



Saint Michael Catholic Community

**800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta**

May 17, 2026: The Ascension of the Lord

The Power and the Presence

Alleluia! You are witnesses. Forty days after Easter, witnesses saw Jesus taken up into heaven. Don't just stand around looking at the sky! Jesus instructs those who love Him continue to witness, teaching all people the Gospel.

Christ's ascension, which we celebrate today, deals with a reality that is beyond the physical and the earthly. In theology, Christ's resurrection and ascension are referred to as two aspects of one reality. The ascension is the end of his physical appearances to His disciples and beginning of Christ's spiritual presence among them. Where the physical ends, the spiritual somehow begins.

The spiritual represents a higher reality which can subsist on its own. The spiritual gives the physical its soul and significance. In death, the spiritual separates from the physical. In the resurrection and ascension, the spiritual, by its own power, reunites with physical for the fullness of human life in God.

Christ's resurrection demonstrates His power and dominion over death itself, that is, the power of the spiritual over the physical. As Christ commissions His disciples to be witnesses, He gives them the assurance of His powerful presence through the Spirit.

Our Christian life is about a power and a presence that encompasses the physical and the earthly. The resurrection and ascension assert Christ's power and presence among us as we are commissioned to bring His message to the world. Christianity is about the continuing presence of God in the Church and in the world. God's presence is brought to the world through our life in the Spirit.

As we continue with our renewal efforts, we are commissioned to become more and more a living testament of a people who adheres to the power and presence of Christ's resurrection and ascension.

Fr. Edmund, fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Healing Lines



"It is not an enemy who taunts me - then I could bear it; it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me - then I could hide from him. But it is you, my equal, my companion, my familiar friend. We used to hold sweet converse together, within God's house we walked in fellowship." (Psalm 55: 12-14)

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.catholicyyc.ca/multiplythehope



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, May 24 and will resume Sunday, September 13, 2026.



40 Hours for Vocations

St. Michael's will be hosting 40 Hours for Vocations beginning Friday, May 29 at 3:00 pm and continuing until Sunday, May 31 at 8:00 am, with a one-hour pause during the Saturday 5:00 pm Mass. Join us in Eucharistic Adoration as we pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, consecrated and religious life, and marriage. We are seeking at least two adorers for every hour so that Our Lord is never left alone. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one hour of adoration. To register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054EA8A623A7FD0-64113333-40hours#/>



Vocations Rally

The third annual diocesan Vocations Rally will take place on Trinity Sunday, May 31, here at St. Michael's. The day begins with the 11:00am Mass celebrated by Bishop McGrattan, followed by lunch, talks, panelists, displays, and more! All are welcome to attend to learn more about the different vocations in the Church and to receive tools for discernment. To register, visit: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd91lcmQ1iPW4ZHECGFixUkmSMEZWnhlQu49KdFk8lQylrrwQ/viewform>



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 repayment 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.



Help name the new West Calgary Catholic High School!

Dear parishioners of St. Michael Catholic Community, The Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD) invites you to take part in an important decision - helping to choose a name for the new Catholic high school in your community, expected to open in Fall 2027. The naming committee has carefully selected five options that hold special significance within the Catholic Church and Catholic education. Now, we need your input on the final decision! Please take a moment to review the names and rank your top choice. Each parishioner may submit one response.



Survey Opens: Friday, May 15, 2026

Survey Closes: Monday, May 25, 2026

To participate, please [click here](#).

Thank you for helping to shape the future of Catholic education in our community!

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: 6:00-7:00pm 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 honor 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 gdoh@saintmichael.ca to begin/continue the parish volunteer engagement process.



Annual Eucharistic Consecration

For all those who have yet to be Consecrated to Jesus through the Eucharist - we welcome you to take the opportunity on June 14 at the 11:00am Mass. To be ready, you can start your 33 days preparation on May 12. The book, *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory*, by Matthew Kelly, is available at the Gift Shop for a decreased price. It is a short read and meditation each day. You can also find additional video reflections for each day by Fr. Jonathan Meyers at this link: https://youtu.be/i_qCjpm2bRA?si=fghpW70i3MY9NsL. For those who were consecrated last year, you are welcome to come and support the newly consecrated and renew your own consecration vows.



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.



Pictorial Directory Update

Our pictorial directory photo sessions are now complete. Thank you to all who made this part of the campaign a remarkable success: our volunteers, ministry leaders, and especially, those who came for an individual photo! The editorial process will soon begin, and we look forward to seeing the finished product. All who booked a photo session will receive a free directory. Please watch the bulletin and the website for information on when directories will be available for pick up at the church.



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.



Schoenstatt Multilingual Rosary

"Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth." (Luke 1:39-56)

The Month of Mary is a time dedicated to honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary through special devotions, prayers, and festivities, but most importantly with our testimony. The Schoenstatt Movement invites our whole community to pray a multilingual Illuminated Rosary to honor our Blessed Mother on May 22 at 7:00pm at the Day Chapel. A brief reflection and reception will follow.



Potluck Sunday

The last Potluck Sunday before summer is June 7 and will then take a break for July and August. This is a free event. Please bring a main dish, bread, salad, pickles, vegetable tray, or dessert to share with others, and bring your food ready to serve. The first Potluck Sunday in the fall will be Sunday, September 13, 2026.



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.



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 16 - Sun. May 24, 2026):**Saturday, May 16:**

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

Sunday, May 17:

Cancelled - Children's Liturgy

Canceled - Coffee Sunday

Monday, May 18:

Office Closed—Victoria Day

Cancelled—Bible Study

Mass with Pentecost Novena: Day Chapel, 6pm

Tuesday, May 19:

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

Mass with Pentecost Novena: Day Chapel, 6pm

RCIA: St Nicholas Room, 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 20:

Coffee Wednesday: Narthex, 9:30am

Mass with Pentecost Novena: Day Chapel, 6pm

CCCRS Prayer Meeting: Day Chapel, 7:00pm

Thursday, May 21:

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

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

Mass with Pentecost Novena: Day Chapel, 6pm

Knights of Columbus Meeting: 7pm, Theater

Friday, May 22:

Mass with Pentecost Novena: Day Chapel, 6pm

Schoenstatt Multilingual Rosary: Day Chapel, 7pm, Reception to follow

Saturday, May 23:

No event.

Sunday, May 24:

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

Coffee Sunday: Narthex, after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses

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 16:

5 pm: Jennie Parinas-Bauer † (Fr. Obinyan)

Sunday, May 17:

9 am: Int. Francisca De Vega (Fr. Edmund)

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

5 pm: James Armand Martin † (Fr. Obinyan)

Monday, May 18:

6 pm: Fabio Barrero † (Fr. Obinyan)

Tuesday, May 19:

6 pm: All Departed Souls † (Fr. Edmund)

Wednesday, May 20:

9 am: Bill Sheppard † (Fr. Obinyan)

6 pm: Steven Vavra † (Fr. Edmund)

Thursday, May 21:

9 am: Marcos & Ascion Magpantay † (Fr. Edmund)

6 pm: Jimmy & Elia Sperandio † (Fr. Obinyan)

Friday, May 22:

9 am: Int. Eugene & Lucy Costa (Fr. Edmund)

6 pm: Vonnie McBrearty † (Fr. Obinyan)

Saturday, May 23:

5 pm: Albino Lumen † (Fr. Obinyan)

Sunday, May 24:

9 am: Francisco Vega † (Fr. Obinyan)

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

5 pm: Alejandro & Basilisa Chavez † (Fr. Edmund)

Please Pray For:

Please scan the QR Code and fill out the form with your request.



Degby Park, Margaret Baker, Dolores & Gilbert Sieben, Patricia O'Brien, Richard Edgington, Suzanne Shenher, Olivia Ossai, Duri Family, Jake Biefchke, Ron Jackson, Lorraine Guyn, Lori Life Chris Mudry, Michelle Concha.

For the Souls Of:

Claudine Kawa, Elia Sperandio, Norman Sparrey

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

	February 2026	March 2026	April 2026
<u>General Collections</u> Collections	\$87,745	\$110,402	\$123,684
Other Income	\$49,039	\$59,143	\$43,503
Operating Costs	\$128,298	\$195,774	\$128,908
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$8,486	(\$26,229)	\$38,279
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u> Building Fund Collections	\$60,100	\$22,111	\$47,994
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,032,216	\$2,396,519	\$2,369,283
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u> Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$6,759	\$11,839	\$20,217
% TIA (Goal for 2026: \$121,243)	5%	9%	16.67%
Society St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,883	\$2,268	\$3,952