**October 31, 2021 Thiry-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sign-up schedule for proclaimers for the month of November weekends is at the back of the church. Please sign up for a mass you will be attending.**

Fr. Arlan will be unavailable during the Mid-Term Assembly of Priests November 9 - 10 inclusive. However, the weekday Masses will be celebrated as usual.

**Weekday masses**

Tuesday November 2nd to Friday, November 5th @ 9 a.m.

**Weekend Mass Times**

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

Reconciliation – Saturday 4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Mass Intentions

Friday, October 30th – **†** Mila Silaomandin

Sunday, October 31 (11:00 a.m.) **†**Mary Lee Komant

Saturday, November 6th – **†** Mary Stadlweiser

Sunday, November 7th –(9:00 a.m.) **†** Erin Strand

Friday, November 12th **†** Margaret Mary Bowers

**† = Repose of the Soul** **SI = Special Intention**

**From the Office of the Archbishop (dated September 2021)**

**Response to Requests for Endorsement of Religious Exemption Requests**

We cannot endorse requests for a vaccine exemption based on religious grounds, given that the role of the church is to inform through its teaching and ensure respect of the individual conscience not to legitimize its judgments. Moreover, the Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories, in communion with the Holy See, have provided the moral guidance that, in the absence of ethically acceptable alternatives, and in the context of a pandemic that poses a serious threat to public health, it is morally permissible to receive a vaccine approved for use in Canada against COVID.

**(cf. Alberta and NWT Bishops Letter to the Faithful on Vaccines – December 2, 2020).**

**Attention Parishioners**

On Sept. 15, the Alberta government declared a local state of public health emergency. COVID cases and hospitalizations are increasing, putting extreme pressure on the health system. The Alberta government has mandated new, temporary measures to curb the spread of COVID. Therefore, the following measures are to be implemented as of this date unless stated otherwise. Here is what’s new. New measures have also been highlighted. What’s new?

• **Masks are mandatory**

• Capacity is limited to one-third fire code occupancy

 • Attendance at baptisms is allowed for up to 50 people or 50 per cent of fire code occupancy, whichever is less.

• No social gatherings are permitted in parish halls and facilities.

• Each parish will implement previous protocols to determine attendance (At the present time St. Vital will use first come, first served)

• The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues for dioceses in the Province of Alberta.

**“CALLED TO PROTECT”:**

The next “Safe Environment and Abuse Prevention” training session, Called to Protect by zoom is scheduled for Monday, November 15. The 2.5 hours session will start at 7:00-9:30pm. This is a requirement for all volunteers and employees in the Archdiocese 18 years and older.

 For registration or more information, please call Jeanne at 780-994-1663 prior to Friday, November 12. You will need to have access to a computer for login and training.

Baptism Preparation Course

This program is designed to assist parents in their preparation for the baptism of their children up to the age of 7. Parents and godparents are encouraged to understand how important it is for them to share their faith life with their children as this will be the basis for their children’s faith journey.

Call the parish office to register for a course to be held on Monday, November 8th.

**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 October  30/31.  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.

**SNOWFLAKE BAZAAR 2021**

**Tourtière Sales 2021**

Paroisse St. Vital Parish’s 10th annual SNOWLAKE BAZAAR is once again downsized this year to adhere to the provincial regulations. You can appreciate that much work has to be done for the Saturday sales so please **mark your calendars** today and plan to support us in any way that you are able.

PLEASE leave your name and number with our Bazaar Chairperson Carmen at her home at 780-929-8320, by call or text to **cell 780-908-5328** or by email at **carmen.grayson@telus.net**.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to the Bazaar Chairman.

Schedule is as follows:

Meat preparation starting at **9am** at the Seniors Centre on 50th Avenue.

*8 Roaster ovens will be required.*

Pie making commences at **1pm** each afternoon at the same location.

*Various tasks are involved.*

***Tuesdays*** *on– November 9 –November 16 – November 23*

***Wednesday****s on - November 10 – November 17 – November 24*

Sale of Tourtiéres – **every Saturday** in November starting at 10 AM *till supplies last*

VOLUNTEER Helper sign-up sheets are on the table at the entrance of the church.

**Thank you in advance for your consideration of this fundraising project.**

Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage!

