



Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | parish@saintmichael.ca | November 19, 2023

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Sunday Reflection

by Deacon Randy Gritter

The gospel asks us to think about what kind of life is a good life and what kind of life is a tragedy. We start with two examples. One is Blessed Carlo Acutis. His life was something that seemed like a tragedy to many, but is actually a great life. His holiness was evident from a very young age. His energy and intelligence made him very productive for the cause of Christ. He died at age 15. Long lives are not what matters. Heroic virtue matters.

His story is told in the book titled *A Millennial in Paradise* by Fr. Will Conquer.

The other example is based on the book *Don't Waste Your Life* by John Piper. He tells a story:

Bob and Penny took early retirement from their jobs in the Northeast five years ago when he was 59 and she was 51. Now they live in Florida where they cruise on their 30 foot trawler, play softball, and collect shells.

The point he makes from this is that they have focused their lives on very worldly things. We will all be asked to give an account of our life one day before God. We do not want to tell him about seashells and fishing boats. What Bob and Penny are doing is all too common in our world today and it is actually tragic.

After this we move on to talk about 4 words in the scripture. They are talent, fear, sloth, and joy.

Talent is a confusing word. The English word for talent is actually derived from people talking about this gospel passage. Still, it misses the mark, so it is more confusing than anything. To the people of Jesus' day, talent would simply mean money. It means a lot of money. Something on the order of millions of dollars. God is being pictured as a very generous giver.

The second word is **fear**. Fear is the reason the last servant gives for burying his talent. He is afraid of God. His fear is based on a bad picture of God. The master suggests that even using his talent out of fear would have been better. Not that fear is the best motivation for approaching God, but it will do. Hopefully we grow to relate to God as a Loving Father rather than as a strict slave master, but starting with the latter is better than not starting at all.

Lastly, we get **sloth** and **joy**. These are an opposing vice and virtue. Sloth is the reason the master suggests the man buried his talent. It is sometimes called laziness, but it is not really. Bob and Penny were not lazy. It takes a lot of work to retire in luxury. Yet they lacked energy and seriousness towards the things of God. Joy is the antidote. If we experience joy when we serve God, then we will spend more time and energy doing it. Delivering Christmas hampers can give us joy, or it can be just another item on your "To Do" list.

Healing Lines

Family Violence does not happen in a vacuum. It couldn't be so widespread, or have carried on so long in silence, if it were only a matter of a few people not controlling their tempers. Abuse is rooted in a host of personal and social values that we have come to accept as right or necessary or "normal." *"God, we know that many of your children have been hurting for a long time. Open our eyes to their pain and help us to reflect on the values we hold which may contribute to the pain and silence around family violence."*

Glad to have you here!

We welcome new parishioners and visitors. We'd love to see you again! Please register at the Parish Office, or online at saintmichael.ca

Connect with us

Follow us on social media at [@saintmichael.ca](https://www.instagram.com/saintmichael.ca)

Also, join Flocknote by texting **SMCYC** to **514-900-0130** or by visiting flocknote.com/smcyc



Church Schedule

Subject to change

Weekday & Weekend Masses:

Tuesday: 6 pm

Wednesday to Friday: 9 am

Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 9 am, 11 am & 5 pm

Sunday 11 am live stream
at saintmichael.ca/Mass or on Facebook Live

Reconciliation:

Friday: 8 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 noon

Home & Hospital Visits

If you or someone you know is sick, cannot make it to Mass, and needs Anointing of the Sick and/or Holy Communion, we can arrange to have one of our priests visit them. Please call the Parish Office at **403-249-0423** to schedule a visit.

Diocese of Calgary 24-hour emergency

Priest paging hotline: **403-231-9505**.

Events and Announcements

Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary | October 26 - December 14 (excluding November 2) | 7:00-8:30 pm.

There is a seven week video series on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary in the Day Chapel. Please feel free to show up for any, or all, of the days. For more information about the series, please visit the website at saintmichael.ca/events.

Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance, where we can write the names of beloved dead, is now in the gathering area throughout the month of November.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Special thanks to all St. Michael parishioners for supporting the Society of St. Vincent de Paul! We are looking for new members - if you are interested, contact us by email SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone (403) 249-0423, ext. 122. Donations of non-perishable food items - can be dropped off in the SSVP Food Chest in the Church Narthex. Arrangements for pick up can also be made by e-mailing us at SSVP@saintmichael.ca. Monetary donations - can be deposited in the drop-box in the Food Chest or by online donations through the Parish website: <https://saintmichael.ca/giving/>. Please indicate that funds are for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the drop-down menu. If you, or anyone you know, needs assistance, please contact us by emailing SSVP@saintmichael.ca or phone (403) 249-0423, ext. 122.

Knights of Columbus Fundraiser | November 25 & 26 | Outside of Main Doors | After All Masses

The Knights of Columbus are selling snow shovels as a fundraiser after all Masses on November 25 and 26 outside of the main doors. They are \$30 each and payment can be made by cash, debit/credit, or e-transfer. Please support this by buying one or two for yourself and a friend.

Hamper Sign Up - November 18 and 19 | Hamper Day - Monday, December 18

Our parish community comes together to prepare and deliver 170 hampers. That's 1700 bags of groceries, 500 or more people served. This weekend after all Masses, come meet members of the Hamper Organizing Committee in the Narthex (Gathering Area) and volunteer for Hamper Day. We will be happy to assist you to find a volunteer opportunity that matches your schedule. If you wish to volunteer, please check if your volunteer requirements are up to date by contacting Marvin Matthews MMatthews@saintmichael.ca. If you have missed volunteer sign up, but are still interested in helping, please email christmashampers@saintmichael.ca. Monetary donations to SSVP support our Hamper Program, and may be made through: the collection box, noted for Christmas Hampers / depositing SSVP green envelopes located in the SSVP donation bin or lockbox in the gathering area / or online at saintmichael.ca/giving. Please include your clearly printed name and address - tax receipts will be issued in January. Referrals are accepted from parish schools, and through the SSVP intake line at 403-249-0423, extension 122. Questions? Send to christmashampers@saintmichael.ca.

Angel Tree | November 25 & 26 and December 2 & 3

The Angel Tree will be available next weekend November 25 and 26, and again December 2 and 3 weekend, when Angel Gift Tags, prepared by our confirmation class students, will be hanging on the tree. Each holds a child's special request. Shop for that special gift and return it to be enclosed with the hamper going to the child's family. Last year we served 212 children. Referrals are accepted from parish schools, and through the SSVP intake line at 403-249-0423, extension 122.

Altar Server Training Session | Sunday, November 26

Are your children interested in joining the Altar Server Ministry? The next Altar Server training session is on Sunday, November 26 after the 11:00 am Mass in the Sanctuary. Training is held on the fourth Sunday of every month; however, this will be the last training session for the year as the fourth Sunday of December falls on Christmas Eve. If you or your children are interested, please send an email to altarservers@saintmichael.ca, request access to the Altar Server group on Flocknote, or just show up on Sunday, November 26.

"Community Night" | Friday, December 1 | Starting at 6pm

A Community Night will be celebrated on Friday, December 1 with a Mass at 6:00pm, followed by a reception. The Mass will be presided by Fr. Edmund who also celebrates his birthday on the day (Philippine time). The reception will be tendered by our Knights of Columbus. A free will offering is suggested. Entertainment will be provided by Ad Hoc Band with Marvin Matthews, our Volunteer Coordinator. The Ad Hoc Band has raised thousands of dollars for various charitable organizations. The Partnership of Hope, which looks after our Refugee Program, will receive what would have been their performance fee. Register at saintmichael.ca/bulletin.



The Rite of Commissioning for All Liturgical Ministers | December 2 & 3

The Rite of Commissioning for all Liturgical Ministers will be held at all the December 2 & 3 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.

