



# Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | [info@saintmichael.ca](mailto:info@saintmichael.ca) | March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

## Slow me down, Lord...

Today's long Gospel reading reminds us that Christianity is not about speed, short-cuts, or anesthesia. In truth, it is about length, pain, and suffering.

We now live in a world where pain and waiting are to be avoided at all cost. We have acquired a mentality that has a very low tolerance for anything that involves length, mistakes, and suffering. Our waiting has been reduced by super-fast procedures: superfast computers, automatic teller machines, fast food, instant messages, instant coffee, and instant marriages. Our threshold for pain and suffering has been minimized by so-called miracles of medical science and technology: Advil, Tylenol forte, abortion pill, and mercy-killing.

Even our relationships have been adversely affected by what we call a "computer" mentality which rejects human error and waiting time. Such mentality disposes us to seek quick solutions to long-term problems, especially in marriage and family life. We have developed a passion for painlessness and velocity. And we have lost our sense of direction and meaning.

Long time ago, Chase & Sanborn, a coffee company, ran an advertisement which read "Happiness does not come in an instant!" Of course, we know that the difference between brewed coffee and instant coffee is the quality that comes with the process.

Besides being person-oriented, Christian life is process-oriented. Resurrection comes only after passion and death. Christianity does not take away our problems and fears. It gives us the strength to face and endure them. It gives us a sense of Christian purpose and meaning. It makes us understand the meaning of our struggle for sanity.

Our life can be short and quick, but it has to have direction and meaning. Let us re-learn our sense of Christian purpose, which is rooted in the mysteries we celebrate these days. Life in the fast lane requires a consciousness of our Christian sense of direction. We have to hold on together with our Christian vision if we don't want to lose our way in this maze of quick fixes.

[fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto:fredmund@saintmichael.ca)

## Healing Lines

*"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is the he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest."* As we welcome Jesus this Palm Sunday, let us remember to welcome all around us as well. Jesus has always reminded us to take care of everyone, especially those who are most in need of our love and prayers. Some live in families and communities that are abusive, some are homeless, some are elderly and neglected.... Reach out to them all.

## Mass Schedule for this Weekend

Saturday, March 23 at 5pm: Fr. Edmund Vargas  
Sunday, March 24 at 8:30am: Morning Prayer with Fr. Jose Bustalino  
Sunday, March 24 at 9am: Fr. Jose Bustalino with Dc. Randy Gritter  
Sunday, March 24 at 11am: Fr. Edmund Vargas  
Sunday, March 24 at 5pm: Fr. Kevin Chukwurah



## Easter Schedule

*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](http://saintmichael.ca)

## Connect with us

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

Also, join Flocknote by texting **SMCYC** to **514-900-0130** or by visiting [flocknote.com/smcyc](http://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, and 5 pm

Sunday 11 am live-stream  
at [saintmichael.ca/Mass](http://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 (1-5):** All "*Lenten Insights*" are available here: <https://saintmichael.ca/bulletin-4th-sunday-lent-2/>

## Events and Announcements

### **Lenten Retreat: "You Are Called...." | Saturday, March 23, 2024 | Retreat 1:00-3:00pm, Confession 3:30-4:30pm, Mass 5:00pm**

There will be a Lenten Retreat at St. Michael Catholic Community on Saturday, March 23 sponsored by the Filipino Catholic Society of the Diocese of Calgary. The retreat will begin at 1:00pm, followed by confession at 3:30pm, and culminating in Mass at 5:00pm. The retreat will be lead by Fr. Edmund Vargas.

### **Incense | All 11:00am Masses and Special Occasions**

Incense will be used at all of the 11:00am Masses, including special occasions and funerals.

### **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).

### **2023 Tax Receipts**

2023 tax receipts have been mailed. If you have not received your receipt, please check with the office. Some receipts did not have an address and some were sent back to us with an incorrect address.

### **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

### **Collection Baskets are back this Easter...**

Those interested to volunteer for this undertaking, please contact the office. After all March 16 and 17 weekend Masses, the Finance Council reported on our finances and members were 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 SSVF, 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/>

### **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.

### **Divine Mercy Novena| Begins on Good Friday | March 29, 2024**

Divine Mercy Novena starts on Good Friday. A copy of the Divine Mercy Novena will be available at the entrance to the Day Chapel. For more information, please visit St. Michael's website at <https://saintmichael.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/divine-mercy-novena-2.pdf>

### **Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration | Sunday, April 7, 2024 | Reconciliation 1:15pm, Holy Hour 2:00pm, Reception 3:00pm**

There will be a Divine Mercy Celebration on Sunday, April 7, 2024. It will be begin with Reconciliation at 1:15 pm in the Confessional Rooms, followed by Holy Hour in the Day Chapel at 2:00pm, and Reception in the Narthex at 3:00pm. Please note that incense will be used during the celebration.

