



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3H 4C7

March 30, 2025: 4th Sunday of Lent

Lent and Easter Schedule

Lent Fridays: March 7 - April 11 | Mass 6:00pm | Stations of the Cross 6:30pm

Cancelled: Stations of the Cross - Fri. March 14

Fish Friday: Fri. March 21 and Fri. April 4 | Fish Supper 7:00pm

Lenten Retreat: March 25 - 27 | Mass 7:00pm with Adoration to Follow

Lenten Retreat Reconciliation: Thurs. March 27, 5:30pm

Daily Mass Re-scheduled: Tues. March 25 - 7:00pm Mass (not 6:00pm)

Parish Wide Reconciliation: Thurs. April 3, 7:00-9:00pm

Holy Thursday: Thurs. April 17 | Mass 7:00pm | Adoration 8:00pm - 12:00am

Good Friday: Fri. April 18 | Services 12:00pm and 3:00pm

Easter Vigil: Sat. April 19 | Mass 9:00pm

Easter Sunday: Sun. April 20 | Masses 9:00am, 11:00am, & 5:00pm



From Darkness to Light...

Blindness, as attributed to the man born blind from birth in our gospel today, is a fitting image of the human condition we now know as original sin. John tells the story of the man's cure by Jesus in a way that reveals who it is that is truly blind: those who stubbornly refuse to accept Jesus as the light of the world. Social sin is not the same as original sin, but flows from it, and is the accumulation of human choices to turn away from the light. The dramatic unfolding of John's story gives eloquent expression to the way individuals in a community compound their blindness. Everyone gets involved: the man's neighbors, his family, those have seen him begging, the Pharisees, the evil spread like cancer until in an act the man is expelled from the synagogue for acknowledging Jesus as the Messiah.

God's choice of David over his other brothers in the First Reading from the First Book of Samuel speak of our own inability to see spiritual truth as God sees it. David is portrayed as the least likely to be the candidate for divine election. God sees into the heart and directs the prophet to choose and anoint the young David and consecrate him to be shepherd of God's people as king.

"Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light..." This describes our desperate human situation without Christ's saving light that eradicate the effects of social sin embedded in social structures that are effects of personal sin. *"Whenever the Church speaks of situations of sin or when the collective behavior of certain social groups, big or small, or even of whole nations and bloc of nations, she knows and she proclaims that such cases of social sin are the result of the accumulation and concentration of many personal sins."*

In the Eucharistic Prayer, we will proclaim: *"Father... we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks through Jesus. He came among us as a man, to lead us from darkness into the light of faith. Through Adam's fall we were born as slaves of sin, but now through baptism in Christ we are reborn as adopted children..."*

As we gather today, we ask God to let His light penetrate the darkness of our lives, shining forth in goodness, righteousness, and truth. Just as Jesus opens the eyes of the blind man, God call us to open our eyes, through baptism and the other sacraments, to insight into His mighty works. God call on us to believe, to worship and to follow the footsteps of His son. God call us to new life, to become enlightened children of the Light.

Fr. Edmund, 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...

The research found that immigrant and refugee women, like Canadian-born women, often stayed in abusive relationships *"for the sake of the children"*. Some were afraid of losing them to their partners' family because *"in my community children are considered their 'father's property'."* Others were afraid that their children would be stigmatized or that they would be deported without their children if they left or that they and their children would be deported, thus missing out on a *"better life in Canada."* How can we be a pathway of God's love to help these women?



Now available...at the right side of the Sanctuary Entrance, you can now simply tap your bank card or device to give your desired contribution for the Church's maintenance and programs.



Ash Wednesday & Good Friday Fasting

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are universal days of fasting and abstinence from meat. Catholics aged 18 to 59 are required to fast, while those 14 and older must abstain from meat. **Fasting** means limiting food intake to one main meal and two smaller meals that together do not equal a full meal, with no solid food in between. **Abstinence** means refraining from meat. All Fridays of the year are days of abstinence from meat. In Canada, Catholics may substitute special acts of charity or piety on Fridays, except during Lent, when abstinence from meat is required.



Parish Renewal

The *Parish Renewal Survey Results and Team Update* are available in the Narthex and by the office.



Parish Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist

DAY 9 JOHN PAUL II: PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"In those moments after Communion, he allowed nothing to distract him from his prayer. He let nothing draw his attention away from his Divine Visitor in those precious moments after receiving the Blessed Sacrament." Please read Day 9 in your *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book. Here is a reflection by Fr. Jonathan Meyer: [Day 9 Start Your Day Like a Saint](#). Any questions or to sign up for a Friday adoration time slot, click on this link: <https://forms.gle/XSxAX-UPWACLHbdBr7>. The book is now available for purchase in the bookstore for \$5.

