



Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | parish@saintmichael.ca | 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020

Events & Announcements

Ash Wednesday (February 26) Mass times: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Parish Lenten Mission with Chris Bray

February 23-25 (Sun-Tues) at 7 p.m.

Our parish Lenten mission with Chris Bray begins on Sunday evening! Whether you're a parishioner or not, we invite you to join us in this special, three-evening mission designed to remind us of God's radical love, prepare us for Lent, and to encourage us in the work of evangelization and sharing this love with others. This is a free event. Please invite your family and friends! (Note: on Tuesday, February 25, the mission will follow the 7 p.m. Mass. Also, parishioners are encouraged to bring any food item to share each night for a simple potluck fellowship).

Duc in Altum: Spiritual Renewal in the Diocese of Calgary

Bishop McGrattan is launching a spiritual renewal initiative in the Diocese of Calgary — *Duc in Altum* ("Put out into the deep"). Please read the bishop's Pastoral Letter attached in the back of this bulletin to learn more about this new initiative. Also, please consider subscribing to *Faithfully*, the Diocese's free e-newsletter, to get the latest diocesan updates by visiting faithfully.calgarydiocese.ca.

Potluck Sunday and Name Tag Weekend

Weekend of February 29-March 1

Name Tag Weekend will be on Feb. 29-March 1: be sure to grab a name tag at the gathering area before Mass. Also, join us after the Sunday 5 p.m. Mass on March 1 for an evening of food and fellowship! Please bring any food item to share.

New Parish Office Hours

Effective March 2, our new parish office hours will be: Mon-Thurs from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (instead of 8:30 p.m.), and Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please note that these changes pertain only to the parish office and **not the church building**: hence, this does not affect those who visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, library, or other programs during weeknights. If you have any questions, contact Suzy at 403-249-0423 ext. 119 or by emailing smoutinho@saintmichael.ca.

Please join us in thanking Sandy Leia

Sandy has prayerfully made the difficult decision to leave her role as Director of Evangelization at St. Michael's. We want to thank Sandy for the passion she brought to the role and for journeying with all the people she has accompanied on their faith journey. We are very grateful that Sandy has decided to continue her work in RCIA as a volunteer, and we wish her well on all her future plans. Thank you Sandy!

Family Retreat

Saturday, March 7

Re-orient your life this Lent: families are invited to our first-ever Family Retreat happening Saturday, March 7 from noon to 5 p.m., led by our NET missionaries. Come be renewed in your faith and enjoy ... (*continued on next page*)

St. Michael Catholic Community | 800 85 St. SW, Calgary, AB T3H 4C7 | 403-249-0423 | www.saintmichael.ca

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 www.saintmichael.ca

Connect with us

Follow us on social media at
@saintmichaelyyc.

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



Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 5 p.m.

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Wednesday-Friday: 9 a.m.

Tuesday: 7 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.

Reconciliation:

Friday: 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Saturday: 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration:

First Fridays: 24 hours beginning 9:30 a.m.

All other Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 or Pastoral Care members 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 & Announcements

(cont.) an afternoon of inspiring talks, praise and worship, and more. This retreat is open to everyone and costs \$20 per family, including lunch. Sign up at the parish office or by emailing Nolan at nconrad@saintmichael.ca.

Women's Ministry Testimony Event

Thursday, February 27 at 10 a.m.

If you missed our testimony night last January, then join us on Thursday, February 27, at 10 a.m. and hear some of our parishioners share about their faith journey and how God has been at work in their lives. For more info, contact the Women's Ministry at womensministry@saintmichael.ca.

Moms and Tots

Fridays at 9:45 a.m.

In addition to our weekly coffee and fellowship (Fridays at 9:45 a.m.), please take note of the following upcoming event on **February 28**: marriage & family therapist Dr. Mark Kolodziej will be speaking about having a strong and faithful marriage. Check out our full schedule at saintmichael.ca/momsandtots.

Lectio: Evangelization (Women's Ministry)

Thursdays at 10 a.m. or 7 p.m. beginning March 5

In this ten-part series, Dr. Mary Healy combines insightful biblical study with Church teaching and practical advice to show how modern Catholics can effectively impact their world for Jesus Christ. This study has morning and evening options available (10 a.m. or 7 p.m.) every Thursday beginning March 5, and will continue for ten weeks until May 14 (no meeting on Holy Thursday, April 9). Cost for the study guide is \$25, or download for free from FORMED. To sign up, visit saintmichael.ca/faithformation.

