



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3H 4C7

February 2, 2025: The Presentation of the Lord

Our Silence with God

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord celebrates the formal dedication or consecration of the Child Jesus to the work of God. It reminds us of our own dedication or consecration of our lives to God. This acknowledgment of God's jurisdiction over our lives mandates us to make symbolic offerings of our lives, like tithing or actual response to God's call, not only to the priestly or religious life, but also to the call of lay ministry, including family life.

Today is also the World Day for Consecrated Life. Consecrated persons, including priests and religious, dedicate their lives to God and spend periodic silence with God. In a letter on consecrated life, Pope Benedict XVI states that consecrated persons continue the work of evangelization, even on the frontlines of the faith, with generosity and often with the sacrifice of their lives, even to the point of martyrdom.

Our celebration today highlights the importance of silence, prayer, and contemplation in our Christian life. Our Sunday worship reminds us of our need to be silent and listen to God. The Holy Mass should literally silence us and make us more aware of His presence in our lives. During Mass, there are moments of silence to be observed: during the penitential rite, the opening prayer, after the first and second readings, after the homily, and after communion. We also spend some silence before and after the celebration.

St. Thomas Aquinas refers to this kind of silence when he defines the evangelical vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience as *vacare Deo*, which is translated in English as "*vacancy for God*". To provide a vacancy for God is to let our soul give room for God to influence our lifestyle, our schedules, our attitudes, our decisions, and our life. The vacancy we create for God provides us with the opportunity to lift our soul to His presence.

Our silence with God can give us a sense of direction and courage. Let us pray to God to help us commit ourselves to spend more and more periodic silence or create a regular vacancy for Him in our respective lives: *"Heavenly Father, create in us an emptiness for You in our rather busy and crowded life. Create a silence for You in our noisy schedules. Create a vacancy for You in our life that is so full of ourselves. We ask this through Christ who prayed to You for our unity with You and with one another. Amen."*

fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Church Schedule:

Weekday & Weekend Masses:

Tuesday: 6:00 pm
Wednesday to Friday: 9:00 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am Morning Prayer
Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

Live-Stream: Sunday 11:00 am
at saintmichael.ca/Mass or on Facebook Live

Reconciliation:

Friday: 8:00 am to 8:45 am
Saturday: 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday: 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Anointing of the Sick:

24 Hour Emergency Diocese Hotline
403-231-9505

Contact Us:

Office:

Phone: 403-249-0423 info@saintmichael.ca

Pastor:

Fr. Edmund Vargas fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Kelvin Chukwurah frkelvin@saintmichael.ca

Secretary:

Loreen Morrison lmorrison@saintmichael.ca

Administration Assistant:

Pina Rino prino@saintmichael.ca

Sacrament Coordinator/Columbarium Manager:

Francesca Ambrosino fambrosino@saintmichael.ca

Music Director:

Jim Howells jhowells@saintmichael.ca

Volunteer Coordinator:

Marvin Matthews mmatthews@saintmichael.ca

Children's Liturgy Coordinator:

Caroline Dixon cdixon@saintmichael.ca

Technical Director:

Kyle De Jaegher kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca

Bookkeeper:

Michelle Gregory accounting@saintmichael.ca

Healing Lines

Victims of violence and abuse are often lost in the darkness of terror and despair. The light of our caring and good deeds toward them can help them find strength to see their way out of this. Be aware of what your fellow parishioners, colleagues, and friends might be going through and let your light shine.



2024 Tax Receipts

The 2024 tax receipts will be available for pick up from February 7 until February 16, 2025. They will be arranged alphabetically on a table in front of the main washrooms. After that date, the remaining tax receipts will be mailed.



2025 Contribution Envelopes

Next year's 2025 contribution envelopes are available for pickup in the Narthex. Please look for your name alphabetically organized. If you have any questions, please call the parish office at 403-249-0423.



Parish Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist

DAY 1: JUST PASSING THROUGH

"Life is a pilgrimage. We are just passing through this world. It is a sacred journey toward a very specific destination...It is the Eucharistic Glory that gives us the patience and courage we need for the sacred pilgrimage we call life." Please read the Introduction and Day 1 in your *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book. Here is a reflection by Fr. Jonathon Meyer: [Day 1 Where Are You Going?](#) Any questions or comments click on this link: <https://forms.gle/XSxAXUPWACLHbdBr7>



Potluck Sunday

The next Potluck Sunday for St. Michael Community will be on February 2, 2025 at 6:00pm. This is a free event. Please bring a main dish, bread, salad, pickles, vegetable tray, or dessert to share with others. Please bring your food ready to serve. Come celebrate our community! Meet and mix with others to build it up! Upcoming Potlucks: March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1.



