



Rocky Mountain House



Evergreen



Caroline

ST. MATTHEW PARISH IN ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE AND MISSIONS IN EVERGREEN AND CAROLINE

Administration Office: 5208 - 53 Avenue; Website: www.rocky.caedm.ca; Mailing Address: Box 130, Rocky Mountain House, AB, T4T 1A1
CALL/TEXT: Office 403-845-3457; Pastor 587-441-4364; EMAIL: Office stmatthew.rmh@caedm.ca; Pastor rajesh.iesurajSAC@caedm.ca

September 10, 2023 – TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)



MEDITATIONS

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Psalms 95:1-2, 6-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (Matthew 18:18)

Jesus' words sound familiar, don't they? That's because two Sundays ago, we heard him say the same thing to Peter. Then, Jesus was giving Peter the keys to the kingdom and establishing him as leader of the Church (Matthew 16:18-19). Along with that position, he was giving Peter a specific ministry that came with a special authority and grace: the power to bind and loose. That ministry continues today in Peter's successors. In today's Gospel, however, Jesus seems to be doing something different. He's speaking to all his disciples, and he extends this call to bind and loose to all of them—and in a way, even to us. While most of us aren't priests who hear confessions, we are all called to forgive. Jesus wants us to understand that both our forgiveness and our failure to forgive have an effect on people. By our words and the thoughts in our hearts, we can keep someone bound in condemnation or judgment. But we can also "loose" them by forgiving them. And forgiveness always releases people from the chains of guilt or shame. This means that we can help them experience the freedom that Jesus wants for them. We can continue his "ministry of reconciliation" in our corner of the world (2 Corinthians 5:18). How amazing that Jesus trusts us to share in this sacred calling! He doesn't want anyone to remain trapped in sin or in unforgiveness. He knows the danger that sin poses to our souls. That's why he urges us to "cut off" and "throw away" anything in our lives that leads us astray (Matthew 18:8). That's why he never stops seeking after his lost sheep (18:10-14). And that's why he calls us to forgive "seventy-seven times . . . from [our] heart" (18:22, 35). Because as we forgive people who sin against us, we won't just be freeing them. We'll be "loosing" ourselves from those chains, too.

"Jesus, help me to forgive today."

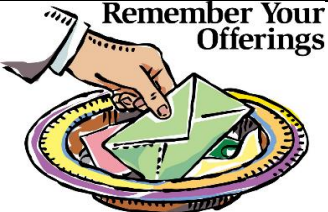
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Date and Time	Sacristan	Greeter(s) – Gifts	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	Projector
Sep. 09, 2023 at 7:00 PM	Audrey Kokesch	Roxane Bourdeau	Marliss Cartier	Caleb Kirtzinger	Brianne Melvin
Sep. 10, 2023 at 9:00 AM	Jo-Anne Como	Scott & Teresa Johnson	Becky Marland	Gary Donald	Doreen Quintal
Sep. 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM	Faye Boyle	Kent & Karen Carmichael	Doraine Lonsdale	Faye Boyle	Mona Cruickshank
Sep. 17, 2023 at 9:00 AM	Linda Collinson	Morgan & Susanna Duhamel	Steve Oscar	Barry Kirtzinger	Linda Schmidt

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – EVERGREEN

Date and Time	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	Gifts Bearers
Sept. 10, 2023 at 11:00 AM	Tim Hoven	Andrea Engi	Ted Houle & Shirley Nicholas
Sept. 17, 2023 at 11:00 AM	Roy Hoven	Francis Hoven	Pat Lafferty & Marion Schafer

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF OUR PARISHES!