Blood Drive

Monday, March 9 at 3 p.m.

150 blood donors are needed at the blood drive here at St. Michael's on Monday, March 9, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. To donate blood, book your free appointment by visiting www.blood.ca or by calling 1-888-236-6283.

First Eucharist Preparation is Underway

Please pray for the 165 children who are learning about Jesus and the Eucharist over the next four months. They will be receiving their First Holy Communion on the weekends of May 23-24 or May 30-31. Please pray for the volunteer teachers and parents who are dedicating one Saturday morning a month to guide these souls: Mrs. Kelli, Miss Katy, Mrs. Jessie, Mrs. Julia, Miss Franchesca, Mrs. Anne, Mrs. Brenda, Mrs. Amy D., Mrs. Virginia, Mrs. Marianne, Miss Sierra, Mr. Jonathan, Mrs. Amy J., Mrs. Maria, Mrs. Jolene, Mrs. Joyce and the NET Team!

Medjugorge Pilgrimage with Fr. Julian

Those who are interested in joining Fr. Julian in Medjugorge on Aug. 28-Sept. 11 are invited to the info session at St. Paul's Church, Airdrie, on Sunday, March 1st at 12:30 p.m.

Good Friday Passion Re-enactment

We're looking for individuals interested in getting involved in this year's Good Friday passion re-enactment (actors, costume care, decorating, etc.). No experience is required to participate, although children ages 8-14 must be accompanied by an adult: either someone participating as a member of the re-enactment or staying for the rehearsals. Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, March 17. For more information or to sign up and see the full rehearsal schedule, visit saintmichael.ca/passion.

A Liturgy of the Word
Ministry for children
ages 3+. Sundays at
8:50 a.m. and 10:50
a.m. **This Sunday:**

Love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48)



ROOTS

A ministry for youth in grades 4-6.

Monday, February 24

from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, contact Alison at astraface@saintmichael.ca.

UNITE Youth: for youth in
grades 7 to 12. Join us at our
weekly youth night **every**
Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Follow us on Instagram

@onthursdaynights for the latest updates.



Catholic Women's League

St. Michael's CWL welcomes all women ages 16+. We meet every 2nd Tuesday at St. Michael Rm. B after the 7 p.m. Mass. Women are encouraged to attend Mass, our meeting, and enjoy



Moms with little ones are invited every **Friday at 9:45 a.m.** for coffee, faith, and fellowship. Whether you're pregnant, have an infant/toddler, you're invited to come! Sign up for our mailing list at flocknote.com/smcyycc/momstots to keep updated.



Knights of Columbus

If you feel there is a need that the Knights of Columbus can support, please contact Larry Wagner at 403-249-0423 ext. 115.



St. Vincent de Paul

Our role is to reach out to those who call us and meet them where they are. If you are in need of assistance, please call 403-249-0423 ext. 122.



Events & Announcements

Art Walk 2020: Artist Registration Deadline Coming Soon

March 28-29

We invite artists and photographers to register to showcase their work at this spring's Art Walk on the weekend of March 28-29. Deadline to register is Friday, **February 28**. For registration info and for submission requirements, please visit saintmichael.ca/event/artwalk.

Marriage Ministry: Comedy Date Night

Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Marriage Ministry invites all married, engaged, and seriously-dating couples to *Comedy Date Night*! Join us on Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. and enjoy some comedy videos followed by snacks and fellowship. This is a **free event**, but we ask that you register so we know how many snacks to prepare. To register, visit saintmichael.ca/events.

Vacation Bible Camp 2020

For all young families: this summer's Vacation Bible Camp will be on July 6-10 and 13-17. All children ages 5-10 are encouraged to sign up! Registration: \$65. Please register your child at the parish office — we are open Mon-Thurs from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and until 4 p.m. on Fridays. If you have any further questions or would like to volunteer to help run the stations (teen and adult volunteers needed), contact Alison at astraface@saintmichael.ca or call 403-249-0423 ext. 125.

Family Compass

Family Compass is a series of workshops offered by the Schoenstatt Apostolic Movement of Calgary, designed for Spanish-speaking couples who want to enrich their relationship and connect on a deeper level with God and their family. These monthly encounters, which begins on Saturday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m., include time for prayer, a short talk, and discussion. Cost: \$15 per couple. Babysitting will be available for children ages 3-11 registered in advance. To register, visit saintmichael.ca/faithformation or email Will at schoenstattcanada@gmail.com.

