



Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | info@saintmichael.ca | March 17, 2024

5th Sunday of Lent

A Deacon's Reflection

Lent is a time where we reflect on what this battle between good and evil looks like and how we should understand it. In our gospel today, Jesus is anticipating Holy Week when He says, *"Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler for this world will be driven out."*

When we look at the cross, we have to remember that the crucified Jesus is God. The only way you can nail Jesus to a cross is if He wants to be there. Why does Jesus want to be on the cross? There are three answers, with each having a partial answer: Jesus is showing us the love of the Father; Jesus is making atonement for our sin; Jesus is going to war to rescue us.

One way to understand this is to think about the Passover. The Passover is about God's love for the Children of Israel. It is also about atonement for sin. The Passover lamb points to the death of Jesus on the cross. The animal had to die to remind the people that their sin was deserving of death. The cross reminds us that our sin is also deserving of death. So, atoning for sin was very much a part of it.

The Passover was also about God going to war and fighting the Egyptians and rescuing the Israelites from slavery. It was a victory that radically changed the lives of the people. It moved them from a place of hopelessness and despair and put them on the road to the Promised Land flowing with milk and honey. Jesus is the new Moses. He goes to war with Satan just as certainly as Moses went to war with Pharaoh.

We tend to domesticate Jesus. We see Him as someone who went around saying nice things and doing good deeds. We can make Him boring. We have trouble thinking of Him as a warrior. Yet the scriptures see Him that way. Look at when He casts out demons. That is a warrior-like thing to do. One time the Pharisees challenged Him on it. He said:

How can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house. The strong man is Satan. What are his possessions? That is you and me. Remember, Satan is the ruler of the world. So, Jesus is saying He is going to overpower Satan and tie him up. That is how we get free.

Healing Lines

Victims of domestic violence may maintain a code of silence - never tell on a husband or boyfriend - with the hope that the situation will one day improve. In fact, wife beating, abuse, and violence within the family is given tacit approval as one aspect of home life and it manifests itself through emotional, physical, and verbal assaults on the entire family. Family violence is not limited to simply one culture or class. What can our Church, community, or government do to address this issue? What would Jesus have wanted you to do about the persistence of violence in the family?

Mass Schedule for this Weekend

Saturday, March 16 at 5pm: Fr. Edmund Vargas with Dc. Randy Gritter
Sunday, March 17 at 8:30am: Morning Prayer with Dc. Randy Gritter
Sunday, March 17 at 9am: Fr. Jose Bustalino with Dc. Randy Gritter
Sunday, March 17 at 11am: Fr. Edmund Vargas with Dc. Randy Gritter
Sunday, March 17 at 5pm: Fr. Jose Bustalino with Dc. Randy Gritter



Lent Schedule

Lent Fridays: Feb. 16 - Mar. 22 | Mass 6:00pm | Stations of the Cross 6:30pm
Holy Thursday: Thursday, March 28 | Mass 7:00pm | Adoration 8:00pm - 12:00am
Good Friday: Friday, March 29 | Services 12:00pm and 3:00pm
Easter Vigil: Saturday, March 30 | Mass 9:00pm
Easter Sunday: Sunday, March 31 | Mass 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Glad to have you here!

We welcome new parishioners and visitors. We'd love to see you again! Please register at the Parish Office, or online at saintmichael.ca

Connect with us

Follow us on social media at [@saintmichael.ca](https://www.instagram.com/saintmichael.ca)

Also, join Flocknote by texting **SMCYC** to **514-900-0130** or by visiting flocknote.com/smcyc



Church Schedule

Subject to change

Weekday & Weekend Masses:

Tuesday: 6 pm
Wednesday to Friday: 9 am
Saturday: 5 pm
Sunday: 9 am, 11 am & 5 pm

Sunday 11 am live-stream
at saintmichael.ca/Mass or on Facebook Live

Reconciliation:

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

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday: 9:30am to 10:30am

Office Hours:

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

Home & Hospital Visits

If you or someone you know is sick, cannot make it to Mass, and needs Anointing of the Sick and/or Holy Communion, we can arrange to have one of our priests visit them. Please call the Parish Office at **403-249-0423** to schedule a visit.