Altar Server Training

There will be an altar server training session on Sunday, February 9, 2025 from 12:00-2:00pm in the Sanctuary. Please come prepared for a two-hour duration.



Pilgrimage to Rome 2025

An information night will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 7:00pm (after the 6pm Mass) in St. Michael's Room. Fr. Edmund is leading a holy pilgrimage to Rome on November 19-27 this coming Holy Year 2025! Please check it out online at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1241218>. For more details, contact Fr. Edmund at efvargas@shaw.ca or (403) 874-2015.



Face-to-Face Youth Night (Gr.6-8)

There will be a Youth Night for Grades 6-8 with Face-To-Face Ministries on Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 6:30-8:30pm. Pizza will be provided. This is a free event; no registration is needed. Join us for fun, fellowship, and faith! Other dates are: March 15, April 26, May 10 & June 14.



Seniors Valentine's Day (65+ years)

We invite seniors aged 65+ to a Valentine's Day Social on Friday, February 14, 2025 from 11:00am-1:00pm in the St. Nicholas Room. There will be refreshments, fun games, music, \$2 snack bar, and prizes! This is a free event, hosted by St. Michael's Kids Kingdom and friends. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Mrs. Dixon at cdixon@saintmichael.ca or phone the parish office at 403-249-0423, ext. 105, as soon as possible. See you there!



Feed the Hungry

St. Michael's Catholic Community will be sponsoring Feed the Hungry on February 16, April 27, and June 15, 2025. Thank you to all who signed up for the February dinner. We now have enough volunteers for all roles on February 16. Please watch for sign-up sheets for April 27 in early April.



Women's Ministry Bible Study

A seven-week bible study, called "*The Sorrowful Mysteries*" by *Paradisus Dei*, will be offered by the Women's Ministry on Wednesdays beginning February 19 to April 9, 2025 (no session on March 5). In-person sessions will be from 9:30am-12:00pm in the St. Nicholas Room or Zoom sessions from 7:00-9:00pm. Please register at womensministry@saintmichael.ca.



Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Please join IWIN in a Red Sand Prayer Service to bring awareness and to pray for survivors of human trafficking. Prayer service will take place outside the main doors of St. Michael's following each Mass the weekend of February 22 and 23, 2025.



Art Walk 2025

We invite artists and photographers from beginners to professionals to register to showcase their works at the upcoming Art Walk 2025 on March 8 & 9, 2025. The cut off date to register is February 23, 2025. For more information, go on line to saintmichael.ca/events or pick up a form in the Narthex after Mass.



Lenten Retreat

March 25 and March 26 - 7:00pm-8:45pm:

Holy Mass / Talk / Adoration

March 27 - 7:00pm-10:00pm:

Healing Mass / Adoration / Healing Service



This retreat brings life's struggles to the source of all healing through Jesus to be transformed by His grace. *"I Thirst" (John 19:28)* is a Lenten Healing Retreat presented by Shalom Media Ministry in association with St. Michael Catholic Community. The retreat offers a unique opportunity for the faithful, thirsting for divine intimacy, to gather and seek healing of mind, body, and soul, led by Fr. Roy Palatty, a gifted priest and world-renowned speaker. Fr. Palatty will lead you in Holy Mass, a spiritual talk, silent reflection in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and special prayers. A Healing Mass/Service and Blessings for the sick will also be offered at this faith-filled, life-changing event. For more information, please visit the website:

www.saintmichael.ca

Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council wishes all parishioners a Happy New Year! We continued our work at our first meeting of the year on Tuesday, January 28. Highlights of our meeting: * The Eucharistic Adoration Ministry hopes to expand Eucharistic Adoration at Saint Michael. * The Parish Renewal Team is looking forward to sharing highlights of the renewal survey. * Watch for a "Tap to Give" machine soon to be installed in the Narthex. Meeting minutes from January 28 will be available on the website after our next meeting on February 25, 2025. If you would like to attend one of our meetings as an observer, or if you have any questions or concerns, please reach us at 403-249 0423. To read the minutes from our meeting in November, or any past meeting, please go to: <http://saintmichael.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/SMCC-Pastoral-Council-Minutes-of-Meeting-November-26-2024-Bulletin.pdf>

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



If you have lost your job, or you know of someone who needs assistance, please contact us by email [SSVP@saintmichael.ca](mailto:ssvp@saintmichael.ca) or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122. DONATIONS of non-perishables and monetary can be dropped off in the SSVP Food Chest in the Church' Gathering Area. MONETARY DONATIONS can also be done online through <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-vincent-de-paul-society-st-michaels-conference/>. WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS. If you are interested, contact us by email [SSVP@saintmichael.ca](mailto:ssvp@saintmichael.ca) or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122. You may visit us at <https://www.ssvpstmichael.ca/>. You can follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566475437004>