Volunteers for this Year's Easter Eggstravaganza

Our 2nd annual Easter Eggstravaganza will be on Sunday, April 12, and we're hoping to build on last year's tremendous success. We've had overwhelming support in the past, and once again we're reaching out to you to help us ensure that this year's event is as exciting. We are looking for people who can help us at the tables for our crafts, games and egg hunt. The time commitment would be (approx.) from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. If you're able to help out, please email Christina at christinaav@icloud.com. Thank you in advance for your help in bringing the community together to celebrate the most holy day of the year.

Lent Schedule

Parish Lenten Mission
February 23-25 (Sun-Tues)
7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday
February 26
Mass at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Wednesdays during Lent
• Mass at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
• Stations of the Cross following the 7 p.m. Mass (*except Ash Wednesday*)

Fridays during Lent
• Mass at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Stations of the Cross following the 7 p.m. Mass

Sacred Silence: Access52 Lent Tour
Wednesday, April 1
after the 7 p.m. Mass
All-ages retreat

Lenten Penitential Service
Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

What's On This Week

Monday, February 24:

ROOTS: 6:30 p.m.
Acts Bible Study: 7 p.m.
GriefShare: 7 p.m.
Parish Lenten Mission: 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25:

ELL: 10 a.m.
RCIA: 7 p.m.
SSVP Meeting: 7 p.m.
Daily Mass & Parish Lenten Mission: 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 26:

Ash Wednesday
Men's Ministry: 6 a.m.
Ash Wednesday Mass: 9 a.m.
Creative Arts Open Studio: 9:30 a.m.
Alpha: 6:30 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Mass: 7 p.m.
12-Step: 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 27:

Women's Ministry Testimony: 10 a.m.
UNITE Youth Night: 6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 28:

Reconciliation: 8 a.m.
Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30 a.m.
Moms & Tots: 9:45 a.m.
Way of the Cross: 7 p.m.

Saturday, February 29:

Marian Group: 9:30 a.m.
Reconciliation: 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 1:

Kids Kingdom: 8:50 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.
Discovery Faith Study: 3 p.m.
Potluck Sunday: 6:30 p.m.

Pastoral Care Masses

Amica (10 Aspenshire Drive SW)
3rd Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

Cedars Villa (3330 8 Ave. SW)
Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Wentworth Court (5717 14 Ave. SW)
3rd Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

Wentworth Manor (5717 14 Ave. SW)
4th Tuesday at 3 p.m.



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 438-800-8739 and follow the prompt. Once you're in, text any amount to the same number—anytime.

TITHE.LY

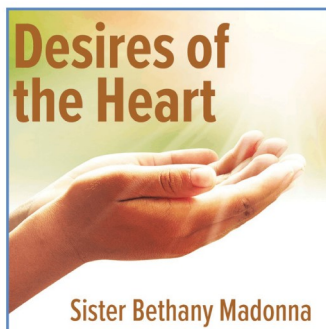
Be a witness. Share your story.

God wants you to be a blessing to others by sharing your personal testimony. By sharing how God has been at work in your life, you can encourage and edify others in their own faith journey. Your story could be exactly what someone else needs to hear right now. If you'd like to share your testimony, visit saintmichael.ca/witness.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Desires of the Heart by Sister Bethany Madonna



Sr. Bethany Madonna, vocations director for the Sisters of Life, shares how God not only wants us to know him, but also to give us the desires of our heart and gifts that bring purpose, meaning, and hope.

LISTEN ON FORMED.ORG

POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

If you would like to receive short, catechetical weekly videos on the liturgy, join our Worship Wednesday Flocknote group at:
www.saintmichael.ca/worship

Please join in prayer for Catholic Education, particularly for each of the parish's four neighbouring Catholic school's intentions. The Parish will pray for each of them at the following Saturday 5 p.m. Mass:
1st Saturday: St. Michael • 2nd Saturday: John Costello •
3rd Saturday: St Joan of Arc • 4th Saturday: Guardian Angel

The Vocations Chalice

Will be presented to: Cecilia and Mervyn D'Mello
on Saturday February 22, at the 5 p.m. Mass

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 **403-266-1234**.

