



# St. Martha's Parish

Pentecost Sunday - May 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

Gospel Reflection - John 20:19-23



The solemnity of Pentecost, like all Christian celebrations, has its roots in the experience of Jewish faith. The exit from Egypt of the Jewish people, which is celebrated with the feast of Passover, has significance only together with the reception of the tablets of the Law, which the Jews remember on the feast of Pentecost. According to a beautiful image of Semitic culture, it is as if a prisoner were told that he will be freed and will marry the king's daughter. The prisoner is initially incredulous, but when he sees that the first unexpected thing comes true, he begins to believe that the second will also happen, and estimates how long its realization will take: this is the time between Easter and Pentecost.

It is all according to the style of God, who is born at night, dies at night, when He dies it becomes dark over the whole earth, and He rises again when it's still dark.

He doesn't look for an audience, He's not interested in ovations and applause. That evening two thousand and more years ago, He finds a group of men shaken by the pain and violent death that their Master suffered; that evening the Spirit found them closed, barricaded in the house, "for fear of the Jews." But the Spirit of the Lord does not allow them to be intimidated and powerfully breaks into their lives. Where there is the darkness of disappointment, He brings the light of hope and joy. Where there is the closure of fear, He opens doors and windows, and makes those poor men Apostles and Witnesses of His love! We no longer have any excuses: if they did it, we can, we can all really do it! If you too are in that evening, when you no longer expect anything from life, closed and withdrawn into yourself, deluded and disappointed, know that the Love of God will always surprise you!

## Mass never ends

Throughout the Mass, we are reminded that our work is acceptable, our failures are forgiven, and we are being sent forth once again so that God may use our collective efforts to accomplish our mission. "Mass" comes to a Latin verb from which the word "missile" also derives, so the words of the dismissal, however humdrum they may seem, propel us, "like a cannonball," back into our workaday lives, aware of our mission: being witnesses of Christ.

## Contact Information

403-381-8891 • office@stmarthasparish.ca

Pastor: Fr. William Monis

Office closed on Monday

Office hours: Tue 9am-4pm, Wed thru Fri 9am-3pm

To rent the Knights of Columbus Hall

contact Marcus Lynch- Staunton (403) 359-4457

## Mass, Confession, Prayer

Mass Times: Mon, Wed-Fri 9am Tue. 7pm  
Sat. 5pm Sun. 9am & 11am

No Mass from Monday, 20 May till Friday, 24 May

**Reconciliation:** Sat. 4pm or by appointment **Adoration:** Fri. 10am-8pm following Mass – schedule permitting **Rosary:** 30min before Mass - **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Fridays 3pm  
**Divine Office:** Morning prayers after weekday morning Masses

## Please pray for the sick in our parish:

Rosa Bérubé, Bill Bennett, Deborah Huneault, Katie Lindsay, Maureen Adamkewicz, Nico Escobar, Vera Schwartzkoff, Joe Gatner, Anthony Johnston, Riley Svoboda, Devassy Palissery, Helen Smith, Kathleen Roth, August Schulze-Ebbinghoff, Ernest Geisler, Veronica Eagle Bear, Teresa Andron, Roz Walderman, Lou Karpick, Ellis Watson, Adeline Sherman, Linda Westgeest, Peter Danielson, Raymond Sander, Most. Rev. Gerard Pettipas, Bernie Yaretz, Theresa Blackwater, Viola Mogus, Robert Dubois.

### Mothers' Rosary Group

The Mothers' Rosary group will be meeting weekly downstairs at St. Martha's for prayer and fellowship, **every Wednesday from 9:30-11:30**. Babysitting is provided. Please join us! We are looking for babysitters.

### Grocery Cards Program

Support our Parish! It is a KofC & CWL Fundraiser. Purchase your Grocery Cards in our gathering space after all weekend Masses or **make an e-transfer: [knightscards9280@gmail.com](mailto:knightscards9280@gmail.com) indicating the STORE name. Orders received & paid for by Thursday, will be available for quick pickup at our Grocery Card stand at the Masses on the following Saturday / Sunday.**

### Day Home run by our parishioner Helen

Joyful Day Home on the West side near the University: Helen is an active member of our parish, compassionate and caring; she is looking for two children ranging from 4 to 5 years old. Joyful Day Home is under the We R Kids umbrella | For info: [hellowokingo@yahoo.ca](mailto:hellowokingo@yahoo.ca)

