



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3H 4C7

November 16, 2025: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Next Reality

Our extreme experiences in life make us feel the emptiness that lingers when we face the end of our life as we know it. They make us become sensitive to life's basic issues, especially physical as well as spiritual survival. Being at the edge of this earthly existence, we are inspired or forced to confront the next reality, beyond physical life and beyond the network of our personal relationships. True religion is born and built on tested faith, applied hope and activated love, often ushered in by the extreme circumstances of life.

The gospel selection indicates that we are almost at the end of a liturgical cycle. The last days of a year always feature evaluations or reports on what is going on. Jesus gives us today a report on the last days. It seems that all would go wrong: revolutions, fights among nations, natural disasters, extreme weather disturbances, signs in the skies, betrayals, and a litany of all other apocalyptic fears. Jesus explains that the end has to do with His appearance in glory, the moment that He will declare, "I am He!"

Yet, Jesus speaks about endurance and perseverance, words that do not refer to just a moment. These words refer to something that takes time, something that lasts. The end will surely come. It is matter of time. As it were, Jesus has sowed the seed and lit the light. Now it is the time of development, growth, and fermentation. We have become impatient and even intolerant with waiting. We have to change... We have to develop endurance and perseverance. So much in us has to change. We have to be more patient in allowing God's grace to work in our lives and in our world. By God's grace and our perseverance, we will secure our lives to the end. The current anxiety over the end of the world is similar to the expectation of the Thessalonians about Christ's imminent return. This end-of-the-world syndrome has to be approached with the same recommendation prescribed by Paul in his letter to them. During Paul's time, the expectation of Christ's imminent return was construed as an excuse for giving up productive work, a license for social irresponsibility, and an alibi to act as pious busybodies. Paul's rule that "anyone unwilling to work, should not eat" was invoked in the context of this mentality.

We still have to continue to tackle today's tasks and challenges. After all, eternity is shaped by today's efforts. Today's gospel exhortation is courageous constancy amidst fear and anxiety. In all our troubles, we have to see the opportunity to witness to our faith, confident of God's grace and our ultimate redemption. We have to live our life in accordance with the will of God. We have to be more conscientious with doing His will in everything we do, or plan to do, in this journey from our earthly life to the eternal life Christ has won for all of us.

We have to become enduring witnesses to Christ's resurrection and its promise of eternal life until we come to the moment when we behold Christ's glory by living our life with perseverance and endurance amidst difficulties and challenges.

Fr. Edmund, fredmund@saintmichael.ca

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 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 8:00 pm

Office Hours:

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

Office:

Phone: 403-249-0423 info@saintmichael.ca

Pastor:

Fr. Edmund Vargas fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor:

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Anointing of the Sick:

Diocese of Calgary Call Center:
403-231-9505

Alberta Children Hospital; Foothills Hospital;
Peter Lougheed Hospital; Rockyview General

Healing Lines

Reflecting on the end of our own life and the end of the world, we continue to pray for those who are upset because of their fear for the future, for people, especially children, who are abused in their homes or place of work and for those who love and hate us. We have to work for the coming of God's kingdom in our world through our respective professions or state of life. May our Eucharistic celebration, that relives the endurance and perseverance of our Lord Jesus in His suffering and death on the cross, inspire in all of us, these same virtues of endurance and perseverance as we continue to tackle daily tasks with their inherent difficulties and challenges. May the Bread of Life we all share in Holy Communion transform us into a people who work towards the life that Christ has won for us through His resurrection.



Seeds of the Word

The Seeds of the Word Community will be selling their baked and homemade goods in the Narthex after each of the Masses on the weekend of November 15 and 16. Our bread and cookies, as well as creations from our arts office, all made by the Seeds of the Word Community, will be available for sale. All proceeds will be used in order to help cover the cost of printing the 2026 Lectio Divina Compendium. Thank you for your generous support of our Community and its mission in spreading the Word of God!



Book Tour: "Things We Wish Our Kids Knew"

An Evening for Parents: Join us for an inspiring evening with international bestselling author and speaker Michael Chiasson on Thursday, November 27 from 7:00-9:00pm. This event is part of the *Access52 Book Tour* and is a powerful opportunity for parents to connect, reflect, and be encouraged. This is a free event and you may register with the QR Code here or with the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/book-tour-calgary-tickets-1871877829979?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>



Advent Renewal Diocesan Retreat (Day Chapel)

Saturday, December 6, 9:30am to 12:30pm.

Coffee and muffins will be served in the Narthex at 9:00am.

Were you tired and worn out before Christmas last year? Did you spend enough time preparing for the true reason for the season? If you could have a "do over" would you take it? This year, why not begin your Christmas preparations with a half-day Advent retreat that will renew your spirit of listening as you enter the holy season of Advent. Join Archbishop Terrence Prendergast for a reflective diocesan retreat on how the living Word of God shapes our hearts for discipleship and mission. He is the author of *Living God's Word: Reflections on the Sunday Readings (Years A, B & C)*, a three-volume series based on his Gospel reflections originally published in *The Catholic Register*, Canada's national Catholic newspaper. The archbishop is full of guidance and wisdom that will aid us all in our journey through Advent.



