



Rocky Mountain House



Evergreen



Caroline

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

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November 5, 2023 – THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

CATHOLIC EDUCATION SUNDAY



CELEBRATING IN
PARISHES WITH
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
AND ADVOCATES

—
GRATEFULLY
ADVOCATING FOR
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION

MEDITATIONS

Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10

Psalm 131:1-3

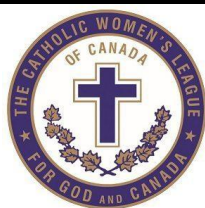
Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13

Matthew 23:1-12

They tie up heavy burdens . . . and lay them on people's shoulders. (Matthew 23:4) Today we read how Jesus accused Jerusalem's religious leaders of laying "heavy burdens" on people by imposing more and more rules on them (Matthew 23:4). But wasn't he doing the same thing? After all, he's the One who told people, "Take my yoke upon you" (11:29). Isn't a yoke—a contraption made of iron and hardwood—a burden as well? Maybe so, but anyone who spent time with Jesus saw that the burden he spoke about was completely different—and much more attractive! First, Jesus said that the burdens imposed by these scribes and Pharisees "nullified the word of God" (Matthew 15:6). They consisted of rules and fasts and tithes that were nowhere to be found in the Law of Moses. Some of them even contradicted God's will for his people. But Jesus' yoke is meant to help us "fulfill" the word of God (5:17). It's a yoke that calls us simply to love him and love our neighbor (22:34-40). Jesus also said that his opponents placed burdens on people but did not "lift a finger" to help them (Matthew 23:4). By contrast, Jesus used the image of a yoke to describe his "burden." A yoke is an instrument that links two oxen together so they can help each other bear the load. And that's the point: Jesus wants to yoke himself to us so that he can walk beside us and help to lighten our burden. Finally, and most important, the burdens of Jesus' opponents were made up of human regulations and restrictions, of additional fasts and tithes, that could not bring people closer to God. But the exact opposite happens when we accept Jesus' yoke. We come into an ever-deepening relationship with him. And that relationship fills us with the joy and comfort of his own Spirit. So come to Jesus today. Let him yoke himself to you in a bond of everlasting love.

"Jesus, thank you that your burden is light!"

CWL NEWS



CWL Sisters – There will be 50/50 tickets on sale after Mass both Saturday and Sunday until the draw on November 26, 2023. This fundraiser is in lieu of a fall supper. Parishioner support is greatly appreciated. The CWL & Knights have each purchased a table for the CAPCC dessert night fundraiser on Thursday, November 30 at 6:00PM at the Lou Soppit Centre. Please contact Bonnie Leaf (403-304-2870) if you would like to attend. St. Matthew CWL would also like to invite all parishioners to celebrate Catholic Education Sunday on November 5, 2023 by staying after Mass to share in coffee and sweets on this special occasion.

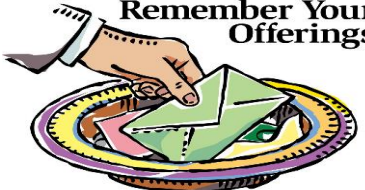
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

Date and Time	Sacristan	Greeter(s) – Gifts	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	Projector
Nov. 04, 2023 at 7:00 PM	Audrey Kokesch	Loretta Leer	Laverne Froese	Rhonda Caluttung	Brianne Melvin
Nov. 05, 2023 at 9:00 AM	Linda Collinson	Glen & Joanne Mazza	Ele Collinson	Steve Oscar	Noah Klrtzinger
Nov. 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM	Faye Boyle	Wendy deBruyn	Marliss Cartier	Dom Couve	Jo-Anne Como
Nov. 12, 2023 at 9:00 AM	Becky Marland	Scott & Linda Collinson	Gerda Groothuizen	Joanne Mazza	Linda Schmidt

