospel.https://stpaulcenter.com/reflections for more info.



Priest's Study Days

Fr. Mariusz will be away **October 2-5** for Study Days. There will be **no mass** on **Oct. 3, 4, and 5**.

There will be mass on Oct. 2, @ 9:00 am as well there will be RCIA in the evening on Oct. 5. <u>Please Note:</u>

Fr. Maruisz will take the Mass intentions that have been booked with him and say them at the retreat.

<u>1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist</u> 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: francisdsales@shaw.ca

100 POINTS!

A man dies and goes to heaven. Of course, St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter say's, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in." Okay, " the man says, "I was married to the same women for 50 years and never cheated on her, even in my heart." That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points." Three points?" He says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service." Terrific!" say's St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point." "One point? Well I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans." Fantastic, that's good for two more points," he says. "Two points!" The man cries. "At this rate the only way to get into heaven is by the grace of God!" St. Peter smiled. "There's your 100 points! Come on in!"

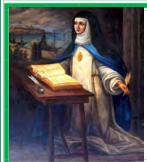
GOD'S GRACE

SDS Retreat

Fr. Mariusz will be away **October 23-27** for the Salvatorian (SDS) Retreat. There will be **no mass** on **Oct. 24, 25, 26, and 27**. There **will be mass** on **Oct. 23 @ 9:00 am**.

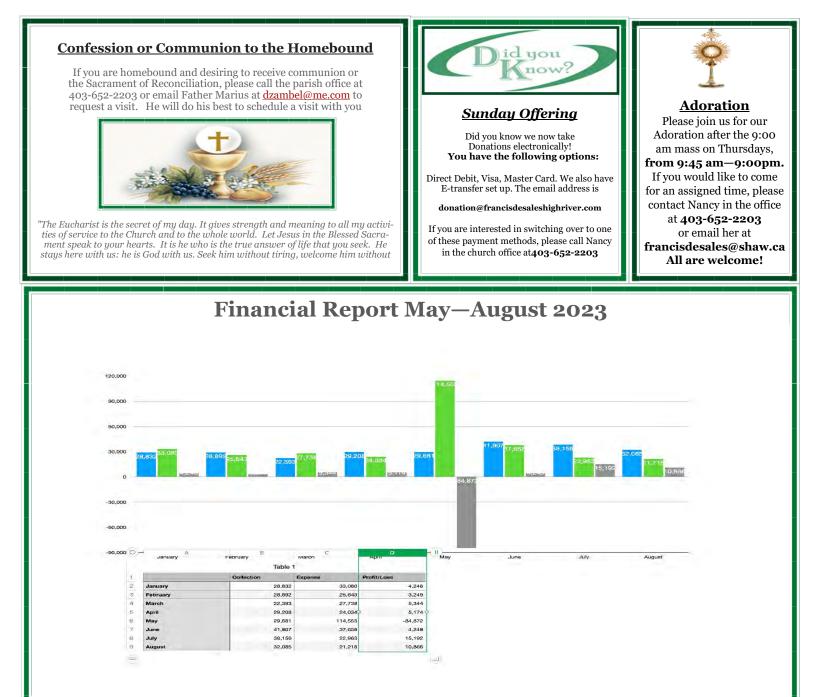
Please Note: Fr. Maruisz will take the Mass intentions that have been booked with him and say them at the retreat.
Please put Fr. Mariusz in your prayers for safe travels.





"Faith is powerful to do all things, for nothing is impossible to the believer; faith makes all things attainable and possible."

-Venerable Maria of Agreda







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.





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.