Sharing Your Time & Talent

We have a number of ministries that could be strengthened by your involvement. If you feel that you have a gift to offer, visit our website at saintmichael.ca/

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 22: Feast of Chair of St. Peter

9 a.m.: Intentions of Frank Hsieh

5 p.m.: Wilma Kremnica †

Sunday, February 23: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 a.m.: Intentions of Lucy Vega

11 a.m.: For Everyone/St. Michael

5 p.m.: Philomena Rodrigues †

Monday, February 24

9 a.m.: Deceased Members of Hoang Family

Tuesday, February 25

3:00 p.m.: Walter Hammond †

7 p.m.: Intentions of Odiase Family

Wednesday, February 26: Ash Wednesday

9 a.m.: Tom Tutt †

10 a.m.: Intentions of Tony Robinson (Cedars)

Thursday, February 27

9 a.m.: Zarko Fatovic †

Friday, February 28

9 a.m.: Cecilia McGrath †

7 p.m.: Stella Adiza Edibo †

Saturday, February 29

9 a.m.: Luis Guerra †

5 p.m.: Intentions of Puerto-Gutierrez Family

Sunday, March 1: First Sunday of Lent

9 a.m.: Intentions of Tapuska Family

11 a.m.: For Everyone/St. Michael

5 p.m.: Intentions of Patrick Allen

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 contact Rosalie at 403-249-0423 ext. 124, or columbarium@saintmichael.ca.

Please Pray For:

Lourdes Abaun	David Evans	Angela Passarelli
Joanne Albertson	Harry Fraser	Oscar Perez
Paz Alciso	Greg Fleming	Cindy Rude
Wesley Almand	Hilda Ford	Monica Rodzyniak
Annie Andal	Delores de Guzman	Geraldine Rogers
Marilyn Arksey	Daniel Hickey	Janet Ross
Tony Arseneault	Carol Huston	John Sterrett
Elizabeth Chandliss	Lilly Kalmar	Morgan Thompson
Jinhui Cao	Marilyn Kitteringham	Isabel Umerez
Leslie Choquette	Gerard MacEachern	Brian Van Kessel
Joyce Clark	Daniela Masek	Perry Villeneuve
Michelle Deschenes	Gerardo Navarro	Melissa Watson
Gloria Drayton	Marian Palin	Patricia Withers
Donald Estrada	Wayne Parnell	Gladys Zerr

For the Souls of:

Walter Hammond
Rudolph Klassen

A View of Our Finances

Gifts to the Parish: February 2020		
	January	February (month to date)
<u>General collections</u>		
Collections	\$113,888	\$88,043
Operating Costs	\$135,217	\$79,755
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Operating Costs	-\$21,329	\$8,288
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u>		
Building Fund Collections	\$23,186	\$16,308
Building Loan Interest Due (at 4.95%)	\$25,833	\$25,833
Surplus Mortgage Repayment or (shortfall)	-\$2,647	-\$9,525
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$6,209,247	-
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u>		
Together in Action Collections YTD		\$7,714
Together in Action Target	TBD	TBD
TIA Surplus (Shortfall)		
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$2,690	\$1,202

If you have any questions, please contact Director of Operations, Suzy Moutinho (smoutinho@saintmichael.ca) or Finance Council Chair, Michael McGee (michaeltmcgee0862@gmail.com)

St. Michael Catholic Community | 800 85 St. SW, Calgary, AB T3H 4C7 | 403-249-0423 | www.saintmichael.ca

Pray for our Seminarians

Peter An, Kevin Ponte, Mark Kostecky, James Schnitzler, Matthew Schnitzler, Ian Mahood, Santiago Torres

Contact us

Pastor Fr. John Nemanic
frjohn@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor Fr. Pilmaiken Lezano
frpilmaiken@saintmichael.ca

Deacon Art Beaubien
deaconart@saintmichael.ca

Director of Operations Suzy Moutinho
smoutinho@saintmichael.ca

Secretary Luisa Adams
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Receptionist Helen Gal
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Evening Receptionist Sarah Hewitt
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Youth Minister Nolan Conrad
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Technical Director Kyle De Jaegher
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Communications Coordinator Ryan Factura
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Ministry Support Coordinator Rosalie Geeraert
rgeeraert@saintmichael.ca