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – EVERGREEN

Date and Time	Proclaimer 1	Proclaimer 2	Gifts Bearers
Nov. 5, 2023 at 11:00 AM	Roy Hoven	Francis Hoven	Tim & Lori Hoven & family
Nov. 12, 2023 at 11:00 AM	Lori Hoven	Justin Szymanek	Ed & Carol Szymanek

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

 Remember Your Offerings	October 29, 2023	
	REGULAR COLLECTION: MAINTENANCE FUND: ONLINE + E-TRANSFERS: TOGETHER WE SERVE: ENGLEDER FAMILY: FRIENDS OF JESUS:	RMH - \$918.40 * Evergreen - \$615.00 * Caroline - \$85.00 RMH - \$5.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00 RMH - \$100.00 * Evergreen - \$00.00 * Caroline - \$00.00 RMH - \$200.00 * Evergreen - \$100.00 * Caroline - \$00.00 RMH - \$300.00 RMH - \$13.25

FIRST CORINTHIANS: THE CHURCH AND THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Monday Bible Study 7:00PM November 6 – December 4

	NOVEMBER 9 7PM ST. MATTHEW CHURCH	
Youth group will meet Thursday, November 9 at 7PM at St. Matthew church. All youth in Grades 7 and 8 are welcome. Peter van Kampen at vankampen.peter@gmail.com or 403-848-0955 for more information.		

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES Sunday - Nov. 5, 2023 at 3:30 PM

Pine Grove Cemetery - Rocky Mountain House ♦ We will meet at the church!
 ➔ **SHORT PRAYER SERVICE AT THE CHURCH AT 3:30 PM**
 FOLLOWED BY BLESSING OF THE GRAVES OF THE LOVED ONES AT THE CEMETERY



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD • BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The month of November is a special time to remember in prayer all the faithful departed. We will pray for all the faithful departed whose names are written in Book of Remembrance on display at the altar during all the Masses in November.

Red Deer Live-In. November 10 – 11

A Live In retreat is a weekend retreat where the Retreatants and the Back-up (people putting on the retreat) stay together at school from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon. The theme of the retreat is "Getting to Know Jesus". It is a fun, spiritual renewal with a planned program, testimony sharing and lots of good food. If you are interested in attending, contact Alice Murray at 403 722 4056 or Carol Szymanek by email at SALISreddeer@gmail.com.

CENTRAL ALBERTA PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE

2023 DESSERT EVENING FUNDRAISER


Thursday – November 30, 2023

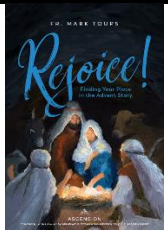
You're invited to our Annual Dessert Evening Fundraiser at the Lou Soppit Community Centre on Thursday, November 30, 2023; doors open at 6:00 PM, and the main event begins at 7:00 PM. This year we celebrate Beacons of Hope. The CAPCC extends grace and provides education and ongoing compassionate support before, during, and after pregnancy. This event is **FREE** to attend, however, registration is required by calling 403-871-5111 or visit pregnancycares.ca/rmh-fundraiser-2023.

Shoebox Campaign

Collection Week November 13-19, 2023

How to pack a shoebox: Decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, 10-14; suggested gifts: <https://www.samaritanspurse.ca/suggested-gifts/>

	CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE	\$7 each or 3/\$20
	CATHOLIC INSPIRATIONS CALENDARS	\$3 each or 2/\$5
	ST. JOSEPH MISSALS FOR 2024	\$5.00 each



Rejoice! An Advent Bible Study for Sunday

Immerse yourself in the environment that God's people were living in as they prepared for the Messiah and experience the Advent season in a whole new way. Enter into the season of Advent intentionally and receive the grace God is waiting to give us this holy season. The cost of the journal is \$20. Please contact the office to reserve your copy today.



