



# Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW  
Calgary, Alberta  
T3H 4C7

April 13, 2025: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

## Lent and Easter Schedule



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

**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

## The Story of the Donkey

There is a story about a poor farmer who had a donkey which was so stupid to do any work. It could not carry anything on its back. So, he told his family that he was going to kill the donkey. But his children begged him to sell it, rather than harm it. *"How can I sell an animal that won't work?"*, the father insisted. His son suggested: *"Father, tie the donkey to a tree on the road to town and let it be known that whoever wants it may have it for nothing."* The next morning, that was what the farmer did. Soon, two men approached and asked to take the animal. *"It will carry nothing"*, the farmer warned the takers. *"The Lord has need for it"*, replied one of the men. The farmer could not imagine what the Lord would want with such a useless donkey, but handed it over. The men took the animal to Jesus. Jesus stroked the sweet animal's face and then mounted it without trouble. So it was on that day we celebrate today as Palm Sunday, riding on the back of this tiny donkey, the Son of God led His followers into Jerusalem.

There is one lesson in this story that is central to our Christian life. The donkey, the rejected animal, is a figure of Christ Himself, Who is to be later rejected by His own people and eventually become their Savior. In Scriptures, Christ is referred to as the *"stone rejected by the builder that has become the cornerstone..."* (Mt 21:42)

The people and circumstances we tend to reject are the same people and circumstances that become our salvation. God chooses the weak to confound the strong: He chooses the foolish to shame the wise. (1 Cor 1:27) When God strokes our faces, we realize our limitless possibilities. When we submit to God our own faults and failures, we are filled with His grace and blessing. It is in our weakness that God's power is at work in us.

As we join Jesus in His triumphant entry to Jerusalem, let us take with us our wounds and weaknesses so that He can transform them into a source of our healing and strength through the power of His resurrection.

Fr. Edmund, [fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:info@saintmichael.ca)

### Pastor:

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

### Associate Pastor:

Fr. Kelvin Chukwurah [frkelvin@saintmichael.ca](mailto:frkelvin@saintmichael.ca)

### Secretary:

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

### Administration Assistant:

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### Sacrament Coordinator/Columbarium Manager:

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### 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)

### Technical Director:

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

### Bookkeeper:

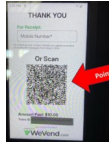
Michelle Gregory [accounting@saintmichael.ca](mailto:accounting@saintmichael.ca)

## Healing Lines...

"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is 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 those 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, some are discriminated against.... Reach out to them all.



**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. The **Tap and give** device prompts you to provide a mobile number for a text receipt and/or a QR code. If you require a tax receipt at year's end, we need copies of your receipts and the last four (4) digits of the card(s) used. As a standard practice, tap machines do not access any personal information, except the last four (4) digits of the bank card.



## Good Friday April 18

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Fasting by eating one regular meal and two smaller meals (that together do not equal the regular meal in size), and please observe abstinence from meat (obligatory for Catholics 18-59 years old).



## Parish Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist

APRIL 12/13 PALM SUNDAY AND APRIL 19/20 EASTER WEEKEND PARISH CONSECRATION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

The Fr. Jonathan Meyer video will NOT be shown prior to Mass these two weekends and consecration preparation readings will be paused and restarted on April 26/27. Our focus during this time will be on the Passion of Christ in this Holy Week. As we walk through His Passion may we remember He is present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Tabernacle in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. St. Faustina wrote, "You wanted to stay with us, and so You left us Yourself in the Sacrament of the Altar, and You opened wide Your mercy to us. You opened an inexhaustible spring of mercy for us, giving us Your dearest possession, the Blood and Water, that gushed forth from Your Heart." Sit with Him awhile and sooth His suffering as He has gone to the Cross to pour out His mercy. The Tabernacle is available for prayer Monday - Sunday 8:00am-8:00pm. Any questions or comments click on this link: <https://forms.gle/XSxAXUPWACLHbdBr7>



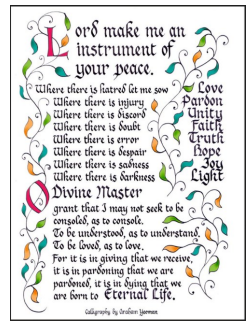
## Eucharistic Adoration

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 Lenten 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#/>



## 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 in the Day Chapel 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 (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.**



## 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.



## Righteous Sounds of the Passion

The Inspiration Band (Sunday Evening Mass) presents its live performance of powerful music selections for this Lenten season. Join us on Saturday, April 12 at 7:30pm in the Mezzanine. Free event.



