



Sacred Heart Parish

Strathmore, AB

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 13, 2020

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You, that Your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of Your servant, and of Your people Israel.



Weekend Mass Times

(Limited seating space, please pre-register at www.sacredhc.ca)

Saturday 5:00 pm (Holy Rosary at 4:30 pm)
Sunday 10:00 am (Holy Rosary at 9:30 am)

Holy Mass is held in the Holy Cross Collegiate (HCC) School Gym North Doors, 709 B - 2nd Street

Confession

Saturday 4:15-4:45 pm
Sunday 9:15-9:45 am

in the HCC Foods Room or by appointment at the Parish Office Please call 403-934-2641

Readings:

1st Reading: Sirach 27.30; 28.7
2nd Reading: Romans 14.7-9

Gospel:

Matthew 18.21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, how often should I forgive my brother or sister if they sin against me? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times."

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' The lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

"But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

"So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Gospel Reflection

The opening lines of the first reading remind us that anger and wrath can be very destructive when we hold on to them. Designed to warn us about danger, anger and wrath are emotional responses that call us to address challenges, rather than being emotional places to camp out or live in long-term. What is the solution? The readings this week suggest that mercy and forgiveness are key. This does not mean letting injustice take over, allowing abusive people to walk all over victims, or repressing our anger. Jesus is asking us to participate in God's merciful way of being, even while we change unjust systems and situations, set healthy boundaries, and do the work of healing wounds. When we walk through life addressing the challenges we face, we can feel anger and respond to it, moving through it towards the mercy and forgiveness that set us – and others – free.

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Merciful God, we have been blessed by your steadfastness in love. Teach us to be slow to anger as you are, and to respond to it with wisdom, that we may move through it towards mercy and forgiveness. Amen.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Sept. 12	The Gartner Family
Sunday	Sept. 13	Parishioners
Saturday	Sept. 19	† Larry Gartner
Sunday	Sept. 20	Parishioners

If you would like to book a Mass Intention for a week day, Fr. Tomy will offer up your intention while he celebrates daily Mass at the Rectory.

Financial News

During this pandemic, our faith community needs us even more. Please remember to keep supporting our parish with weekly or recurring donations. If you are attending Saturday/Sunday Mass, you may place your donation in the offertory basket located near the altar. If you would like make an online donation, please visit the Parish's website at www.sacredhc.ca/donate

You may also consider signing up for monthly automatic direct debit payments. Please complete the [Pre-Authorized Debit \(PAD\) Agreement form](#) and forward it to the Parish Office located at 23 Strathmore Lakes Way, Strathmore, AB T1P 1L7. Please call the office if you would like us to mail you a copy of this form.

Thank You for Your Generous Gifts!

Parish Finances for the Month of July, 2020

Operations			
Envelopes	\$7,900.00		
Electronic Funds	\$2,358.00		
Building Fund			
All Money Received (not including Pledges)	\$15,340.00		
Cornerstone Pledge Campaign	Commitment	Received	Year to Date
2019	\$777,205.00	-	\$617,126.91
2020	\$483,495.00	\$22,379.00	123,148.00
2021	\$574,650.00	-	-
Central Fund Savings			
as of July 31, 2020	\$1,180,083.00		
Other Funds		Monthly	Year to Date
Together in Action (TIA)	Goal \$13,387	\$235.00	\$3,949.00
Holy Land		-	700.00
Seminarian Fund		-	45.00
Pope's Pastoral Works		-	50.00
Grocery Cards Sold this Month			
	\$3,500.00		

Can You Help?

As the summer months come to an end and school days arrive again, we are looking for a few more volunteers to help with three key roles. Please prayerfully discern if God might be calling you to share your time and talent in one of the roles listed below.

Safety Crew Volunteer

- Roles: Usher, greeter, data gatherer, post-Mass cleaner, etc.
- For more information about the roles, or to volunteer, please [click here](#).

Chair Setup Crew Volunteer

- Along with your team, you will help setup for Mass on Saturday afternoons once per month.
- For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Todd Gionet at gym.setup@sacredhc.ca.