Restore: Rekindle: Renew Worldwide

**Marriage Encounter** extends an invitation to married couples, priests and religious. Join us TUAL marriage encounter weekend: 7:00 p.m. Friday November 5 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday November 7 Register at https://edmontonwwme.org by October 21 For more than 50 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has helped over 3.5 million couples in almost 100

**Pro-Life Petition**

Our Lady of the Hill Council Knights of Columbus asks for your support with a petition drive sponsored by **Prolife Alberta**. The details of this petition are explained on the forms which are on a  table at the back of the church. Once collected, they will be presented at the Alberta Legislative Assembly. Please consider supporting this worthwhile Pro-life endeavor

**Stewardship Corner 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of October 30/31 2021**

Stewardship Corner 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of October 30/31, 2021 In today’s Gospel Jesus said: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” It was not meant to be a suggestion or an option. He didn’t say we shall love our neighbor when it fits into our day or suits our schedule, or after we’ve completed our various recreations. It is a requirement for Christians; to exercise good stewardship over the neighbors entrusted to us by God. It is a requirement often ignored when we put up barriers of anger, fear, or intolerance for a neighbor. How can we look beyond our own personal difficulties to see what we can do to love the person who lives next door, works next to us, or who sits next to us in the church pew?

***A*ll Saints Day November 1** From the first centuries after Christ, Christians who died a martyr’s death were considered saints, who live in God’s presence forever. Every year, on the anniversary of the martyrs’ deaths, Christians would visit their tombs and celebrate the Eucharist. This practice grew throughout the centuries to include remembering other outstanding Christians on the days they died. Soon the entire calendar was filled with memorials of the saints. In the ninth century, Pope Gregory IV designated November 1 as the day to remember all the saints living in God’s presence. *Source: Loyolapress.com*

**All Souls Day November 2** All Souls Day is a holy day set aside for honouring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church. According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go. Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. There is scriptural basis for this belief. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32. "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out... Thus made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin." Additional references are found in Zechariah, Sirach, and the Gospel of Matthew. Jewish tradition also reinforces this belief as well as the tradition and teaching of the Church, which has been affirmed throughout history. Consistent with these teachings and traditions, Catholics believe that through the prayers of the faithful on Earth, the dead are cleansed of their sins so they may enter into heaven. *Source: catholic.org*

**Books of Remembrance**

The Church devotes the month of November to prayer for the Holy Souls, those who have died in grace yet failed to make satisfaction for all their sins. Praying for the Holy Souls is a Christian obligation. Please write the names of your family and friends in this book, praying for them as you inscribe their names. If you are not attending mass at the present time and would names written in the book, please e-mail St.vitalchurch@shaw.ca and we will include those names. We will pray for all those named throughout the month. If you wish to offer a Mass for family or friends who have died, visit the parish office.

**Blessing of the graves** – after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on All Souls’ Day, November 2nd.

**Don’t forget!** November 7th, end of Daylight Saving Time: Turn your clocks back 1 hour.

**ARCHBISHOP SMITH RECOGNIZES OCT. 31 AS CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY**

Catholic Social Services was founded in the Archdiocese of Edmonton in 1961, under the leadership of Monsignor Bill Irwin, and with the encouragement and blessing of Archbishop John MacDonald. Over the past 60 years, Catholic Social Services has served hundreds of thousands of Albertans. “Catholic Social Services continues to offer exemplary services to all who need them,” Archbishop Smith said in a statement. “Whether it is sheltering women fleeing domestic violence, assisting senior citizens suffering abuse, helping parolees successfully transition back into society, supporting new mothers who have nowhere else to turn, keeping the once-homeless permanently housed, providing residential care for adults with developmental disabilities, caring for high-risk youth, or resettling refugees escaping war-torn lands, CSS has been there on the frontlines, faithfully serving all those who need a helping hand in their time of desperation.” Archbishop Richard Smith has recognized October 31 as Catholic Social Services Sunday, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the agency. In addition, the last Sunday of October will be marked as Catholic Social Services Sunday from this day forward.

Do we even need Halloween anymore? I’ve been wearing a mask and eating candy for the last year and a half.

Just figured out that ghosts are people who died trying to fold a fitted sheet. I love how in scary movies, the person yells out, “Hello?” As if the bad guy is going to be like, “Yeah, I’m in the kitchen, want a sandwich?”

Two monsters went to a Halloween party. Suddenly one said to the other, “A lady just rolled her eyes at me. What should I do?” The other said, “Be a gentleman and roll them back to her.”

Two men were walking home after a Halloween party and decided to take a shortcut through the cemetery. Right in the middle of the cemetery, they were startled by a tap-tap-tapping noise coming from the misty shadows. Trembling with fear, they found an old man with a hammer and chisel, chipping away at one of the headstones. “Wow, Mister,” one of them said after catching his breath, “You scared us half to death – we thought you were a ghost! What are you doing working here so late at night?” “Those fools!” the old man grumbled. “They misspelled my name!”

**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED**…

Which letter in the word “scent” is silent – the “S” or the “C”?

Why does fridge have a “D” in it, but refrigerator doesn’t?

Why are Zoey and Zoe pronounced the same, but Joey and Joe aren’t?

Why is the letter “W” called a “Double-U”, when it is clearly a “Double-V”?