



Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | info@saintmichael.ca | December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

Our Ministry of Presence

The coming of Christ, as presented at the beginning of the new liturgical year, is a way of introducing His presence who has dwelt among us. Our Advent celebration is inspired by the spirit of John the Baptist whose detachment to material things and message of repentance speak of the emptiness and transformation required to make Christ's presence felt in our life experiences. Our Advent celebration focuses on Christ's coming into our lives.

We re-visit His presence in the sacraments, particularly in the Eucharist which He has commanded us to celebrate in His memory. We re-commit our faith in the Vicar of Christ on earth in the person of the Holy Father, the successor St. Peter as first among equals as Christ's apostles. We re-affirm Christ's presence in our midst as we gather in His holy name. We see His face present in the faces of our fellow human beings, redeemed by His own blood, especially in the poor and the needy.

We reckon His presence in the flashes of insight that open our eyes to His awesome power. We mirror His beauty and order in the beauty and order of His created world. The vastness of the galaxies and the intricacy of the human anatomy illustrate His impenetrable knowledge and understanding.

Our Advent celebration is our liturgical response to renew our faith in these various levels of Christ's presence in our lives. The season is about re-discovering Christ within ourselves. Advent is a time to be more aware of Christ's presence in our search for healing and reconciliation in the midst of human brokenness and division.

The Advent season is a period of re-strengthening our belief in God's becoming man. It is an opportunity to re-examine the far-reaching implications of the Mystery of Incarnation in our challenging journey towards Christian maturity.

May the season prepare us to make our own presence to others as Christ's presence to them. May our ministry of presence fill the absence of love and compassion in lives of so many in our midst. Like the presence of Christ, our ministry of presence is far more precious than all the presents we can give those whom we claim to love and care.

fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Healing Lines

Whether out of shame or anger, many women, as well as men, would rather ignore the reality that abuse occurs within the parishes. This is especially poignant because women are the backbone of most congregations. The tragic truth remains that female Church members are the victims of sexual harassment, including verbal abuse, physical abuse, rape, and assault. There are endless accounts of women who have experienced sexual abuse or harassment from co-workers in denominational headquarters.

Mass Schedule for this Weekend

Saturday, November 30 at 5:00 pm: Fr. Kelvin Chukwurah
Sunday, December 1 at 8:30 am Morning Prayer: Fr. Edmund Vargas
Sunday, December 1 at 9:00 am: Fr. Edmund Vargas
Sunday, December 1 at 11:00 am: Fr. Edmund Vargas
Sunday, December 1 at 5:00 pm: Fr. Kelvin Chukwurah

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: 6:00 pm

Wednesday to Friday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 am live-stream
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 noon

Home & Hospital Visits

If **you** or a **family member** is sick and 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.**

Serving the following hospitals:

Alberta Children's, Foothills, Peter Lougheed, Rockyview, and South Health Campus.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24: 4:00pm, 7:00pm (live-streamed), 10:00pm
Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25: Mass: 9:00am, 11:00am (with incense and live-streamed)
Boxing Day, Thursday, December 26: Daily Mass: 9:00am
Friday, December 27: Daily Mass: 9:00 am
Saturday, December 28: Regular Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 29: Regular Masses: 9:00am, 11:00am (with incense and live-streamed), 5:00 pm
New Years Eve, Tuesday, December 31: Mass: 5:00 pm
New Years Day, Wednesday, January 1: Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00am (with incense and live-streamed)

Events and Announcements

The Rite of Commissioning for All Liturgical Ministers | November 30 and December 1 | All Weekend Masses

The Rite of Commissioning for all Liturgical Ministers will be held at all the November 30 and December 1 weekend Masses. During these First Sunday of Advent Masses, Auxiliary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist (who require a written mandate from the Bishop) come forward after the homily and are joined by the other liturgical ministers in their respective places for this rite. The Liturgical ministers include, among others, Ushers, Hospitality Ministers, Sacristans, Lectors, Altar Servers, and Musicians. Ministry means doing something on behalf of Christ Himself.

