



St. Francis De Sales and St. Andrew Parish BULLETIN

2 AUGUST 2026



Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us.

Office

St. Francis de Sales Parish
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Contact Us

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Secretary: Nancy Barton
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Phone: 403-652-2203
Sacramental Prep: Nancy Barton
Email: secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com

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

XVIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2,
2026



Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Isaiah 55:1-3) But it doesn't end there. In giving of himself, Christ challenges us to continue giving of ourselves. In this way, the miracle goes on. How to begin? Listen closely to the first reading, from Isaiah, and you realize it serves as a summons to us all, and an invitation to gather closer to the Lord, just like the thousands described in the Gospel.

Second Reading: (Romans 8:35, 37-39) The miracle of this multiplication is the miracle of our Lord's boundless generosity, compassion, mercy and love — extended to all without hesitation. Ours is a God ready to give us what we need, no matter our need. What are we truly hungering for? What do we crave?

Gospel: (Matthew 14:13-21) The hunger is real. The pangs are painful. And this Gospel assures us that the one who satisfies those hungerers and fills our wants is Jesus — who multiplied bread in Galilee and continues to multiply his own love to us today in the form of bread, through the Eucharist. He feeds us beyond what we can imagine. He makes the impossible possible, satisfies the unsatisfied, refreshes those who are weary and wanting.

For more information about this reflection go to <https://catholiccourier.com/articles/scripture-reflection-for-aug-2-2026-18th-sunday-in-ordinary-time/>

Fr. Mariusz's Summer Adventure

Dear Parish Family,

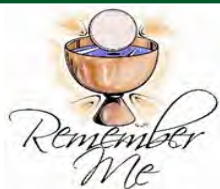
For the next little while, you may notice the parish parking lot is missing my motorcycle. Don't worry—I haven't traded it, I am just gone for my holiday.

I'll be heading off with a few good friends on a motorcycle pilgrimage, visiting beautiful shrines, historic churches, and places of prayer along the way. Of course, purely in the interest of "pastoral research," we'll also make a brief stop at the famous Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. After all, even motorcycles need a blessing now and then!

Please keep us in your prayers for safe travels, and be assured that I'll be remembering all of you in my prayers at every shrine and church we visit. If you happen to hear a distant rumble, don't worry—that's just a few pilgrims arriving in style!

God bless you all, and I'll see you soon—with plenty of stories, a few more miles on the Harley, and, hopefully, no new excuses to buy more motorcycle accessories!

Fr. Mariusz, SDS



1st Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist

2026/2027

The registration link is now open online, on our website 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 September 21, 2026)

Please go to our website to register for these Sacraments

<https://www.francisdesaleshighriver.com/index.php/sacraments/eucharist>

Confirmation 2026/2027

The registration link is now open online to register your child for **Confirmation**.

Your child must be in Grade 7-12 for this Sacrament.

(please note: deadline for registration is Sept. 25, 2026)

Please go to our website to register for these Sacraments

<https://www.francisdesaleshighriver.com/index.php/sacraments/confirmation>



Summer Office Hours

The parish office will be open **9:00 am—12:00 pm** to the public for the **month of August**.

If there is an emergency and you need to speak to a priest after office hours, please call Deacon Larry at 403-336-5301.





SENIORS' COFFEE BREAK

Enjoy coffee & treats, stretches & fellowship

August 7 & 21

After 9:15 AM Mass
Church Crying Room

Volunteers wanted to help
offer this on a regular basis.

Contact:
youth@francisdesaleshighriver.com



YOUTH GROUP IS BACK!

Students! Are you looking for a place where you can connect, grow, and be inspired? If you're in Grades 3-6, join the Youth Group. Together, we'll learn and grow together in Christ while having lots of fun! Starting in September, we'll meet twice a month until June. See you there!