Music Director Jim Howells
jhowells@saintmichael.ca

Director of Evangelization Sandy Leia
sleia@saintmichael.ca

Volunteer Coordinator Marvin Matthews
mmatthews@saintmichael.ca

Sacrament Coordinator Maureen Ross
mross@saintmichael.ca

Kids' Kingdom & Roots Alison Straface
astraface@saintmichael.ca

If you have any feedback or concerns, you can also use the online form at [saintmichael.ca/contact](https://www.saintmichael.ca/contact) (click the "feedback and concerns" button under the "Get in touch" section)



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

Catholic Pastoral Centre
120 17 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2S 2T2
Canada

ANNOUNCEMENTS

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 22-23, 2020

MARRIAGE PREPARATION WITH CEE

Catholic Engaged Encounter (CEE) invites engaged couples to a marriage preparation weekend. When: **March 28-29**. The weekend begins Saturday morning and ends Sunday afternoon, led by a team of married couples and clergy. Engaged couples will be encouraged to talk privately with each other on many aspects of marriage, always from the viewpoint of their own relationship. To register, call 403-240-0103 | ceewest.com/calgary |

LENTEN VESPERS & ADORATION

St. Joseph's Parish in Calgary invites all to begin Lent by spending one hour with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and with sung Vespers (Evening Prayer). When: **Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7 to 8 pm**. All are welcome.

LENTEN RETREATS / MISSIONS

Lenten Day Retreat with the Sisters of Divine Mercy. Adults (18 & older) are invited to a Lenten Day Retreat. When: **Saturday, Feb. 29 at 10:30 am to 4 pm**. Register at: sistersofdivinemericy.org

Lenten Mission with St. Paul's, Airdrie with Fr. Adrian Martens. When: Monday to Wednesday, **March 9-11**, at **7 pm** (start with Mass). Where: St. Paul's Church (1305 Main St., Airdrie).

Lenten Mission with St. Anthony's, Calgary with Fr. Edmund Vargas. When: **March 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 7:30 pm** (following 7 pm Mass). Where: St. Anthony's Church (5340 4 St SW, Calgary)

SFXC Young Adult Lenten Retreat (18-35) at Camp Chestermere (1041 East Lakeview Rd., Chestermere, AB). When: **Friday, March 20 (all day)**. To register, contact 587-232-9728 | sfxc@calgarydiocese.ca | sfxc.ca

RETRouvaille PROGRAM

Help your marriage and family by taking the Retrouvaille program. Learn to use practical communication tools to bring greater intimacy to your relationship. When: **Friday, March 6**. Register at helpourmarriagecalgary.com or call 403-879-7893.

BRUNCH WITH THE BISHOP

The Calgary Catholic Medical Association (CCMA) invites you to have brunch with Bishop McGrattan at the Canmore Opera House at Heritage Park (1900 Heritage Dr SW, Calgary). When: **Saturday, March 7**. This event is open to everyone. Tickets: \$30 each. For any questions or to register, contact catholic-medyyyc@gmail.com

WOMEN' RETREATS

Totus Tuus for Young Women (18-45) at the Divine Mercy Centre (15206 Township Road 262, Calgary) for a life deeply rooted to Mary, the Mother of Mercy. When: **Mar. 8 at 2-4 pm**.

Contact 587-755-1019.

Religious Vocation retreat for single women (16-35) at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish (7624-39 Ave. NW Calgary). When: **March 7**. Contact Sr. Terry Smith at 403-228-3623 | terry@fcjcentre.ca

FINE ARTS POSTER CONTEST

The Secular Franciscan Fraternities of Western Canada invite all children and youth to participate in their annual fine arts and poster contest. Theme: Reaching Out to My Community. Official entry must be submitted before **March 20**. For more information or to submit artwork, please visit olota.org | call 403-358-4530 or email catherineofs@gmail.com.