### KofC outreach program

Thank-you to all the generous folks who have donated clothing, soap and snacks to be used for the outreach program. A special thanks to the Monday hobby group who have been knitting warm hats, scarves and other items to keep people warm this winter. If you are donating items, please consider the season as we are looking for warmer clothes and gently used items. As spring and summer approach have look in your cupboard for water bottles that aren't using as we can certainly use those. Currently we are going out about once a week and delivering food and support to about 50 people in the downtown area. Please know that your donations are appreciated as well as any prayers you wish to offer. If this work interests you and/or you are interested in becoming involved with our Knights of Columbus Council please contact Grand Knight Mark Nixon or Ken Hakstol – 403. 382.9856

### Holy Spirit School Division International program

We are looking for Home Stay families interested in hosting European and Japanese students. We also are looking for a place for a 17 year old Italian boy who will be here from September until June. Please contact: [homestay@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:homestay@holyspirit.ab.ca)

### Corpus Christi Processions

**St. Martha's: on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**, following the 11:00 am Mass. The procession will be at the parking lot.

**All Saints: on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at about noon; more info here: <https://www.allsaintslethbridge.org/corpus-christi.html>

**St. Augustine's Catholic Church**, 5009 48th Avenue, Taber: on **Sunday, June 2nd at 2PM** | The Procession will start at the church First Prayer Stop: Clearview Lodge; Second Prayer Stop: St. Patrick's School; Third Prayer Stop: St. Mary's School | Everyone is invited to join the Procession at any point; whether it be for the whole procession, at a prayer stop, or along the route. There will be a Benediction at the church and Social following the Procession at the Church Lower Hall.

### Mass intentions

Thu 23 May	10:00 am	Pauline Chabot's funeral
Sat 25 May	5:00 pm	Rick Brugos +
Sun 26 May	9:00 am	CWL

### Mass Intentions guidelines

To those requesting multiple Masses (be it for one person or several different people) please note that **only one Mass per person requesting** can possibly be prayed here in this parish. We will make every effort to schedule one Mass here on the date you are requesting. **We cannot hold Mass requests for more than 2 months, all other requests will be sent away.**

### Donation envelopes

Donation envelopes for 2024 can be picked at the parish office. If you wish to sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving Plan please contact Moncy: [finance@stmarthasparish.ca](mailto:finance@stmarthasparish.ca) **For those who already have PAD, a box of special donations envelopes is available at the parish office.**

### Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every **Saturday, at 10:00 am**, in the basement of St. Martha's Church. All are welcome!

### Called to serve!

We need your gifts! Consider serving in any of these Ministries: **Lectors, Singers/Players for the choir, Sacristans, Hospitality team members and Eucharistic Ministers** for our Sunday Masses.

### Abiding Together Podcast group

Abiding Together Podcast group for adult women is **Thursdays from 6:30pm - 8:00pm** in the gathering space at St. Martha's. Bring your bibles and a notebook. Email Shanice [scharchun@gmail.com](mailto:scharchun@gmail.com)

### Assumption Charismatic Prayer meetings and potluck

Assumption Charismatic Prayer Group meet every Wednesday at 7:00 pm in Assumption Hall. Their monthly potluck is on **the first Wednesday of each month**. Doors open at **5:30pm**, supper at 6pm with praise and worship starting at 7 pm at Assumption Hall.

### Lethbridge Pro-Life Hike for Life

You are invited to join the Hike for Life on **June 8** at Henderson Lake, Kiwanis Shelter. Registration begins at 9am. It's a fun day for all the family with food and refreshments for all, games for the kids, a lot of draw prizes and a free T-shirt for all participants. Download the pledge form from [www.lifelethbridge.org](http://www.lifelethbridge.org)

### Marian Family Mass

Marian Family Mass, **May 31, 2024** at the **Van Uden place in Barnwell**. Welcome at 4pm, outdoor Mass at 5pm, potluck to follow. Please text 403-894-1471 to RSVP and for exact address

### Lethbridge People of Praise

"Getting to Know" weekend retreat: Date: **May 24-26<sup>th</sup>**, Location: St Joseph's School, 1413 23rd Ave Coaldale. Whether you are born again or new to faith in Christ, this weekend is for you.

### Harambee Grandmas

The Harambee Grandmas 7th Annual Fabric and Yarn Sale will take place on Friday, **October 25 and Saturday, October 26** at McKillop United Church. DONATIONS of unused fabric, yarn, and notions are now being gratefully accepted. Call 403-331-0504 or email [harambeegrandmas@telus.net](mailto:harambeegrandmas@telus.net) to arrange for pickup or drop-off.

### Goodbye to our NET team



THANK YOU, Francis, Carson, Anna, Elly, Maya, Bernadette for serving our parishes and leading the youth to encounter Christ, spreading the joy of His resurrection!

**Youth group** still meets on Sundays at the Assumption Hall from 7-9pm

### Praise & Worship Night

Every Tuesday following the 7pm Mass: everybody is welcome!

