



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta

May 3, 2026: Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Death Factor

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house, there are many dwelling places." (John 14:1-2)

When death becomes part of our life's equation, we realize that nothing is really ours, except the borrowed time we now spend. When one trusts in God, death becomes an essential part of one's plans and projects. It even can become the supreme fulfillment of the faithful heart, whose greatest desire is to pass on to God, at last.

The reality of death teaches us how to live, that is, meaningfully. Its inevitability cuts through our shallowness, complacency, and our sense of competition, pride, and prejudice. Death makes us discover our need for God and others. It gives our human relationships perspective.

Death teaches us that the things we now enjoy in this world are given to us as gifts of God which we have to share with the rest of the world. Death inspires us to be generous, to be self-giving. It inspires us to think about the legacy and the contribution we have to make for the betterment of our world and society. Death becomes our inspiration to seek the things that really last, things that outlive death and its power over us.

Peter Kreeft in a book entitled "Heaven and Hell", describes our present situation in these words: *"We are children, however hard we try to cover that up. There are no grown-ups. When we get old, we only exchange our toys: business for bats, sex for sleds, power for popguns. At death our Father calls: Come little ones. Time to put away our toys and come home... Home - that's what heaven is. It won't appear strange and faraway and supernatural, but utterly natural. Heaven is what we were designed for. Heaven is not escapist. Earth is escapist. Heaven is home."*

Fr. Edmund, fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Healing Lines



Conflict situations are growing in our increasingly violent world. Ethnically inspired clashes, power struggles, and differing political ideologies profoundly affect the lives of women in a particular way. Women find themselves involved simply through alliance of kinship, clan, and the place where they have their home and family. They are undefended, uprooted, and vulnerable. The violence that occurs in these situations invariably becomes an accepted part of women's daily lives. In the last 40 years, the number of civilian casualties as a result of present day hostilities have almost doubled - from 50 percent during World War II to 90 percent in more recent conflicts, women and children being the majority of the reported civilian deaths.

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

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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
Hospital; South Health Campus

CCCRS Prayer Meeting

Join us for our weekly prayer meetings featuring praise and worship, bible study, and intercessory prayers. The prayer meetings are from 7:00-8:00pm in the Day Chapel. *"The expectation of the righteous shall not be cut short."* (Proverbs 23:18). All are welcome. Come and be blessed!



Multiply the Hope Campaign:

A Message from the Diocese

Because of your generosity, greater impact is taking place across the diocese.

In Year 1 of the Multiply the Hope Matching Campaign:

- \$4 million matched for parish loans
- \$3 million matched for repairs and maintenance

This means parishes are receiving support in times of need, critical repairs are moving forward, and communities are growing stronger in their life and mission. Multiply the Hope continues through the end of 2027, and even though the initial response has been strong, \$4.9M in matching funds remains available for parishes across the Diocese. Bishop McGrattan has encouraged each parish to take part in this once-in-a-generation initiative by fully embracing the campaign. Learn more: www.catholiccyyc.ca/multiplythehope



Potluck Sunday

Potluck Sundays for St. Michael Community are on the first Sunday of each month at 6:00pm. The next Potluck Sundays are May 3 and June 7. This is a free event. Please bring a main dish, bread, salad, pickles, vegetable tray, or dessert to share with others. Please bring your food ready to serve. Potluck Sundays will take a break for July and August.



Chalice Child Sponsorship Weekend

Chalice is coming to St. Michael! At the May 2 - 3 Masses, Canada's largest Catholic Child Sponsorship organization will provide you the opportunity to begin a relationship with a child in the developing world through the benefits of Child Sponsorship. These are children in extreme poverty who need your support to excel in their education and fulfill their God-given potential. Please <https://chalice.ca/> for more information about Chalice and its mission.



Monday's Bible Study: "The Pivotal Players I"

Join Bishop Barron on the journey to unlock the truth behind the most influential people of the Catholic Church. We'll discover how the Word of God was their light and driver for their close relationship with God. We will be able to meet St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis, St. Catherine of Siena, St. John Henry Newman, G.K. Chesterton and Michelangelo; and the places where they lived, learned, and worked on their teachings and arts. It will start on Monday April 20 with 8 in-person sessions (no zoom) in St. Nicholas Room every Monday at 7:00pm. To register or to get additional information, please contact Augusto Bitter at abitter@telus.net or Lee Ettinger at letting1@yahoo.com.