SEPTEMBER
11 & 25
6:00-8:00 PM • PARISH HALL

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Game Nights
- Movie Nights
- Sports Nights
- Bowling Night
- Crafting
- Worship through music
- Special activities to support the parish, the elderly & those in need
- Fellowship with friends
- Foods of the Bible Food Tasting
- and more!



For info or to volunteer, contact:
youth@francisdesaleshighriver.com

FITNESS KICKBOXING

Join us for fitness & fellowship!

JULY 26 -
AUGUST 30, 2026

SUNDAYS @ 2:00-3:00 PM
PARISH HALL

FYI:

- Wear active clothes.
- Bring your water bottle.
- Participants will need to sign a Liability Waiver.
- Schedule subject to change. See Calendar for updates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
YOUTH@FRANCISDESALESHIGHRIVER.COM



Try Japanese Swordsmanship

JOIN US FOR FITNESS & FELLOWSHIP!

Instructors: Rhona-Mae Arca (Iaido & Jodo 3 Dan) & Elizabeth Patton (Jodo 1 Kyu) of Ka Muso Kai Calgary

What You'll Explore

- **Iaido:** a "quick draw" art, where you perform sword techniques starting in the sheathed position
- **Jodo:** the Japanese art of the short staff, used by Japanese police



AUGUST 8 & 29, 2026

IAIDO: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

JODO: 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

GREENSPACE ACROSS SFDS
(PARISH HALL IF RAINING)

FYI

- Wear active clothes.
- Bring your water bottle.
- Practice weapons provided.
- Participants will need to sign a Liability Waiver.
- Schedule subject to change. See Calendar for updates.
- Info: youth@francisdesaleshighriver.com

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026 • 6:30 PM PARISH HALL

GAME



NIGHT





Last year I shared with you the vision of our **Motorcycle Pilgrimage of Hope**, a journey across Canada and the United States to visit sacred shrines, pray together, and carry your intentions before the Lord. Many of you followed our pilgrimage, sent us your prayer requests, and supported us with your encouragement. For that, I remain deeply grateful.

As many of you already know, I was not able to complete the pilgrimage. No, I didn't run out of gas. I didn't get lost. And thankfully, I didn't confuse the shrine with the nearest Tim Hortons.

Severe back problems made it impossible to continue riding. At first, I struggled to understand why God would allow the pilgrimage to end so unexpectedly. After months of planning, preparation, and excitement, turning back was one of the hardest decisions I had to make.

Looking back now, however, I see the journey differently.

A pilgrimage has always involved sacrifice. Christians throughout history have walked hundreds of kilometres, endured hunger, fatigue, illness, and uncertainty as they sought to draw closer to God. If I am honest, riding a motorcycle has always been a great joy for me. It is one of the places where I feel free, where I enjoy God's beautiful creation, and where prayer comes naturally. In that sense, I began to ask myself: **where was the sacrifice?**

Then the answer slowly became clear.

In my previous article, I wrote that we would carry your prayer intentions with us to every shrine we visited. We promised to pray for you, your families, your struggles, and your hopes. Although I could no longer continue the pilgrimage, perhaps God was inviting me to fulfil that promise in a way I had never expected.

Instead of offering miles travelled, I was invited to offer my suffering.

It was not only the physical pain that became my offering. The sorrow of not being able to continue the pilgrimage with my friends, of watching them ride on while I had to turn back, was also a real and deeply personal sacrifice. Together, the pain, disappointment, and sense of loss became my prayer. Every difficult day became an opportunity to place your intentions before God. In His mysterious providence, what seemed like the end of the pilgrimage became another stage of it. The road simply changed, from highways and shrines to doctor's appointments, and the quiet endurance that so many people experience every day.

I discovered once again that God is never limited by our plans. Sometimes He leads us exactly where we intended to go. At other times, He teaches us by asking us to stop.

This experience reminded me that the value of a pilgrimage is measured not by the distance travelled but by the openness of the heart. Whether we are riding through majestic mountains or sitting quietly in a room unable to move without pain, God remains by our side.