HOLY HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – ST. MATTHEW

Tuesday – November 7, 2023 ♦ 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM ♦ NO Mass at 6:30

Take a moment during your busy days to remove yourself once a month from that business of today's life and come and spend some quality time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Prayer and meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Jesus.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS LITURGY

DEACON CLARENCE NEEDS YOUR HELP

There will be a Children's Mass on December 24 at 5PM. Deacon Clarence is organizing, and he needs volunteers. Please consider how you can help. Deacon Clarence needs 21 or more children for a Nativity play, a choir, an assistant director of the pageant, some volunteers to help with organizing, costumes, etc. with the children, a videographer, an adult "donkey" to carry Mary in, and your prayers.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

REHERSALS TO BEGIN SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12 AFTER MASS ⇨ 30 - 60 minutes

MID-TERM ASSEMBLY OF PRIESTS

November 7 – 9, 2023

All Masses are cancelled on November 7, 8, and 9. Father Raj will attend the mid-term assembly of priests in Edmonton. He will still say Mass for the requested intentions: November 7, for a personal intention, November 8, for parents who have lost a child and November 9, for a special intention. He will say Mass on Friday, Nov. 10.



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	Tyler Cadrain/Stephanie Porter
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
RCIA	Fr. JD Carmichael
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

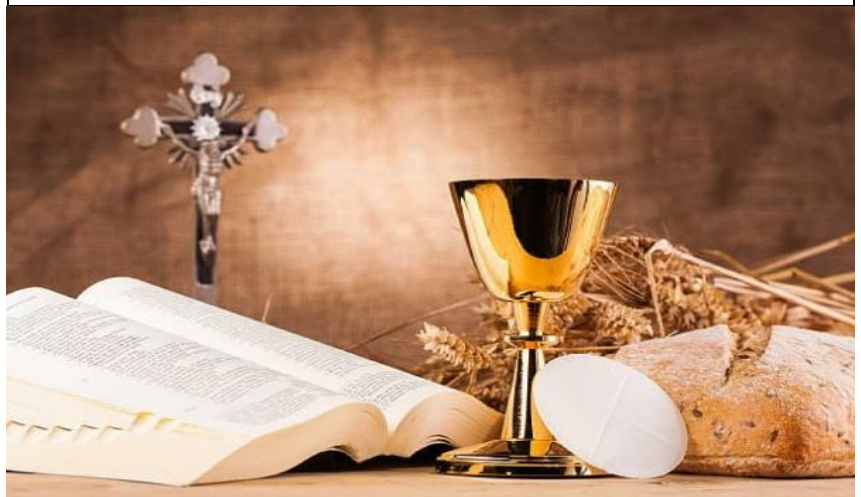
RMH - Fridays 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon) - Mass 9:00 AM

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 November 04, 2023 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 PM † Jesuraj

Sunday November 05, 2023 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM Birthday blessings for Linda Collinson & Randy McKenzie
Evergreen Jesuit Martyrs
11:00 AM † Vera Houle
Caroline St. Joseph the Worker
1:00 PM For God's blessings for all members of our parish communities
Monday November 06, 2023 – Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Tuesday November 07, 2023 – Weekday in Ordinary Time
6:30 PM For a personal intention
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM → HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Wednesday November 08, 2023 – Weekday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM No Mass – Mid-Term Assembly of Priests in Edmonton

Thursday November 09, 2023 – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
9:00 AM No Mass – Mid-Term Assembly of Priests in Edmonton
Evergreen Jesuit Martyrs
11:00 AM No Mass – Mid-Term Assembly of Priests in Edmonton

Friday November 10, 2023 – St. Leo the Great; pope, doctor
9:00 AM Birthday blessings for Eva Marie

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM → ADORATION
11:00 AM Mass in Ravines at Park Avenue (Rocky Mountain House)

Saturday November 11, 2023 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 PM For all souls in purgatory

Sunday November 12, 2023 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00 AM † Doreen Couture
Evergreen Jesuit Martyrs
11:00 AM † Zora Anderson
Caroline St. Joseph the Worker
1:00 PM For God's blessings for all members of our parish communities

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the Pope: We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Like saplings of plants, the young are easily influenced, as long as someone works to teach their souls. – St. Joseph Calasanz

In prayer, more is accomplished by listening than by talking.

– St. Jane Frances de Chantal