



Rocky Mountain House



Evergreen



Caroline

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

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CALL/TEXT: Office 403-845-3457; Pastor 587-441-4364; EMAIL: Office [stmatthew.rmh@caedm.ca](mailto:stmatthew.rmh@caedm.ca); Pastor [rajesh.iesurajSAC@caedm.ca](mailto:rajesh.iesurajSAC@caedm.ca)

**February 11, 2024 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

## MEDITATIONS

**Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46**

**Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 11**

**1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1**

**Mark 1:40-45**

*A leper came to Jesus. (Mark 1:40)* Jesus' disciples must have recoiled when they saw the man approaching. Everyone feared the dreaded disease that he was obviously suffering from. Sure, showing signs of leprosy would make someone ritually unclean (Leviticus 13:46). But it was also deadly and thought to be very contagious. That's why the Book of Leviticus had so many regulations to keep those suffering from leprosy isolated from society. No one wanted to risk contracting the disease! So why did Jesus reach out to touch this man? Why didn't he shrink back or turn aside? Because he was not afraid of the disease or the uncleanness. He could not be harmed or made unclean by any infirmity. Quite the opposite: Jesus had come to heal and restore all people. He could see beyond the disease and reach out to cleanse this beloved child of God. And by healing him, Jesus brought the man back into society. Jesus isn't afraid to reach out to us, either. While we might not be afflicted with leprosy, there is something that can cut us off from God and isolate us from other people: our sin. But on the cross, Jesus took on himself our sins and those of the whole world. By his resurrection, he destroyed the power of sin and death. Sin has no hold on him, and he does not fear it. Each time we come to him in repentance, seeking healing and restoration, he replies to us as he did to the man with leprosy: "I do will it. Be made clean" (Mark 1:41). So come to Jesus with your sins. Bring to him your isolation and suffering. He won't pull away from you. He is the pure One who removes all of your impurity. He is the holy One who takes on your sin and strips it of its power over you. Like the man suffering from leprosy, don't be afraid to approach Jesus. Let him bring you restoration and healing!

***"Jesus, in my weakness and need, I come to you! Cleanse me and make me whole."***



# SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



**St. Matthew Church – Rocky Mountain House**

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024 – 6:00 PM**

**Donations will be appreciated!**


## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE

| Date and Time                             | Sacristan        | Greeter(s) – Gifts      | Proclaimer 1    | Proclaimer 2       | Projector       |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Feb. 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM                  | Audrey Kokesch   | Loretta Leer            | Lura Collinson  | Sharon Kopchia-Oko | Audrey Kokesch  |
| Feb. 11, 2024 at 9:00 AM                  | Becky Marland    | Teresa Johnson          | Jim Marland     | Becky Marland      | Linda Schmidt   |
| Feb. 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM<br>Ash Wednesday | Audrey Kokesch   | Taner & Rachel Boniface | Gary Donald     | Bonnie Leaf        | Jonah Caluttung |
| Feb. 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM                  | Mona Cruickshank | Gil & Brandt Perreault  | Marliss Cartier | Dorraine Lonsdale  | Noah Kirtzinger |
| Feb. 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM                  | Linda Collinson  | Steve & Donna Oscar     | Morgan Duhamel  | Lura Collinson     | Mary MacKenzie  |

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES – EVERGREEN

| Date and Time                              | Proclaimer 1  | Proclaimer 2    | Gifts Bearers                    |
|--|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Feb. 11, 2024 at 11:00 AM                  | Liam Hoven    | Bill Pollock    | Mark & Juanita Szymanek & family |
| Feb. 14, 2024 at 11:00 AM<br>Ash Wednesday | Lori Hoven    | Justin Szymanek | Tim & Lori Hoven & family        |
| Feb. 18, 2024 at 11:00 AM                  | Margie Miller | Matt Andersen   | Ed & Carol Szymanek              |