### Share the Mission Award

Nominations are now welcome for the Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's "Share the Mission Award." This prestigious award recognizes community members, parents, students, and school staff who have: Offered outstanding or long term service for the benefit of our students; Accepted demanding challenges and set new standards for the rest of us to follow; Contributed, through action and deed, to the Catholic atmosphere of our schools; Demonstrated involvement and leadership in community / parish organizations; Reflected the Mission Statement of the Holy Spirit School Division in all actions. If you know of an individual or group you would like to nominate, please forward their name to the Holy Spirit School Division Office **by June 7, 2024**. The nomination form is available online on the division's website or by clicking on the following link: [Share the Mission Award Nomination Form](#). For more information, contact Rhonda Kawa at (403) 327-9555.

### SFXC Events for young adults

#### June Events

Saturday, June 1st = 5pm Mass @ Assumption. Social and Formation Session after.

Saturday, June 8th = Hike for Life (organized by Lethbridge Pro-Life)

Friday, June 21st = Adoration @ Assumption. Social at Henderson after

### St. Vincent de Paul Collection

St. Vincent de Paul needs YOUR help and asks for your generosity: on the first Sunday of the month there will be volunteers collecting your donation at the end of Mass. THANK YOU!

### Events at Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre

**Men's Retreats:** June 7-9, 2024; for info: Ken Moen, 403-888-8833, [kenmoen19@gmail.com](mailto:kenmoen19@gmail.com); Ken Moen Sr., Hm.403-527-0270 / C.403-866-1270, [kmoen@telus.net](mailto:kmoen@telus.net); Cliff Richards, 403-827-6683, [cliff.richards@shaw.ca](mailto:cliff.richards@shaw.ca).

**July 9-11, 2024:** Soul Care for Men, Facilitators: Cathy Hardy – Singer-Songwriter, Author, Founder of Soul Care, Dr. Russ Daye – Author, Minister, and Meditation Teacher | Cost: \$385

**Women's Retreats:** May 31-June 2, 2024; for info contact Cathy Pamer, 403-274-3217; Erina Leiva, 403-397-7715, [emheffernan@shaw.ca](mailto:emheffernan@shaw.ca).

**July 16-18, 2024;** Prayer and Eucharist with the Franciscans. Facilitated by Singer-Songwriter, Retreat Facilitator and Teacher: Cathy AJ Hardy [soulcare.ca](http://soulcare.ca); to register contact: Claire Ziprick 780-893-8372 [clairezip@gmail.com](mailto:clairezip@gmail.com) | Cost: \$385 includes accommodations, meals, resources and presentations.

### Lethbridge Pro-Life Scholarships

#### ATTENTION Grade 12 and College/University Students!

**You can now apply for Lethbridge & District Pro-Life Association's Scholarships, due May 24, 2024!** Two **Elsie Alexander Pro-Life Scholarships** are available for grade 12 students, and two scholarships for Post-Secondary students - a **Laura Winters Stegen Essay Scholarship** and a **Henry Vandenberg Pro-Life Work/Volunteer Scholarship** for those living in the Lethbridge and District Pro-Life Association area who have proven leadership in encouraging respect for all human life. Scholarship application forms can be downloaded from our website: <https://www.lifelethbridge.org/scholarships>. In addition, SAVE THE DATE for our HIKE **FOR LIFE** Fundraiser for Lethbridge Pro-Life/Elsie's House on **June 8, 2024**; 9 AM at Henderson Lake Kiwanis Shelter. More info to come!

### ST. AMBROSE CWL (COALDALE) 75TH ANNIVERSARY

St. Ambrose CWL council is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on **Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024** starting with Mass at 5 p.m. at St. Ambrose Parish; banquet at St. Joseph's School gym at 6:30 p.m. Banquet ticket \$40 each will be available in mid-April, payable by cash, cheque or send e-transfer at [stambrosecwl@gmail.com](mailto:stambrosecwl@gmail.com). Deadline to get ticket(s): **June 2, 2024**. For more information, contact Lydia by email at [marialydia@telus.net](mailto:marialydia@telus.net) or call 403.635.6567.

### Sacraments

**Baptism** Infant baptism is celebrated following the completion of our parish baptism preparation program. New and expectant parents are invited to contact Zachary Hampton, our Sacraments Coordinator, for more information: [sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca](mailto:sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca)

**First Holy Communion, Confirmation:** To register, fill out registration form on our [website](#). Contact Zachary Hampton, Sacraments Coordinator, for more information: [sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca](mailto:sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca)

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):** If you are interested in becoming Catholic or know anyone who is, please register on the parish website as soon as possible. For more information, call the office or email: [sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca](mailto:sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca)

**Marriages/Marriage Preparation:** Couples registered within the parish are required to make arrangements at least **six months prior, no exception**, to the date of marriage by calling the office to schedule interviews with Fr. William and completing the marriage preparation program. Couples complete the marriage preparation course AFTER their first interview with a cleric. Calgary diocese marriage preparation courses: [catholiccyc.ca/marriage\\_prep](http://catholiccyc.ca/marriage_prep). There are also classes available at All Saints Parish, Lethbridge.

