

February 25, 2018 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT (B)

ST. MATTHEW PARISH AND MISSIONS

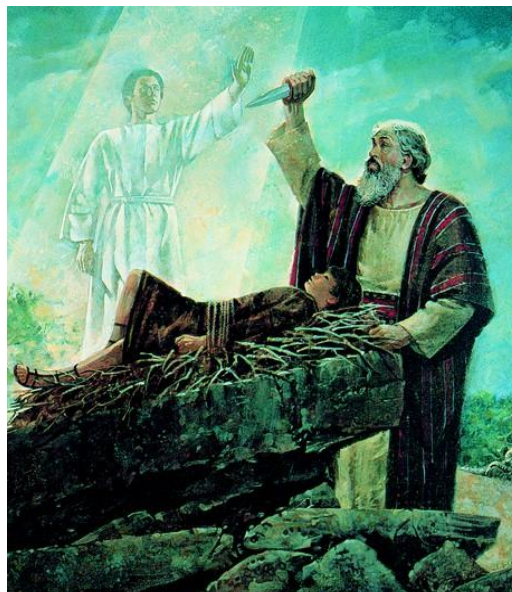
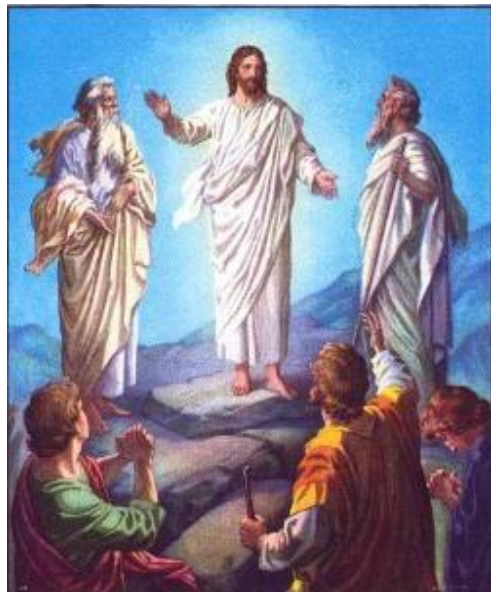
Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church
Caroline - St. Joseph the Workman Church
Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs Church



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INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE SUNDAY

God's love for us is limitless. Today, we hear the familiar passage from Saint Paul when he says, *If God is for us, who can be against us?* Since we have been called by name, by virtue of our baptism, we know that we are God's children; we are his instruments in the world. ♦ **In the first reading**, Abraham is willing to make the ultimate sacrifice of surrendering his son to the Lord. **Saint Paul** reminds the Romans that having God with them will allow them to face any challenge. **In the Gospel**, the disciples realize that Jesus is the fulfillment of the law after he is transfigured before them.



Many lessons can be gleaned from the story of Isaac and Abraham. God appears to be asking the impossible of him: to surrender his only son through mortal sacrifice. But perhaps what is really being asked for here is trust, faith and total self-gift back to God – in the same way that God has been all, and only, total self-gift to us. ♦ Because – notice – Abraham does not actually kill his son. Nor does God actually demand it. He simply tells Abraham to prepare the sacrifice [of course with the implication that it would be carried out], and then stops him. And Abraham's willingness to comply is not reflective of aberrant behavior, but representative of complete vulnerability and a willingness to put love

of God before *any* and *every* other attachment and affection. That is a tough act to follow. ♦ Moses and Elijah were two men of the covenant who also gave their all to God, withholding nothing. In their carrying out of God's divine plan, they prefigure Jesus Christ. Jesus gave his all to God, putting his love for God, and for us, above all else to the point of sacrificing his own life for the sake of obedience to God's will. And he now intercedes for us as we, too, strive to put God ahead of all things. ♦ Saint Paul reminds the Romans and each of us today that Jesus always intercedes for us to the Father. To paraphrase Saint Paul: "Our God did not spare his own Son to prove how far he is willing to go for each of us. Will he not provide whatever we truly need throughout our journey of life?"

Every year on the Second Sunday of Lent, the pre-resurrection event of the Transfiguration of Jesus is proclaimed. It sets the stage for the Passion of Christ to unfold right before the disciples, and strengthen their resolve to endure what was coming. ♦ Christ crucified, Christ glorified is who gives us the strength to work through our own personal ways of the cross that end with "Resurrection grace." Think of Resurrection grace as the grace of letting go of fear: the grace of letting go of the transient and focusing on the eternal; the grace of vulnerability that allows us to put love of God before *any* and *every* other attachment and affection. ♦ In this season of Lent, and in every season, may we have such grace.