Elevator Upgrade

An elevator upgrade work will be underway for two weeks (November 10-21). The elevator will be taken out of service for the entire time. We apologize for the inconvenience... Those who are interested in supporting this special project (\$61,766.14 +tax) may contact the Office or Fr Edmund for details.



Altar Servers Recognition Mass

The Serra Club of Calgary is organizing a special Mass at St. Michael Catholic Community for all altar servers in the Diocese of Calgary. The Mass will be celebrated by The Most Rev. William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary on Sunday, November 23, 2025 at 1:00pm. If you plan to attend, please register in advance. For more information, contact Hardy Del Castillo at 587-703-1585.



Fall Fundraiser

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 placed by Sunday, November 30 and can be picked up on Tuesday, December 9 from 4:00-5:00 pm at St. Michael's Church. Please go to this link: [St. Michael's 2025 Fall Fundraiser – Fund Forward](#)



Elevation Youth Group (Gr. 4-6)

Youths in Grade 4-6 are invited to join our brand new youth group: *ELEVATION youth!* Join us on Fridays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the St. Nicholas room for devotions, snacks, games, faith, and fun! The next session of the program is on November 21 and will run until the spring. Pre-registration is required and capacity is dependent on volunteer availability. Register by scanning the QR code or by emailing youth@saintmichael.ca. All are welcome! We are also looking for volunteers to supervise activities, help with games, and provide a small snack for the group each week. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Gladys Doh gdoh@saintmichael.ca or our group leader Abigail Lewis at youth@saintmichael.ca.



Christmas Craft Market

Looking for beautiful local, handmade gifts and Catholic items? Join us at the St. Michael's Christmas Craft Market on Sunday, November 30, 2025 after 9am and 11am Mass until 2pm. Located upstairs in the Mezzanine. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Natalia Januszewski by phone: 825-558-7300 or email: nataliajan101@gmail.com.



RCIA Sponsors Needed!

RCIA began on Tuesday, September 9 at St. Michael's, and we are looking for Sponsors for our new catechumens and candidates. In order to be a Sponsor, you must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic over the age of 16. If married, you must be married in the Catholic Church. Sponsors are asked to attend sessions every Tuesday night from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, and accompany their candidate to Mass on Sundays. If you feel called to be a Sponsor, please contact Don at bryantdon40@gmail.com.



Children's Liturgy of the Word 2025/2026

Beginning Sunday, October 19, 2025, Children's Liturgy of the Word Session "A" 8:30am will resume as requested. If you haven't already done so, please register your child online [HERE](#). Questions? Concerns? Please contact the Children's Liturgy Coordinator (Mrs. Dixon) at cdixon@saintmichael.ca



Children's Nativity Pageant: "Joy to the World"

Our annual St. Michael's Children's Nativity Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary. Casting call is now open.

Attention ALL CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES and KIDS' KINGDOM FAMILIES: "Casting Call" online registration is now open!! Please register your child/youth in order to participate in this timeless family tradition [HERE](#).

First rehearsal/costume fitting/info session is scheduled for Sunday, November 16 following the 11:00am Mass in the Guardian Angels Room. Final Cast List (registration cut-off) will be Sunday, November 23 (Feast of Christ the King). Questions? Please contact Mrs. Caroline Dixon (Children's Liturgy Coordinator) cdixon@saintmichael.ca or call 403-249-0423.

The Rite of Commissioning for All Liturgical Ministers



The Rite of Commissioning for all Liturgical Ministers will be held at all the November 29 and November 30 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.

Strengthening Our Legacy Together



Catholic education is a constitutional right and a precious gift that has shaped our province for generations. Through the Calgary Catholic School District, over 64,000 students are formed in knowledge, faith, and service. The Calgary Catholic Education Foundation (CCEF) helps enrich this experience by providing resources that inspire leadership, inclusion, and innovation in our classrooms. As we prepare for Catholic Education Sunday next weekend on November 22 and 23, let us continue to pray for and support those who make Catholic education possible for every child.

Saturday Night Lights

Youths in grades 7-12 are invited to an evening of music, food, friendships, and talks hosted by Access 52. Dates for the evenings are November 29, January 10, February 14, and April 25. This is a free event. You may register by scanning the QR Code or visiting the website <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/saturday-night-lights-youth-group-october-25-tickets-1708730341449?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.



Christmas Hamper Program

"You, O Lord, are my hope." (Ps 71:5)

Hamper Day: Monday, December 15, 2025.