**Diocese of Calgary 24-hour emergency
Priest paging hotline: 403-231-9505.**

~~~ Lenten Insights ~~~

Lenten Insights (1-4): All Previous "Lenten Insights" are available here: <https://saintmichael.ca/bulletin-4th-sunday-lent-2/>

Lenten Insights (5): Holy Week Reminders: Observe more silence. Meditate on God's word. Listen to the voice of God, especially in your conscience. Focus on the Lord. Minimize gadget use for leisure. Pray more with family, friends, or loved ones. Go to confession on March 21, 7pm and be sorry for all your sins. Consider attending the Paschal Triduum celebrations: Mass of the Last Supper (Holy Thursday 7pm), Good Friday Service (12noon or 3pm) and Easter Vigil (Saturday 9pm).

Events and Announcements

Handling Panhandling at SMCC and Other Places

What do we do? Respectfully acknowledge the person asking for money and politely say "no". Panhandling is illegal (Calgary by-law 3M99). Panhandlers may not be homeless or may panhandle as part of a larger syndicated operation. Our local Society of St. Vincent de Paul also distributes groceries to needy families in the area throughout the year. Or you may contact one of the city's social agencies that help, including the Drop-in Centre (263-6217), Mustard Seed Street Ministry (269-1319), Salvation Army (410-1111), CUPS (221-8781), Alpha House (234-7388), and EXIT (262-9953). Let us help our Church and other organizations help street people help themselves and re-discover their sense of human dignity and respect. If you see a panhandler in need or trouble, or if you have encountered an aggressive panhandler, you may call the Panhandling Outreach Worker (221-8788) or the Police (403-266-1234).

Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours | Starting Sunday, February 18, 2024 | Sanctuary | 8:30am

Every Sunday morning, starting on Sunday, February 18, we invite you to join us for Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours at 8:30 am, just before the 9:00am Mass, in the Sanctuary. You may visit ebreviary.com to follow along for the prayers. All are most welcome to attend!

2023 Tax Receipts

2023 tax receipts have been mailed. If you have not received your receipt, please check with the office.

Children's Liturgy Schedule

March 16/17: Last Day of Children's Liturgy before Easter Break | Session "A" 8:30 AM | Session "B" 10:30 AM

March 23/24: NO Children's Liturgy (re: Easter Break)

March 30/31: NO Children's Liturgy (re: Easter Break)

April 6/7: Children's Liturgy Resumes | Divine Mercy Sunday | Session "A" 8:30 AM | Session "B" 10:30 AM

Elements of the Catholic Mass Series | March 16 and 17, 2024 | Before All Masses

Active Participation: We should be engaged fully, conscious of what we are doing, aware of the liturgy's beauty and richness. This participation is first and foremost interior. Like Christ, we offer ourselves from our hearts, completely to the Father. Only then can our participation be full. <https://watch.formed.org/the-elements-of-the-catholic-mass/season:1/videos/active-participation>

40 Days for Life | Friday, March 22, 2024 | Kensington Abortuary

St. Michael's Parish has been assigned to pray at the Kensington Abortuary for the *40 Days for Life* on Friday, March 22. Those interested can sign up online at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/calgary>.

Collection Baskets are back this Easter...

Those interested to volunteer for this undertaking, please contact the office. After all March 16-17 weekend Masses, the Finance Council will report on our finances and members will be available for queries and clarifications after each Mass. "Wealthy" in capital assets with a loan to amortize, more cash can help us to keep up with our growing expenses and needs. A big Church requires considerable payroll, repairs, and maintenance. For the past few years, we have not reached our Together-in-Action (TIA) goal which means that our General Fund covers the shortfall. We also share our contributions with SSVP, Christmas Hampers, Partnership of Hope (Refugee Program), and other charities.

St. Michael Catholic Community Pastoral Council

We hope that you are having a holy and blessed Lent, in preparation for Easter. We worked our way through a full agenda at our meeting on Tuesday, February 27. Highlights include: * A presentation by the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. A parish-wide presentation will be made at all Masses March 16 and 17.

* Re-introduction of collection baskets at Easter Masses. Volunteers will be needed. * Divine Mercy Celebration on Sunday, April 7, from 2- 3 pm, with a reception to follow. More details to be provided. / The meeting in March is cancelled as it falls in Holy Week. Our next meeting will be on April 16. 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 January, or any past meeting, please go to: <https://saintmichael.ca/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes-january-23-2024/>

