



# Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | [parish@saintmichael.ca](mailto:parish@saintmichael.ca) | November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

## Our Ministry of Presence

The coming of Christ, as presented at the beginning of the new liturgical year, is a way of introducing His presence who has dwelt among us. Our Advent celebration is inspired by the spirit of John the Baptist whose detachment to material things and message of repentance speak of the emptiness and transformation required to make Christ's presence felt in our life experiences. Our Advent celebration focuses on Christ's coming into our lives. It is an opportunity to re-examine the far-reaching implications of the Mystery of the Incarnation in our challenging journey towards Christian maturity.

In a very real way, our ministry of presence relates to our sense of hope for this life and life after. Advent affords us to reflect on our readiness for the final moment, while striving to live this life in the best way possible.

Our sense of hope, like the spirit of the Advent season, targets two aspects of our future: our future in the present life and our future in the life after this life. Our hope in our immediate future, that is, our future in this present world, can be made more significant in the context of our ultimate future, the future that awaits us at the end of our lives or at the end of time. Our personal hope in Someone beyond our world can impact our cares and concerns, making our efforts more significant.

Hope, like our celebration of the Advent season, is like a two-edged sword that cuts through the curtain of both time and eternity, giving us a vision that sees the temporal from the vantage point of the eternal. The stronger our hope, the wider it cuts through the curtain that conceals the mysteries of life, death and the afterlife.

Advent is a time to strengthen our Christian sense of hope. It is time to intensify our hope for the world that is yet to come, while re-assuring ourselves that life as we live is worth living.

When we always hope in God, and are always hopeful for the final moment, we find life as intense, loving, precious and meaningful. Hope makes us see ourselves as pilgrims, living a borrowed life on a borrowed time. Hope steers us to take the road less traveled by. Hope makes us dare to face the future with the confidence that God is with us today and until the end of time. Hope makes us say "I am here" when the call to the ministry of presence beckons us to God's love and compassion.

[Fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto:Fredmund@saintmichael.ca).

## Healing Lines

*"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."* As things begin to get busy this time of year, we need to guard against increased stress and short tempers. Be sure to take care to keep a healthy perspective on the pressures and remember the true meaning of this time of the year.

## Stocking Tree

Fill a pair of socks with essentials for daily living such as: underwear, mitts, gloves, toques, Kleenex packets, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, bandages, shampoo, razors, shaving cream and, if you have room, candy bars. Hang the stockings onto the Stocking Tree in the Sanctuary. These stockings will be delivered to the Drop-In Centre on Monday, December 20. Thanks for your generosity!

## 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](http://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](http://flocknote.com/smcyc).



## Church Schedule

*Subject to change*

### Weekday & Weekend Masses:

Tuesday: 6 p.m.

Wednesday to Friday: 9 a.m.

Saturday: 5 p.m.

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

Sunday 11 a.m. live stream  
at [saintmichael.ca/Mass](http://saintmichael.ca/Mass) or on Facebook Live

### Reconciliation:

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

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

### Eucharistic Adoration:

Due to the new Covid restrictions Adoration on Fridays is being suspended until further notice

### Office Hours:

Tues-Fri from 9:30 a.m. 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

## Partnership of Hope



By writing this letter we want to thank the Community of St. Michael's for supporting us throughout our journey to Canada. It is an ongoing journey for us, but we are more than happy to have all of you by our sides. We are grateful and excited to be part of St. Michael's big family. God Bless you all.  
Farhad, Mariam, Ghazal and Ava Panahi (New Canadian's).

## Advent Penitential Service

Our parish penitential service will be on Wednesday, December 8. Come and prepare yourself for Christmas, starting with Mass at 6 p.m. followed by adoration and the sacrament of Reconciliation.

## Knitting Ministry

Thank you to everyone who is busy knitting hats, scarves and mitts for our project. Just a reminder to please drop off your items by Friday, December 10. There is a knitting donations box by the Sanctuary doors beside the SSVP food box.

## Simbang Gabi at SMCC

Join the Filipino community on Saturday, December 11 starting with carols at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 7 p.m. Simbang Gabi is a nine-night series of traditional Filipino Masses in preparation for Christmas. Other churches are hosting Masses as well. The Simbang Gabi at SMCC is an opportunity for our Filipino families to welcome other Filipino families from other parishes into our community.

## Advent Mission

Join Michael Chiasson and the Access52 Team for a one-night mission designed to prepare and inspire your Advent experience on Wednesday, December 15 at 7 p.m. The night will be filled with inspiration, talks, stories and music. Free event. All ages welcome.

## Poinsettias in Memory of a Loved One

Parishioners are invited to help decorate the Sanctuary this Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in memory of a loved one. Order forms are available in the gathering area. You can drop off your completed form along with your payment (\$30/poinsettia) in the collection basket during Mass or at the parish office by Wednesday, December 15.

## 2022 Contribution Envelopes

Next year's 2022 contribution envelopes are now available for pickup in the gathering area. Please look for your name alphabetically-organized, and note that your number may have changed from last year. If you have any questions, call the parish office at 403-249-0423.

## Lectio Divina Books

Lectio Divina Books for Year C (2021-2022) are now available at the stand next to the gift shop or at the parish office. Free will offering.