BEAUTIFUL BREAKFAST – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Sunday - February 25, 2018 → After 9.00 AM Mass ♦ St. Matthew Church – RMH

All parishioners are invited for Beautiful Breakfast following 9.00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 25. See you all!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS THIS WEEK

- ♦ THURSDAY, MAR. 01, 2018 AT 10.30 AM – EVERGREEN ♦ JESUIT MARTYRS (Mass at 10.00 AM)
- ♦ FRIDAY, MAR. 02, 2018 AT 06.00 PM – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE ♦ ST. MATTHEW CHURCH
Soup & Buns after Stations with presentation by Paulette Leer from Wildrose Women Shelter



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Date and Time	Greeter(s) - Gifts Bearers	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	EMHC - Hosts	EMHC - Chalice 1	EMHC - Chalice 2
Feb. 24, 2018 at 07.00 PM	Jackie Owchar	Dom Couve	Bonnie Leaf	Leo Pelletier	Laveme Froese	Doreen Couture
Feb. 25, 2018 at 09.00 AM	Julie Layden	Bill Fletcher	Julie Layden	Dave Parfitt	Faye Boyle	Pat Hughes
Mar. 03, 2018 at 07.00 PM	Andy & Valerie Schulte	Jeannette Hobden	Karen Carmichael	Ernie Murias	Laurier Nobert	Joanne Como
Mar. 04, 2018 at 09.00 AM	Carla Marks	Jim Marland	Rebecca Marland	Ricardo Rodriguez	Dave Parfitt	Sarah Cubby

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – EVERGREEN


Date and Time	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	Gifts Bearers	Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Chalice
Feb. 25, 2018 at 11.00 AM	Juanita Szymanek	Roy Hoven	Marvin and Rita Andersen	Cecil and Carol Hoven
Mar. 04, 2018 at 11.00 AM	Margie Miller	Tim Hoven	The Andersen Family	Jim Backs and Juanita Szymanek

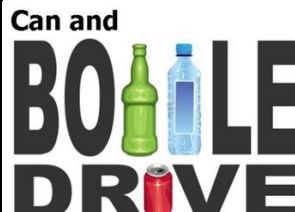
	FIRST COMMUNION CLASS	Sunday – February 25, 2018 → 04.00 PM - 05.45 PM
St. Matthew Church - Rocky Mountain House ♦ The presence of all candidates is very important and expected.		

ST. MATTHEW YOUTH MINISTRY	Thursday – Mar. 01, 2018 ♦ 7.00 PM - 9.00 PM	
St. Matthew's Youth Ministry runs most Thursdays from 7.00 PM to 9.00 PM at the Church. All youth grades 6-8 are welcome to attend! Adult and High School leaders are needed. Please contact Peter van Kampen at vankampen.peter@gmail.com or 403-848-0955.		


THIS WEEK	ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	
Friday - Mar. 02, 2018 ♦ 09.30 AM - 01.00 PM (Private Adoration) ♦ Mass at 09.00 AM		Adoration


RCIA CLASS	Tuesday – March 06, 2018 ♦ 07.00 PM – 09.00 PM	RCIA
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	CALL ALL MUSICIANS
If you play piano or guitar reasonably well please consider sharing your God given talent by joining the choir. Choir practice for the first three Sundays is one hour prior to Mass for anyone who wishes to sing. For more information please call or text Vivian at 403.845.9387	

LITTLE FLOWERS LENTEN CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE	
Feb. 14, 2018 – Apr. 01, 2018	
The Little Flowers Girls' Club will be conducting a bottle drive through Lent. If you have bottles to donate, please bring them to the church between Ash Wednesday (February 14) and Easter Sunday (April 01) and put them in the labelled bins in the foyer. Thank you for your support!	

	BIBLE STUDY IN RMH	LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS	Mar. 11, 2018 - May 06, 2018
Join us for 8 weeks Bible Study ♦ Sundays after Mass 10.30 AM to 12.00 PM (30 min. video and 60 min. discussion) For more information contact Lisa at 403-846-7137 or lafeser@outlook.com			

RETRouvaille - HELP FOR STRUGGLING MARRIAGES	
March 16-18, 2018 → If your marriage is in crisis, you are not alone. Please contact Edmonton Retrouvaille at www.helpourmarriage.ca , phone 587-598-4357, or email info@helpourmarriage.ca . The next Edmonton Retrouvaille Program will be offered on the weekend of March 16-18, 2018.	