2024 Youth Rally "Impact Nights" | April 19 and June 14 | Sanctuary | 7:00-9:00pm

Youth Rally "Impact Nights" for Grades 7-12 at St. Michael's Church are scheduled on the following nights from 7:00-9:00pm: | Friday, April 19 | Friday, June 14 | The Youth Nights are coordinated through Michael Chiasson of Access 52. They are an expanded version of our recent Youth Gatherings. It is a free event, with free will offerings graciously accepted.

Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting | Thursday, March 21, 2024 | St. Michael's Room | 7:00pm

The Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting has been moved from Monday, March 18 to Thursday, March 22 in the St. Michael's Room at 7:00pm.

Parish Wide Reconciliation Night | Thursday, March 21, 2024 | Reconciliation Rooms and Surrounding Rooms | 7:00pm

There will be a number of priests available to hear confessions prior to Holy Week.

Pontifical Collection for the Church in the Holy Land | Good Friday Services | 12:00pm and 3:00pm

The annual Good Friday Collection was first taken at Pope Paul VI's request fifty years ago. It is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of dioceses and parishioners throughout the world to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and help maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere. Donations can also be made at a later time.

Events and Announcements

Lectio Divina Workshops: Encounter Christ the Living Word | Wednesday, April 17 | Day Chapel | 7:30pm

The Seeds of the Word Community is glad to participate in the Pastoral Renewal by providing a Lectio Divina Workshop: *'Praying with the Word of God: Encounter Christ the Living Word'* for the Parishes of the Diocese of Calgary. A workshop will be offered at St. Michael's on Wednesday, April 17 at 7:30pm in the Day Chapel. (Please note: the workshop previously scheduled for April 10 has been cancelled). All are welcome! If you are interested in attending, please register at <https://forms.gle/y1zSixLphtjMk6Gg7>

40 Hours of Adoration and Vocations Rally | Day Chapel | Friday, April 19, 3:00pm to Sunday, April 21, 8:00am

In collaboration with the Diocese of Calgary, St. Michael's will be hosting 40 continuous hours of Eucharistic Adoration for vocations from Friday, April 19 until Sunday, April 21. The devotion will begin at 3:00pm Friday, and conclude at 8:00am Sunday, to prepare for the 9:00am Mass. Following this, beginning with the 11:00am Mass, we will launch our diocesan wide Vocations Rally. More information to follow in the coming weeks. To sign up to be an adorer for one or more hours, click this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054EA8A623A7FD0-48428431-40hours>

Beloved Daughter's Ministry: Women's Conference | Sanctuary | Friday, May 3, 7:00-9:00pm and Saturday, May 4, 8:30am-4:00pm

Join Beloved Daughters Ministry for their second annual women's conference entitled *"Worthy and Made New."* The conference will be held from May 3-4, 2024 at St. Michael Catholic Community with guest speakers Crystalina Evert and Fr. Anthony Sortino, LC. For more information visit www.beloveddaughtersyyc.com



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Special thanks to all St. Michael parishioners for supporting the Society of St. Vincent de Paul! If you have lost your job, please contact us for food support. **WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS.** If you are interested, contact us by email SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122. **DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS** can be dropped off in the SSVP Food Chest in the church Gathering Area or you can arrange for a pick-up, by emailing us at SSVP@saintmichael.ca. Currently we are looking for: syrup, canned ham, canned chili or stew, Hamburger Helper, shampoo, and conditioner. **MONETARY DONATIONS** can be deposited in the drop-box in the Food Chest or by online donations through the Parish website: <https://saintmichael.ca/giving/>. Please indicate funds are for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the drop-down menu. If you or anyone you know needs assistance, please contact us by email SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122.



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition | Friday, May 24 to Sunday, June 2, 2024 | Mezzanine | Various Times

SAVE THE DATES! The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition is coming to St. Michael Catholic Community beginning May 24 and continuing through June 2, 2024. This is an awesome display of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist and a wonderful opportunity for Catholics to deepen their faith. More details to follow after Easter.

Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Barcelona | November 3-12, 2024

Fr. Edmund Vargas will lead a Pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes with Barcelona on November 3-12, 2024. If you are interested in joining, please see the details and itinerary in the link: <https://gatewaygocollette.com/link/1218566>

March 2024:

March 16 | Youth Rally Impact Night for Grades 7-12 | Guest: Joe Melendrez | Sanctuary | 7:00-9:00pm
March 17 | Coffee Sunday | Narthex | After 9:00am Mass | After 11:00am Mass
March 18 | Bible Study Lectio Eucharist: Last Session | St. Nicholas Room | 7:00pm
March 19 | Rosary Group | Day Chapel | 6:30-7:00pm
March 19 | RCIA | St. Nicholas Room | 7:00-9:00pm
March 20 | TMIY | Day Chapel | 6:00-7:30am
March 20 | Women's Ministry Bible Study | St. Nicholas Room | 10:00am-12:00pm
March 20 | Sacrament for Teens Session 5 | Library | 7:00pm
March 21 | Moms & Tots | St. Nicholas Room | 9:30-11:30am
March 21 | Knitting Ministry | Library | 10:00am-12:00pm
March 21 | Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting | St. Michael's Room | 7:00pm
March 21 | Parish Wide Reconciliation Night | Reconciliation Rooms and Surrounding Rooms | 7:00pm
March 22 | 40 Days for Life | Kensington Abortuary
March 23 | Sacrament for Teens | Pizza Party and Retreat | St. Nicholas Room | 12:00-3:00pm
March 23 | Sacrament for Teens | Reconciliation | Reconciliation Rooms | 3:00pm
March 24 | Cancelled: Coffee Sunday
March 24 | Cancelled: Altar Server Training
March 26 | Cancelled: SSVP Monthly Meeting
March 26 | Cancelled: PPC Meeting
March 26 | RCIA | St. Nicolas Room | 7:00-9:00pm
March 27 | TMIY | Day Chapel | 6:00-7:30am
March 27 | Women's Ministry Bible Study | St. Nicholas Room | 10:00am-12:00pm
March 28 | Cancelled: Moms and Tots
March 28 | Cancelled: Knitting Ministry
March 28 | Cancelled: Coffee Thursday
March 28 | Holy Thursday | No Daily Mass 9:00am | Sanctuary Mass 7:00pm | Adoration Day Chapel 8:00pm
March 29 | Good Friday Services | 12:00pm and 3:00pm
March 30 | RCIA Retreat | Day Chapel and St. Nicholas Room | 8:00am
March 30 | Easter Vigil | Sanctuary | 9:00pm
March 31 | Cancelled: Coffee Sunday
March 31 | Easter Sunday | Mass at 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm



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.

Pray For Our Seminarians:

Peter An, Andre Boudreau, Joshua Capicio, Bennet Chacko, Jonathan Dobek, Samuel Ejeregebe, Evin George, Solomon Ip, Jeffrell Painaga, Antonio Pasqualotto, Mikhel Sari, Benjamin Taylor, Joshua Walter

Please Pray For:

Mara Neely	Helen Gal	Aaron Armstrong
Alessandro Bonvicini	Demy Navarro	Rina VandeGeer
Jojo Deleon	Bill Dingman	Bert Saunders
Rosa Duri	Joey Stevenson	Cecile Manning
Elizabeth Chandless	Pietro Jr. Duri	Lloyd Chiwara

For the Souls of:

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**.

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.

Gifts to the Parish

	October	November	December
<u>General Collections</u>			
Collections	\$97,285	\$89,909	\$148,442
Other Income	\$29,506	\$58,358	\$57,002
Operating Costs	\$164,849	\$135,449	\$119,954
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Optg Costs	(\$38,058)	\$12,819	\$85,491
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>			
Building Fund Collections	\$13,724	\$18,512	\$129,611
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,698,763	\$3,675,809	\$3,653,177
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>			
Together in Action YTD	\$55,760	\$62,408	\$74,471
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	46%	51%	61%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$3,473	\$6,455	\$25,278

Mass Intentions

Book an intention online at saintmichael.ca

Saturday, March 16

5 pm: Alfred Champagne †

Sunday, March 17: 5th Sunday of Lent

9 am: Adelaida Balazon †

11 am: For All Parishioners

5 pm: Aurora Cruz †

Tuesday, March 19

6 pm: Teresa Jane Montgomery †

Wednesday, March 20

9 am: Russell Smith †

Thursday, March 21

9 am: Deceased Members of Antonio Lourenco Family †

Friday, March 22

9 am: Peter Droppo †

6 pm: Teresita Maturino †

Saturday, March 23

5 pm: Felix D'Souza †

Sunday, March 24: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9 am: Marlito Licudine †

11 am: For All Parishioners

5 pm: Ron Fabbi †

Contact Us

For General 403-249-0423

Inquiries info@saintmichael.ca

Pastor Fr. Edmund Vargas
fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Jose Bustalino
frjose@saintmichael.ca

Deacon Dc. Randy Gritter
rgritter@saintmichael.ca

Parish Secretary Loreen Morrison
lmorrison@saintmichael.ca

Admin Assistant Pina Rino
prino@saintmichael.ca

Sacrament Coordinator Francesca Ambrosino
fambrosino@saintmichael.ca

Technical Director Kyle De Jaegher
kdejaegher@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

Bookkeeper accounting@saintmichael.ca