29 of September - Feast of St. Michael, St. Gabriel St. Raphael Archangels

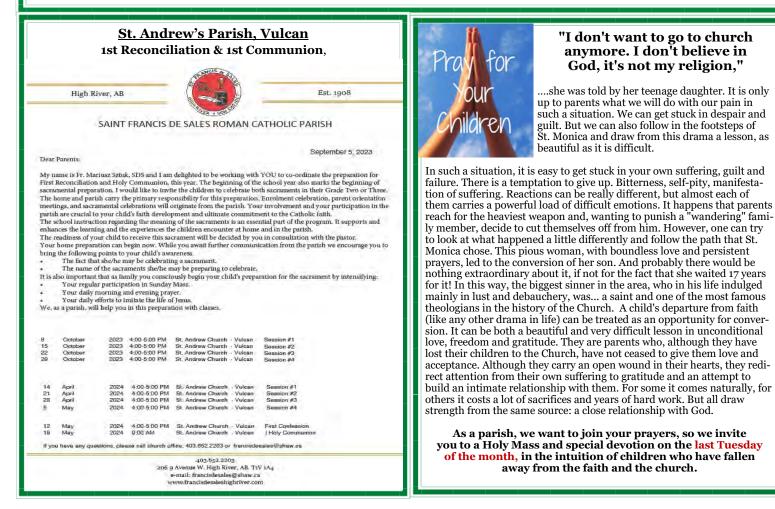
In the Christian tradition, archangels belong to a special type of spirit sent by God. Like all angels, they are messengers of God, but unlike angels, archangels have played a more important role in many events in salvation history. The Bible gives the names of 3 archangels: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.In the Christian tradition,

Michael is the first and most important of the angels, endowed by God with special trust. The name means: ("Who like God"). Archangel Michael is credited with winning the battle against evil spirits (fallen angels) and knocking them down, with Lucifer at the head, from heaven to the depths of hell at the beginning of the history of the world created by God, even before the sin of Adam and Eve. St Michael is at the same time an angel of judgment and of God's mercy: he supports the faithful in the fight against evil, and as a special guardian of the Church, standing at the head of the dying, he helps in the final struggle for salvation and accompanies the souls of the deceased at God's judgment.

The cult of St. Michael the Archangel is very ancient and alive in Christianity. It dates back to the second century.

Gabriel ("God is power", "man of God") appears in the Old Testament in the book of the prophet Daniel, explaining the meaning of prophetic visions and the will of God. St. Gabriel fulfilled the most beautiful role in the New Testament. In the Temple of Jerusalem he announced to Zacharias the birth of his son, St John the Baptist, and above all he announced to Mary that he would become the Mother of the Son of God. Pope Pius XII proclaimed him the patron saint of telephone, telegraph, radio and television. Gabriel is also worshipped by Muslims who believe that through him Muhammad was given the mission to create a new religion.

Raphael ("God healed") is considered a special patron of travelers and the sick. In the Old Testament we read that the Archangel leads young Tobit through many hardships during his journey to Persia, allows him to marry happily and heals the blindness of the young man's father. In the early days of Christianity, seven archangels were worshiped rather hastily. Because only the names of the 3 archangels mentioned in Scripture are known, and only their worship is permitted. Until the last reform of the church calendar (February 14, 1969), there were three separate feasts: St. Michael was venerated on September 29, St. Gabriel on March 24, and St. Raphael on October 24. Today, all three archangels are worshipped together