FAMILY COMPASS

Schoenstatt Apostolic Movement of Calgary invites Spanish-speaking couples to *Family Compass*, a series of workshops designed for couples who want to enrich their relationship and connect on a deeper level with God and their family. The series begins on Saturday, **March 21 at 6:30 pm** happening at St. Michael Catholic Community (800 85 Street SW, Calgary). For more information, visit saintmichael.ca/faithformation

FAITH AND FUN FLAMES GAME

Join Bishop McGrattan and the Catholic Community in the Diocese of Calgary at a hockey game - Calgary Flames vs Tampa Bay Lightning. The first one hundred purchasers will be entered into a draw for an autographed hockey stick. For each ticket sold we raise \$5 for the Diocesan youth ministry. There will be a pre-game meet & greet with Bishop McGrattan. When: **Saturday, March 21**. Cost: \$56 (discounted tickets). Get tickets at flamesgroups.com/faithandfun

FORMATION EXPERIENCE FOR ADULTS WORKING WITH KIDS |

Training on *The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* will be provided for adults working with kids 3-6 years old. This program provides Christian religious formation for children and is based on Montessori principles. When: **April 20-25**. Where: Catholic Pastoral Centre. For more information Contact cgsac.ca | paula.sabatini@st-peters.ca

JOIN US AT BISHOP'S DINNER

Join friends, family and the Catholic community for the 20th Bishop's Dinner. When: **Friday, May 8**, at Telus Convention Centre (120 9 Ave SE., Calgary). Funds raised will support the St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy Program and the continued spiritual formation of young adults throughout our Diocese. More information: bishopsdinner.ca.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE OUTDOOR WAY OF THE CROSS |
Good Friday, April 10— St. Mary's Cathedral.



DUC IN ALTUM

— LUKE 5:4 —

PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP

Spiritual Renewal in the Diocese of Calgary

Renewal of Priests



Renewal of the Laity,
Deacons, and Religious



Renewal of the Diocese



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Calgary,

Greetings of peace.

Introduction

1. February 27, 2020 marks the third anniversary of my installation as the Bishop of Calgary. As we enter this new decade in the life of the Diocese, I have begun to look ahead and also to review with gratitude the last three years to see the workings of the risen Christ and the Spirit.
2. After being installed as the Eighth Bishop of the Diocese of Calgary, I embarked on a process of consultation with the priests and the permanent deacons. The past three years were devoted to the assessment and evaluation, planning, and implementation of the pastoral approaches to the priorities that the clergy had identified. They include ongoing priestly formation, sacramental preparation that is family focused, the evaluation of the structure and mission of the Catholic Pastoral Centre, the ongoing vigilance and care for our Catholic schools, the review of our youth and family ministry outreach,

the new focus for the young adult and university chaplaincy, and the revitalization of the formation curriculum for permanent deacons that will ultimately focus their ministry on much needed areas of pastoral outreach in the broader community. The Presbyteral Council has been invaluable in helping to prioritize the areas of diocesan pastoral ministry, its implementation and the necessary feedback for its success.

3. This process of consultation with clergy was also supported by my Pastoral Visits to the parishes where I have had the opportunity to meet and talk with the lay faithful who worship in our parishes and serve in the various ministries such as Catholic schools and health care institutions and lay organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, to name but a few. My parish pastoral visits are continuing and I appreciate the opportunity to have in-depth discussions about matters pertaining to the faith and the mission of the parish which Christ has entrusted to each one of us through baptism.

***Duc in Altum* | Put out into the deep**

4. In this year of 2020, we will mark the 20th anniversary of *Novo Millennio Ineunte* (NMI), the Apostolic Letter issued by Pope John Paul II during the great jubilee year. He began the Letter by recalling the words of Jesus to Simon inviting him to “put out into the deep” for a catch: “*duc in altum*” (Luke 5:4) where “they caught a great number of fish” (Luke 5:6).

5. The Lord continues to speak these words to us today and invites us to put out into the deep. It is in this same spirit that we embark as a Diocese to rediscover and renew our common mission of proclaiming the Gospel through the spiritual and pastoral renewal of our clergy, the religious and lay faithful, and our parishes in anticipation and preparation for a formal process of Diocesan pastoral planning.

6. At the beginning of the millennium, the Letter was the Holy Father’s way of calling for the ongoing renewal of the Church’s mission through the laity and ordained ministry, and the ongoing pastoral planning at every level of the Church in order to rediscover the mystery we behold as a Church and as contained in Sacred Tradition. That mystery is Jesus Christ, the Good News that we are called to proclaim.