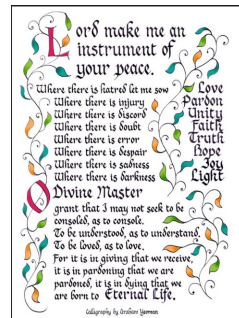


Righteous Sounds of the Passion

Come and experience the Inspiration Band perform songs from their highly anticipated and emotional Good Friday service music on Saturday, April 12 at 7:00pm in the Mezzanine. Bring someone and listen to the Passion in song. Admission is free.

Relic of St. Francis

St Francis of Assisi, Confessor, is with our community in relic form until June 30. Described as second class and *ex cingulo* (of the girdle), the relic reminds us of the saint's renewal efforts during his time as we journey towards our own parish renewal. The relic will be present at all Masses on Easter Sunday (9am, 11am & 5pm) and available for veneration after. Masses for St. Francis are scheduled on April 23, May 21, and June 25 at 6:00pm, followed by a Holy Hour. A reception follows at 7:30pm. Starting immediately, we encourage our families and parishioners to pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary and one Glory Be and the Prayer of St. Francis for the intention of our parish renewal.



TOGETHER in ACTION 2025

Together in Action (TIA)

Launched this Season of Lent, is the Diocese of Calgary's annual campaign to support key ministries, partner organizations, and agencies. As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we give as we *"rejoice in hope, patient in suffering, persevering in prayer."* (Romans 12:12) The 2025 Together in Action campaign seeks to raise funds for essential initiatives, including care for retired priests, hospital chaplaincy, pastoral care, diocesan ministries, and the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. This year's goal is \$121,243 which is the same as the previous few years. Thanks to your generosity, we reached the target amount last year. All surplus funds this year will go to our Building Fund to help pay our loan.



Eucharistic Adoration

During Lent, starting March 5, the Eucharistic Adoration Ministry (EAM) will be silently adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel without Exposition weekly on Fridays from 10:00am-6:00pm and 7:00pm-8:00pm. We will break for one hour from 6:00-7:00pm for Mass and Stations of the Cross. We are inviting all parishioners to join us and sign up during these Fridays to start promoting this beautiful and blessed practice to all our St. Michael Community. We are looking to have a minimum of four people adoring the Lord in every hour. Drop-ins are also welcome! Please use the following link to book your time: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B48A8A72EA0FD0-55186481-march>



Coffee Mugs for Visitors & Newcomers

Coffee mugs (in black & tangerine) are now available for use by visitors, newcomers, or those who want to meet others during our coffee receptions after the 9:00am & 11:00am Sunday Masses. The Coffee Ministry will take care of this. The newly introduced bistro tables are also designed to encourage more conversations and interaction among our membership.

Feed the Hungry



St. Michael's parish will be supporting Feed the Hungry on April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday, at St. Mary's Cathedral as part of our Parish Renewal initiative. Volunteering is a beautiful way to express our care and concern for the less fortunate among us simply by helping to serve a hot, delicious, catered meal. Volunteers are needed for many roles. If you would like to volunteer, sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex starting next Sunday, March 30, or contact the office at 403-249-0423.

Monday's Bible Study for Spring 2025



"Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled" will be the next bible study for Mondays. In this Jeff Cavins' study, you will learn the beautiful Biblical roots for Mary, the Rosary, and the Mass that are found only in Luke and from parables that will show you the mercy and compassion that Jesus has for each one of His children, strengthening your prayer life like never before. It will start on March 24 with 8 in-person sessions (no zoom) in the St. Nicholas Room at 7:00pm. To register or to get additional information, please contact Augusto Bitter at abitter@telus.net or Lee Ettinger at letting1@yahoo.com

Fund Forward Fundraiser



Opens: Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Closes: Sunday, April 6, 2025

Pick-Up: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (4:40-5:30pm)

St. Michael Catholic Community raises funds year-round to support initiatives within our Church and in the surrounding communities. Stock up your freezers now!

Please go to: <https://fundforward.ca/collections/st-michael-fundraiser-spring-2025>

Tuesday Rosary Prayer Group



Starting April 1, the Tuesday evening rosary group will start at 5:20pm before Mass with the Divine Mercy prayer, followed with the recitation of the rosary.

CWL Meeting



St. Michael's CWL General Meeting will be on Tues. April 8 at 7:00pm following Mass in St. Michael's Room. Business meeting with fellowship to follow. All members and visitors are welcome to attend.

45th Annual Hike For Life



Please join Fr. Edmund and Fr. Kelvin in support of the Calgary Pro-Life Association's 10K Hike For Life at Prince's Island Park on Saturday, May 8, 2025. You can join the St. Michael's team, start collecting pledges and hike on your own, or you can make a donation to St. Michael's Catholic Community (on behalf of Fr. Edmund and Fr. Kelvin) or any other team member from now until June 30th. All donations go directly to Pro-Life to support the Respect For Life programs. St. Michael's CWL will be collecting pledges on behalf of Fr. Edmund and Fr. Kelvin in the narthex after all Masses on May 3 and 4 or you can donate online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/s/6WYRKA>

Pastoral Council



We hope that you are having a holy and blessed Lent, in preparation for Easter. Pastoral Council met one week earlier than usual in anticipation of the Shalom Lenten Retreat. Highlights of Tuesday's meeting: * St. Francis of Assisi will be with SMCC in relic form until June 30! The relic will be present at all Masses on Easter Sunday, and available for veneration after each Mass. * Divine Mercy Holy Hour on Sunday, April 27, from 2- 3 pm. More details to come. The meeting in April is cancelled as it falls in Easter Week. Our next meeting will be on May 27. 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 February, or any past meeting, please go to: <http://saintmichael.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/SMCC-Pastoral-Council-Minutes-of-Meeting-January-28-2025-Bulletin.pdf>

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, April 26, 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: May 10 & June 14.