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

	-		
		Morning departure from Calg	
N			Aviv we are transferred to Aqaba in Jordan. Time for rest, dinner and
		overnight.	
N			adi Rum, one of the world's outstanding desert landscapes to observe
			. This is where the movie "Lawrence of Arabia" was made in 1962. We
			nch in one of their tents. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.
			rid's wonder and Jordan's most valuable treasure. The city was carved
			abataeans, settled 2000 years ago and made an important junction for utes linking China and India with Egypt, Greece and Rome. We visit the
			philipheater. Late afternoon continue to our hotel in Amman for dinner
and a second second second		and overnight.	provide and the second contract of our notes in Annual for annea
AT 5 AT NOT N			visit other treasures of Jordan. We visit Madaba, best known for its
J. Acres a star and the first			aics and stop at Mt. Nebo where Moses saw the Promised Land for the
a sea the second and the second			cross the Jordan River and move on to Galilee for dinner and overnight.
No. A State N			Tiberias. We travel by boat on the Sea of Galilee, visit Capernaum.
HOT THE REAL PROPERTY OF		nome of St. Peter and the	site of Jesus' preaching, on to Tabgha to see the Church of the
		Multiplication with its beautif	ul 5th century fish mosaic. We also visit the Church of Primacy and
			t of the Beatitudes. On our way back to the hotel we stop at the Jordan
for the second s			ized. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.
N			r in Cana - the site of Jesus' first miracle. Here we celebrate a marriage
and the second s			on to Nazareth where we celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Annunciation
Constant of the second			St. Joseph's Carpentry Shop. In the afternoon we ascend Mount Tabor – m. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.
			lee for Judea and the area of Jerusalem. En route we Mt. Carmel, the
and the second			called fire down to confound the prophets of Baal. Here we celebrate
			by the Sea to Judea for our dinner and overnight.
N N			the ancient city of Jerusalem: St. Ann's Church, Pool of Bethesda,
			hapel of the Flagellation and the Arch of Ecce Homo, the convent of
			ue with the Stations of the Cross – Via Dolorosa to the Holy Sepulchre.
			ne of the many churches of Jerusalem. In the afternoon we visit the
			"Wailing Wall". We see the place of the Mosque of Omar and El Aksar.
services and and a service of the se		Return to hotel for dinner and	
N			here Jesus was born, celebrating Christmas Mass in one of the grottos. We Cloister, the Grotto of St. Jerome – Sheppard's field and Milk Grotto. In the
			n with the Upper Room (Room of the Last Supper) and the Church of St.
			ue to Mount of Olives to visit Garden of Gethsamene. Church of All
			urch. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.
N N N			full day excursion to Masada, the Dead Sea and Jericho, the oldest
A Real Property and the second		nhabited city in the world. W	le visit the town and celebrate Mass. Time for floating in the Dead Sea
the second se		before returning to hotel for d	
	lov. 15	After breakfast we are transfe	erred to the airport in Tel Aviv for a flight to Calgary. Evening arrival.
Travel Arrangements by		-	
INTERNATIONAL	TEL:	877-999-8868	For information and registrations call:
HERITAGE TOURS	TEL:	416-444-6666	Stan - ext. 339 or 647-463-9057 stan@ihtours.com
	FAX:	905-886-9769	Alex - ext. 317 alex@ihtours.com
	ww	w.ihtours.com	Liliana - ext. 324 liliana@ihtours.com
TICO HATTAGED		and the second se	



HIGHWOOD GOLF WELLMAN BANQUET ROOM 400 7 St NW High River Sept 26, 2-6 pm Refreshments served

Showcasing cancer related support services in the Foothills community. Come browse the specialty services your community has to offer for those living with cancer and those that support them.

GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY THE HIGH RIVER DISTRICT HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

HIGH RIVER PRO-LIFE APPLE FUNDRAISER 2023

Fresh picked Creston B.C. apples – Gala, Mac, Spartans and Fuji's 20 lb boxes for \$40.00. Please pre-order by calling 403-652-7975

Apples will be picked approximately mid-October and delivered within the week. Don't miss out on these delicious tasting apples and at the same time supporting a most important cause – LIFE!





Ministries in Our Parish

Adoration: a team of committed individuals have been involved in the Eucharistic Adoration Ministry on Thursdays for many years. This is an opportunity to spend quiet time with the Blessed Sacrament. Our team also ensures that the Blessed Sacrament is not left unattended. **Commitment:** half hour to one hour on Thursday's. Adoration is from 9:30 am to 9:00 pm. Spares are needed.

Altar Servers: an altar server's primary role is to assist the priest in the celebration of the liturgy. By fulfilling their responsibilities during Mass with reverence, they set an example for the rest of the congregation through their full, active, and conscious participation. The mechanics of serving can be easily taught, but it takes a certain maturity to reverently serve God in the Eucharistic liturgy. You must have your 1st Communion in order to Altar Serve. **Commitment:** as scheduled, once every 3 to 4 weeks. There will also be a compulsory Workshop for all servers.