St. Michael's Fundraiser | High-Quality Protein Products | Order by Sunday, December 1 | Pick-up Tuesday, December 10, 4:00-5:00pm

We are launching a parish-wide fundraising sale of high-quality protein products to help support our increasing needs as a community as we continue to witness God's love and compassion in our midst. With any purchase, you contribute to our Church's finances while enjoying some delicious food over the Advent and Christmas period. There are over 60 products to choose from! Your orders must be made by Sunday, December 1. The orders can be picked up on Tuesday, December 10, 4:00-5:00pm at St. Michael's Church. Please go to this link: [St. Michael Catholic Community – Fund Forward](https://www.saintmichael.ca/fund-forward)

Simbang Gabi Meeting | Sunday, December 1, 2024 | St. Michael's Room | After 11:00am Mass

There will be a Simbang Gabi meeting on Sunday, December 1 at 12:00pm noon (after the 11:00am Mass) in St. Michael's Room (SW Corner of the Church) in preparation for the December 21 Simbang Gabi Mass. Those interested to help, particularly our Filipino families, are encouraged to attend. Please bring lunch to share (optional). For details, please contact Fr. Edmund by email FrEdmund@saintmichael.ca or by text 403-874-2015.

CSSD Advent and Christmas High School Chorus Festival | Monday, December 2, 2024 | 7:00pm

The Calgary Catholic High Schools will return to St. Michael's for their annual Christmas Choral Festival on Monday, December 2 at 7:00pm featuring the talented voices of almost four hundred students! Parishioners are invited to support our Catholic students by attending this gala evening of entertainment and song.

Diocesan Advent Renewal Mission | Dec. 3, 4, 5, 2024 | Sanctuary | 7:00-8:30pm

Please join us for parish in-person gatherings in the Sanctuary on Dec. 3, 4, and 5 from 7:00-8:30pm. Each session will be led by various presenters: Tuesday, December 3: Brett Powell (Archdiocese of Vancouver) "*Form Missionary Disciples*". Wednesday, December 4: Bishop Scott McCaig (Military Ordinariate of Canada) "*Be a Church of Encounter and Witness*". Thursday, December 5: Mary Rose Bacani Valenti (Salt + Light TV) "*Strengthen Family Life*". The Mission is free. See you there!

Altar Server Celebration | Friday, December 6, 2024 | Mass 6:00pm | Pizza 7:00pm

A special Mass will be held on Friday, December 6, 2024 at 6:00pm for Altar Servers and their families. After the Mass, a celebration with pizza will follow. We encourage all members of the Altar Server Ministry and their families to attend.

"Immerse" Youth Night with Face-To-Face Ministries for Gr.6-8 | Saturday, December 7, 2024 | Sanctuary | 6:30-8:30pm

DATE AND TIME CHANGE: There will be a Youth Night for Grades 6, 7, and 8 with Face-To-Face Ministries on Saturday, December 7 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! Please note: this night is replacing the previous date of Wed. Dec. 18.

Potluck Sunday | Sunday, December 8, 2024 | Narthex | 6:00pm

The next Potluck Sunday will be on Sunday, December 8 at 6:00pm. This is a free event for all St. Michael's community. Please bring a main dish, bread, salad, pickles, vegetable tray, or dessert to share with others. Please bring your food ready to serve. Our monthly potluck expenses being re-imbursed by the parish amount to close to \$500. Interested families or individuals may consider contributing to this parish expense.

Hamper Delivery Day | Monday, December 16, 2024

Volunteers are still needed for preparing and wrapping gifts, setting up the hall, assembling, restocking, hamper loading, and delivery to recipients. Hamper Committee Volunteers will be available after all Masses to answer questions. You can sign up for your preferred volunteer slot any time: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BA8AC22A7FEC52-53266514-christmas>. Volunteers are asked to ensure they have completed the necessary paperwork required by the Diocese. To check if your volunteer requirements are up to date, please contact Marvin Matthews at MMatthews@saintmichael.ca. **Gifts for children:** The Angel Tree will be available in the gathering area after the 11:00am and 5:00pm Masses this Sunday. Help us by signing out an Angel and provide a child's special gift to be included with their family's hamper. If you signed out an Angel last week, please don't forget to return it by the deadline, or call the parish office so that a substitute gift can be provided. **Referrals:** Referrals for a hamper are accepted from parish schools, and through the SSVP intake line at 403-249-0423, extension 122. **Donate:** We provide this program only with the generous financial support of our parishioners. Donations may be made via: * the collection box, noted for Christmas Hampers, * online at saintmichael.ca/giving, * tax receipts will be issued in Jan 2025. Questions? Send to christmashampers@saintmichael.ca.