Pilgrimage to Rome 2025



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.

2024 Parish Reports



Sacraments: 87 Baptisms, 118 First Communions, 126 Confirmations, and 13 Weddings.

Columbarium: 25 columbarium niches sold. There are currently 357 spots left available for purchase in the Eternal Springs Columbarium. For more information, please contact Francesca at 403-249-0423 (ext. 126) or FAm-brosino@saintmichael.ca

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



NEED ASSISTANCE? Contact SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122. DONATIONS of non-perishables and monetary: drop off at SSVP Food Chest in the Narthex.

MONETARY DONATIONS: go to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-vincent-de-paul-society-st-michaels-conference/>.

NEW MEMBERS: contact SSVP@saintmichael.ca.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024: <https://www.ssvpstmichael.ca/annual-report-2024/>

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](#)

Week-at-a-Glance: (Sat. Mar. 29- Sun. Apr. 6, 2025):



Saturday Mar. 29:

Knights of Columbus Founder's Day Mass 7:00pm, Reception to follow.

Sunday Mar. 30:

Coffee Connection: After 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

Monday Mar. 31:

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

Tuesday Apr. 1:

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

RCIA: St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm

Wednesday Apr. 2:

Men's Ministry: Theatre, 6:00-7:30am

Coffee Connection: After 9:00am Mass

Women's Ministry: St. Nicholas Room & Theater, 9:30am

Thursday Apr. 3:

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

Parish-Wide Reconciliation Night: 7:00-9:00pm

Friday Apr. 4:

Mass for Lent: Sanctuary, 6:00pm

Stations of the Cross: Sanctuary, 6:30-7:00pm

Fish Friday: Narthex, 7:00-9:00pm

Saturday Apr. 5:

No Events

Sunday Apr. 6:

Coffee Connection: After 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

Potluck Sunday & Name Tag Sunday: Narthex, 6:00-8:00pm

Mass Intentions:

Mass Intentions are booked in person at the office.

Mass Intentions are not final and can be moved to accommodate urgent pastoral needs.

Saturday, March 29:

5 pm: Ona Trudel † (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, March 30:

9 am: Conrad Aben † (Fr. Kelvin)

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

5 pm: Baby Abuel † (Fr. Kelvin)

Tuesday, April 1:

7 pm: Linda Britton † (Fr. Edmund)

Wednesday, April 2:

9 am: Giovanni Papaiani † (Fr. Edmund)

Thursday, April 3:

9 am: Louis & Doreen O'Shaughnessy † (Fr. Kelvin)

Friday, April 4:

9 am: Yvonne Beaubien † (Fr. Kelvin)

6 pm: Karl & Christel Schunicht † (Fr. Edmund)

Saturday, April 5:

5 pm: Hong Ngo † (Fr. Kelvin)

Sunday, April 6:

9 am: Intentions Rafael & Yasmin Carruyo-Lara (Fr. Kelvin)

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

5 pm: Alberto Romano † (Fr. Edmund)

For the Souls Of:

Wanda Konicki

Funeral:

Please Pray For:

Please contact the office with your request.

Ally Robertson, Scot C. Smith, Rina VandeGeer,
Sylvester Joseph, Duri Family, Helen Gal, Lenore Youngberg,
Elizabeth DeCoste, Alice Flamand, Carlos Jensen

Pray For Our Seminarians:

Please pray for vocations in our Diocese.

Eternal Springs Columbarium:

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

E-Transfer:

Sign in to your own banking institution and e-transfer the
amount to: isupport@saintmichael.ca.

Text to Donate:

To set up your account, text **give** to **833-768-0514**
and follow the prompt.

Sexual Abuse in the Church:

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**.

Gifts to the Parish

	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025
<u>General Collections</u>			
Collections	\$215,611	\$107,778	\$81,129
Other Income	\$52,803	\$11,865	\$29,904
Operating Costs	\$139,917	\$118,929	\$126,188
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$128,497	\$714	(\$15,155)
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>			
Building Fund Collections	\$131,594	\$112,737	\$12,382
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,373,171	\$3,349,592	\$3,324,682
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>			
Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$121,243	\$49,900	\$52,238
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	100%	41%	43.1%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$4,868	\$8,462	\$1,103
Christmas Hamper (before expenses)	\$67,255		