



St. Francis De Sales and St. Andrew Parish BULLETIN

11 JANUARY



Roman Catholic Parish
HIGH RIVER - VULCAN, AB



When Jesus had been baptized, he saw the Spirit of God coming upon him.

Office

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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
Sunday 5:00 pm - High River

CONFESSIONS

Monday - Saturday: 45 minutes before Masses

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



The Baptism Of The Lord



January 11,
2026

Sunday Readings

First Reading: (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) Scripture scholars and theologians continue to speculate on the identity of the servant in this passage from Isaiah, counted among the Servant Songs. Some claim the “servant” is a particular individual, beloved and anointed by God. This could perhaps refer to Isaiah himself, a king, or another prophet. Others consider the “servant” to be the people of Israel as a nation. Still others wonder if the “servant” points to a handful of Israelites, much like a faithful remnant. The imagery and words about the servant also resonate with the life, mission, death and resurrection of Jesus. While the servant’s identity can be interpreted in various ways, the servant’s mission is clear and originates with a God of infinite justice and mercy for all.

Second Reading: (Acts 10:34-38) Peter’s discourse in the house of Cornelius, a Gentile, illustrates a conversion/revelation in Peter’s heart: now he knows that God sent his Son Jesus to save all people, not just the Jewish people. Considered among the first sermons recorded, this passage is an apt summary of the *kerygma*, the heart of the Gospel message. Pope Francis gave this summary of the kerygma in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*): “The first proclamation must ring out over and over: ‘Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.’” – *Evangelii Gaudium* # 164.

Gospel: (Matthew 3:13-17) Here the Gospel reveals that Jesus is God’s beloved and the chosen servant of which Isaiah spoke. In Jesus we find God’s radical identification with the human condition in all things, including the repentance for sin. In that complete identification and “self-emptying” of God, all things human were filled with God’s righteousness. It is for this reason that Jesus “needed” to be baptized.

For more information about these reflections, please contact Kiply Lukan Yaworski, Diocese Communications, 306-659-5844 or kyaworski@rcdos.ca.

“A Splash of Joy”

Every year, during the Baptism of the Lord, something funny seems to happen at our parish! One year, the priest got a little too enthusiastic with the baptismal font, and—oops!—a small splash reached the front row. A little boy looked up, wiped his forehead, and whispered, “Mom, I didn’t know the Holy Spirit came with a water gun!” The whole congregation laughed.

Another year, a toddler got sprinkled with holy water... and splashed some *back* at the priest! He wiped his face and joked, “Ah yes, the first recorded case of a parishioner baptizing the priest!”

And then there’s the time someone accidentally bumped the baptismal font, sending a little extra water onto a kneeling couple. The priest looked at them, dripping wet, and smiled, “Looks like you got an extra blessing this year!”

These little moments remind us that baptism isn’t just a serious sacrament—it’s also joyful. God’s love can make us laugh, and the Holy Spirit sometimes surprises us... maybe even with a tiny splash!

Submitted by Fr. Mariusz



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS

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*Discounted rate of \$75 if registering for ALL sessions

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 403-218-5521
mara.capilli@calgarydiocese.ca

THURSDAY AT 7 PM
JAN 22, 2026
Communication

THURSDAY AT 7 PM
FEB 19, 2026
Forgiveness

THURSDAY AT 7 PM
MAR 19, 2026
Conflict Resolution

THURSDAY AT 7 PM
APR 23, 2026
Marriage & Sexuality

THURSDAY AT 7 PM
MAY 21, 2026
Financial Stewardship

LOCATION

Catholic Pastoral
Centre, 120 17th Ave SW
Calgary, AB



REGISTER
HERE



Online Giving



Parish Website



SFDS GAME NIGHT

TRY A GAME, TEACH A GAME!

Bring your fave boardgames, cardgames, and snacks for a fun time of gaming and fellowship.

Children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

NOTE: February & March game nights will take place on Saturday.



6:00 PM

JANUARY 23, 2026

FEBRUARY 21, 2026

MARCH 28, 2026

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COME AND HEAR HOW A.L.I.E.S. IS TRANSFORMING
OUR CULTURE AND LEARN ABOUT HOW WE CAN
RESPOND TO LIFE ISSUES WITH TRUTH AND LOVE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC
CHURCH, HIGH RIVER



About ALIES

BISHOP MCGRATTAN

Crossing into the New Year with the Holy Family

The Jubilee Year has closed, but its grace is meant to be lived on. Bishop McGrattan reflects on how family life carries that hope forward.