Catholic Women's League | Membership Drive and Family Fun Raffle | Tickets Available until December 16 | Prizes Drawn on December 17

The CWL is now accepting membership renewals and new members for 2025. Membership fees are \$35/year and can be paid by E-transfer to: smcwl-treasurer@gmail.com with the word "membership" in the details, or by cheque payable to St. Michael's CWL, or cash to the parish office. Please include your contact details. Thanks to those who have already renewed their memberships, and a special welcome to our new members! We also recently kicked off our "Family Fun" themed raffle. Thanks to those who have already purchased tickets/donated. Tickets are \$5 each and are available through December 16 by E-transfer to: smcwl-treasurer@gmail.com Please include your name and phone number. Prizes will be drawn on December 17. / 1st Prize: "Family Fun" themed gift basket valued at \$300 / 2nd Prize: Promix Stand Mixer with baking accessories and mixes valued at \$110 / 3rd Prize: \$50 Visa gift card AGLC Raffle Licence #715200.

Events and Announcements

Parish-Wide Advent Reconciliation Night | Thursday, December 19, 2024 | Sanctuary | 7:00-9:00pm

There will be a parish-wide Reconciliation Night on Thursday, December 19, 2024 from 7:00-9:00pm. There will be a number of priests available to hear confessions.

"One Starry Night" Children's Christmas Nativity Pageant | Friday, December 20, 2024 | Sanctuary | Mass 6:00pm | Pageant 6:30pm

Rehearsals are now underway for our Children's Nativity Pageant! The sing-up genius is now closed. Please join us on Friday, December 20 with Mass at 6:00pm followed by the Nativity Pageant at 6:30pm and Cookies and Juice afterwards. All are welcome!

Simbang Gabi | Saturday, December 21, 2024 | Sanctuary | Carols 6:30pm | Mass 7:00pm | Reception 7:30pm

Simbang Gabi Mass will be celebrated at our parish on Saturday, December 21, 2024 at 7:00pm, preceded by Carols at 6:30pm. This will be followed by a reception. Filipino families are encouraged to email Fr. Edmund at FrEdmund@saintmichael.ca or text him at 403-874-2015 if you are interested to help contribute to the reception.

Pilgrimage to Rome 2025 | November 19-27, 2025

Consider joining Fr. Edmund on a holy pilgrimage to Rome on November 19-27 this coming Holy Year 2025! This is a special time to visit the very heart of the Church on Her jubilee year, a tradition with biblical roots, re-started in 1300 AD. We visit the seven (7) designated Jubilee Churches, including the four major basilicas of St. Peter's, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls. We enter the Holy Door (Porta Sancta) at St. Peter's, Basilica, the Scala Santa, the catacombs, and other holy places. We will also see Pope Francis in a general audience on Sunday, November 23 and on Wednesday, November 26. We also make a road trip to Assisi where St. Francis started his ministry of renewal. Please check it out online at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1241218>. For more details, contact Fr. Edmund at efvar-gas@shaw.ca or 403-249-0423, ext.108.

Pastoral Council Update

Pastoral Council met on November 26, 2024 - our last meeting of the year. A few highlights of our discussions, and wonderful ways to begin the season of Advent and support SMCC include: * The High School Choral Festival at SMCC on December 2, * The Diocesan Advent Renewal Mission on December 3 – 5, * The Fund Forward Fundraiser of high-quality protein-products (closes on December 1). Watch the website, the bulletin, and Flocknote messages in your inbox for more details. Meeting minutes from November 26 will be available on the website after our next meeting on January 28, 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 October, or any past meeting, please go to: <http://saintmichael.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SMCC-Pastoral-Council-Minutes-of-Meeting-October-29-2024-Bulletin.pdf>. We wish all parishioners and their families a happy and holy Advent, and blessings for peace and joy at Christmas!