	BISHOP BITTMAN'S JOURNEY
In appreciation for the priestly and episcopal ministry of Bishop Gregory Bittman in the Archdiocese of Edmonton, Archbishop Richard Smith will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on Monday, March 19 , at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Basilica. All are welcome to attend and pray for Bishop Bittman as he embarks on his new ministry in the Diocese of Nelson. The Diocese of Nelson will celebrate the Installation of Bishop Bittman at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25 , at Immaculate Conception Parish in Kelowna. Reception to follow. There will also be a Mass at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 26 , at the Cathedral of Mary Immaculate in Nelson. Reception to follow.	

RETREAT MASTER – FR. DAN GURNICK (OFM)



LENTEN PARISH RETREAT



WITNESSING THE PRESENCE OF GOD THROUGH PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

St. Matthew Church - Rocky Mountain House

MARCH 10 - 13, 2018

ALL WEEKEND MASSES:

March 10, 2018 (Saturday) at 07.00 PM in Rocky Mountain House

March 11, 2018 (Sunday) at 09.00 AM in Rocky Mountain House

March 11, 2018 (Sunday) at 11.00 AM in Evergreen

March 11, 2018 (Sunday) at 01.00 PM in Caroline

MONDAY AND TUESDAY MASSES:

March 12, 2018 (Monday) - Rocky Mountain House: Mass (7.00 PM - 7.30 PM) & Teaching Session (7.30 PM - 8.30 PM)

March 13, 2018 (Tuesday) - Rocky Mountain House: Mass (7.00 PM - 7.30 PM) & Teaching Session (7.30 PM - 8.30 PM)

I grew up on an acreage near Rocky Mountain House, AB with an older sister and a younger brother. After high school, I did many different types of works such as: sawmill worker, oil patch worker, paintball field owner/operator (The number 47 in my email address friardan47@gmail.com is from the number I wore on my paintball jersey), landlord, construction worker, and support worker for the mentally disabled. I received an Architectural technology diploma from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Despite all these occupations and architectural diploma my heart longed for something more meaningful. After studying for the diocese of Edmonton for one year and a trip to Peru, I found myself on the doorstep the Franciscan Friars of Western Canada. I was in Franciscan formation and studies for six years before making my solemn profession in August 2009. The highlights of these six years were: learning more about the Christian faith through theological studies, working at the Mustard Seed Church in Edmonton, prison chaplaincy, and learning how to play the hand drum and guitar.

In January 2010, I was ordained a priest and served at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Sherwood Park, AB as an associate pastor. One of my main focuses was connecting with nine Catholic schools through music and various presentations. I am in my fifth year as a formation director for men in the early stages of Franciscan discernment and formation. I also served at Sacred Heart parish in Victoria and organized and led a Franciscans and Friends youth group.

In August 2016, I moved to Mount St. Francis in Cochrane, AB. At the Mount, I am on the retreat team; I play music and speak at schools; and I help out with maintenance at the Mount. I enjoy weight training, sharing about Christ and hiking especially in the Rocky Mountains.

Fr. Dan Gurnick, ofm

PASTOR - FR. LEON KLER

Deacon (Ret.) - Bernie Ouellette
Secretary - Vivian Duhamel

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

5208-53 Ave (Box 130) ♦ Rocky Mountain House, AB * T4T 1A1

Office Hours

Monday	01.00 PM - 06.00 PM
Tuesday	09.00 AM - 12.00 PM and 01.00 PM - 06.00 PM
Wednesday	Office Closed
Thursday	Office Closed
Friday	10.00 AM - 06.00 PM

Contact Information

Direct voice/fax/text line to office	403.845.3457
Direct voice/fax/text line to pastor	587.355.3947
Direct email address to office	office@smprmh.ca
Direct email address to pastor	pastor@smprmh.ca

PARISH MINISTRIES

Parish Pastoral Council	Lauren MacKenzie	403.845.2836
Parish Finance Council	Randall Sugden	403.844.8478
Ministry to the Sick	Ernie Murias	403.845.4860
Called to Protect	Ernie Murias	403.845.4860
RCIA	Kristin McKenzie	403.845.0017
	Steve Oscar	403.895.0373
	Vivian Duhamel	403.845.9387
Children's Liturgy	Mona Cruickshank	403.845.2454
Youth Group	Peter van Kampen	403.848.0955
Prayer Line	Alice Murray	403.722.4056
Knights of Columbus	Gary Donald	403.845.5269
CWL	Karen Carmichael	403.846.2168
Bible Study	Roxane Melvin	403.845.3127