This year, with gratitude and renewed hope, I am preparing to continue the journey that remained unfinished.

I do so with greater humility than before. I know that every kilometre is a gift and that every day on the road depends entirely on God's grace. My prayer is simple: if it is God's will, may He allow me to complete this pilgrimage, not for my own satisfaction, but for His glory and for all those whose intentions we have the privilege to carry. Once again, I invite you to become fellow pilgrims.

Please send us your prayer intentions. We will carry them with us to every shrine, every church, every Mass, and every moment of prayer along the way. Whether the journey is smooth or difficult, know that your intentions will remain at the heart of this pilgrimage.

Thank you for your prayers, your friendship, and your faith. Last year, many of you also prayed for my recovery. I believe those prayers strengthened me more than you know.

As we prepare once again to start our engines, may we remember that every Christian life is a pilgrimage. Whether God calls us to move forward with confidence or to wait with patience, every step entrusted to Him leads us closer to Christ.

From July 30 to August 18, a segment of our team will travel thousands of miles by motorcycle through Western Canada and the western United States. We would be honoured to carry your prayer intentions with us, lifting them each day at Mass with Bishop Scott McCaig and Fr. Mariusz, and remembering them in the rosaries we pray along the open road.

May the Lord bless you abundantly, keep you safe, and fill your hearts with hope. We look forward to carrying your prayers once again. **See you on the road, and, above all, in prayer.**



Dear Parishioners,

As I begin my annual holiday, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Larry Bagnall, who has once again so generously agreed to look after our parish during my absence.

For a number of years now, Fr. Larry has faithfully stepped in to celebrate Masses and provide pastoral care for our parish whenever I have been away. Although he is retired, he continues to answer the call to serve with remarkable generosity. His willingness to help year after year is a beautiful witness to his love for the priesthood and his dedication to God's people.

It is not easy to find a retired priest who is so ready to continue sharing his gifts, experience, and love for parish life. Fr. Larry has always been generous with his time, and I am deeply grateful for his friendship and his faithful support of our parish community. We are truly blessed to have someone who so willingly shares in the ministry of caring for our parishioners.

I know you will extend to Fr. Larry the same warm welcome and kindness that you have shown him over the years. Please keep him in your prayers during his time with us, just as I know he will keep all of us in his prayers.

Thank you, Fr. Larry, for your unwavering generosity and your joyful service. May the Lord continue to bless you with good health, strength, and many graces as you continue to share His love with all those you serve.

God bless you all, and I look forward to being back with you soon.

Fr. Marius

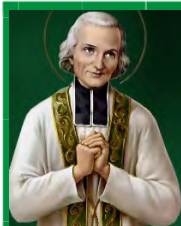


Confession or Communion to the Homebound

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 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



When the hearts is pure and simple it cannot help loving, because it has discovered the source of love.

- St. John Mary Vianney

Did you Know?

Sunday Offering

Did you know we now take Donations electronically! **You have the following options: Direct Debit, Visa, M/C.** 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 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

All are welcome!



