

ST. VITAL CATHOLIC PARISH
4905-50 St, Beaumont, AB. T4X 1J9
780-929-8541

e-mail: St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca

Pastor: Fr. Les Drewicki

Deacon: Daniel Ritchie

APRIL 16, 2023

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 5:00 p.m. (English) Sunday 9:00 a.m. (bilingual) 11:00 a.m. (English)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday (April 18th) Mass @ Place Beausejour @ 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday & Thursday (April 19th & April 20th) 9:00 a.m.

Friday (April 21st) Mass @ St. Andres School @ 9:00 a.m.

Check out our website www.saintvitalparish.com and check it regularly for updates.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m. – noon (in the church) or

By appointment by contacting Fr. Les

Baptism Preparation Course

Are you expecting a child in the near future? Consider taking Baptism Preparation now while you are waiting for the birth of your son or daughter. **The classes are for parents and sponsors (godparents).** Attending now eliminates the need to find baby-sitters, rearrange feeding schedules etc. plus it adds to the joyful anticipation of your new arrival. Parents wishing to register for the **next courses** which will be held on **Monday, May 15th and June 19th at 7:00 pm** please call the parish office.



Volunteers required for Confirmation Retreat on Sat. May 13th 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Duties include helping to lead small group discussions and being a extra set of hands. Email stvitalconfirmation@gmail.com if you think you can help us out!

Scent Free Makes Sense



We would like the parish to be sensitive to folks with allergies and refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave at Mass. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Parishioners: If you notice any repair or maintenance issues in the church that require attention please contact the parish office.

**Pancake breakfast sponsored by the K of C
Sunday, April 16th after the 9 & 11 a.m. Masses**

This being more than just a breakfast, but a time to meet and enjoy some fellowship.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The CWL offers women of our parish the gifts of faith, friendship and support while offering opportunities to develop leadership skills & confirmation of our Catholic values. We invite all women of our parish to share with us your own gifts and make a difference by serving God and Canada in our CWL parish council.

Next General Meeting will be: Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus will be selling **Sobey and No Frills gift cards** after all masses on the weekend. Buy your grocery cards and support Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus. We thank you for your consideration.

Called to Protect training, an abuse prevention training session will be offered on Thursday May 04, 2023, 7 pm - 9:30 pm. The two and half session is mandatory for all volunteers and employees of the Archdiocese. This will be an in-person session to be conducted at Our Lady of Perpetual, Sherwood Park.

Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 16th, 2023

"You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen Me, says the Lord; Blessed are those who have not seen Me, but still believe!" ~ Gospel of John

Divine Mercy Chaplet – 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Benediction – 3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Confessions – 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Prayed on ordinary rosary beads, The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy is an intercessory prayer that extends the offering of the Eucharist, so it is especially appropriate to use it after having received Holy Communion at Holy Mass. It may be said at any time, but our Lord specifically told St. Faustina to recite it during the nine days before the Feast of Mercy (the first Sunday after Easter). He then added: "By this Novena, (of Chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls."

The eighth and final day of the Octave of Easter is celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. Though every second is filled with the mercy of God, this day is especially observed to recollect and acknowledge the mercy we receive from God.

According to Saint Faustina, it is a day when the floodgates of mercy are opened wide and God lavishes us with more than we could hope for.

Pope Saint Paul II put this celebration on the church's calendar in the year 2000 when he raised Sister Faustina to sainthood. In his message the Pope said, "Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By Divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind."

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever; reads this Sunday's responsorial Psalm. God never fails to shower his love and mercy on all those who turn to Him. We get a glimpse of Divine Mercy in action in this Sunday's first reading. The early Christians believed in Divine Mercy and were so filled with the Holy Spirit that, "no one claimed private ownership" rather, "everything they owned was held in common."

In the Gospel, the apostle Thomas says that he must have some proof before he can believe this incredible truth of Jesus' resurrection. Perhaps he wanted to claim to the world during his apostolic journeys, that he had seen the risen Lord and testified himself, and that his preaching was authentic.

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us thank God for the abundance of His gift that He bestows upon us. Let us turn our eyes toward our merciful Lord and be open to all that He wishes to bequeath on us.

St. Vital Catholic Women's League thanks those parishioners who have returned their baby bottles and generously supported our Lenten Project to raise money for the Back Porch. If you have not yet returned your bottles, please bring them to church and place them in the blue box on the table at the back of the church.