## Fr. Edmund @46!

Come and celebrate with our community on Friday, April 25 as Fr. Edmund continues to share God's gift of priesthood with us. Eucharist (Mass) is at 6:00pm, followed by fellowship (reception). If staying for the reception, please RSVP to [efvargas@shaw.ca](mailto: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, 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.



## Divine Mercy Sunday

Please join us for a Divine Mercy Celebration on Sunday, April 27. It will begin with Reconciliation from 1:15-2:00pm, followed by a Service and Holy Hour from 2:00-3:00pm. Chaplet of Divine Mercy; Divine mercy praises; Homily; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Adoration/Meditation; and Benediction. Please note that incense will be used during the celebration.



## **Women's Ministry**

"The Glorious Mysteries", a 7 week study bible study by Paradisus Dei, will be offered from April 30-June 11. In person sessions will be on Wednesdays from 9:30am-12:00pm at and ZOOM sessions will be on Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00pm. Please register at [womensministry@saintmichael.ca](mailto:womensministry@saintmichael.ca).



## **SMCC Vacation Bible Camp 2025**

"TRUE NORTH" Online Registration is now open! Online registration is required ASAP. Please click [HERE](#) for more information and to register your family. Questions? Please contact our Children's Liturgy Coordinator - Mrs. Caroline Dixon at [cdixon@saintmichael.ca](mailto:cdixon@saintmichael.ca) or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 105.



## **Fund Forward Fundraiser**

**Now Closed.**



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

You may pick up your orders in front of the Church on Tuesday, April 15 between 4:30-5:30pm. Thank you for your support!

## **The Divine Mercy Novena**

Jesus asked St. Faustina to pray a Novena to the Divine Mercy beginning on Good Friday and ending on the following Sunday (The Feast of Divine Mercy.) "On each day of the novena, you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy". The Divine Mercy Novena is available at St. Michael's website.



## **Parish Renewal**

On March 29, our ministry leaders and Parish Renewal Team gathered for our Parish Renewal Planning Day, a grace-filled time of prayer, discussion, and discernment. Through the Holy Spirit's guidance, we reflected on the path ahead and identified key areas to grow as a parish community. This is just the beginning - our renewal journey continues! The next step is developing an initial draft of our Parish Renewal Plan, incorporating the insights and discernment from this gathering. We invite you to continue praying for this process as we move forward. *Parish Renewal Survey Results and Team Update* are available in the Narthex and by the Day Chapel. Thank you for walking this journey with us!



## **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 30. 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>



## **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.



## **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 2:30-3:30pm. 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>



## **Pilgrimage to Rome 2025**

The deadline for registration for the Holy Pilgrimage with Fr. Edmund to Rome on November 19-27 this Jubilee Year is **May 20, 2025**. Bookings after this date will not be guaranteed with the original rates, including flights. To book, please follow this link at <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1241218>. For more details, contact Fr Edmund at [efvargas@shaw.ca](mailto:efvargas@shaw.ca) or (403) 8742015.