Events and Announcements

CSSD Advent and Christmas High School Chorus Festival "Hear the Angels Sing" | Tuesday, December 5 | 7:00pm

The Calgary Catholic High Schools will return to St. Michael's for their annual Christmas Choral Festival on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00pm featuring the talented voices of four hundred students. Parishioners are invited to support our Catholic students by attending this gala evening of entertainment and song.

"One Starry Night" Pageant | Friday, December 8 | Starting at 6:00 pm

There will be a Children's Nativity Pageant on Friday, December 8 beginning with a Mass at 6:00pm, Pageant at 6:30pm, and a cookies and juice Reception to follow. There will also be family friendly activities in the Narthex (Gathering Area). A free will offering is gratefully accepted or simply donate online. If you plan to attend this event, please RSVP <https://forms.gle/feVcPxtps5GR69qH6>.

Catholic Christmas Market | Sunday, December 10 | Mezzanine | After 9am & 11am Masses until 4pm

St. Michael's is excited to host a Catholic Christmas Market featuring local Catholic and Christian goods from all sorts of wonderful vendors. This will take place on Sunday, December 10 in the Mezzanine after 9am and 11am Masses until 4pm. If anyone is interested in being a vendor, or a volunteer, please contact Colleen Joy at pcjoy@shaw.ca.

Seniors Luncheon 50+ Years | Friday, December 15 | 11:00am

There will be a Seniors Luncheon for 50+ years on Friday, December 15 at 11:00am. If you are interested in attending, please register by Wednesday, December 13 with Bob Choquette at camaro11@shaw.ca or 403-804-3268.

Changes at the Sunday 9am Mass

Changes at the Sunday 9am Mass will be introduced in the new liturgical year. The Mass will be choir-less, with Jim Howells as instrumentalist and lead singer. This means our choir for the Saturday 5pm, and Sunday 9am & 11am, will no longer join Jim Howells at the Sunday 9am Mass, giving a bit of a break from the early Mass. This choir is composed of four teams that rotate on a weekly basis.

Signing Up for Flocknote

You may sign up to receive weekly updates via email or text from St. Michael's by visiting flocknote.com/SMCYC or text **SMCYC** to 514-900-0130.

Mass Schedule for this Weekend

Saturday, November 18 at 5pm - Fr. Kevin Chukwurah
Sunday, November 19 at 9am - Fr. Kevin Chukwurah
Sunday, November 19 at 11am - Fr. Edmund Vargas
Sunday, November 19 at 5pm - Fr. Edmund Vargas

November - Regularly Occurring Events:

Sundays | Coffee Sundays | Narthex | After 9:00am & 11:00am Masses
Mondays | Bible Study | St. Nicholas Room | 7:00-9:00pm
Tuesdays | Rosary Group | Day Chapel | 6:30-7:00pm
Tuesdays | RCIA | St. Nicholas Room | 7:00-9:00pm
Wednesdays | TMIY | Narthex | 6:00-7:30am
Wednesdays | Women's Ministry | Theatre & St. Nicholas Room | 9:30am-12:00pm
Thursdays | Coffee Thursdays | Gathering Area | After 9:00am Mass
Thursdays | Moms & Tots | St. Nicholas Room | 9:30-11:30am
Thursdays | Knitting Ministry | Library | 10:00-11:30am
Thursdays | Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary | Day Chapel | 7:00-8:30pm

November - Special Events:

November 18 & 19 | Sign-Up for Christmas Hamper | Narthex | After All Masses
November 19 | Children's Nativity Rehearsal for Choir, Narrators, Primary Actors | St. Nicholas Room & Guardian Angel Room | 12:00-1:00pm
November 19 | Sunday | Eucharistic Training Session | Sanctuary | 2:30-3:30pm
November 22 | Wednesday | Eucharistic Training Session | Sanctuary | 7:00-8:00pm
November 24 | Friday | Altar Servers Pizza Party | Narthex | 6:30-8:30pm
November 25 | Saturday | Angel Tree Begins | Narthex
November 25 | Saturday | Baptism Prep | St. Nicholas Room | 9:00am-12:00pm
November 26 | Sunday | Altar Server Training Session | Sanctuary | After 11:00am Mass
November 26 | Sunday | Children's Nativity Rehearsal for Choir, Narrators, Primary Actors, Secondary Actors | St. Nicholas Room, Sanctuary, and Guardian Angel Room | 12:00-1:00pm
November 27 | Monday | Knights of Columbus Chapter Meeting | St. Gabriel Rooms 144 & 145 |
November 28 | Tuesday | PPC Meeting | St. Michael's Room | 7:00-9:00pm
November 28 | Tuesday | SVDP Meeting | St. Gabriel Room 145 | 7:00-9:00pm
November 30 | Thursday | Christmas Hamper Food Sorting Day

