

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

First Holy Communion, Confirmation: Liturgy for the Sacrament of Confirmation: Sat. May 27th, 5:00pm with His Excellency Bishop McGrattan. Sacrament of First Holy Communion: Sun. June 11th, 9:00am & 11:00am. For future registrations; fill out registration form on our website. Contact Zachary Hampton, Sacraments Coordinator, for more information: sacraments@stmarthasparish.ca

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): RCIA is a program for those interested in becoming Catholic. For more information, call the office or email: 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: catholicyc.ca/marriageprep. 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 let the admitting clerk know their faith denomination, so that one of our Catholic priests can provide this Sacrament.

CHALICE SPONSORSHIP WEEKEND @ STM



Chalice Sponsorship Weekend

This June 10th and 11th, open your heart to child sponsorship.



Chalice is coming to St. Martha's Parish! At the June 10-11 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Sponsorship organization will provide you with the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. It is a powerful way to reveal God's love for those most in need. Please visit chalice.ca for more information about Chalice and its mission.

LIVING WITH CHRIST MISSALS

Living with Christ monthly missals will increase in price from \$4 to \$5 starting June 2023. Please visit or call the office with any questions.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Emergency Support for Syria & Turkey | Development and Peace - Caritas Canada | 1-800-494-1401; CNEWA Canada | 1-866-322-4441
[Donate through Development and Peace - Caritas Canada](http://www.cnewa.org/c)

Support Ukraine | Kindly donate through our parish or online at: www.cnewa.org/c and www.devp.org

E-Transfer: office@stmarthasparish.ca

St. Vincent de Paul - E-transfer: ssvpleth@gmail.com, 403-328-5493

Syrian Refugee Fund Write, "Syrian Refugee Fund" in memo of donations.

Soap for Hope Bring new/lightly used toiletries to box in gathering space.

Grocery Cards Support our KofC & CWL Fundraiser. Purchase cards in the gathering space after weekend Masses & parish office. Profits go to various ministries in our Parish.

2023 Together IN ACTION
Annual Diocesan Appeal

1 John 3:18
LET US LOVE, NOT IN WORD OR SPEECH, BUT IN TRUTH AND ACTION

OUR PARISH GOAL: **\$42,034**

The amount collected to date: **\$7222.00**

Donate here

THE POPE'S PASTORAL WORKS

SECOND COLLECTION
SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

Pope's Pastoral Works Sunday | Sunday, May 21
Second collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works. Funds collected help the Pope contribute to charitable causes around the world, particularly toward aiding victims of war, famine and natural disasters.
To give online, go to catholicyc.ca/ca and click "Pope's Pastoral Works".



ST. MARTHA'S PARISH

ASCENSION OF THE LORD ~ MAY 21, 2023

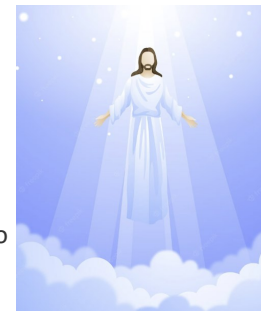
GOSPEL REFLECTION | Matthew 28:16-20

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus." The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.



[\(Sunday Connections\)](#)



SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS:

Please pray for our youth who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation May 27th:

Dilinna Aneke, Hannah Baquiran, Blake Barton, Jaren Barton, Rayne Boisson, Elliana Bonnaventure, Carter Christensen, Seamus Cormican, Nicholas Denecky, Maddox Frank, Lyam Hernandez, Blake LaMontagne, Koryn LaMontagne, Owen Larsen, Alyssa Latag, Siena Mauro, Minsung Kim, Claire Peake, Duncan Perverziff, Anna Richter, Fernanda Rodriguez, Sienna Spanos, Thijs Timmerman, Anna Vander Wekken, Karla Vasquez Moreno, Xander Verhage, Owen Wiebe