7. Pope John Paul II stated, “The program already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel and in the living Tradition. Ultimately, it has its centre in Christ himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated, so that in him we may live the life of the Trinity, and with him transform history until its fulfilment in the heavenly Jerusalem. (The program) must be translated into pastoral initiatives adapted to the circumstances of each community. It is in the local churches that the specific features of a detailed pastoral plan can be identified which will enable the proclamation of Christ to reach the people, mould communities, and have a deep and incisive influence in bringing Gospel values to bear in society and culture.” (NMI par. 29)

8. The Church’s mission must take into account the current times and culture. An important and essential part of this renewal is for priests to first rediscover their centredness in Christ so that they can truly offer a renewed pastoral leadership within the parishes in today’s context.

9. Pope John Paul II stated, “It is prayer which roots us in this truth. It constantly reminds us of the primacy of Christ and, in union with him, the primacy of the interior life and of holiness. When this principle is not respected, is it any wonder that pastoral plans come to nothing and leave us with a disheartening sense of frustration? We then share the experience of the disciples in the Gospel story of the miraculous catch of fish: ‘We have toiled all night and caught nothing’ (Lk 5:5). This is the moment of faith, of prayer, of conversation with God, in order to open our hearts to the tide of grace and allow the word of Christ to pass through us in all its power: *Duc in altum!* On that occasion, it was Peter who spoke the word of faith: ‘At your word I will let down the nets’ (ibid.).” (NMI no. 38)

10. When pastors are grounded in Christ who calls them to “put out into the deep”, they can then invite the faithful with joy and confidence to renew their own zeal for living their faith as missionary disciples in the world.

Program of Renewal



11. I am proposing a multi-year program of renewal, and invite us to embrace it as a Diocese in such a way that as we renew our individual commitments to the state of life for which we have been called by the Lord to live and serve, we become the leaven that will renew and transform the parishes, which when burning with zeal for the mission of Christ, in turn

will assist in the formation of missionary disciples for the evangelization of our society.

12. Pope Francis, in *Evangelii Gaudium* (EG), stated, “The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be ‘the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters.’ This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed group made up of a chosen few. The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God’s Word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach. We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation, and to make them completely mission-oriented.” (EG no. 28).

13. Parish renewal begins with the priests by renewing their priestly life and spirituality and, in turn, their ministry. It is my belief that this approach will provide us with new pastoral experiences from which to draw upon when we begin a formal process of diocesan pastoral renewal and planning in the coming years. As scripture states, “new wine must be poured into new wineskins” (Mark 2:22). A similar call and path will be extended to the lay faithful, religious and those who live and witness to their faith through their professions.

14. I envision a multi-staged process that will span over three years, engaging respectively the renewal

of the Priests, the Laity, Deacons, and Religious, and the Diocese as a whole. It is a process that will focus on the basics, the living of our baptismal faith, deepening our spiritual lives, seeking new ways of outreach in witness to justice and holiness that is a sign of authenticity in today’s world. This renewal must touch the fabric of our parishes, families and youth, young adults, seniors and the elderly. It can be the impetus for building bridges between the parishes and communities, with agencies and pastoral services sponsored throughout the Diocese.

15. Within the renewal of the laity, I also see unique opportunities for renewal in the professional life of Catholic School Educators, Administrators, Teachers and Staff, our Health Care Professionals, and Public Safety Professionals. These occasions of renewal provide the professionals serving in ministries of the Catholic Church the opportunity to plan and implement a year-round program of formation and support best suited to their field of work and expertise.

16. The final stage of renewal, taking place from Pentecost 2021 to 2022 and marked as the Renewal of the Diocese, will be the year of consultation, assessment, and planning for the pastoral life and mission of the Diocese. A working document will be produced for this final stage of renewal which will contain the findings of the previous stages of renewal and the practical and valuable information already obtained from the parish pastoral visits I have conducted since the beginning of my episcopacy.

17. While the process of renewal unfolds in stages, the various moments that liturgically mark the beginning of each stage will cause the processes to overlap and run concurrently with each other. The nature of this renewal will remind us of our interconnectedness and unity in Christ while celebrating the various spiritual gifts and responsibilities.