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Some highlights:

New Year's Message from
Bishop McGrattan

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-Fun Night with the Sisters

-Organ for Pianist - Sacred Music
Workshop

-Marriage Enrichment Workshop

-Career Opportunities.....and more

To subscribe, go to the Diocese web-
site <https://www.catholiccc.ca/>



Knights of Columbus®

Knights of Columbus
January meeting

Monday January 12, 2026
at 7:00 pm at SFDS in
the church hall.

All Knights in good standing
are encouraged to attend.



Be sure, too, to show
your neighbor the
same love which God
shown towards you.

- St. John of Avila



Dear Parishioners,

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your wonderful participation in the celebrations of Christmas and the New Year. I know that preparing for the holidays is always a very busy time—sometimes it feels like we need a team of angels just to keep up!—and yet you found the time, energy, and generosity of spirit to help prepare our parish for these beautiful celebrations. Your presence, your

prayers, and your active involvement truly made these holy days joyful, meaningful, and memorable for our entire community.

I am especially grateful to those who went above and beyond in preparing and supporting our celebrations:

- To **Deacon Larry**, for his faithful support and ministry (and for keeping me on my toes!),
- “To our decorating team, who once again transformed our church into a winter wonderland—sometimes I seriously wondered how to make my way through without tripping over all the beautiful decorations!”
- To our **choir**, whose beautiful music lifted our hearts and reminded us that angels really *do* sing,
- To the **Knights of Columbus** and **CWL**, for all their hard work behind the scenes,
- And to everyone else who contributed in any way—whether it was setting up chairs, ushering or offering a kind word—you made a difference.

I am also deeply grateful for all the Christmas greetings, cards, and thoughtful messages I received. Every note and kind word reminded me once again how blessed I am to serve such a warm, generous, and sometimes hilariously spirited parish community.

May the joy of Christ’s birth continue to shine in your hearts throughout the New Year. May God bless you and your families abundantly with peace, health, and happiness in 2026—just remember, if you overindulge in holiday treats, I’ll be happy to hear your confessions!

With deep gratitude, warmest wishes, and a little Christmas cheer,

Fr. Mariusz Sztuk, SDS



The Baptism of the Lord

After celebrating the mysteries of the **Nativity of our Lord**, the **Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, and the **Epiphany**, the Church now commemorates the **Baptism of the Lord**—a feast that reveals the Holy Trinity in its fullness for the first time in human history. At the Jordan River, God the Father speaks from heaven, the Son appears in human form, and the Holy Spirit descends like a dove.

Jesus receives baptism from **John the Baptist**, not because He is in need of forgiveness, but to fully manifest His relationship with the Father and the Spirit. In this sacred moment, Jesus comes to know His identity completely and begins His journey toward Jerusalem, to fulfill His mission of revealing God's love, echoing the journey of Moses toward the Promised Land with the revealed law of God.

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the **first Sunday after the Epiphany** and marks the **end of the Christmas season**.

Ritual washings were well known in ancient cultures as outward signs of inner conversion, repentance, and readiness to make amends. Baptism expresses humanity's longing for God's mercy and purification, just as water cleanses the body from external dirt. The Gospels, especially St. Matthew, recount this event, describing Jesus' public acceptance of baptism at the age of thirty—the age at which Jewish custom permitted a man to teach and lead publicly. Though sinless Himself, Jesus joins sinners in the waters of the Jordan, accepting purification and showing solidarity with humanity.

Through His baptism, **Jesus is presented by the Father as the Son sent to accomplish the work of salvation**. God affirms His mission from heaven, testifying that Jesus speaks and acts with divine authority. This moment also marks the beginning of His public teaching and ministry.

For us, baptism remains the sacrament of **rebirth and initiation into the life of Christ**, granting the Holy Spirit and welcoming us into God's family. It is the foundation of our Christian identity, a reminder that we are called to live as God's beloved children, sharing His love and mercy with the world.

As we celebrate this feast, let us reflect on our baptism, give thanks for the gift of new life, and renew our commitment to follow Christ each day, guided by the Spirit and rooted in the love of the Father.



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



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 all 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!



