



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3H 4C7

April 6, 2025: 5th 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



The Lazarus Prototype

The ancient Bethany is the present-day Arab village of El Azaryia, situated on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem. Along the side of a steep narrow earth road, a grotto-type structure features a stairway cut in limestone rock that leads to an underground chamber, commonly known as the Tomb of Lazarus. This is the scene of one of the most acclaimed miracles of Christ which is featured in today's gospel. This miracle, which strengthened the faith of the early believers, made the religious leaders more determined to destroy Jesus.

The story of the resurrection of Lazarus has always been considered a proto-type of our spiritual conversion. His physical death is typical of our spiritual death. Just as Christ went to the tomb of Lazarus to resurrect and liberate him, He comes to our dead and dying world to regenerate us by conversion. He comes to liberate us from the encumbrances of spiritual grave clothes: old bad habits, rags of self-righteousness, and unwillingness to forgive. Christ comes to our lives to destroy the darkness in our souls and enlighten our minds to inspire and guide us in our journey back to our heavenly Father. He has come to redeem us, to rescue us from the clutches of the sin and death.

The miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead represents the power of Christ's own resurrection and its saving efficacy to liberate us from sin and death, which is also a consequence of sin.

As we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection, let us re-learn to associate our own trials and tribulations with the saving sacrifice of Christ on the cross. As we prepare to celebrate Christ's death on the cross, especially on Good Friday, let us have the courage to approach His rich mercy and forgiveness.

In a revelation to St. Faustina in October 1937, Jesus requested daily prayer at 3 pm to honor the hour of His death and to implore mercy for sinners. *"If only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of My death. This is the hour of mercy for the whole world... In this hour, I refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion."* (Diary, 1320) The Feast of the Divine Mercy is celebrated in our Church and in many other churches on the Sunday after Easter Sunday, April 27, starting at 2 pm and ending at 3 pm when we remember the hour of Christ's death on the cross.

May these last days of the Lenten period help us to come forth from our spiritual grave to the overflowing grace of God's liberating love and mercy.

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:

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Healing Lines...

We are all sinners but have clear choices to make amends and alter our behavior. We can never know what others are going through but can choose to respond in non-violent ways and to assist those who have been bullied or abused, or those who choose to be a bully or an abuser.



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 Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist

DAY 10 THERESE OF LISIEUX: JESUS IN EVERY TABERNACLE
"Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you? He burns with the desire to come into your heart."
Please read Day 10 in your *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book. Here is a reflection by Fr. Jonathan Meyer: [Day 10 The Little Things](#) For more info or to sign up for an adoration time slot, click on this link: <https://sites.google.com/view/st-michael-eucharist-adoration/home>. The book is now available for purchase in the bookstore for \$5.



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!

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 efvar-gas@shaw.ca or 403-874-2015.



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.**



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>



Feed the Hungry

Thank you to all who signed up to volunteer at Feed the Hungry! All spots for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27 are now full. Our next opportunity to serve as a community will be on Fathers' Day, June 15. Please watch for sign-up sheets in the Narthex after the May long weekend.

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 or phone 403-249-0423, ext. 105.



Fund Forward Fundraiser

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.



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.



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, a service at 2:00pm, followed by a Holy Hour Celebration: 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.



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>



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.



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>



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.



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. Apr. 5 - Sun. Apr. 13, 2025):



Saturday April 5:

No events.

Sunday April 6:

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

Potluck Sunday & Name Tag Sunday: Narthex, 7:00pm

Monday April 7:

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

Tuesday April 8:

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

CWL Meeting: St. Michael's Room, 6:30pm

RCIA: Youth Theater Basement, 7:00-9:00pm

Wednesday April 9:

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

Coffee Connection: After 9:00am Mass

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

Thursday April 10:

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

Friday April 11:

Mass for Lent: Sanctuary, 6:00pm

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

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

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 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)

Tuesday, April 8:

7 pm: Intentions Matt Miciula & Family (Fr. Kelvin)

Wednesday, April 9:

9 am: Ryan Summers † (Fr. Kelvin)

Thursday, April 10:

9 am: Neville Currie † (Fr. Edmund)

Friday, April 11:

9 am: Yvon Gaudet † (Fr. Edmund)

6 pm: Intentions Vernon & Michelle Pereira (Fr. Kelvin)

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)

For the Souls Of:

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: support@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		