CONTACT INFORMATION

355 Columbia Blvd W • Lethbridge AB • T1K 5Y8

403-381-8891 • office@stmarthasparish.ca

www.stmarthasparish.ca • facebook.com/StMarthasParish

Pastor: Fr. William Monis

Office Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30am—12pm, 12:30pm—4



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Anthony Johnston, Riley Svoboda, Marianne Blythe, Devassy Palissery, Rose Beresnak, Helen Smith, Kathleen Roth, August Schulze-Ebbinghoff, Ernest Geisler, Veronica Eagle Bear, Teresa Andron, Roz Walderman, Lou Karpick, Deacon Michael Pollard, Anthony Johnston, Ellsworth Braun, Ellis Watson, Adeline Sherman, Linda Westgeest, Mary Graham, Peter Danielson, Michael Cormican

PLEASE PRAY FOR PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE DIED:

Rodolfo Carangan



MASS, CONFESSION, PRAYER

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

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

MORE NEW & EVENTS IN OUR DIOCESE

Permanent Diaconate – Open House dates | If you are interested or feel that you are being called to a vocation as a Permanent Deacon, and you meet the qualifications listed in the website, please join us at one of the following in person open houses: **Sat. June 3, 2023, at 1 pm** at St. Martha's Parish or **Sat. June 10, 2023, 10 am** at St. Mary's Cathedral Hall. For more info, visit catholicyc.ca/permanentdiaconate

Ordination of Santiago Torres to Priesthood | Rev. Mr. Santiago Torres has been called to ordination to the Holy Priesthood on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. When: **Friday, June 16 at 7 pm - St. Mary's Cathedral. All are welcome!**

Feast of the Visitation of Mary | Wed, May 31st, Shrine of Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore. 11am Mass with Bishop McGrattan; outdoor Rosary with Seeds of the Word Community; God Squad BBQ Lunch

Vote like a Catholic | In preparation for the upcoming provincial election, the Alberta Bishops offer to our Catholic faithful a reminder of important principles and concerns, which stem from the social doctrine of the Church, to guide the discernment of choices that accord with the Gospel's vision for the right ordering of society. Read the [Alberta Bishops' message](#) on our blog | Listen to "[How to vote as a Catholic](#)" podcast with Archbishop Smith. Check out: "[Voting Like a Catholic](#)" guide (PDF); [Alberta party platform comparison](#)

Walking Together in Catholic Education | Bishop McGrattan has brought attention to the "educational emergency" in public education. The imparting of basic values to our youth has become increasingly difficult. [Read Bishop's message now](#)

Lethbridge Pro-Life Hike for Life | Sat., June 3rd. Kick-off: 9am; Henderson Lake Kiwanis Shelter. Free t-shirts, food, bouncy castle and games, prizes for participants. If you cannot walk, come join for fellowship or sponsor another hiker. Download a form from our website: <https://www.lifelethbridge.org/hikeforlife>

Marian Family Retreat Day | When: May 27th; welcome at 1pm, potluck at 4pm. Where: Van Uden place in Barnwell. Outdoor family Rosary, guest speakers from Seeds of the Word community, games, fellowship. Please text 403-894-1471 to RSVP and for directions.

Bishop's Message about MAiD | Together with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCBC), Bishop McGrattan is urging the faithful to continue to oppose the expansion of MAiD in Canada. The CCCBC has just issued an Open Letter to the Government of Canada and a Message to the Catholic Faithful on May 9 re: *Permitting Persons Living with Mental Illness to Access Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide*. Access the CCCB letters below.

[CCCBC - Message to the Catholic Faithful on Permitting Persons Living with Mental Illness to Access Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide](#)
[CCCBC - Open Letter to the Government of Canada on Permitting Persons Living with Mental Illness to Access Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide](#)

Restoring the Feminine Heart Conference | Beloved Daughters Ministry invites you to their women's conference, offering a time of rest and renewal, with speakers Heather and Jake Khym. When: **Fri-Sat, May 26-27** at St. Luke's, Calgary. [Register now](#)

Career Opportunity | Family Faith Coordinator – All Saints Parish, Lethbridge. Please visit catholicyc.ca/careers for more info.