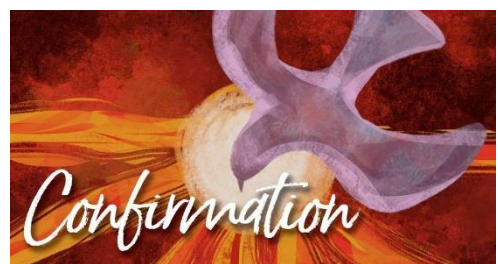
	September 3, 2023		
	REGULAR COLLECTION: MAINTENANCE FUND: ONLINE + E-TRANSFERS: TOGETHER WE SERVE: FRIENDS OF JESUS:	RMH - \$1,323.65 * Evergreen - \$355.00 * Caroline - \$238.00 RMH - \$80.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00 RMH - \$400.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00 RMH - \$210.00 * Evergreen - \$100.00 * Caroline - \$20.00 RMH - \$28.20	

THE STAR OF THE NORTH RETREAT CENTRE

780-459-5511

Centering Prayer Introduction Evening How do you nurture your inner sense of quiet, faith, and well-being in the midst of this fast-paced world with its many demands? Do you recognize a longing for inner silence and healing? Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, join us for this brief introduction to a contemplative practice called Centering Prayer on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm. Suggested Donation: \$10. Register at 780-459-5511 or at starofthenorth.ca/prayer

Claiming God's Love: Book Launch & Social Evening We are pleased to invite you to a special event celebrating the release of most recent book by Archbishop Em. Sylvain Lavoie, OMI entitled *Claiming God's Love*. Enjoy an evening of wine and refreshments, special music, a short talk and readings from the book by the author, book-signing, and lots of fellowship and socializing. Copies of Sylvain's new book will be available for a donation to the Star of the North (no taxes or shipping). Friday, September 15 at 7:00 pm. No cost, but registration is required at 780-459-5511 or at starofthenorth.ca/lavoie



CONFIRMATION MEETING FOR PARENTS SEPTEMBER 13

Parents of youth in grades 6-9 who would like their kids to receive the sacrament of confirmation should attend a parent meeting on Sept. 13, 2023, at 7:30pm in the church. At that meeting we will go over the requirements and expectations for confirmation. This is a parent meeting; youth need not attend. For more information, contact Peter van Kampen at 403-848-0955 or peter.vankampen@rdcrs.ca. Registration forms are available in the parish office, or on the website.



FIRST COMMUNION MEETING FOR PARENTS SEPTEMBER 15

Parents of youth in Grade 2 who would like their child to receive their First Holy Communion should attend a parent meeting on Sept. 15, 2023 at 7:00PM in the church. Registration forms are available on the parish website. www.rocky.caedm.ca Printed forms will be available at the meeting. For more information, please contact the parish office. 403-845-3457

CATHOLIC RENEWAL SERVICES

FALL CONFERENCE

Come for all things are **NOW** ready! Join the Catholic Renewal Services for our Fall Conference, Sept 29-Oct 1, 2023 in **St. Thomas More Parish Hall, located at 210 Haddow Close NW, Edmonton, start time 6:30 pm.** Father Trevor Nathasingh and Maria Vadia will be our keynote speakers. Father Trevor comes from Trinidad and Maria from Florida. Both are powerful speakers who have international ministries. **Livestream is available.** For more information about cost and to register, please check www.crsedmonton.ca/events **On Sat Sept 30 at 7:00 pm there will be a Mass with healing service open to the public, a love offering will be taken. Mass is also in the parish hall.**

Red Deer Live-In

Fall Prayer Breakfast

September 30, 2023

St. Mary's Red Deer

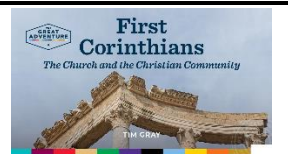
Doors open at 9:00 AM for fellowship. Program starts at 9:30. Everyone is welcome for praise and worship, to hear speaker Ryan Mitchell and of course, breakfast! A love offering will be accepted as payment.

RSVP <https://forms.gle/VVvTN1tNE7zSgskz7>

Bonnie 403-304-0903

PARISH LIBRARY ONLINE: <https://rmh-smp.methone.opalsinfo.net>

Send your email to: resource.library.rmh@gmail.com to start using the library today.