St. Vital Catholic Women's League will have available a limited number of **votive candles** after this weekend Masses. They cylinder vases were a special order for the papal visit in July. *Our council purchased and inserted candles and had them blessed.* You are welcome to take one per household. Donations would be appreciated.

On **Saturday, May 6th**, St. Vital CWL will be hosting a **Spring Tea fundraiser** in the church hall downstairs from **2-4 p.m.** Mark this event on your calendar and join us for tea and goodies and check out the bake table and White Elephant table.

Since 1979, the Knights of Columbus has selected icons for us to pray with. They travel from parish to parish throughout North America, inspiring the faithful to follow Jesus more closely and to model our lives after those of the Holy Family. Over the years, most of these icons feature Blessed Mary or, on occasion, the Holy Family. This year the chosen icon is an image of St. Joseph. This beautiful icon is normally housed at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and provides a window into the life and mission of St. Joseph.

K of C Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus will hold its monthly food drive in support of the Leduc Food Bank the weekend of **April 29, 30, 2023**. Please drop your donation in the bin in the Church vestibule. Thanks to all the Parishioners who have been supporting this effort over the months. The needy of Leduc County thank you as well.

On **Monday, May 1, the feast of St. Joseph the Worker**, our parish has the privilege of praying with this icon of St. Joseph. At **7 p.m.** we will gather for a prayer service led by Our Lady of the Hill Council #13064. It will include a Liturgy of the Word and the recitation of the joyful mysteries of the Rosary.

We hope you will be able to join us.

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Joseph was chosen by God to be Mary's beloved spouse and to be the foster father of God's Son, protecting and raising the Child Jesus. Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church, Canada, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people, among others. Furthermore, St. Joseph serves as a fatherly example for us and a model of quiet strength, humility, and fidelity.

KEVIN KERRIGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP -This scholarship, sponsored by Our Lady of the Hill Knights of Columbus Council is open to year 2023 graduating high school seniors who attend St. Vital Church as well as a members of the Parish that are attending post secondary schooling at any level. Preference will be given to a graduating high school senior. The scholarship has a value of \$500. and will be awarded on the basis of all round achievement rather than for strictly academic performance. Achievement in the areas of academics, athletics, the arts, school, community and church involvement will be considered as well as the question of financial need in determining the successful candidate. Deadline for applying is May 31, 2023. Applications are at the back of church and online at the Parish website (see KofC link).

Stewardship Corner

Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday Weekend of April 15/16, 2023

In today's first reading, the four activities of the earliest church are introduced to us as priorities of the church: Devotion to the teachings of the apostles, communal fellowship, the Eucharist, and prayer. The early members of the church saw themselves as devoted stewards of these activities. These were not options. They were the fruits of a genuine conversion to a life in Christ. Sharing in the Eucharist was the most intimate expression of fellowship, while the most common expression of fellowship in the New Testament was that of sharing financial resources – giving. It was not a perfect community, but one that gave evidence of God's active presence in its midst. This early community offers us an excellent example of how to better exercise stewardship in our own parish families

A Note From the St Vital Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team is a group of parishioners from St Vital who are available to bring the Blessed Sacrament to those of our parish who are unable to attend Mass on Sundays.

We regularly go to Chateau Vitaline, Place Beausejour and also private homes of those who are unable to attend Mass due to health reasons.

If you have a loved one who is unable to attend Mass and would like to have a visit and receive Holy Communion from our team, please contact Jeanette at the Parish Office (780-929-8541).

Please note that we always come as a team of two people when we visit.

*Please contact Jeanette if you are interested in joining in this ministry.



We Need Your Help!

Work has already begun at Our Lady of Victory Camp to prepare for the relaunch of camp this summer. This April, we need extra hands to help get ready for work bees in May and June. It's our hope to refresh the camp after it has been sitting dormant the past four summers. Please consider giving a day to camp this month!

Call Deacon Claude Baril at 403-896-3745 to get involved or to learn more details.

Camp Encounter

Get ready for an unforgettable reunion and farewell event at Camp Encounter on **May 27** from 1 - 10 p.m., beginning with a classic camp Mass and ending with our best campfire ever! Join us for a day filled with fun activities, crafts, prayers and reflection, great food, outdoor tour and ...wait for it... a 25-foot ice cream sundae! Reconnect with old friends, reminisce with stories and say goodbye to our beloved camp.