Week-at-a-Glance (February 2-8, 2025) :

Sunday:

- Children's Liturgy Guardian Angel Room, Session A: 8:30am and Session B: 10:30am
- Coffee Connection: After 9am and 11am Mass
- Potluck Sunday & Nametag Sunday 6pm-8pm

Monday:

- Bible Study: St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm

Tuesday:

- Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 6:30pm
- Grief Share Program: Rooms 143 & 144, 7:00pm
- Finance Council Meeting: Boardroom 5:45pm
- Pilgrimage to Rome 2025 Info Night: St. Michael's Room, 6:30pm
- RCIA: St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm

Wednesday:

- Men's Ministry: Theatre, 6:00-7:30am
- Coffee Connection: 9:30am
- Women's Ministry: St. Nicholas Room, 9:30am-12:00pm

Thursday:

- Knitting Ministry: Library, 10:00am-12:00pm

Friday:

- No events.

Saturday:

- Face to Face Youth Night (Gr. 6-8), 6:30-8:30pm

Diocese of Calgary Beyond Bulletin (Short Version):

[Current Bulletin Insert.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Diocese of Calgary Beyond Bulletin (Full Version):

[Diocesan Info for Parishioners - Sunday Updates - Google Docs](#)

Mass Intentions:

*If you would like to book a Mass Intention, please visit the office.
Mass Intentions are not final and can be moved to
accommodate urgent pastoral needs.*

Saturday, February 1:

5 pm: Intentions of Erin Bradford (Fr. Kelvin)

Sunday, February 2:

9 am: Trevor Halliday † (Fr. Kelvin)

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Edmund)

5 pm: Michael Ball † (Fr. Edmund)

Tuesday, February 4:

6 pm: William Hall † and Sebastian Barrera † (Fr. Kelvin)

Wednesday, February 5:

9 am: Joseph Hegholz † (Fr. Kelvin)

Thursday, February 6:

9 am: Alessandro Bonvicini † (Fr. Edmund)

Friday, February 7:

9 am: Judy Arseneault † (Fr. Edmund)

Saturday, February 8:

5 pm: Lito Bautista † (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, February 9:

9 am: Godsfavor Ohiokhai † (Fr. Kelvin)

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Edmund)

5 pm: Carmelina Labrador Vitelli † (Fr. Kelvin)

Gifts to the Parish

	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024
<u>General Collections</u>			
Collections	\$120,684	\$98,134	\$215,611
Other Income	\$32,644	\$20,264	\$52,803
Operating Costs	\$124,803	\$101,152	\$139,917
Surplus (Shortfall) Year-to-Date Operating Costs	\$25,525	\$17,246	\$128,497
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>			
Building Fund Collections	\$16,540	\$12,952	\$131,594
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,420,620	\$3,396,751	\$3,373,171
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>			
Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$40,428	\$60,507	\$121,243
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	33%	49%	100%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$7,333	\$30,587	\$4,868
Christmas Hamper (before expenses)			\$67,255

Please Pray For:

*If you would like to request a prayer for a loved one,
please email the office with your request,
noting consent.*

Rina VandeGeer, Lenore Youngberg, Susan Neri, Leo Pelletier, Elizabeth Myers, Maddy Azalea, Allison Ger-vais, Maria Duri, Pietro Duri Jr., Peitro Duri Sr., Rosa Duri, Talia Duri, Nenite Mirales, Gioia Ceccarini, Helen Gal, Pat Burchnall, Anne Arendt.

For the Souls Of:

Kevin Thorvaldson

Funeral:

Pray For Our Seminarians:

Please pray for vocations in our Diocese.

Eternal Springs Columbarium:

The Columbarium at St. Michael's offers a consecrated and sacred space where the cremated remains of departed loved ones rest in perpetuity.

For pricing or more information,
please email columbarium@saintmichael.ca.

E-Transfer:

You can now donate using e-transfer service.
Sign in to your own banking institution and e-transfer
the amount to: isupport@saintmichael.ca.

Text to Donate:

Don't carry cash? You can now use text messaging
to donate any amount to St. Michael's. To set up your
account, text **give** to **833-768-0514** and follow the
prompt. Once you're in, text any amount to the
same number - anytime.

Sexual Abuse in the Church:

Many suffer in silence. Perhaps you are affected by the
news of sexual abuse of minors in the Church; perhaps
you are a sexual abuse survivor or a relative of a friend
of someone who was abused; perhaps you know about
an abuse; perhaps you have sexually abused someone.

Break the cycle of silence: you can choose to talk
about it. Call the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary's
Hotline at **1- 833-547-8360**. To report sexual abuse,
call the Police at **1-403-266-1234**.