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	07.00 PM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	09.00 AM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	11.00 AM	Evergreen
Sunday	01.00 PM	Caroline

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	06.30 PM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Wednesday	09.00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Thursday	10.00 AM - Jesuit Martyrs, Evergreen
	06.30 PM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Friday	09.00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH

MONTHLY MASSES

First Wednesday	08.00 AM - St. Matthew School, RMH
First Wednesday	11.00 AM - Eckville Manor, Eckville
First Friday	10.30 AM - Clearwater Centre, RMH
Second Wednesday	08.00 AM - St. Dominic School, RMH
Second Wednesday	11.00 AM - Westview Lodge, RMH

REQUESTS FOR USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES MUST BE APPROVED BY PASTOR AND BOOKED THROUGH OFFICE.

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Contact office if you want your child to be baptized in our parish. Preparation Class is mandatory. For more info, call office.

CONFESSIONS

Rocky Mountain House - Every Saturday from 6.15 PM to 6.45 PM
Evergreen/Caroline - after Sun. Masses ♦ Anytime by appointment

MARRIAGE

Contact office if you want to celebrate Sacrament of Marriage in our parish. Preparation is mandatory. For more info, call office.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday in St. Matthew Church - Rocky Mountain House
9.00 AM MASS ♦ 9.30 AM - 1.00 PM ADORATION

Every First Tuesday of the month in St. Matthew Church - RMH
6.30 PM MASS ♦ 7.00 PM - 8.00 PM HOLY HOUR ADORATION

PARISH WEBSITE → WWW.SMPRMH.CA



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday

07.00 PM

Intention:

Sunday

09.00 AM

Intention:

11.00 AM

Intention:

01.00 PM

Intention:

February 24, 2018 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church
Blessings and grace for Lorraine and Ernie Murias

February 25, 2018 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

Caroline - St. Joseph the Workman Church

For all members of our parish communities

Monday

February 26, 2018 - Weekday in Lent

No Mass

Tuesday

06.30 PM

Intention:

Wednesday

09.00 AM

Intention:

Thursday

10.00 AM

Intention:

06.30 PM

Intention:

Friday

09.00 AM

Intention:

10.30 AM

Intention:

February 27, 2018 - Weekday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

February 28, 2018 - Weekday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

For a special intention

March 01, 2018 - Weekday in Lent

Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

+ Ruth Quast; Peace and blessings for her loved ones

March 02, 2018 - Weekday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

Blessings and grace for Patricia Bailey

Rocky Mountain House - Clearwater Centre

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

09.30 AM - 01.00 PM → ADORATION → → → → → St. Matthew Church, RMH

Saturday

07.00 PM

Intention:

Sunday

09.00 AM

Intention:

11.00 AM

Intention:

01.00 PM

Intention:

March 03, 2018 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church
+ Anthony Walisser

March 04, 2018 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Rocky Mountain House - St. Matthew Church

For all members of our parish community

Evergreen - Jesuit Martyrs Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

Caroline - St. Joseph the Workman Church

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ No intention requested

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!



Feb. 18, 2018 ♦ REGULAR SUNDAY COLLECTION

RMH - \$1,500.10 * Evergreen - \$348.25 * Caroline - \$75.00

Feb. 18, 2018 ♦ CHILDREN'S COLLECTION (Friends of Jesus)

RMH - \$25.00 * Evergreen - \$5.25 * Caroline - \$2.00

Feb. 18, 2018 ♦ MAINTENANCE FUND COLLECTION

RMH - \$863.00 * Evergreen - \$195.00 * Caroline - \$00.00

Feb. 18, 2018 ♦ TOGETHER WE SERVE COLLECTION: RMH - \$20.00

Feb. 18, 2018 ♦ REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP: RMH - \$17,000.00 (from CSS)

Tax Receipts for 2017

Tax receipts are left at the back of each church this weekend (Feb. 25, 2018). You are asked to pick up your receipts from the church. **After this Sunday - Feb. 25, 2018**

we will mail all remaining receipts. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Together We Serve supports 11 different Catholic organizations and institutions. When you support *Together We Serve*, you support Catholic Social Services in their mission to care for and bring hope to people in need with humility, compassion and respect. They serve people of all faiths and cultures, rooted in the Catholic social teachings of social justice, human dignity and the common good. **Thank you for supporting Together We Serve.**