Sacristan

- Father Tomy is looking for someone to act as Sacristan, carefully arranging the sacred vessels, liturgical books, vestments, and other things in the sanctuary that are necessary for the celebration of Holy Mass. This role is necessary because it assists Father in preparing for Mass while he hears confessions.
- Father Tomy will train any volunteers for this position.
- For more information, or to volunteer as Sacristan, please contact [Lynn](#) or [Father Tomy](#).

Memorial Fund Donations

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, please make cheques payable to:

Sacred Heart Parish and earmark your donation with the note:
For the Building Fund – In Memory of {loved one's name}.

You will receive a charitable tax receipt for your donation.

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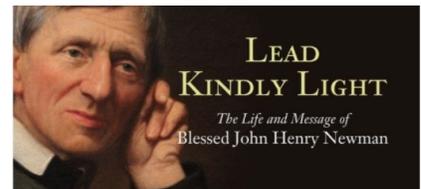


**Jonathan Van Verdegem** was a very faithful and dedicated member of our Sacred Heart Catholic Parish. He served as an altar server right up until his passing. We feel the building of our new Catholic Church was in the foremost part of his thoughts. We will continue to receive donations in his memory. Please make your donation as indicated above, for **the Building Fund ~ in Memory of Jonathan Van Verdegem.**

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Eternal rest grant unto them, oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

FORMED
PICK OF THE WEEK



Lead Kindly Light – The Life and Message of Blessed John Henry Newman

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's **EASY** and **FREE** to Register! Share with others, if you like!

1. Go to formed.org and click the **Sign Up** Button
2. Click on **I Belong to a Parish or Organization**
3. Type **Sacred Heart Strathmore** and click on **Sacred Heart 23 Strathmore Lakes** from the list, then click the **Next** button
4. Enter your **name** and your **email**, then click the **Sign Up** button

Parish & Diocesan Activities

CELEBRATING PUBLIC MASS AT SACRED HEART CHURCH, STRATHMORE

Now that we are in Stage 2 of the relaunch for both the Diocese and the province, and with the help from volunteers, we are able to offer Mass at Sacred Heart Church.

Mass will be offered on **Saturday at 5:00 pm** and **Sunday at 10:00 am**. Seating space is limited so everyone must pre-register, individually, before attending Mass. To sign-up, please visit the homepage of www.sacredhc.ca and click on the button that says **'Mass Registration'**. This will take you to the signup page. Locate the Mass that you want to attend, click the button beside it and fill out the required information. If you have questions about how to sign up, please contact the parish office.

In addition to pre-registering for Mass, following are some **guidelines** and **what you can expect when attending Mass**:

GUIDELINES FROM THE DIOCESE OF CALGARY/SACRED HEART PARISH:

- Masses are to be celebrated simply and reverently within a shorter time.
- Procedures will be followed to limit possible exposure to the contagion.
- Alberta Health Services require that a record of all attendees and volunteers and their contact information be kept for contact tracing purposes.
- **Attendees and volunteers 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions are encouraged to stay safe by avoiding public gatherings but are not prohibited from attending Holy Mass if they so choose. You do so at your own risk.**
- **All attendees and volunteers are expected to wear non-medical masks and should bring their own masks.**
- Anyone who has even the slightest symptoms or feelings of sickness must remain at home. (i.e. Fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or runny nose.)
- Bathrooms will be closed except for health emergencies as it is impractical to maintain a sanitary washroom that is constantly in use.
- Please note that volunteers are automatically given a seat to attend Holy Mass. For volunteer job descriptions and to sign up to help out, please [click here](#).

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN ATTENDING MASS

Guiding Principles: Sacred Heart Parish will protect the health of all our Parishioners. Social distancing will be exercised for the entire Mass event. Bathrooms will be closed except for health emergencies as it is impractical to maintain a sanitary washroom that is constantly in use. We anticipate a 35 to 45-minute Mass duration dependent upon the number of Communicants. Children will remain with their parents or guardians at all times.

The following procedures will be practiced for Mass:

- You **MUST** pre-register individually online via Parish Website by **Friday at 12:00 Noon** to attend.
- You **MUST** arrive 15-30 minutes before the start of Mass.
- A volunteer will confirm your attendance information at the door.
- You will receive hand sanitizer at the door.
- You will be escorted to your seat by an Usher.
- The doors will be locked at the commencement of Mass for the duration of Mass.
- An Usher will guide you to receive Holy Communion.
- When Mass ends an Usher will direct a prompt dismissal of attendees.
- Upon final exit the church space will be sanitized.