## 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/y1zSixLpthjMk6Gg7>

### 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.

### 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 adoror for one or more hours, click this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054EA8A623A7FD0-48428431-40hours>

### Fr. Edmund's 45th Year Celebration as a Priest | Friday, April 26, 2024 | Mass 6:00pm | Reception 7:00pm

Join Fr. Edmund in celebrating 45 years as a priest! The celebration will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus and will begin with Mass at 6:00pm, followed by a Reception at 7:00pm. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Wednesday, April 24 by signing up here: <https://forms.gle/7bW9NRcdvCUcNfbFA>

### 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.beloveddaughtersyc.com](http://www.beloveddaughtersyc.com)



### 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://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1218566>

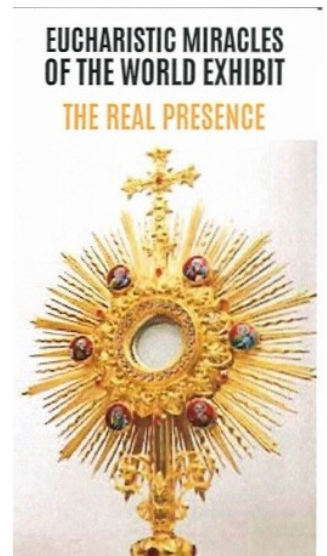
### Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:SSVP@saintmichael.ca) or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 122.



### March 2024:

March 23 | Sacrament for Teens | Pizza Party and Retreat | St. Nicholas Room | 12:00-2:00pm  
March 23 | Sacrament for Teens | Reconciliation | Reconciliation Rooms | 1:30pm  
March 23 | Lenten Retreat: "You Are Called..." | Day Chapel 1-3pm | Confessions 3:30-4:30pm | Sanctuary Mass 5:00pm  
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 | Cancelled: Women's Ministry Bible Study  
March 28 | Cancelled: Coffee Thursday  
March 28 | Cancelled: Moms and Tots  
March 28 | Cancelled: Knitting Ministry  
March 28 | Holy Thursday | No Daily Mass 9:00am | Sanctuary Mass 7:00pm | Day Chapel Adoration 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



 Saint Michael  
Catholic Community  
800 85 Street SW, Calgary  
May 24 - June 2, 2024

## 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](mailto: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:

|                      |                 |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Alessandro Bonvicini | Demy Navarro    | Rina VandeGeer  |
| Jojo Deleon          | Bill Dingman    | Bert Saunders   |
| Rosa Duri            | Joey Stevenson  | Cecile Manning  |
| Elizabeth Chandless  | Pietro Jr. Duri | Duncan Smith    |
| Helen Gal            | Aaron Armstrong | Evelyn Dumanski |

### 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](mailto: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    |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b><u>General Collections</u></b>          |             |             |             |
| 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    |
| <b><u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u></b> |             |             |             |
| Building Fund Collections                  | \$13,724    | \$18,512    | \$129,611   |
| <b><u>Current Loan Balance</u></b>         | \$3,698,763 | \$3,675,809 | \$3,653,177 |
| <b><u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u></b>     |             |             |             |
| Together in Action YTD                     | \$55,760    | \$62,408    | \$74,471    |
| <b>% TIA Goal \$121,243.00</b>             | 46%         | 51%         | 61%         |
| Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)      | \$3,473     | \$6,455     | \$25,278    |

## Mass Intentions

**Book an intention online at [saintmichael.ca](http://saintmichael.ca)**

### 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 †

### Tuesday, March 26: Tuesday of Holy Week

6 pm: Evangeline Caral †

### Wednesday, March 27: Wednesday of Holy Week

9 am: Ona Trudel †

### Thursday, March 28: Holy Thursday

7 pm: All Parishioners

### Friday, March 29: Good Friday

12 pm: All Parishioners

3 pm: All Parishioners

### Saturday, March 30: Holy Saturday

9 pm: James Esch †

### Sunday, March 31: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

9 am: Pedro Ganai †

11 am: For All Parishioners

5 pm: Intentions of Hurtado Family

## Contact Us

**For General** 403-249-0423

**Inquiries** [info@saintmichael.ca](mailto:info@saintmichael.ca)

**Pastor** Fr. Edmund Vargas  
[fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto:fredmund@saintmichael.ca)

**Associate Pastor** Fr. Jose Bustalino  
[frjose@saintmichael.ca](mailto:frjose@saintmichael.ca)

**Deacon** Dc. Randy Gritter  
[rgritter@saintmichael.ca](mailto:rgritter@saintmichael.ca)

**Parish Secretary** Loreen Morrison  
[lmorrison@saintmichael.ca](mailto:lmorrison@saintmichael.ca)

**Admin Assistant** Pina Rino  
[prino@saintmichael.ca](mailto:prino@saintmichael.ca)

**Sacrament Coordinator** Francesca Ambrosino  
[fambrosino@saintmichael.ca](mailto:fambrosino@saintmichael.ca)

**Technical Director** Kyle De Jaegher  
[kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca](mailto:kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca)

**Music Director** Jim Howells  
[jhowells@saintmichael.ca](mailto:jhowells@saintmichael.ca)

**Volunteer Coordinator** Marvin Matthews  
[mmatthews@saintmichael.ca](mailto:mmatthews@saintmichael.ca)

**Children's Liturgy Coordinator** Caroline Dixon  
[cdixon@saintmichael.ca](mailto:cdixon@saintmichael.ca)

**Bookkeeper** [accounting@saintmichael.ca](mailto:accounting@saintmichael.ca)