**Anointing of the Sick** If you have a relative who has been admitted to hospital please call the parish office.

Our parish relies on your Sunday offerings for maintenance and growth. By making your pre-authorized offertory gift, you are providing crucial support to care for your parish.

Contact our parish office to set up a direct debit deposit.

Please prayerfully discern where you are called to serve Our Lord at St. Martha's.

## The law of attraction

The account of the coming of the Holy Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles begins with these words: 'When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place' (Acts 2:1). These words tell us that Pentecost existed before... In the Old Testament there existed two fundamental interpretations of the feast of Pentecost. At the beginning Pentecost was the festival of the seven weeks, the day of the first fruits when a sheaf of the new crop was offered to the Lord. Later on, however, the festivity was given a new meaning; it was the feast celebrating the giving of the law on Mount Sinai and of the covenant, the feast, that is, that commemorated the events described in Exodus 19-20. St Luke deliberately describes the descent of the Holy Spirit so as to evoke the theophany of Sinai. What is the significance of the fact that the Holy Spirit descends on the Church precisely on the day Israel recalls the gift of the law and the covenant? The answer is clear. It was to show that **he is the new law, the spiritual law, which seals the new and eternal covenant and who consecrates the royal and priestly people that forms the Church.** What a wonderful revelation on the meaning of Pentecost and on the Holy Spirit himself! Suddenly the prophecies of Jeremiah and Ezekiel on the new covenant become clear: 'This is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them and I will write it upon their hearts' (Jer 31:33). **He will no longer write it on tablets of stone but upon their hearts; it will no longer be an exterior law but an interior one.** Ezekiel explains what this interior law consists of when he takes up Jeremiah's prophecy and completes it: 'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances' (Ez 36:27). St Paul confirms this interpretation by saying: 'The law of the Spirit which gives life in Jesus Christ has set me free from the law of sin and death' (Rom 8:2). Here the 'law of the Spirit' means, in fact, **'the law which is the Spirit.'** But how does this new law of the Spirit work in practice and in what way can it be called a 'law'? It works through love! The new law is nothing other than what Jesus called the 'new commandment.' The Holy Spirit has written the new law on our hearts by pouring his love into them: 'God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us' (Rom 5:5). **This love is the love with which God loves us and through which, at the same time, he makes us love him and our neighbour.** It is a new capacity to love. Those who approach the Gospel in a human way find it absurd that love should be a 'commandment'; they question what kind of love it could be if it is not freely given but commanded. The answer is that there are two ways in which man can be driven to do or not do something: either by force or by attraction, either by pushing or by pulling. In one case the law forces him under the threat of punishment; in the other love makes him act because he is attracted to something. In fact, each one of us is drawn to what we love without feeling obliged by external factors. **Christian life is meant to be lived by attraction, not by force, out of love, not out of fear! It is in this sense that the Holy Spirit is a 'law,' a 'commandment'; it gives the faithful Christian an energy which makes him do all that God wants,** spontaneously and without even thinking about it, because he has made God's will his and he loves all that God loves. Pentecost is the door to the fullness and joy of Christian life. ~ R. Cantalamessa

*Immediately following all weekend Masses  
on June 1 & 2 (Corpus Christi Sunday),  
we invite all parishioners (18 and older)  
to participate in the  
Pastoral Renewal Survey.  
Please plan to bring your family,  
friends, and electronic devices  
to complete the survey  
online after Mass.  
A paper version will also be available.  
Your voice matters,  
and your participation is vital,  
as it will help shape the future of our  
Church's mission and outreach.  
Thank you for your support!*



YOU ARE CALLED.  
**YOU** matter  
YOU BELONG.  
catholiccyc.ca/RENEWAL

PASTORAL RENEWAL  
**SURVEY**

"MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE. I KNOW THEM,  
AND THEY FOLLOW ME." - JOHN 10:27

AFTER SUNDAY MASS ON  
JUNE 1 & 2, 2024

BRING YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES TO PARTICIPATE  
AFTER MASS - PRINTED COPIES ARE AVAILABLE  
CHECK PARISH WEBSITE (JUNE 1-14)

Read the Bishop's letter: <https://tinyurl.com/y2dymwkz>