FIRST CORINTHIANS: THE CHURCH AND THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Monday Bible Study – Sept. 11 to Nov. 27 (excluding Thanksgiving)

Workbook: \$50

For more information contact Mara at 403-845-0940

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

HALF OR FULL-PAGE COLOUR

Parishioners are invited to advertise their business in the parish bulletin. Half- and full-page colour advertisements are available for \$20 and \$30 per week. Please contact Vivian in the office to advertise today.



BEAUTIFUL BREAKFAST

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE – ST. MATTHEW

Help wanted for Beautiful Breakfast September 23 and 24. Food prep on Saturday 10am, cooking pancakes at 8am Sunday and cleanup following breakfast. All are welcome to help. Contact Morgan 403-895-3763



DEANERY MEETING IN RED DEER – September 14

Deanery priests will meet 10:30AM-4PM

There will be **NO MASS** in Evergreen

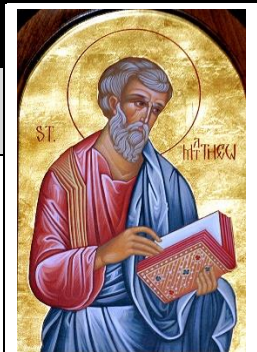


FEAST DAY OF SAINT MATTHEW

The feast day of our patron Saint Matthew is September 21. Mass in Evergreen will be **cancelled** on September 24 to encourage all parishioners to come celebrate in Rocky.



Beautiful breakfast and cake will be served following the 9AM Mass on September 24, 2023 in St. Matthew church. Donations are welcome but not necessary. Please come celebrate the feast day of our patron saint.



Father Raj would like parishioners to re-commit to serving in various ministries in the parish. A sign-up sheet will be at the back of the church for the next four weeks. Workshops will be scheduled starting mid-October so our pastor can explain how he would like things done. Greeters, altar servers, musicians, proclaimers, ushers, projector operators, and sacristans all need to renew their promises to serve our church faithfully.

PASTOR - FR. RAJESH JESURAJ SAC

DEACON (RETIRED) - BERNIE OUELLETTE

DEACON - CLARENCE OTTESON

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR - VIVIAN DUHAMEL

OFFICE HOURS

M 11-4; T 12-4; W & TH 8:30-11 & 12-4; F 11:30-4

MINISTRIES • PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Altar Servers	Deacon Bernie Ouellette
Baptism Preparation Class	Steve and Donna Oscar
Bible Study Mondays	Mara Gagne
Bible Study Sundays	Jim Marland
Called to Protect	Ernie Murias
Charismatic Prayer Group	Lisa Feser
Children's Liturgy	Joanne Mazza
CWL	Bonnie Leaf
First Communion Class	Catherine van Kampen
Knights of Columbus	Robert Schmidt
Library	Renée Nuttall
Maintenance	Scott Collinson
Ministry to the Sick	Ernie Murias
Music Ministry	Doreen Quintal
Parish Finance Council	Randall Sugden
Parish Pastoral Council	Lauren MacKenzie
Prayer Chain	Alice Murray
Together We Serve	Vivian Duhamel
Youth Group	Peter van Kampen

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	7:00 PM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	9:00 AM	Rocky Mountain House
Sunday	11:00 AM	Evergreen
Sunday	1:00 PM	Caroline

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday	6:30 PM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Wednesday	9:00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
Thursday	9:00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH
	11:00 AM - Jesuit Martyrs, Evergreen
Friday	9:00 AM - St. Matthew Church, RMH

ALL REQUESTS FOR USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PASTOR & BOOKED THROUGH THE OFFICE

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Contact the parish office if you want your child to be baptized in one of our churches. Preparation Class is mandatory. For more information check the parish website or call the office.

CONFESSIONS

In Rocky Mountain House – Saturday 6:15 PM – 6:45 PM & Sunday 8:15 AM – 8:45 AM • In Evergreen & Caroline: after each Mass by request (no appointment needed).

In every church - anytime by appointment with the priest.