Baptismal Preparation: Parents wishing to have a child baptized are asked to register at the parish office or on-line. The baptismal preparation meeting is about two hours in duration and is held at the parish hall.

Bereavement: to provide support to a parish member during their grieving process. A member of the Pastoral Care Ministry. Training in pastoral care & bereavement care required & provided. **Commitment:** may be a weekly visit or a monthly visit determined by individual need.

Bible Study: A wonderful opportunity to journey with our Parish Priest, Deacon and members of our Church Family on a scriptural tour of the Bible and practices of our Catholic Faith. Significant topics have included but are not limited to a focus on:

> The Old Testament The Gospels The Book of Revelation Jesus: The Way, The Truth, and the Life A Biblical Walk through the Mass

Join the group every week and be on your way to a better understanding of our Catholic Faith. Explore and research questions, watch video presentation, partake in discussion and get to know others in our Church Community.

Bread Ministry: Volunteer Team who collect donations of bread from a bakery, package products to prepare for distribution, and distribute bread. **Commitment:** Once a month.

Building and Maintenance: A small committee that is responsible for identifying and resolving building and maintenance issues related to our church and rectory.

Catholic Women's League - CWL: the CWL is an association of lay Catholic women rooted in gospel values, calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God. At St. Francis de Sales, the CWL supports Catholic women through fellowship and spiritual enlightenment. The SFDS CWL also supports parish functions and youth through fundraising and "hands on" help, as well as doing the luncheon's For funerals. **Commitment:** monthly meetings as scheduled.

Children Sacramental Prep.: By offering an enrichment program this parish promises to support and assist parents in the preparation of their children to receive the sacraments. We offer three separate programs for1st Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation (every second or third year). We recognize that parents are the primary catechists of their children. Our personal commitment is to oversee the growth of a life of faith and the celebration of the sacraments within the family. Under the guidance of a senior Coordinating couple, we welcome new team volunteers to provide these programs. **Commitment:** a schedule will be done up according to your availability.

Church Office Volunteers: A small support group for the church Administrator, responsible for manning the office in Nancy's absence, and assisting with clerical tasks, filing, reception, data entry, archival update, membership etc. **Commitment:** Ongoing projects, annual and seasonal activities, and as needed.

Circle of Prayer: Coordinated group of people who pray for specific intentions/requests of parishioners. **Commitment:** as required to communicate requests.

Coffee Hosts: This ministry provides an opportunity for parishioners to interact spiritually and socially, bonding them into a closer-knit church community. One of the rewards of this ministry is seeing the eager looks of the children as they enjoy the treats provided by the parish. We have a few dedicated volunteers and are looking to add new members to this ministry. Please contact Gery McCallum if you are interested in joining this ministry. **Commitment:** Once every 4-6 weeks depending on the number of volunteers.

Collection Counter: to count the weekend collections, allocate to accounts and do bank deposit weekly. **Commitment:** a scheduled rotation, twice a month, 2-3 hours Monday mornings with 3-4 other volunteers.

Couples for Christ: This program is an integrated course leading into a renewed understanding of God's call to Christian Couples and Individuals. CLP is open to Christian of all denominations, 22 years old and above. Married Couples, Single Men & Women, Living Singly or Away from the Family are encouraged and welcomed. **Commitment:** to be determined. Please watch the bulletin and bulletin board for dates. **Eucharistic Ministry:** Communion Ministers assist in the distribution of Holy Communion, and in ministering to the sick and homebound of our Parish.

Through their ministry, they affirm the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist with reverence. Training provided. **Commitment:** Once every 4-6 weeks. Please specify whether you would like to be scheduled Saturday or Sunday.

Finance Committee: The finance committee is charged with making responsible decisions with the money that each one of us gives to the parish. Members need to have a key idea of the day-to-day workings of the parish and work to make sure that the organization is in good financial health. Meetings held as needed. As a caring catholic parish, we attempt to return, cultivate and share these monetary gifts with love and justice to all.

Greeters: to greet fellow parishioners at entry to church prior to mass on Saturday and/or Sunday. **Commitment:** 30 minutes before mass once a month.

Helping Hands: Has been active since 2018 in this parish. We welcome any parishioners who wish to extend themselves in the service of the poor to consider volunteering with this lay ministry. Our main work involves those in our community in need and occasionally aiding after assessment of the request. **Commitment:** Once every 4-6 weeks

Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal order of Catholic men dedicated to the ideals of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. **Commitment:** a monthly meeting on the first Monday of the month. Service projects are group directed.

Lectors: Lectors proclaim the Word of God during the Liturgy. In pro-claiming the Scriptures, their voice becomes the voice through which the Holy Spirit speaks to the celebrating congregation. **Commitment:** Schedule done up by Lector Coordinator.

Liturgical Decorating: By enhancing the sanctuary with appropriate decorations, the Liturgical Decorating Committee contributes in fostering a deeper worship of our Lord in Liturgy. If you like to be creative, you can share your talents by joining the committee. **Commitment:** most of the day before Easter, Christmas and other special feasts.

Marriage Preparation: To comply with the requirements for the Sacrament of Marriage, couples should contact Fr. Mariusz Sztuk, SDS at least four months prior to the proposed date of the marriage to allow time for the paperwork to be completed, and for a marriage preparation course to be taken.

Music Ministry: Music plays a major role in much of our liturgical, sacramental, and community life at St. Francis de Sales and has the ability to lift the heart to God and encourage prayer. The music ministry includes both instrumental and vocal. Our choirs are the Adult Choir, Children, and Funeral Choir. **Commitment:** Schedule done up by Music Director.

Palliative Care: to provide a supportive presence to persons who are dying and their families. Assist with High River Hospital Palliative Team. Pastoral Care and Palliative Care Courses required and provided. **Commitment:** determined by need.

Palliative Care: to provide a supportive presence to persons who are dying and their families. Assist with High River Hospital Palliative Team. Pastoral Care and Palliative Care Courses required and provided. **Commitment:** determined by need.

Parish Pastoral Council: The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) serves as a consultative body that makes recommendations to the pastor, including review and recommendation of all parish ministry plans. **Commitment:** meeting as needed.

Pastoral Care: to provide support for spiritual needs and to take communion to persons unable to come to church. Pastoral Care course is required and provided. **Commitment:** 3 hours once a month.

R.C.I.A.: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the sacramental process through which adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church. At the heart of the RCIA process is conversion, and each journeyer (candidate) requires a sponsor from the parish to support him/her. **Commitment:** weekly on Wednesday evening.

Sacristian: A Sacristan is knowledgeable and willing to learn the local liturgical procedures, to set up and prepare for mass. Sacristan maintains the beauty of our Lord's Table as well as the rest of our Church Sacristy, to give full glory to God. To assist in laundering of sacristy linens, priest's albs & altar server gowns. Clean up after mass on weekends, set up for religious feast and special days. **Commitment:** scheduled on a monthly basis

Share the Word: to lead our children 3-7 years of age in preplanned and prepared Children's Liturgy. **Commitment:** once a month during Sunday mass.

Technical Ministry: The responsibility of the Technical Support department is to facilitate the audio and visual needs of the parish. Volunteers in this ministry have the privilege of serving God in a growing and vibrant community. We have a need for people to serve not only at the weekend Masses, but also throughout the week. **Commitment**: a schedule will be done up according to your availability.

Ushers: men & women welcome & direct people to available seating, assist with communion procession, take up collection, and assist those with special needs. Workshop attendance required. **Commitment:** one mass per month

Youth Group: to lead K- Grade 6 structured social activities and pizza supper. **Commitment:** once a month. Adults and Gr. 6 Junior Leaders needed.

If you want more information on any of the ministries, please call Nancy at the church office, 403-652-2203 or email at francisdesales@shaw.ca

A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Dr. Edward Sri





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.