Lethbridge "People of Praise" Society (Live-In community) Life in the Spirit Seminar, 7 weeks, **Wed, May 10 - June 21**, 7 pm, Assumption Parish Hall. Register/more info: Shelley Holden at 403-330-6255.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Join the families of St. Martha's youth who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with His Excellency, Bishop McGrattan on Saturday, May 27th at 5pm.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

The Bereavement Group meets once a month, usually the 4th Tuesday of the month. This May, the group is meeting on May 23rd from 12pm-2. Lunch will be served. For more info, contact the parish office or Ruth: 403-862-1065, ruth.mcmillan55@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	May 22	9 am	Jared & Madalyn Clark
Tues	May 23	7 pm	Jean Bywaters
Wed	May 24	9 am 1:30 pm	Lisa Bryer Gbenou family + (Seasons G. Mass)
Thurs	May 25	9:30 am	Ernst & Marga Vanderschot
Fri	May 26	9 am	Del Volk +
Sat	May 27	5 pm	Alojz Straga +
Sun	May 28	9 am 11 am	Lana Toney + All parishioners

Mass intentions for the month are listed on parish bulletin boards

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARTHA'S

Mon 22nd		Victoria Day Holiday - Parish Office closed	
	9:00 am	Mass	
Tues 23rd	10:30 am	Catechism in a Year Meet-up	
	12:00 pm	Bereavement Group	
	7:00 pm	Mass	
Wed 24th	9:00 am	Mass	
	9-11:30a	St. Pat's & CSM Gr.6 School retreat at STM*	
	9:45 am	Mom's Rosary Group	*STM = St. Martha's
	1:30 pm	Seasons Garden's Mass	
	6:30 pm	Legion of Mary	
Thur 25th	9:00 am	Mass	
	6:00 pm	Confirmation Class	
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice	
Fri 26th	9:00 am	Mass	
	9:30 am	Adoration until 8pm	
Sat 27th	4:00 pm	Confession	
	5:00 pm	Mass - Confirmation Celebration w/ Bp. McGrattan	
	6pm-8	Confirmation Reception in gathering space	
Sun 28th	9:00 am	Mass - Children's Liturgy	
	11:00 am	Mass - Children's Liturgy	

WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMS FUNDRAISING

NEW! LEAP TO LISBON FAMILY DANCE | Sat., June 3rd, 6-10pm; Assumption Hall. Come dance & support young pilgrims going to WYD. Free will donations accepted. Hot dogs, chips, floats, wine, beer available for purchase.

BOTTLE DRIVE | **Sat. May 27th**. Use the QR code (on bulletin board posters) to sign up for a pick up. There is also a sign-up sheet for pick up in gathering space. You can also take bottles & cans to GPS Container Depots or Ability Bottle Depots until July. Donate your return to WYD pilgrims under "Lethbridge Catholic Youth" account before they begin counting your return. For questions, please contact Nicole Wilson : 403-892-2010.

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED | There will be a WYD fundraiser gala in Calgary in June. If you have items that you could donate, please contact Heather Spiess for pick up: 403-380-4871.

MEAT RAFFLE | Parish office has tickets. Tickets \$10/each or 3 for @25. Please bring exact change. See posters on church bulletin boards for more info. Raffle draw is on June 3rd.

HS SCHOOL DIVISION NEWS

SHARE THE MISSION AWARD | Nominate an individual/group to HS School Division Office by June 9, 2023. Nomination forms available on division's website. For more info, please contact Rhonda Kawa at (403) 327-9555.

GR. 6 SCHOOL RETREATS AT ST. MARTHA'S PARISH | St. Patrick's & Children of St. Martha Gr. 6 retreat: Wed., May 24th, 9am - 11:30am. Father Leonard Van Tiguen Gr. 6 retreat: Thurs., May 25, 9:30am - 12pm. **PLEASE NOTE: There will be a change in Mass time on Thurs., May 25 from 9am to 9:30am.**

SURVEY: EAST LETHBRIDGE CHURCHES

All Saints Parish is beginning a process of reassessing the future of the parish (East Lethbridge Catholic Parish Assessment Project). They are attempting to gain a broad input, so they are reaching out to neighboring parishes. You are invited to share your by filling out a survey: www.allsaintslethbridge.org. A paper copy is available in the gathering space. Please return the survey by **May 28th**.