Multiply the Hope (MTH)

Beloved Faithful: Multiply the Hope is a diocesan initiative of last year's Jubilee Year. With the matching program, the Diocese will match any contributions to the **Multiply the Hope** campaign to be applied against the outstanding St. Michael Central Fund Loan (i.e. mortgage). To accelerate the re-payment of the outstanding balance, we would encourage you to consider re-directing any building fund contributions made (either on-line, by text, pre-authorized payment or directly) to **Multiply the Hope** instead. Thank you for your continued generosity. God bless. Fr. Edmund.



Together in Action (TIA)

The Together in Action 2026 campaign begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026. The theme for this year's TIA is inspired by the Jubilee Year of St. Francis. *"But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you my faith."* (James 2:18) This year's TIA also marks the final year of the financial commitment of the Diocese to the National Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, supporting Indigenous-led initiatives across Southern Alberta. Our target goal this year is \$121, 243 same as last year. We thank God for your generosity! All surplus funds this year will go to our Building Fund to help pay our loan.



SMILE! You're Wanted in Our New Parish Pictorial Directory!

Only Two Weeks Left for Pictorial Directory Photos!

NEW APPOINTMENT TIMES!

The pictorial directory campaign ends on Saturday, May 16! Whether you are a new face, or a long-time parishioner, we want you in the directory! **New appointment times are available on May 12-15, from 2:30 to 8:30 pm.** If you haven't already, please sign up for a quick, FREE portrait session. You will receive a high-quality printed directory, and an option to purchase your photos, with no obligation.



How to Register for a FREE PHOTO SESSION:

Online: Visit <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/837754yq/>



Volunteers are needed to help with the sign-up process and with registration at the photography sessions.

Please click this link if you are able to VOLUNTEER <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054EA8A623A7FD0-62867253-parish>

9 Days Novena To The Holy Spirit

This is to inform all parishioners that the Nine Days Novena to the Holy Spirit will be held in the Day Chapel from Thursday, May 14, to Friday, May 22, 2026.

Time: 6 - 7pm p.m. daily. Activities each day will include: Holy Mass, Talk and Novena Prayers. Please note that on Sunday, the Novena Prayer will be done during our regular Masses. All parishioners are kindly encouraged to attend prayerfully in honour of the Holy Spirit and Birthday of the Church.



Vacation Bible Camp 2026:

"Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God"

* SMCC 5-day Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) 2026 has limited spots available (50) for all students/minors aged Kindergarten (6yrs.) to Grade 12. * Online registration is now open. * Thank you to those who have already engaged with our Parish Volunteer Coordinator, Gladys. Please contact Gladys at gldoh@saintmichael.ca to begin/continue the parish volunteer engagement process.



46th Annual Hike For Life

Please join Fr. Edmund and Fr. Andrew in support of the Calgary Pro-Life Association's 10K Hike For Life at Prince's Island Park on Saturday, May 9, 2026. 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. Andrew, 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. Andrew in the Narthex after all Masses on May 2nd and 3rd or you can donate online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/s/jP4P8f>



CWL Meeting

St. Michael's Catholic Women's League will have their general meeting on Tuesday, May 12 at 6:30pm in the St. Michael's Room following Mass. This will be the last meeting until September. Service pins will be handed out. All members and guests are welcome to attend.



Pastoral Council Bulletin Content – May 2026

Pastoral Council had another productive meeting on April 28. We discussed many topics, including a positive financial update (our central fund loan has been reduced to \$2.4 million!) There are only two weeks left in the pictorial directory campaign, and several appointment times are still open. Plans to send youth from SMCC to WYD in Seoul, South Korea are underway. A novena of Masses beginning on May 14 is planned in preparation for Pentecost Sunday, May 24. Please watch the bulletin and Flocknote for more information regarding all of these items and more! The meeting minutes for April 28 will be published after Pastoral Council approval at our next meeting, scheduled for May 26, 2026. The minutes from the Pastoral Council meeting on March 10 can be found here [SMCC-Pastoral-Council-Minutes-of-Meeting-March-10-2026-Bulletin-1.pdf](#) . 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 or send an email to info@saintmichael.ca.



Month of Mary

In the month of May, the Catholic Church honors Mary, Mother of God. One of the ways we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary is to offer to her the prayers of the rosary. The Rosary Group invites you to join them to pray the rosary on: Tuesdays at 5:20pm before evening Mass, and weekdays at 8:20am on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays before Mass.



Eucharistic Adoration Ministry

To assist the Eucharistic Adoration Ministry with scheduling the adoration of the exposition of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays, please consider signing up for a time slot so that they know Jesus will not be left alone. There is a paper sign up outside of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, or you can visit the link on the parish homepage under Adoration.



SSVP Food Drive

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to sincerely thank the generous donations of the St. Michael's Catholic Community during our Easter Sunday campaign. Your support has provided food relief and a sense of hope to financially struggling families within our community. God bless!



Children's Liturgy

The Children's Liturgy is cancelled for Sundays, May 17 for Victoria Day weekend and May 31 for Vocations Rally. The last day for Children's Liturgy will be Sunday, June 7 and will resume Sunday, September 13, 2026.



Knights of Columbus 8636

Want to become a member? Council member meetings are every third Thursday of the month in the main Theatre. Contact: Vernon Lewis at vernlewis@shaw.ca



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP)

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: [Annual Report 2025 – Society of St Vincent de Paul – St Michael Conference Calgary](#)



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. May 2 - Sun. May 10, 2026):**Saturday, May 2:**

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 9:30am-3:00pm (Registration Required.)

Sunday, May 3:

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

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

Potluck Sunday & Name Tag Sunday: Narthex, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Monday, May 4:

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

Tuesday, May 5:

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 2:30pm-8:30pm (Registration Required.)

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

RCIA: St Nicholas Room, 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 6:

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

Coffee Wednesday: Narthex, 9:30am

Women's Ministry: Theater, 10:00am

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 2:30pm-8:30pm (Registration Required.)

CCCRS Prayer Meeting: Day Chapel, 7:00pm

Thursday, May 7:

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

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

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 2:30pm-8:30pm (Registration Required.)

Friday, May 8:

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 2:30pm-8:30pm (Registration Required.)

Saturday, May 9:

Pro-Life Hike for Life: Prince's Island Park, 8:30am-12:00pm

Parish Pictorial Directory: Room 143 & 144, 9:30am-3:00pm (Registration Required.)

Sunday, May 10:

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

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

Filipino Catholic Society Meeting: St. Michael's Room, 1:00pm-3:00pm

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, May 2:**

5 pm: Alvaro Fernandez † (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, May 3:

9 am: Sor Maria Luisa Espitia † (Fr. Obinyan)

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

5 pm: Peter John Conway † (Fr. Obinyan)

Tuesday, May 5:

6 pm: Int. Lua Dal Molin (Fr. Edmund)

Wednesday, May 6:

9 am: Int. Malar Lamington (Fr. Edmund)

Thursday, May 7:

9 am: Benedykta Henryk Nowicki † (Fr. Edmund)

Friday, May 8:

9 am: Donna Glute † (Fr. Edmund)

Saturday, May 9:

5 pm: Int. Joseph & Indira Chinnabathini (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, May 10:

9 am: Bill Tapuska † (Fr. Obinyan)

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

5 pm: Int. Joelle Chu (Fr. Obinyan)

Please Pray For:*Please scan the QR Code and fill out the form with your request.*

Alice Flamand, Hendrik Heerema, Michael Park, Degby Park,
Margaret Baker, Patricia O'Brien, Dolores & Gilbert Sieben,
Richard Edgington, Suzanne Shenher, Olivia Ossai,
Duri Family, Jake Biefchke, Ron Jackson, Lorraine Guyn.

For the Souls Of:**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**.

Gifts to the Parish

	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026
<u>General Collections</u>			
Collections	\$83,939	\$87,745	\$110,402
Other Income	\$38,679	\$49,039	\$59,143
Operating Costs	\$114,988	\$128,298	\$195,774
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$7,630	\$8,486	(\$26,229)
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>			
Building Fund Collections	\$15,600	\$60,100	\$22,111
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,056,783	\$3,032,216	\$2,396,519
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>			
Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$2,226	\$6,759	\$11,839
% TIA (Goal for 2026: \$121,243)	1%	5%	9%
Society St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,243	\$1,883	\$2,268