We are still in need of more volunteers to be able to continue offering Mass. If you are able to help, please sign up at www.sacredhc.ca/volunteer-sign-up

SEMINARIANS

The Vocations webpage has been updated with the current list of our seminarians! We will send you an updated seminarians poster when a group photo becomes available.

Visit the current list of 2020 Seminarians from the Diocese of Calgary: <https://www.catholiccy.ca/vocations.html>

Pray for our seminarians: *Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, lead our seminarians daily in your footsteps, that they may become priests aflame with love for God and all. Amen.*

For any questions regarding vocations to the priesthood, please contact Fr. **Cristino Bouvette**, Vicar of Vocations & Young Adults, at 403-218-5500, or e-mail cristino.bouvette@calgariodiocese.ca

Parish & Diocesan Activities



Couples for Christ Calgary

in partnership with

Christ's Own People Production

present

Love More 3.0

A Virtual Concert for the benefit of the retired priests in the Diocese of Calgary.

When: **Saturday, Sep 12 at 7 pm**
via Facebook Live

(<https://www.facebook.com/couplesforchristcalgary/>)

Featuring: Laurie Perez, Leah Callao, Olin Molina, Madee Canete, Carlos Perez and many more amazing singers!

LIFE TRANSITIONS RETREAT AT THE FCJ CENTRE

We have experienced many losses. Many of us have lost jobs, freedom, plans and human connections. The FCJ Centre invites you to a *weekend retreat of peaceful exploration and tending of the soul through creative expression*. During the weekend retreat a variety of creative processes will be used to understand this grief and its impact on us. COVID-19 will be explored as a source of resilience that allows us to dream forward and transition to a new life style. The spirit of the retreat is making space for God through art, nature, meditation, and journaling.

***Please note, this is not suitable for anyone bereaved in the last 6 months.**

When: **Oct 16-18**

Cost: **\$285 or \$185 for commuter**

Where: **FCJ Centre, Calgary**

[Register here.](#)

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE WEEK 2020

Please find attached the material for National Catholic Health Care Week 2020 (October 6-12) for distribution to parishioners. Material is provided in both English and French, and can also be accessed at the following link:

Download: [Health Care Week materials here](#)

Visit website: <https://www.passiontoheal.ca>

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/gwE1BAjLMc>

TIPS FOR READING THE BIBLE TO CHILDREN AT BEDTIME

Children love stories and some of the best are in the Sacred Scriptures. Remember that the objective is not to get them to discover the Bible, but to have them discover God. That is why we cannot read the Bible apart from the Church, and we cannot properly read it without "living it" through prayer, the sacraments, and the very real love of Christ and our brethren. Here are some great tips from Aleteia: <https://aleteia.org/cp1/2020/09/08/tips-for-reading-the-bible-to-children-at-bedtime/>

PODCAST: PAIRING YOUR CHILDREN WITH SAINTS

While the saints are not divine, they are perfected Christians who have finished the race and can inspire us to keep running towards Christ. There are over 10,000 saints canonized by the Catholic Church. Jeff Cavins shares a number of inspiring saints children will love and invites us to pair our children with saints so they always have role models in heaven they can relate to and imitate. Read and listen here: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/podcast/pairing-your-children-with-saints/>

ASK FOR MARY'S PROTECTION TO SURROUND YOUR FAMILY, WITH THIS PRAYER

The Virgin Mary has always been a powerful intercessor before God. Remember that she has a privileged place in Heaven and pleads our case before her Divine Son. Mary is also a tender mother, always attentive to our needs, ready and willing to cover us with her protection. Pray this prayer: <https://aleteia.org/2020/09/08/place-yourself-under-marys-protection-with-this-prayer/>

VIRTUAL VOCATION ENCOUNTER

Are you experiencing a call to religious life during this time of pandemic? The Sisters of Providence of Western Canada and the USA will host a Virtual Vocation Encounter for those who are newly exploring the call to religious life. The day will include vocation sharing, prayer guides for individuals, Q and A, and an opportunity to meet other discerners and to speak with a Sister.