SOCCER

A group of parishioners are trying to form a soccer team on Sundays at Nicolas Sheran Park. Please speak to Fr. William after Mass if interested!

MEN'S PRAY & PLAY

Come join in an evening of prayer and hockey! Every Tuesday evening. Begins with Rosary at St. Martha's in the chapel, followed by a game of hockey at Cavendish Farm Centre. In May, Rosary will begin at 8:30pm followed by hockey. In June & July, Rosary starts at 7:45pm. For more info, contact the parish office.

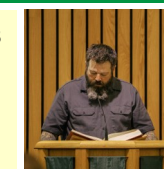
NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Novena to the Holy Spirit starts Fri., May 19th - Sat. May 27th on the eve of Pentecost Sunday. Weekday mornings following Morning Prayers (will not meet on weekend).



LECTORS AND SACRISTANS NEEDED!

St. Martha's is in **great need of Lectors and Sacristans** to serve during our Sunday Masses. Please contact the parish office if you are called to serve in these ministries.



Throughout May, our parish is showcasing nine paintings of the Blessed Virgin Mary by local artist & parishioner, Jim Robinson. The exhibition is dedicated to Our Holy Mother & to the protection of the unborn. All proceeds will support the Lethbridge & District Pro-Life Society. The event is sponsored by St. Martha's Knights of Columbus.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHAPLAINCY NEWS

St. Martha's is in great need of Lectors and Sacristans to serve during our Sunday Masses. Please contact the parish office if you are called to serve in these ministries.



THEOLOGY AT THE PUB | Thursday, May 25th, 7pm. MoJo's Pub (550 University Drive). Topic: "Proving the Existence of God". Come have a drink and discuss how to respond to modern atheism and prove that God exists.

MASS TIME CHANGE & OFFICE CLOSURES

Thursday, May 25th - Mass will be celebrated at **9:30 AM (NOT 9am)** to accommodate FLVT Grade 6 Retreat

Monday, May 22 - Parish Office closed for holiday

Monday, May 29th - Parish office closed for diocesan staff retreat

Friday, June 16th - Mass will be celebrated at **10:00 AM (NOT 9am)** to accommodate FLVT year-end School Mass

LEGION OF MARY

The St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy is a ministry of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary for university students and other young adults. For more information, please contact Fr. Derek Remus at (403) 327-8931 or derek.remus@calgarydiocese.ca

The Legion of Mary is a worldwide organization dedicated to spreading devotion to the Gospel through the intercession of His Holy Mother.

If you have already experienced the consolation, joy and strength found in the daily praying of the Most Holy Rosary, becoming an 'Auxiliary Member' would mean adding the Legion of Mary 'Tessera' prayers of about five minutes per day to what you are already doing.

As an 'Auxiliary Member' it is not necessary that you attend the weekly meetings...Just that you make a strong lifelong commitment to the daily praying of both the Most Holy Rosary, as well as the Tessera prayers. Just as our Blessed Mother Mary prayed for the apostles when they went out to spread the Good News of the resurrection, so to, are the prayers of the Auxiliary Members the 'wings' of the 'Active Members' who mercifully engage those who may not be 'correctly aware' of the beauty of this great invitation by Love Itself, to love as He did...

If you discern, through prayer, that you are meant to become a lifelong 'Active Member' of the Legion of Mary, you would pray the Most Holy Rosary, as well as the Legion of Mary 'Tessera' prayers daily. In addition to the praying of these, you would attend the weekly meetings, and be involved in kindly and mercifully spreading devotion to Jesus, through Holy Mother Mary; this, by speaking of our Lord and His Holy Mother, as well as sharing devotional materials and sacramentals, whenever Holy Mother Mary puts it on your heart...