## **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul**

NEED ASSISTANCE? Contact [SSVP@saintmichael.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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. Apr. 12 - Sun. Apr. 20, 2025):****Saturday April 12:**

Confirmation Retreat: 9:00am-4:00pm  
 Righteous Sounds Concert: Mezzanine, 7:30pm

**Sunday April 13:**

Cancelled: Children's Liturgy  
 Coffee Connection: After 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

**Monday April 14:**

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

**Tuesday April 15:**

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm  
 RCIA: St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm

**Wednesday April 16:**

Men's Ministry: Theatre, 6:00-7:30am  
 Coffee Connection: After 9:00am Mass  
 Cancelled: Women's Ministry

**Thursday April 17:**

Holy Thursday: Sanctuary Mass 7:00pm, Day Chapel Adoration to Follow  
 Knitting Ministry: Cancelled  
 Cancelled: Knights of Columbus Meeting

**Friday April 18:**

Reconciliation: 8:00-8:45am  
 Good Friday Services: 12:00pm & 3:00pm

**Saturday April 19:**

Reconciliation: 3:30-4:45pm  
 Easter Vigil: Mass 9:00pm

**Sunday April 20:**

Easter Sunday: Masses 9:00am, 11:00am & 5:00pm  
 Cancelled: Children's Liturgy  
 Cancelled: Coffee Connection

**Gifts to the Parish**

|                                          | January<br>2025 | February<br>2025 | March<br>2025 |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| <b>General Collections</b>               |                 |                  |               |
| Collections                              | \$107,778       | \$81,129         | \$93,127      |
| Other Income                             | \$11,865        | \$29,904         | \$12,526      |
| Operating Costs                          | \$118,929       | \$126,188        | \$122,740     |
| Surplus (Shortfall)                      | \$714           | (\$15,155)       | (\$17,087)    |
| <b>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</b>      |                 |                  |               |
| Building Fund Collections                | \$112,737       | \$12,382         | \$19,888      |
| <b>Current Loan Balance</b>              | \$3,349,592     | \$3,324,682      | \$3,300,859   |
| <b>Diocesan Annual Campaign</b>          |                 |                  |               |
| Together in Action<br>Year-to-Date       | \$49,900        | \$52,238         | \$58,525      |
| <b>% TIA Goal \$121,243.00</b>           | 41%             | 43.1%            | 48%           |
| Society St. Vincent de Paul<br>(monthly) | \$8,462         | \$1,103          | \$2,320       |

**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, April 12:**

5 pm: Hoan Luong † (Fr. Edmund)

**Sunday, April 13:**

9 am: Intentions Susan Beischel (Fr. Kelvin)  
 11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Edmund)  
 5 pm: Carmen Delaluz † (Fr. Kelvin)

**Tuesday, April 15:**

6 pm: Graciela Otalara † (Fr. Edmund)

**Wednesday, April 16:**

9 am: Zenaida Ocampo † (Fr. Edmund)

**Thursday, April 17:**

7 pm: For the People of God at St. Michael's  
 (Fr. Edmund Celebrant, Fr. Kelvin Concelebrant)

**Friday, April 18:**

12 pm: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Kelvin)  
 3 pm: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Edmund)

**Saturday, April 19:**

5 pm: Ruth Roach †  
 (Fr. Edmund Celebrant, Fr. Kelvin Concelebrant)

**Sunday, April 20:**

9 am: Eleno Laga † (Fr. Kelvin)  
 11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael's (Fr. Edmund)  
 5 pm: Alvaro Fernandez † (Fr. Kelvin)

**Please Pray For:**

*Please contact the office with your request.*

Scot C. Smith, Rina VandeGeer, Sylvester Joseph, Duri Family,  
 Helen Gal, Lenore Youngberg, Elizabeth DeCoste, Alice  
 Flamand, Carlos Jensen, Martha Gonzalez, Maria Rube de  
 Vera, Peter C., Yvon Arseneault, Rica De Vera, Stella Knorr

**For the Souls Of:**

None.

**Funeral:**

None.

**Pray For Our Seminarians:**

Please pray for vocations in our Diocese.

**Eternal Springs Columbarium:**

For pricing or more information,  
 please email: [columbarium@saintmichael.ca](mailto:columbarium@saintmichael.ca).

**E-Transfer:**

Sign in to your own banking institution and e-transfer the  
 amount to: [isupport@saintmichael.ca](mailto: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**.