When: **September 19 from 10 am to 2 pm.**

To register, please email vocdir@sistersofprovidence.ca or call: 1-780-237-8001 and please register by September 16.

Parish & Diocesan Activities

Parish Sacraments



Please call or email the parish office if you have any questions

Baptism:

Baptisms are set for every last Sunday of the month. Baptism Preparation classes are scheduled for the Tuesday prior to the Baptism. **Please call the office 2 months prior to your chosen date to register, or if Baptism will be held at another parish.**

Marriage Preparation:

Please call or email the office to make an appointment with Fr. Tomy at least four months prior to your wedding date. Please do not finalize dates before speaking with the Pastor.

Reconciliation/Confession:

Confession is available on **Saturdays, from 4:15-4:45 pm** and **Sundays, from 9:15-9:45 am** in the Holy Cross Collegiate Foods Room or at the parish office, by appointment. Please contact the parish office.

First Reconciliation/Holy Communion:

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Preparation will be scheduled from **October-May**. Classes will be held **the first Wednesday of each month from 5:45pm-6:45pm** in Holy Cross Collegiate. Parents can contact the parish office (403-934-2641) to register their children.

Confirmation:

Confirmation preparation classes are taught every two years (ie. 2018, 2020, 2022). Recently, a letter was emailed to all parents of the 2020 Confirmation class explaining how the Confirmation Mass will be celebrated. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Brent Wiley at confirmation@sacredhc.ca or contact the Parish Office.

RCIA, RC1Y, RC1C:

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults program runs yearly from Fall to Easter of the following year. If interested in attending, please call or email the parish office to speak with Deacon Paul Coderre, before the end of August.

Parish Office - Contact Information

Office Hours:
Wed - Fri 9-4:00 pm
Lunch Break: Noon-1:00 pm



Pastor: Fr. Tomy Manjaly | pastor@sacredhc.ca
Bookkeeper: Donna Johnson | bookkeeper@sacredhc.ca
Secretary: Lynn Dumont | secretary@sacredhc.ca
Office Phone: 403-934-2641
Fr. Tomy's Mobile: 403-928-1151 (Emergencies Only Please)
Mailing Address: 23 Strathmore Lakes Way
Strathmore, AB T1P 1Y9

Deacon: Roger Nelson | deacon.roger@sacredhc.ca
Deacon: Michael Thompson | deacon.michael@sacredhc.ca
Deacon: Paul Coderre | deacon.paul@sacredhc.ca
Website: www.sacredhc.ca
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/sacredhc.strathmore
Diocesan Website: www.catholiccyrc.ca

Parish Ministries and Organizations

Altar Servers: Tomas Rochford or Krysta VanVerdegem | altar.servers@sacredhc.ca
Building Committee: Paul O'Leary | building.committee@sacredhc.ca
Catholic Women's League: Emily Rochford | cwl@sacredhc.ca
Children's Liturgy: Meaghan Patterson | childrens.liturgy@sacredhc.ca
Choir Liaison: Melissa Wiley | music.ministry@sacredhc.ca
Confirmation Preparation: Brent Wiley | confirmation@sacredhc.ca
Extraordinary Ministers: Lynn Dumont | liturgy@sacredhc.ca
Finance Council: Jim Chisholm | finance.council@sacredhc.ca
First Communion Preparation: Emily Rochford | first.communion@sacredhc.ca
Fundraising Committee: Nettie Hendricks | fundraising@sacredhc.ca
Gym Setup: Todd Gionet | gym.setup@sacredhc.ca
Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight Derek Donais | knights@sacredhc.ca
Lectors: Sarah Goodfellow | lectors@sacredhc.ca
Parish Council: Tomas Rochford or Brent Wiley | parish.council@sacredhc.ca
Pastoral Care: Diane Van Bavel | pastoral.care@sacredhc.ca
Pledge Campaign: Paul O'Leary | pledge.campaign@sacredhc.ca
Prayer Chain: Laurie Stephens | prayerchain@sacredhc.ca
RCIA: Deacon Paul Coderre | deacon.paul@sacredhc.ca
Sacristans: Lynn Dumont | liturgy@sacredhc.ca

Please Keep in Your Prayers

All individuals who will soon be starting First Holy Communion/ Reconciliation and RCIA Sacrament Preparation Classes.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.