Eternal Springs Columbarium

The Columbarium at St. Michael's offers a consecrated and sacred space where the cremated remains of departed loved ones rest in perpetuity. For pricing or more information, please email columbarium@saintmichael.ca.

Pray For Our Seminarists:

Peter An, Andre Boudreau, Joshua Capicio, Bennet Chacko, Jonathan Dobek, Samuel Ejeregebe, Evin George, Solomon Ip, Jeffrell Painaga, Antonio Pasqualotto, Mikhel Sari, Benjamin Taylor, Joshua Walter

Please Pray For:

Froilan Edillon	Kevin Thorvaldson	Judy Ivanski
Josh Helman	Antoinette Vincent	Mara Neely
Helen Gal	Chester Wisniewski	Alessandro Bonvicini
Lily Kalmar	Deacon Frank Peta	Jojo Deleon
James Martin	Eileen Peta	Rosa Duri

For the Souls of:

Sexual Abuse in the Church

Many suffer in silence. Perhaps you are affected by the news of sexual abuse of minors in the Church; perhaps you are a sexual abuse survivor or a relative of a friend of someone who was abused; perhaps you know about an abuse; perhaps you have sexually abused someone. Break the cycle of silence: you can choose to talk about it. 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**.

E-Transfer:

You can now donate using e-transfer service. Sign in to your own banking institution and e-transfer the amount to: isupport@saintmichael.ca.

Text to Donate:

Don't carry cash? You can now use text messaging to donate any amount to St. Michael's. To set up your account, text *give* to **833-768-0514** and follow the prompt. Once you're in, text any amount to the same number—anytime.

Gifts to the Parish

	August	September	October
General Collections			
Collections	\$71,009	\$80,404	\$97,285
Other Income	(\$1,928)	\$13,570	\$29,506
Operating Costs	\$120,402	\$209,168	\$164,849
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Optg Costs	(\$51,321)	(\$115,194)	(\$38,058)
Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)			
Building Fund Collections	\$24,190	\$17,879	\$13,724
Current Loan Balance	\$3,744,046	\$3,721,240	\$3,698,763
Diocesan Annual Campaign			
Together in Action YTD	\$47,782	\$54,212	\$55,760
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	39%	45%	46%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$1,328	\$3,623	\$3,473

Mass Intentions

Book an intention online at saintmichael.ca

Saturday, November 18

5 pm: Tallerico & Brisinda Families † and John Lee †

Sunday, November 19, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 am: Serafino Marra †
11 am: For All Parishioners
5 pm: Sheila Foster †

Tuesday, November 21

6 pm: Intentions of Jennifer Pinto

Wednesday, November 22

9 am: Phil Strifle †

Thursday, November 23

9 am: Katica Valjan †

Friday, November 24

9 am: Deceased Members of Chu Moy Sang Family †

Saturday, November 25

5 pm: Frank & Helen Gal †

Sunday, November 26, 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 am: Nemesio Desales †
11 am: For All Parishioners
5 pm: Salvador Mangacat †

Contact Us

For general info@saintmichael.ca
inquiries 403-249-0423

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fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Jose Bustalino
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Music Director Jim Howells
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Volunteer Coordinator Marvin Matthews
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Bookkeeper Magda Aguillon
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Children's Liturgy Coordinator Caroline Dixon
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