## SSVP Christmas Hamper Outreach 2021

We are happy to announce that we will have Christmas Hamper distributions this year. Due to COVID restrictions we will be having a smaller event, but we need your assistance more than ever as requests for help at Christmas are coming in. SSVP is working to meet the needs and deliver hampers while maintaining the safety of our volunteers and recipients. This year, we're unable to handle food donations but we will process Angel Tree gifts. SSVP will purchase all required food from our wholesaler and would welcome your support for this in the form of monetary donations. Donations to SSVP may be dropped in the collection basket, placed in a green SSVP donation envelope and dropped off at the church in the SSVP locked box located in our collection bin, or made online: [Donate Now – St. Michael Catholic Community \(canadahelps.org\)](#) - Please select Society of St Vincent de Paul (including Christmas Hampers) in the "Funds" dropdown menu. Tax receipts will be issued in January 2022 for any monetary donations.

Our hamper assembly efforts require some volunteers, spread out over a period of several days prior to hamper delivery evening, which is scheduled for the evening of December 14. We are still in need of hamper assembly volunteers for Monday, December 13 and Tuesday, December 14 during the day. Watch for a more detailed email describing specific needs. Email inquiries and offers to help can be directed to [hampervolunteers2021@gmail.com](mailto:hampervolunteers2021@gmail.com).

## Drivers Needed for Hamper Deliver

We request volunteers for hamper delivery: 2 adults minimum per car. We will send a Model Code of Conduct form to volunteers delivering Hampers to sign and return. If volunteers do not have a partner, we can match up with someone else. Volunteers please email [hampervolunteers2021@gmail.com](mailto:hampervolunteers2021@gmail.com).

## Angel Tree

We will have an Angel tree this year. For those interested in selecting an angel gift tag, they will be dispensed after this weekend's Masses. Look for the Angel tree table set-up in the gathering area. Please help out our angel tree program by obtaining an angel and purchasing a gift for a child.

For those of you unable to attend Mass in person to obtain an angel, please email [2021angeltree@gmail.com](mailto:2021angeltree@gmail.com) and indicate how many angels you would like to buy gifts for. Don't forget to provide your name and a contact phone number.

## 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](mailto: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.



## Christmas at St. Michael's

### Friday, December 24

#### Christmas Eve

Daily Mass at 9 a.m.

Masses at 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.  
(Livestreamed at 8 p.m.)

*Parish office: 9:30 a.m. to noon*

### Saturday, December 25

#### Christmas Day

Masses at 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

(Livestreamed at 11 a.m.)

*Parish office closed*

### Sunday, December 26

#### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Masses at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 5 p.m.

*Parish office closed*

### Tuesday, December 28

#### Feast of the Holy Innocents

Daily Mass at 6 p.m.

*Parish office: 9:30 a.m. to noon*

### Wednesday, December 29

#### Feast of the Holy Family

Daily Mass at 9 a.m.

*Parish office: 9:30 a.m. to noon*

### Thursday, December 30

Daily Mass at 9 a.m.

*Parish office: 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon*

### Friday, December 31

#### New Year's Eve

Daily Mass at 9 a.m.

Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

*Parish office: 9:30 a.m. to noon*

### Saturday, January 1

#### New Year's Day

#### Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Masses at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 5 p.m.

*Parish office closed*

### Sunday, January 2

#### Epiphany of the Lord

Masses at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 5 p.m.

*Parish office closed*

## 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**.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, November 27

5 p.m.: David Graham †

### Sunday, November 28: 1st Sunday of Advent

9 a.m.: Marie Larocque †

11 a.m.: For all Parishioners

5 p.m.: Frank and Helen Gal †

### Tuesday, November 30, Feast of St. Andrew

6 p.m.: Intentions of Georgina Pintaric

### Wednesday, December 1, First week of Advent

9 a.m.: Mirko Ilic †

### Thursday, December 2

9 a.m.: Maria DeLuca †

### Friday, December 3, Memorial St. Francis Xavier

9 a.m.: Ma Estrella Villablanca †

### Saturday, December 4

5 p.m.: Paz Alciso †

### Sunday, December 5, 2nd Sunday of Advent

9 a.m.: Genieieve Swerhone †

11 a.m.: For all Parishioners

5 p.m.: Intentions of Fred & Brenda Helman

## 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](mailto:columbarium@saintmichael.ca).

### Please Pray For:

Micheline Bird	Sierra Knight
Mary Devroom	Rosemarie Magno
Dr. Rachel	Norma Padolina
Diego Gomez	Georgina Pintaric
Jun & Lynn Guevarra	Lawrence Raffin
John David Haw	Nina Robledo
Austen Hill	Hazel Tolentino
William Hill	Carlos Useche

### For the Souls of:

Erlinda Barrios  
Eunice Pagandian

## Pray for our Seminarians

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

### Contact us

For general inquiries: [info@saintmichael.ca](mailto:info@saintmichael.ca)  
403-249-0423

**Pastor** Fr. Edmund Vargas  
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**Bookkeeper** Michelle Gregory  
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**Technical Director** Kyle De Jaegher  
[kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca](mailto:kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca)

## A View of Our Finances

Gifts to the Parish: September 2021			
	August	September	October
<b><u>General Collections</u></b>			
Collections	\$82,649	\$80,777	\$91,499
Operating Costs	\$70,964	\$69,959	\$66,834
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Operating Costs	\$11,685	\$10,818	\$24,665
<b><u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u></b>			
Building Fund Collections	\$16,109	\$11,467	\$16,939
Building Loan Interest — none			
Surplus Mortgage Repayment or (shortfall)			
<b><u>Current Loan Balance</u></b>	\$5,415,588	\$5,395,519	\$5,375,581
<b><u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u></b>			
Together in Action Collections YTD	\$39,958	\$42,245	\$46,901
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$18,739	\$19,559	\$29,044

If you have any questions, please contact Michael McGee, Finance Council Chair at [finance@saintmichael.ca](mailto:finance@saintmichael.ca).