THIS WEEK AT SFDS

Sunday, January 11—THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:00 – 10:00 AM – Mass (Vulcan)
11:00 – 12:00 PM – Mass (High River)
4:00 – 5:00 PM – Confessions
5:00 – 6:00 PM – Mass

Monday, January 12

No Mass
7:00—8:30 PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting

Tuesday, January 13

6:00 – 7:00 PM – Confessions
7:00 – 7:45 PM – Mass
7:45—8:45 pm— Valentines Planning Meeting

Wednesday, January 14

3:15 – 3:45 PM – Liturgy at Seasons
4:00 – 4:30 PM – Mass at the Hospital (Tentatively)
5:00—5:45 PM - Confessions
6:00—6:30 PM - Mass
6:30—8:00 PM— Finance Council Meeting (Crying RM)

Thursday, January 15

8:00 – 9:15 AM – Confession
9:15 - 10:00 AM - Mass
10:00 – 9:00 PM – Adoration and Benediction
7:00 – 8:30 PM – RCIA

Friday, January 16

8:00 - 9:15 AM - Confession
8:45 – 9:15 AM – Rosary
9:15 – 10:00 AM – Mass— Grade 5
9:00 – 11:30 AM – TOPS Group (East Hall)

Saturday, January 17— ST. ANTHONY, ABBOTT (M)

6:45 – 7:00 AM – Confession
7:00 – 7:30 AM – Daily Mass
4:00 – 5:00 PM – Confession
5:00 – 6:00 PM – Vigil Mass
6:00—8:00 PM - K of C Meeting 4th Degree (Crying RM)

SFDS Gift Shop

Have you checked out our Gift Shop Showcase?

We have Rosaries for sale, as well as Baptism, 1st Communion and Confirmation gifts.

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

St. Francis de Sales 2026 Offering Envelopes

*If you are interested in Offering Envelopes for 2026, please contact Nancy in the church office by phone, **403-652-2203** or email secretary@francisdesaleshighriver.com*

**Please Note: we have other options for Sunday Offerings which are :
Direct Debit, Visa, M/C. and E-transfer.**

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



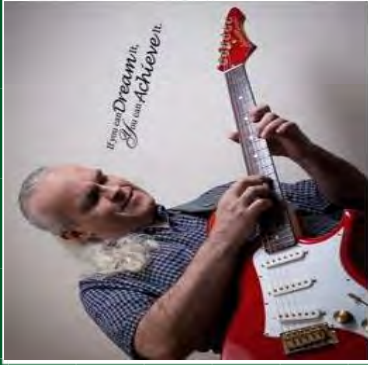
If you are in the hospital, and are **Roman Catholic**, please insure you or a family member contacts Nancy in the Church Office at 403- 652-2203. This will ensure that you will be visited by the Priest or Pastoral Care Team.



MASS INTENTIONS

January 1– 31, 2026

January 1	11:00 am	Edna Lim †
January 2	9:15 am	Xavier Aninger
January 3	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Clint Malinowski † Marian MacDonald †
January 4	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Our Parish Carolyn Kuziw † Harvey Wenger †
January 5	9:00 am	Bernie O'Donnell †
January 6	7:00 pm	Victor Zelinski †
January 7	6:00 pm	Bereavement Mass
January 8	9:15 am	Toby Ann Bryngelson
January 9	9:15 am	Jerome Schmitz †
January 10	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Michael Floresca † Our Parish
January 11	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	St. Andrew's CWL Sisters Frank Paslawski † Carolyn Kuziw †
January 12	No Mass	*****
January 13	7:00 pm	Dominador Jalosjas †
January 14	4:00 pm—(HR Hospital) 6:00 pm	Cesar Diogo † SFDS CWL Sisters
January 15	9:15 am	Victor Zelinski †
January 16	9:15 am	Victor Zelinski †
January 17	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Bessie Amores † Victor Zelinski †
January 18	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	R. Bagozzi Family Our Parish Carolyn Kuziw †
January 19	9:00 am	George & Antonina Sztuk †
January 20	7:00 pm	Lillian Schmitz †
January 21	3:15 pm (Seasons HR) 6:00 pm	Vince Treadgold † Eladio Restauero †
January 22	11:00 am	Alijandro & Milagros Floresca †
January 23	9:15 am	Timothy Zac †
January 24	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Francis Kyrluk † Val Schey & Family
January 25	9:00 am—(Vulcan) 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Our Parish Cathy Monroe Carolyn Kuziw †
January 26	9:00 am	Cathy Nesselbeck †
January 27	7:00 pm	Caroline Chicilo†
January 28	3:30 pm—(The Manor) 6:00 pm	Alan Fath † Betty Ann Smart
January 29	9:15 am	Felix & Carmen Amores †
January 30	9:15 am	Cathy Jensen
January 31	7:00 am 5:00 pm	Mike & Sue Amatto Pam Beker †



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