Today the Church marks the annual World Day of the Poor and this scripture inspires our response. Here's how to help:

Volunteers: Next week (November 23/24), members of the Hamper Organizing Committee will be in the gathering area after all Masses to answer questions and assist with signing up volunteers. Help is needed with preparing and wrapping gifts, setting up the hall, assembling, restocking, hamper loading, and delivery to recipients. Watch for a QR Code to our sign-up page, which will be posted on the website next week. Volunteers are asked to ensure they have completed the necessary paperwork to register as a volunteer. To check if your volunteer requirements are up to date, please contact Gladys Doh gdoh@saintmichael.ca

Gifts for Children: Our hampers include gifts for all school-aged children, via the Angel Tree. The Angel Tree will be available in the Narthex after select Masses on the weekend of November 22 and 23, and again on November 29 and 30. Help us by signing out an Angel and provide a child's special gift to be included with their family's hamper.

Referrals: Referrals for a hamper are accepted from parish schools, and through the SSVP intake line at 825-417-1720

Donate: We provide this program only through the generous financial support of our parishioners. Donations may be made:

- * the collection box, noted for Christmas Hampers,
- * online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/33185>
- * or via this QR Code:



Tax receipts will be issued in Jan 2026.

Questions: christmashampers@saintmichael.ca

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Need assistance? Contact SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone 825-417-1720. 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: SSVP@saintmichael.ca. Annual Report: <https://www.ssvpstmichael.ca/annual-report-2024/>

Diocese of Calgary Beyond Bulletin (Full Version):

[Diocesan Info for Parishioners - Sunday Updates - Google Docs](#)

Diocese of Calgary Beyond Bulletin (Short Version):

[Current Bulletin Insert.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Week-at-a-Glance: (Sat. Nov. 15, 2025 - Sun. Nov. 23, 2025):**Saturday, November 15:**

Seeds of the Word Fundraiser: Narthex, after all weekend Masses

Sunday, November 16:

Children's Liturgy: 8:30am and 10:30am

Coffee Sunday: Narthex, after 9:00am Mass & 11:00am Mass

Seeds of the Word Fundraiser: Narthex, after all weekend Masses

Monday, November 17:

Bible Study: St. Nicholas' Room, 6:30pm-9:00pm

Tuesday, November 18:

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

RCIA: St. Nicholas' Room, 7:00pm—9:00pm

Wednesday, November 19:

Men's Ministry: Theater and Narthex, 6:00am-7:30am

Coffee Wednesday: Narthex, after 9am Mass

Women's Ministry: St. Nicholas Room, 10:00am-12:00am

Thursday, November 20:

Moms & Tots: St. Nicholas' Room, 9:30am-11:30am

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

Friday, November 21:

Elevation Youth Group (Gr. 4-6): St. Nicholas's Room: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Saturday, November 22:

Catholic Education Sunday: Narthex, after all weekend Masses

Christmas Hamper Sign-Up & Angel Tree: Narthex, after all Masses

Sunday, November 23:

Children's Liturgy: 8:30am and 10:30am

Coffee Sunday: Narthex, after 9:00am Mass & 11:00am Mass

Catholic Education Sunday: Narthex, after all weekend Masses

Christmas Hamper Sign-Up & Angel Tree: Narthex, after all Masses

Gifts to the Parish

	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025
<u>General Collections</u>			
Collections	\$87, 509	\$104,710	\$115,426
Other Income	\$20,917	\$15,356	\$58,215
Operating Costs	\$124,903	\$113,471	\$143,988
Surplus (Shortfall)	(\$16,477)	\$6,595	\$29,653
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>			
Building Fund Collections	\$11,322	\$11,754	\$12,744
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,179,800	\$3,155,140	\$3,130,740
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>			
Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$77,040	\$79,665	\$88,418
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	63%	65%	73%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$1056	\$1968	\$1046

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, November 15:

5 pm: Calderon & Hidalgo Family † (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, November 16:

9 am: Hortensia Vega Jimenez † (Fr. Kelvin)

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael (Fr. Edmund)

5 pm: Walter Zawyrucha † (Fr. Kelvin)

Tuesday, November 18:

6 pm: Int. Angelo Pastega (Fr. Edmund)

Wednesday, November 19:

9 am: Serafino Marra † (Fr. Kelvin)

Thursday, November 20:

9 am: Mario Beauchesne † (Fr. Kelvin)

Friday, November 21:

9 am: For All Souls † (Fr. Kelvin)

Saturday, November 22:

5 pm: Loty Flores † (Fr. Janick)

Sunday, November 23:

9 am: Liliana Parra Vega † (Fr. Kelvin)

11 am: For the People of God at St. Michael (Fr. Kelvin)

5 pm: Edgardo Abad † (Fr. Kelvin)

Please Pray For:

Please contact the office with your request.

Julian Park, Ernesto, Roberto Cantillo, Duri Family, Cyril Boudreau, Brenda Arseneault, Peter Ciavarella, Justin Hewitt, Richard Edgington, Ada Kerpan, Pamela Chaput, Malaya Rosales, Christine Estor, Julie Parinas.

For the Souls Of:

Consuelo Loyola

Funeral:**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: 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**.