MARRIAGE

If you want to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage in one of our churches, contact the parish office at least 9 months in advance. Preparation Course is mandatory. For more information check the parish website or call our parish office.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

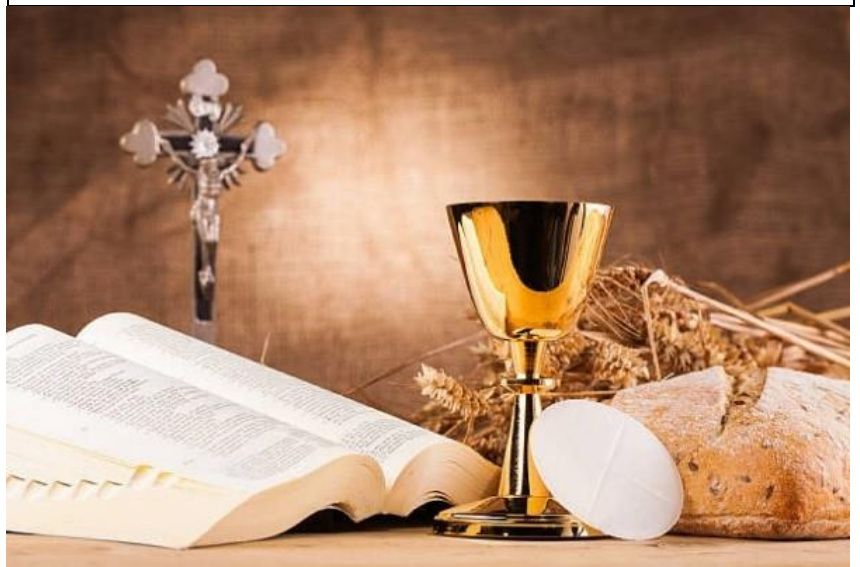
RMH - Fridays 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon) - Mass 9:00 AM

RMH - Every First Tuesday 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM - Mass 6:30 PM

SUNDAY MASS ONLINE

If you attend Mass in Rocky Mountain House on Sundays, your image may be included in a video on YouTube. Go to www.youtube.com/@StMatthewParish to subscribe and watch Mass live every Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK



ST. MATTHEW PARISH

SUNDAY MASS LIVE ON YOUTUBE

Saturday 7:00 PM	September 09, 2023 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time † Doreen Couture
Sunday 9:00 AM	September 10, 2023 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time † Tess Mamuric
<u>Evergreen</u> 11:00 AM	<u>Jesuit Martyrs</u> ●●●●●●●●† No intention requested
<u>Caroline</u> 1:00 PM	<u>St. Joseph the Worker</u> God's blessings for all members of our parish communities
Monday No Mass	September 11, 2023 – Weekday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday 6:30 PM	September 12, 2023 – Weekday in Ordinary Time † Karen Boston
Wednesday 9:00 AM	September 13, 2023 – St. John Chrysostom; bishop, doctor Thanksgiving for all blessings received and good health
<u>11:00 AM</u>	<u>Mass in Westview Lodge (Rocky Mountain House)</u>
Thursday 9:00 AM	September 14, 2023 – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross † Jim Kanciruk
<u>Evergreen</u> 11:00 AM	<u>Jesuit Martyrs</u> Cancelled for Deanery Meeting
Friday 9:00 AM	September 15, 2023 – Our Lady of Sorrows † Jim Kanciruk
	9:30 AM – 12:00 PM → ADORATION
Saturday 7:00 PM	September 16, 2023 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time † Jim Kanciruk
Sunday 9:00 AM	September 17, 2023 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time ●●●●●●●●† No intention requested
<u>Evergreen</u> 11:00 AM	<u>Jesuit Martyrs</u> God's blessings for all members of our parish communities
<u>Caroline</u> 1:00 PM	<u>St. Joseph the Worker</u> ●●●●●●●●† No intention requested

The best perfection of a person is to do common things in a perfect manner.
– St. Bonaventure

It is always springtime in the heart that loves God.
– St. John Mary Vianney

Anyone who seeks truth seeks God, whether or not they realize it.
– St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross