



# St. Francis De Sales and St. Andrew Parish BULLETIN



Roman Catholic Parish  
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB

1 JUNE 2025



*"Jesus withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven"*

## Office

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## 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

## ASCENSION OF THE LORD



# Ascension of the Lord



## Sunday Readings

**First Reading:** (Acts 1:1-11) In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and He has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies.

**Second Reading:** (Ephesians 1:17-23) The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" because of the light that came with God's saving grace (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32). Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believer

**Gospel:** (Luke 24:46-53) Indeed, His intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the First Reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). The Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through Baptism.



June 1,  
2025

## Blow Your Trumpet of Thanksgiving

It was a spectacular fall day when the leaves in the Pennsylvania mountains were at their zenith of color. Robert Raines drove up the mountain road higher and higher with the scenery becoming ever more vast and spectacular. Just as he reached the top of the mountain, he spotted a car parked just off the road. Curious, he stopped. A man was standing about two hundred yards away on the side of the mountain overlooking a wondrous sea of color. The man had a trumpet lifted to his lips. Do you know what he was playing? It was the doxology. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

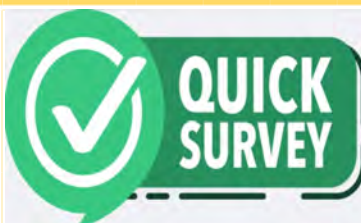
I'd like to know that trumpet player. He could teach me two things. One, I need to be more aware of the untold blessings of God in my life. Two, I need to be bold in expressing my gratitude to God and to others. I need to forget what others might think and play my trumpet to the sky when joy and thanksgiving wail up within.



NOVENA TO THE  
*Holy Spirit*

In preparation for the great feast of Pentecost, let us ask for an outpouring of grace into our hearts, and implore the Holy Spirit to send the grace of Renewal to all the parishes in the Diocese of Calgary. Novena to the Holy Spirit start his Friday, May 30, 2024.

For a copy of the Novena, please see Nancy in the church office, or you can go to the Diocese Website to do it online at <https://www.catholiccy.ca/blog/novena-to-the-holy-spirit-for-renewal>



## Help Us

**We want to hear from you!** Please take a few moments to fill out our **Parish Survey** and share your thoughts on how we can make our parish even better. Your input will help us serve our community more faithfully and effectively.

Thank you for being a valued part of our parish family!



## 1st Holy Communion Celebration

The 1st Holy Communion Celebration is on **June 8, 2025** with a special mass at **3:00 pm**. Please put our class in your prayers, as they enter into this new journey in their life.



**It was a great Game Night at SFDS on May 23rd!  
Please join us for the next one on June 27th.**



**Your change  
changes lives**



**Your generosity supports real families facing real challenges!**  
By filling a bottle, you're joining a community of generous people, coming together to bring hope to young families in our community. The bottles added together provide support for today and impact for generations.

Participating is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

**1**

Put your cash,  
coins, or a cheque  
in the bottle, or  
donate online.

**2**

Bring your bottle  
back on Father's  
Day (June 15th).

**3**

Sign up for our  
newsletter and  
keep us in your  
prayers.

### Other Ways to Give:

- **Donate online** <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/mainsprings/>
- **E-transfer** to [accounting@mainsprings.com](mailto:accounting@mainsprings.com)
- **Send a cheque** payable to Mainsprings
- **Scan our QR code**

\*Donations \$25 or more will be issued a donation receipt.

**Donate Today!**



Canadian Centre for  
Christian Charity  
ACCREDITED MEMBER

Mainsprings Pregnancy and Family Support Association is planning to raise an estimated amount of \$500,000 this year on fundraising campaigns. It will cost our organization an estimated \$90,000 to raise this. The money raised will go to board-approved programs. For further information, please contact Dennis Kothar at 403-269-3110. Our address is 205, 925 - 7 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2P 1A5.

# Games Wanted

**Decluttering? Donate your old board & card games to the Parish Game Library.  
Drop off at the Parish Office.**

**NOTE: Multiples of the same game may be used in activities to raise funds for other games & supplies.  
Thank you for your consideration!**



## Help Needed!

**SFDS CWL will be Celebrating  
100 Years on October 18, 2025,**  
and are looking for donations of  
medium size Rose Bowls for  
their table decorations.

**If you are cleaning out your  
cupboards and have 1 or 2 that  
you don't use anymore, please  
consider donating them to our  
CWL Ladies!**





## The Ascension of the Lord – 1 of June

The Ascension of the Lord is one of the central mysteries of the Christian faith and a pivotal moment in the life of Jesus Christ. Celebrated 40 days after Easter, it commemorates Jesus' return to heaven following His resurrection. From a Catholic perspective, the Ascension is not only a historical event but a profound theological truth with spiritual, liturgical, and eschatological significance.

### Biblical Foundation

The Ascension is recorded in several places in the New Testament, most notably in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:6–11), the Gospel of Luke (Luke 24:50–53), and briefly alluded to in the Gospel of Mark (Mark 16:19). According to Acts, Jesus appeared to His disciples over a period of 40 days after His resurrection, speaking to them about the Kingdom of God. Then, in their presence, He was "lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight."

This imagery evokes the presence and majesty of God, reminiscent of Old Testament scenes in which God's glory is veiled in a cloud. Two angels then appear and announce that Jesus will return "in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

### Theological Meaning

In Catholic theology, the Ascension marks the definitive glorification of Jesus' humanity. While Christ never ceased to be divine, His ascension means that His human nature now shares in the divine glory in a new and complete way. This is a crucial truth of the Incarnation: Jesus Christ, true God and true man, brings humanity into the very heart of God.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches:

"Christ's Ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus' humanity into God's heavenly domain..." (CCC 665)

His Ascension is also seen as the prelude to the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus Himself told His disciples that it was to their advantage that He go away, for then the Advocate (the Holy Spirit) would come (cf. John 16:7).

### Liturgical Celebration

The Solemnity of the Ascension is traditionally celebrated on the 40th day after Easter, which always falls on a Thursday. However, in many dioceses around the world (including many in North America), the feast is transferred to the following Sunday to allow greater participation by the faithful.

The liturgy of the day emphasizes Christ's kingship, His ongoing intercession for us at the right hand of the Father, and the call to continue His mission. The readings, prayers, and hymns celebrate His exaltation and the promise of His return.

### Spiritual Implications

For Catholics, the Ascension is not just a farewell; it is a commissioning. Jesus ascends not to abandon us, but to empower us. Before His departure, He gives the Great Commission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). His physical departure ushers in a new presence—through the Holy Spirit, through the sacraments, and through His mystical body, the Church.

The Ascension invites believers to lift their hearts to heaven, to live in hope, and to remember that their true citizenship is with God. It also reminds the faithful that Christ now intercedes for them continually and that His return in glory is a sure promise.

### Eschatological Hope

Lastly, the Ascension turns our gaze toward the future. It is a sign of what awaits all who are united with Christ: not just resurrection from the dead, but participation in divine glory. As St. Augustine wrote, "He did not leave heaven when He came down to us; nor did He withdraw from us when He went up again into heaven."

In ascending, Christ remains with His Church in a new and powerful way—preparing a place for us, guiding us by His Spirit, and leading us home.

### Conclusion

The Ascension of the Lord is a moment of triumph, transition, and hope. It marks the completion of Christ's earthly mission and the beginning of the Church's mission in the world. From a Catholic viewpoint, it is a feast that challenges the faithful to live with eyes fixed on heaven and hearts rooted in Christ, as they await the fulfillment of His promise: "I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you also may be" (John 14:3).

2025 Worship Conference

# THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

Renewing the Heart of Liturgical Ministry

- Keynote talks will explore the liturgy as a living encounter with the Paschal Mystery, principles of liturgical renewal, and leadership in service of the Body of Christ.
- Participants can choose workshops tailored to their current liturgical ministry.
- Workshops will cover theological and historical foundations, diocesan guidelines, and best practices.
- Emphasis on deepening a spirituality of holiness through active ministry.

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

OCTOBER  
3-4, 2025

ST. MARY'S  
CATHEDRAL &  
ST. MARY'S  
HIGH SCHOOL,  
CALGARY



# Congratulations

**Congratulations to NDC Staff who were Award winners at the  
Christ Redeemer Catholic Schools Divisional Awards!**



### 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 [fr-marius@francisdesaleshighriver.com](mailto:fr-marius@francisdesaleshighriver.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."*  
- Pope 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](mailto: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 [secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com](mailto:secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com)



### Adoration

Please join us for Adoration after the 9:00 am Mass on Thursdays.

**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

[secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com](mailto:secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com)

**All are welcome!**

### St. Francis de Sales 2025 Offering Envelopes

Just a reminder that the 2025 Offering Envelopes 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, **603-652-2203** or email [secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com](mailto:secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com)

Saint Francis de Sales  
High River, AB

**Welcome**  
Thank You for joining us today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in:  
☐ Learning more about our ministry?  
☐ Having a visit from the pastor?  
☐ Joining our church?

How did you hear about us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### St. Andrew's Parish Mystery Envelope

Can the owner of **Envelope #29**, from 2024 please call Nancy in the church office at 403-652-2203.

The # was not recorded so it is unknown who it belongs to. It was used **Easter weekend** of this year, but the date on the envelope is **May 5, 2024**

Saint Francis de Sales  
High River, AB

**Welcome**  
Thank You for joining us today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in:  
☐ Learning more about our ministry?  
☐ Having a visit from the pastor?  
☐ Joining our church?

How did you hear about us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Rosaries for 1st Communion for Sale

There are some 1st Communion Rosaries for sale, as well as regular Rosaries in our Gift Shop in the Church Hall. They are made by one of our parishioners, Rhona-Mae Arca.

If you are interested in buying one, please see Nancy in the church office during office hours, or call her at 403-652-2203, or email at [secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com](mailto:secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com)



### St. Francis de Sales Special Envelope Days

|                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| New Year's Day                       | January 01, 2025   |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | February 09, 2025  |
| Together in Action                   | April 06, 2025     |
| Needs of the Church in the Holy Land | April 18, 2025     |
| Easter                               | April 20, 2025     |
| Good Shepherd Sunday                 | May 11, 2025       |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | May 18, 2025       |
| The Pope's Pastoral Works            | May 25, 2025       |
| Together in Action                   | June 01, 2025      |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | June 08, 2025      |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | August 10, 2025    |
| Together in Action                   | September 07, 2025 |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | September 14, 2025 |
| World Mission Sunday                 | October 19, 2025   |
| Catholic Education Sunday            | November 02, 2025  |
| Together in Action                   | November 09, 2025  |
| SFDS Helping Hands                   | November 16, 2025  |
| Holy Childhood Sunday                | December 14, 2025  |
| Christmas                            | December 25, 2025  |

Saint Francis de Sales  
High River, AB

**Welcome**  
Thank You for joining us today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in:  
☐ Learning more about our ministry?  
☐ Having a visit from the pastor?  
☐ Joining our church?

How did you hear about us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*"For it is  
in  
giving  
that  
we  
receive."*  
~ St. Francis of Assisi



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.



# MASS INTENTIONS

# June 1– 30, 2025

|         |                                  |                                               |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| June 1  | 9:00 am—(Vulcan)<br>11:00 am     | Our Parish<br>Wade Hamer †                    |
| June 2  | 9:00 am                          | Isabella Lupychukz & Family                   |
| June 3  | 7:00 pm                          | Michele Schaefer †                            |
| June 4  | 6:00 pm                          | Bereavement Mass                              |
| June 5  | 9:15 am                          | Fred & Anna Myers †                           |
| June 6  | 9:15 am                          | Lynn Schaefer                                 |
| June 7  | 9:00 am<br>5:00 pm               | Wade Hamer †<br>Our Parish                    |
| June 8  | 9:00 am—(Vulcan)<br>11:00 am     | George & Antonina Sztuk †<br>Cecilia Bleile † |
| June 9  | 9:00 am                          | Felix & Carmen Amores †                       |
| June 10 | 7:00 pm                          | Dominador & Angelina Jalosjos †               |
| June 11 | 4:00 pm—(HR Hospital)<br>6:00 pm | Bessie Amores †<br>SFDS CWL Sisters           |
| June 12 | 9:15 am                          | Morgan Curzon                                 |
| June 13 | 9:15 am                          | Betty Farrell †                               |
| June 14 | 9:00 am<br>5:00 pm               | Sophie<br>Grazyna Sak †                       |
| June 15 | 9:00 am—(Vulcan)<br>11:00 am     | Our Parish<br>Karen Barton                    |
| June 16 | 9:00 am                          | Candace Curzon                                |
| June 17 | 7:00 pm                          | Robert Robinson †                             |
| June 18 | 3:15 pm—( Seasons)<br>6:00 pm    | Felix & Carmen Amores †<br>Jean Teebay †      |
| June 19 | 9:15 am                          | George & Antonina Sztuk †                     |
| June 20 | 9:15 am                          | Dominador & Angelina Jalosjos †               |
| June 21 | 9:00 am<br>5:00 pm               | Michael Amatto<br>Ann-Marie Stokes †          |
| June 22 | 9:00 am—(Vulcan)<br>11:00 am     | Our Parish<br>Darlene Gillis †                |
| June 23 | 9:00 am                          | Felix & Carmen Amores †                       |
| June 24 | 7:00 pm                          | Joe & Pat Curzon                              |
| June 25 | 3:30 pm—(The Manor)<br>6:00 pm   | Barbara Charette<br>Theresa Fallows †         |
| June 26 | 9:15 am                          | Alejandrino & Milagras Floresca †             |
| June 27 | 9:15 am                          | John & Pat Palahicky †                        |
| June 28 | 9:00 am<br>5:00 pm               | Lloyd & Mary Hostland †<br>Francisco Mulato † |
| June 29 | 9:00 am—(Vulcan)<br>11:00 am     | George & Antonina Sztuk †<br>Our Parish       |
| June 30 | 9:00 am                          | Theresa Fallows †                             |



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