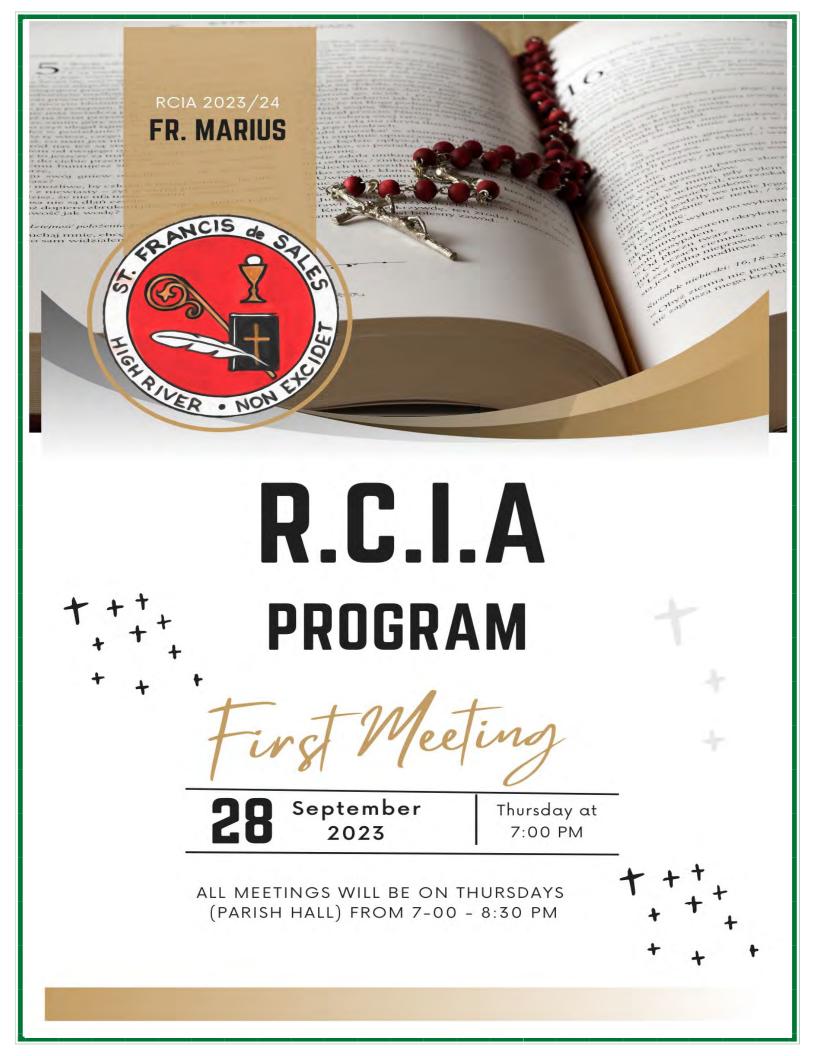
In Mary you will:

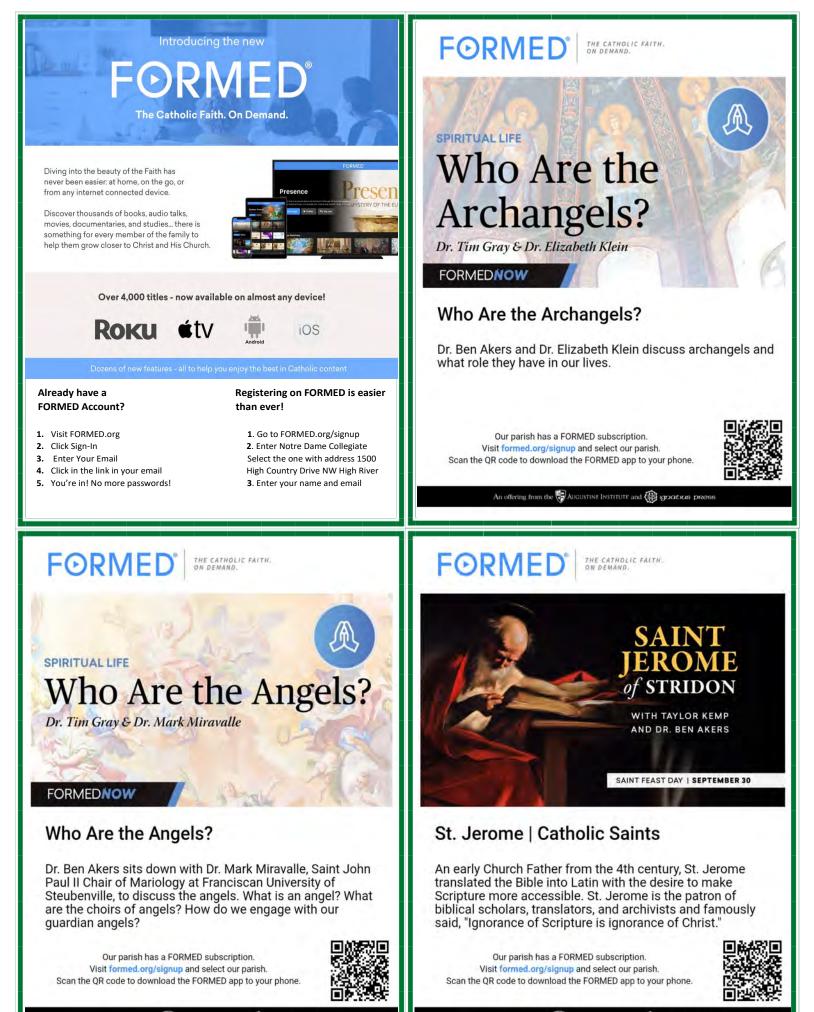
- Visit the grotto of Mary's home, the cave where Christ was born, and other rarely seen places in the Holy Land.
- See the significance of Mary as you explore the Biblical roots of our beliefs about her.
- Deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way.



"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!





An offering from the 😝 AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and 🛞 Igroacies preese

MASS INTENTIONS

September 1– 30, 2023

September 1	9:15 am	Wendell & Noelle Hoffart
September 2	9:00 am	Francis Lovoie †
	5:00 pm	Ann-Marie Stokes †
September 3	9:00 am—(Vulcan)	Our Parish
	11:00 am	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	Owen Abma
-	5:00 pm	Tony Van Wezel †
September 10	9:00 am—(Vulcan)	Our Parish
a . 1	11:00 am	Maria Naag †
September 11	9:00 am	Fr. Bryan Frank
September 12	7:00 pm	Barbara Zimmer
September 13	4:00 pm–(HR Hospital)	Chris Magosse
	6:00 pm	SFDS CWL Sisters
September 14	9:15 am	Ilene Clance †
September 15	9:15 am	Steve Abma
September 16	9:00 am	George & Antonina Sztuk †
	5:00 pm	Jan McNelis †
September 17	9:00 am–(Vulcan)	Our Parish
	11:00 am	Maria Naag †
September 18	9:00 am	Emily Brookwell †
September 19	7:00 pm	George & Antonina Sztuk †
September 20	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR)	Bernard Amlin †
-	6:00 pm	Theresa Fallows †
September 21	9:15 am	Edna Langenberger †
September 22	9:15 am	Paul Pilon †
September 23	9:00 am	Danny & Mary Rehak †
1 0	5:00 pm	Victor & Bernice Zelinski
September 24	9:00 am–(Vulcan)	Our Parish
	11:00 am	Jill Barton †
September 25	9:00 am	Paul D. Praught †
September 26	7:00 pm	Theresa Fallows †
September 27	3:30 pm–(The Manor)	Edna Langenberger †
1 ,	6:00 pm	Norbert Wasylenko
September 28	9:15 am	John Palmer
September 29	9:15 am	Claude Labre †
September 30	9:00 am	Gail Daniels †
	5:00 pm	Ilene Clancy †