ST. FRANCIS de SALES PARISH

Proclaiming the Good News and Living the Faith in Christ

AUGUST 2026



*"Be who you are
and be that well."*
- St. Francis de Sales

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	CALENDAR LEGEND
26 17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO 5:00 pm Sunday Mass during the month of August.	27 	28 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	29 STS. MARTHA, MARY AND LAZARUS 4:00 pm Mass - Hospital 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	30 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	31 ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA (M) 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	Aug 1 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	● MASSES & LITURGY ● SACRAMENT / CONFESSION ● MEETINGS & MINISTRIES ● SPECIAL EVENTS ● FEAST DAY / SOLEMNITY
2 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River	3 	4 ST. JEAN-MARIE VIANNEY (M) 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	5 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	6 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (F) 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	7 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	8 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	
9 19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River	10 	11 ST. CLARE (M) 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	12 4:00 pm Mass at the Hospital 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	13 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	14 ST. MAXIMILIAN MARY KOLBE (M) 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	15 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	
16 20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River	17 	18 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	19 3:15 pm Mass at Seasons 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	20 ST. BERNARD (M) 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	21 ST. PIUS X (M) 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	22 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	
23 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River	24 	25 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	26 3:30 pm Mass - Manor 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	27 ST. MONICA (M) 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	28 ST. AUGUSTINE (M) 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	29 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME THE PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (F) 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	
30 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00 am Mass - Vulcan 11:00 am Mass - High River	31 	Sep 1 6:00 pm Confession 7:00 pm Mass	2 5:00 pm Confession 6:00 pm Mass	3 ST. GREGORY THE GREAT (M) 9:15 am Mass 9:45 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:45 pm Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament	4 8:15 am Confession 9:00 am TOPS 9:15 am Mass	5 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00 am Confession 9:00 am Mass 4:00 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 pm (Vigil Mass)
 Sunday: 9:00 am (Vulcan)
 11:00 am (High River)
 PLEASE NOTE: There will be **NO 5:00 pm Sunday Mass** during the month of August.

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Monday: No events in August
 Tuesday: Confession 6:00 pm
 Mass 7:00 pm
 Wednesday: (Varies - see calendar)
 Confession 5:00 pm
 Mass 6:00 pm

Friday: Confession 8:15 am
 TOPS 9:00 am
 Mass 9:15 am
 Saturday: Confession 8:00 am
 Mass 9:00 am
 Confession 4:00 pm
 Vigil Mass 5:00 pm

*You are
always welcome here!*

TO KNOW CHRIST AND
MAKE HIM KNOWN



222 - 13 Avenue NE
 High River, AB T1V 1P7
 403-652-3975



office@francisdesaleshighriver.com



www.francisdesaleshighriver.com

Visit our website
for the latest news,
events & updates!



*All are welcome
to join us in prayer
and the celebration
of the Eucharist!*



August 1– 31, 2026

August 1	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Maj Wojcik † Our Parish
August 2	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Gerry McAuley † Javier Mevjiol † No Mass
August 3	9:00 am	No Mass
August 4	7:00 pm	Doreen McMillan
August 5	6:00 pm	Bereavement Mass
August 6	9:15 am	David Pineo †
August 7	9:15 am	David Pineo †
August 8	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Joe Pollock Victor Zelinski †
August 9	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	St. Andrew's CWL Sisters Our Parish No Mass
August 10	9:00 am	No Mass
August 11	7:00 pm	Christopher Chin-Fatt †
August 12	4:00 pm—(Hospital) 6:00 pm	Bea Leikam † SFDS CWL Sisters
August 13	9:15 am	Maj Wojcik †
August 14	9:15 am	Maj Wojcik †
August 15	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Gilbert & Gwen Fagnou Maj Wojcik †
August 16	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Our Parish Betty Farrel † No Mass
August 17	9:00 am	No Mass
August 18	7:00 pm	Doug Mowat †
August 19	3:15 pm—(Seasons HR) 6:00 pm	George & Antonina Sztuk † Fr. Philip Le
August 20	9:15 am	Gerald McInnes †
August 21	9:15 am	Robert Chung
August 22	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Joyce Bateman † Our Parish
August 23	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Gerry McAuley † Fran Southgate † No Mass
August 24	9:00 am	No Mass
August 25	7:00 pm	Joyce Bateman †
August 26	3:15 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Fran Southgate † Rita Crockford †
August 27	9:15 am	Marian MacDonald †
August 28	9:15 am	Christopher Chin-Fatt †
August 29	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Bill & Margaret Ryan † Theresa Fallows †
August 30	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Gerry McAuley † Our Parish No Mass
August 31	9:00 am	No Mass



Online or in studio (High River) lessons

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Phone: (403) 652-2880 * Fax: (403) 652-2887

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