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

| Remember Your Offerings<br> | JANUARY 28, 2024       |                     |                      |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|  | <b>REGULAR SUNDAY:</b> | RMH - \$1,593.15    | Evergreen - \$285.00 |
| <b>MAINTENANCE FUND:</b>   | RMH - \$150.00         | Evergreen - \$00.00 | Caroline - \$00.00   |
| <b>ONLINE + E-TRANSFERS:</b>   | RMH - \$260.00         | Evergreen - \$00.00 | Caroline - \$00.00   |
| <b>TOGETHER WE SERVE:</b>  | RMH - \$165.00         | Evergreen - \$00.00 | Caroline - \$40.00   |
| <b>FRIENDS OF JESUS:</b>   | RMH - \$10.05          |                     |                      |



### ST. MATTHEW YOUTH MINISTRY Thursday, February 15, 2024 7:00PM – 9:00PM

St. Matthew's Youth Ministry runs most Thursdays from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Church. **All youth grades 7-8 are welcome to attend!** For more info contact Peter van Kampen at [vankampen.peter@gmail.com](mailto:vankampen.peter@gmail.com) or 403-848-0955.

**No Youth Group on February 22, 2024 due to Teacher's Convention.**

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY: WHAT WE BELIEVE: THE BEAUTY OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

**Next session February 11 – No Bible Study on Family Day**

### MONDAY BIBLE STUDY: OREMUS: A GUIDE TO CATHOLIC PRAYER

**Next session February 12 – No Bible Study on Family Day**



## SOUP AND BUN SIGN UP SHEET

This year the CWL is **not** hosting soup and buns after Stations of the Cross. Instead, Father Raj would like to offer all parishioners the opportunity to show off their cooking skills. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Each Friday during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at 7PM followed by soup and a bun, but the meal will only happen if people sign up.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING SEASON OF LENT

All parishioners are invited to walk the Stations of the Cross as a community reflecting upon the sacrifice of Jesus for our salvation.

|              |          | EVERGREEN | JESUIT MARTYRS CHURCH |                             |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| EVERY FRIDAY | 7:00 PM  | RMH       | ST. MATTHEW CHURCH    | Mass & Adoration at 9:00 AM |
| EVERY SUNDAY | 12:30 PM | CAROLINE  | ST. JOSEPH CHURCH     | Mass at 1:00 PM             |



Dearest Heavenly Father, I want to thank you for the precious gift of love you have given to the world and to me. Thank you for blessing me every day with this love and the power and strength that I get from you every single day. Without your love for me I can't be.... I can't function.... I can't even breathe... because I NEED YOUR LOVE to sustain me. It's like food and medicine for my soul, Lord.



## ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 14, 2024

### BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT

#### MASSES WITH SPRINKLING OF ASHES:

- 10:30 AM St. Dominic School Mass + Ashes (St. Matthew – Rocky Mountain House)
- 1:30 PM St. Matthew School Mass + Ashes (St. Matthew School – Rocky Mountain House)
- 5:00 PM Mass + Ashes (Jesuit Martyrs - Evergreen)
- 7:00 PM Mass + Ashes (St. Matthew - Rocky Mountain House)

#### ASH WEDNESDAY – DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE.

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast and all Catholics 14 years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday. Fasting means partaking of only one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted at breakfast and around midday or in the evening - depending on when a person chooses to eat the main or full meal. Abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, milk products or condiments made of animal fat.

## 2024 LENTEN RETREAT

### THEME: THE GREAT TRIDUUM AND THE JOY OF THE CROSS

#### RETREAT MASTER – ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS SYLVAIN LAVOIE

| DATE             | MASS TIME                               | RETREAT TIME           |
|------------------|---|------------------------|
| Sunday, March 3  | 9AM Rocky, 11AM Evergreen, 1PM Caroline | 7PM St. Matthew Church |
| Monday, March 4  | No Mass                                 | 7PM St. Matthew Church |
| Tuesday, March 5 | 6:30PM, St. Matthew Church, Rocky       | 7PM St. Matthew Church |

## PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY 2024

Our parish will produce an updated parish pictorial directory to help us acquaint ourselves with one another and strengthen the bond of our faith family. All photography and viewing of your images will be done in one convenient appointment at your church. Photographers from IPC Canada will be available April 8 to 13. Your portrait session will take approximately 30-45 minutes. Each family will receive one free directory. Additional portraits can be purchased at the time of your appointment.

### TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2023 ARE READY!

Tax receipts for 2023 are ready for all members of our parish communities. The receipts will be available to be picked up before/after each Mass on February 10/11, 2024 and February 17/18, 2024. You are asked to pick up your receipts at the back of the church.

By doing so you will save us the postage.

After February 18, 2024 we will mail all remaining receipts. THANK YOU! GOD BLESS!



## CWL NEWS



On February 21, 2024, in the puzzle room at Sandcastle Kort (5020 49 Street), we will have a jewelry and accessory exchange. Take time to go through your belongings and bring whatever you are tired of and exchange it for something someone else is tired of. Excess will be donated to the Next-to-New. Mark your calendars! We will have a Spring Banquet on April 26, 2024.



**PASTOR - FR. RAJESH JESURAJ SAC**  
**DEACON (RETIRED) - BERNIE OUELLETTE**  
**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](http://www.youtube.com/@StMatthewParish) to subscribe and watch Mass live every Sunday.

[www.rocky.caedm.ca](http://www.rocky.caedm.ca)

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**



**ST. MATTHEW PARISH**

**SUNDAY MASS LIVE ON YOUTUBE**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>February 10, 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> |
| 7:00 PM          | Healing & grace for Chris Ouellette                               |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>February 11, 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> |
| 9:00 AM          | † Helen Brooks  |
| <u>Evergreen</u> | <u>Jesuit Martyrs</u>   |
| 11:00 AM         | † ●●●●●●●●●●† No intention requested                              |
| <u>Caroline</u>  | <u>St. Joseph the Workman</u>                                     |
| 1:00 PM          | For God's blessings for all members of our parish communities     |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>February 12, 2024 – Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>               |
| No Mass          | PASTOR ON HOLIDAYS  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>February 13, 2024 – Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>               |
| No Mass          | PASTOR ON HOLIDAYS  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>February 14, 2024 – ASH WEDNESDAY</b>                          |
| 10:30 AM         | <u>Mass for St. Dominic School</u>                                |
| 1:30 PM          | <u>Mass in St. Matthew School</u>                                 |
| <u>Evergreen</u> | <u>Jesuit Martyrs</u>   |
| 5:00 PM          | † ●●●●●●●●●●† No intention requested                              |
| 7:00 PM          | † Clara Gumban  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>February 15, 2024 – Weekday in Lent</b>                        |
| 9:00 AM          | God's blessings and an increase in faith for the Nuttall family   |
| <u>Evergreen</u> | <u>Jesuit Martyrs</u>   |
| 11:00 AM         | † ●●●●●●●●●●† No intention requested                              |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>February 16, 2024 – Weekday in Lent</b>                        |
| 9:00 AM          | Healing & grace for Ed Ouellette                                  |
|                  | <b>9:30 AM – 12:00 PM → ADORATION</b>                             |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>February 17, 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>          |
| 7:00 PM          | Blessings & grace for Audrey & Bernie Ouellette                   |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>February 18, 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent</b>          |
| 9:00 AM          | Blessings & grace for the Caluttung family                        |
| <u>Evergreen</u> | <u>Jesuit Martyrs</u>   |
| 11:00 AM         | Blessings for Jim Backs on his 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday          |
| <u>Caroline</u>  | <u>St. Joseph the Workman</u>                                     |
| 1:00 PM          | For God's blessings for all members of our parish communities     |

**PASTOR RETURNING SOON**

Our pastor, Father Rajesh will be returning from his holiday on February 13, 2024. He thanks you for your prayers for his safe travels. **Sincere thanks** also to **Father Wilson Thankachan** for travelling to Rocky Mountain House to say Mass in St. Matthew church, RMH, Jesuit Martyrs, Evergreen and St. Joseph the Workman, Caroline during our pastor's absence. We really appreciate it!