18. The following are markers of the renewal process. (See next page)

Year 2020

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Feb 23

- The Release of the Bishop's Pastoral Letter to the Faithful

Ash Wednesday, Feb 26

- The Release of the Bishop's Pastoral Letter to Priests

Mass of Chrism, Monday, Apr 6

- The Priests Renew their Promises and Formally Begin the Process of Renewal

Easter Sunday – Apr 12

- The Lay Faithful Renew their Baptismal Promises and Formally Begin the Process of Renewal

Pentecost Sunday – May 31

- Renewal for Lay Associations

Catholic School Division Opening Masses – August 2020

- Renewal for Catechists and Catholic School Administrators, Teachers, and Staff

White Mass – Oct 2020

- Renewal for Health Care Professionals

Red Mass – Oct 2020

- Renewal for Law Professionals

Blue Mass – Oct 2020

- Renewal for Public Safety Personnel

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Day of the Poor – Nov 15

- The Deacons Renew their Promises and Formally Begin the Process of Renewal

The Feast of the Holy Family – Sunday, Dec 27

- Renewal of Families & Youth and Begins the Process of Renewal

Year 2021

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Tuesday, Feb 2

- The Religious Renew their Vows and Formally Begin the Process of Renewal

Mass of Chrism, Monday, Mar 29

- The Priests Renew their Promises

Easter Sunday – April 4

- The Lay Faithful Renew their Baptismal Promises

Pentecost Sunday – May 23

Renewal for Lay Associations and the Launch of the Pastoral Planning Process

Catholic School Division Opening Masses – August – Sep 2021

- Renewal for Catechists and Catholic School Administrators, Teachers, and Staff

White Mass – Oct 2021

- Renewal for Health Care Professionals

Red Mass – Oct 2021

- Renewal for Law Professionals

Blue Mass – Oct 2021

- Renewal for Public Safety Personnel

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Day of the Poor – Nov 14

- The Deacons Renew their Promises

The Feast of the Holy Family – Sunday, Dec 26

- Renewal of Families & Youth

Year 2022

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Wednesday, Feb 2

- The Religious Renew their Vows

Mass of Chrism, Monday, Apr 11

- The Priests Renew their Promises

Easter Sunday – Apr 17

- The Lay Faithful Renew their Baptismal Promises

Pentecost Sunday – Jun 5

- Renewal for Lay Associations, the Culmination of the Pastoral Planning Process, and the Beginning of the Implementation Phase

19. In this multi-year process, it is my hope that we all deepen our commitment to the Lord in living our vocation every time we make the act of renewal on the marked feasts and occasions. We also strive to increase the formation we are receiving in the corresponding states of life and professions so that we may be able to deepen our sense of discipleship in our daily lives.

Call to Holiness

20. Pope Francis, in his Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exultate* (GEE), states, “We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by labouring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain.” (GEE no. 14)

21. Beginning this Season of Lent, we open our hearts, minds, and homes to the Holy Spirit. May these years of renewal be for us a source of inspiration and grace not only for our personal holiness and development but also for the holiness and development of the entire Diocese.

22. With the Diocese of Calgary under the patronage of our Blessed Mother, I conclude this pastoral letter with the prayer to our Lady from *Evangelii Gaudium*. We honour her for her humility and for her docility to God the Father, and we praise God for raising her to the stature of being the greatest disciple of our Lord and the “model of evangelization” (EG no. 288).

*Mary, Virgin and Mother,
you who, moved by the Holy Spirit,
welcomed the word of life
in the depths of your humble faith:
as you gave yourself completely to the Eternal One,
help us to say our own “yes”
to the urgent call, as pressing as ever,
to proclaim the good news of Jesus.*

*Filled with Christ’s presence,
you brought joy to John the Baptist,
making him exult in the womb of his mother.
Brimming over with joy,
you sang of the great things done by God.
Standing at the foot of the cross with unyielding faith,
you received the joyful comfort of the resurrection,
and joined the disciples in awaiting the Spirit
so that the evangelizing Church might be born.*

*Obtain for us now a new ardour born of the resurrection,
that we may bring to all the Gospel of life
which triumphs over death.
Give us a holy courage to seek new paths,
that the gift of unfading beauty
may reach every man and woman.*

*Virgin of listening and contemplation,
Mother of love, Bride of the eternal wedding feast,
pray for the Church, whose pure icon you are,
that she may never be closed in on herself
or lose her passion for establishing God’s kingdom.*

*Star of the new evangelization,
help us to bear radiant witness to communion,
service, ardent and generous faith,
justice and love of the poor, that the joy of the Gospel
may reach to the ends of the earth,
illuminating even the fringes of our world.*

*Mother of the living Gospel,
wellspring of happiness for God’s little ones, pray for us.
Amen. Alleluia!*

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William T. McGrattan



Bishop of Calgary