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 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 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>

Pulpitations by Fr. Edmund Vargas

Check out this article featuring our beloved Pastor and his recent publication, Pulpitations. The book is excellent and thoughtful work!
<https://www.catholiccy.ca/blog/pulpitations>



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](#)

Weekly Events:

Sundays: *Children's Liturgy:* Guardian Angel Room, Session A: 8:30am and Session B: 10:30am/ *Coffee Connection:* After 9am and 11am Mass
Mondays: *Bible Study:* St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm
Tuesdays: *Rosary Group:* Day Chapel, 6:30pm / *RCIA:* St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm
Wednesdays: *Coffee Connection:* 9:30am / *Men's Ministry:* Theatre, 6:00-7:30am / *Women's Ministry Bible Study:* at the Church 9:30am-12:00pm or Zoom 7-9pm
Thursdays: *Moms and Tots:* St. Nicholas Room, 9:30-11:30am / *Knitting Ministry:* Library, 10:00am-12:00pm

December 2024:

Nov. 30 & Dec. 1 | Volunteer Sign Up for Christmas Hampers & Angel Tree Gift Tag Distribution | Narthex | After All Weekend Masses
December 1 | Fundraiser: Orders Close
December 1 | Children's Nativity Pageant Rehearsal | Sanctuary | 12:00-2:00pm
December 2 | Calgary Catholic School District Advent & Christmas High School Choral Festival 2024 | Sanctuary | 7:00pm
December 3, 4, 5 | Diocesan Advent Renewal Mission | Sanctuary | 7:00-8:30pm
December 6 | Altar Server Celebration | Mass 6:00pm | Pizza 7:00pm
December 7 | **NEW DATE AND TIME:** Face-to-Face Ministries for Gr. 6-8 | Sanctuary | 6:30-8:30pm
December 8 | Children's Nativity Pageant Rehearsal | Sanctuary | 12:00-2:00pm
December 8 | Potluck Sunday | Narthex | 6:00pm
December 10 | Fundraiser: Pick Up Orders | 4:00-5:00pm
December 10 | CWL Monthly Meeting | St. Michael's Room | 6:30pm
December 12 | CANCELLED: Moms & Tots
December 15 | CANCELLED: Coffee Sunday
December 15 | Children's Nativity Pageant Rehearsal | Sanctuary | 12:00-2:00pm
December 16 | Christmas Hamper Delivery Day
December 19 | Parish Wide Reconciliation Night | Sanctuary | 7:00-9:00pm
December 19 | CANCELLED: Knights of Columbus Meeting
December 20 | Children's Nativity Pageant | Sanctuary | Mass 6:00pm | Pageant 6:30pm | Cookies & Juice 7:30pm
December 21 | Simbang Gabi | Sanctuary | Caroling 6:30pm | Mass 7:00pm | Reception 7:30pm
December 22 & 29 & January 5 | CANCELLED: Children's Liturgy
December 29 | CANCELLED: Coffee Sunday
December 24 - January 1 | Office Closed

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:

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 George
Julian Dumanski
Maria Duri
Pietro Duri Jr.
Peitro Duri Sr.
Rosa Duri

Talia Duri
Nenite Mirales
Gioia Ceccarini
Helen Gal
Pat Burchnell

For the Souls of:

Funeral:

Edgardo Abad

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Viewing: 9:00-11:00am / Funeral Mass: 11:00am / Reception: 12:00pm

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.

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

	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024
General Collections			
Collections	\$75,187	\$81,345	\$120,684
Other Income	\$27,514	\$26,566	\$32,644
Operating Costs	\$127,350	\$119,780	\$124,803
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Optg Costs	(\$24,649)	(\$11,869)	\$25,525
Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)			
Building Fund Collections	\$11,057	\$16,674	\$16,540
Current Loan Balance	\$3,467,753	\$3,444,039	\$3,420,620
Diocesan Annual Campaign			
Together in Action YTD	\$34,565	\$37,456	\$40,428
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	28.5%	30.8%	33%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$1,928	\$3,733	\$7,333

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, November 30:

5 pm: Deceased Members of Brisinda and Tallerico Families †

Sunday, December 1: 1st Sunday of Advent

9 am: Mirko Ilic †

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's

5 pm: Marie Rocha †

Tuesday, December 3:

6 pm: Ma Estrella Villablanca †

Wednesday, December 4:

9 am: Jelica and Draqtin Kolenda †

Thursday, December 5:

9 am: Intentions of Kolenda Family

Friday, December 6:

9 am: Davor Skoplyakovic †

Saturday, December 7:

5 pm: Intentions of Hurtado Family

Sunday, December 8: 2nd Sunday of Advent

9 am: Intentions of Angie Marsales

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's

5 pm: Antonio Vespa †

Contact Us

For General 403-249-0423

Inquiries info@saintmichael.ca

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