



# Saint Michael Catholic Community



800 85 Street SW | 403-249-0423 | [parish@saintmichael.ca](mailto:parish@saintmichael.ca) | January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

## The Baptism of Approval

Christ's baptism marks the formal beginning of His public ministry. It also symbolizes His continuing allegiance to God's will. It is both his first public appearance, so to speak, and the inauguration of His divine ministry. The Lord's baptism is symbolic of the Father's approval of the Son's ministry of preaching the Good News of Salvation that would culminate in his passion, death and resurrection. When Christ submitted Himself to be baptized by John in the Jordan River, God's stamp of approval was dramatically executed by the symbolism of a dove and voice from above which said: "You are my Son, the Beloved: with you I am well pleased."

Jesus' baptism represents the fulfillment of what is prophesied in the Servant Song in Chapter 63 of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. God sends His servant-son, filled with his spirit, sharing his divine life and power, to accomplish the salvation of the world, bringing new life to all of humanity. He is designated as the representation of God's people according to the Spirit. He is declared formally as the only Son of God, the Servant of Yahweh, anointed with his prophetic spirit.

On the human level, the Lord's baptism would be like getting the approval and support of our parents to get married or getting the green light from your boss to undertake a significant project. Our being sworn into office, getting married or ordained or being commissioned for a particular ministry or assuming a public office are ceremonies of approval not only from the human authorities but also from God, from whom all authority originates. Pledges and oaths mention the name of God, asking his assistance and inspiration. Inauguration ceremonies speak of a kind of surrender of God's authority in the fulfillment of our responsibilities.

The celebration of the Lord's baptism makes us reflect on the need to ask God to consider or approve what we plan to do with our respective lives. It speaks of the need to submit ourselves and our decisions to God's clearance. It invites us to consider the need to get God's opinion on what we undertake on a daily basis, giving our life and our acts a kind of stamp of approval from the Almighty Father. What does God think or feel about what I am doing? If Christ would have to do the things I am concerned with, how would He go about them? Let's reflect on how much we really mean when we pray on a regular basis "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven".  
[Fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto:Fredmund@saintmichael.ca).

### Healing Lines

Christmas time is time to remember Jesus as a baby who like other babies was completely vulnerable and at the mercy of the adults in his life. Significantly, God did not take any chances with this child. God takes drastic measures to ensure the safety and protection of the child. As far as the safety of the child Jesus, God acted decisively and timelessly. In our society today, children (like women and the elderly) remain one of the most vulnerable groups. How do we respond in this Christmas Season to protect those who are vulnerable?

## 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](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

## Mass Schedule for this Weekend

Saturday, January 8, 5 p.m. – Fr. Raul Hernandez

Sunday, January 9, 9 a.m. – Fr. Raul Hernandez

Sunday, January 9, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. – Fr. Fr. Edmund Vargas

## Bible Study

*Mondays at 7 p.m. starting January 10*

Please join us for a bible study via Zoom on Mondays at 7 p.m., beginning January 10. The first study of the winter/spring season will be a 6 session video study on The Creed with Bishop Robert Barron. For more information, contact Augusto at [abitter@telus.net](mailto:abitter@telus.net).

## CWL 3rd Annual Fish For Fridays in Lent Fundraiser

*January 11 to February 7*

"Fish for Fridays" Lent Fundraiser, will be on-line ordering January 11 to February 7. Orders to be picked up at the church on Tuesday, February 22, just in time for Ash Wednesday on March 2.

To place an order, please visit: <https://fundforward.ca/collections/st-michael-cwl-lent-2022>.

## Catholicism 101: What Do Catholics Believe?

*Tuesdays at 7 p.m. starting February 1*

Starting Tuesday, February 1 at 7p.m., this ten-week online course presents the central beliefs, teachings, and practices of the Catholic church. Each 1.5 hour session includes a short video from the *Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained* series and small group discussion. Contact Mark Richards at 403-836-0545 for more information. Go to [saintmichael.ca/events](https://saintmichael.ca/events) to register.

## Alpha Online

*Wednesdays at 7 p.m. starting February 2*

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal environment. It will run on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. beginning February 2 via Zoom. Gathering once a week over an eleven-week period, Alpha welcomes people from every walk of life, wherever they are on their faith journey. We will have time for connection, a talk, and small group discussion. Many are looking for meaning in their lives during this time and Alpha is a great place to start! Come and bring a friend! Call Mark at 403-836-0545 with any questions. For more details or to register go to: <https://saintmichael.ca/alpha/>.

## 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.

## Society of St. 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 at [SSVP@saintmichael.ca](mailto:SSVP@saintmichael.ca) or 403-249-0423 ext 122.

**Donations of non-perishable food items** can be dropped off in the SSVP food chest in the gathering area. Currently we are looking for: cereal, pasta sauce, canned vegetables and canned fish/meat.

**Monetary donations** can be deposited in the drop-box in the food chest or by online donations through the St. Michaels Parish website <https://saintmichael.ca/giving/>. Please indicate 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 at [SSVP@saintmichael.ca](mailto:SSVP@saintmichael.ca) or 403-249-0423 ext 122.

## 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).

### Pray for our Seminarians

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

### Please Pray For:

Marie-Claire  
Alden Gibson  
William Hill  
Joseph Javier  
Sierra Knight

Daniela Masek  
Norma Padolina  
Lawrence Raffin  
Duncan Smith

### For the Soul of:

Lina Rino

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 8

5 p.m.: Maureen Jones †

### Sunday, January 9, The Baptism of the Lord

9 a.m.: Intentions of Ron Fabbi

11 a.m.: For All Parishioners

5 p.m.: Emma De Artigas +

### Tuesday, January 11

6 p.m.: Intentions of Fely Ynigo

### Wednesday, January 12

9 a.m.: William Andrade +

### Thursday, January 13

9 a.m.: Giovanni Bombini +

### Friday, January 14

5 p.m.: Intentions of Patty Schachter

### Saturday, January 15

9 a.m.: Intentions of Julie & Ernest Parinas

### Sunday January 16,

9 a.m.: Chris Adams +

11 a.m. For All Parishioners

5 p.m.: Sarafin Cruz +

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

## Text to Donate



TITHE.LY

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.

## Contact us

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

**Pastor** Fr. Edmund Vargas  
[fredmund@saintmichael.ca](mailto:fredmund@saintmichael.ca)

**Associate Pastor** Fr. Raul Hernandez  
[frraul@saintmichael.ca](mailto:frraul@saintmichael.ca)

**Parish Secretary** Luisa Adams  
[ladams@saintmichael.ca](mailto:ladams@saintmichael.ca)

**Bookkeeper** Michelle Gregory  
[mgregory@saintmichael.ca](mailto:mgregory@saintmichael.ca)

**Sacraments Preparation Coordinator** Francesca Ambrosino  
[fambrosino@saintmichael.ca](mailto:fambrosino@saintmichael.ca)

**Technical Director** Kyle De Jaegher  
[kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca](mailto:kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca)

## A View of Our Finances

Gifts to the Parish			
	September	October	November
<b><u>General Collections</u></b>			
Collections	\$80,777	\$91,499	\$99,356
Operating Costs	\$69,959	\$66,834	\$103,871
Surplus (shortfall) YTD Operating Costs	\$10,818	\$24,665	\$-4,515
<b><u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u></b>			
Building Fund Collections	\$11,467	\$16,939	\$20,987
Building Loan Interest — none			
Surplus Mortgage Repayment or (shortfall)			
<b><u>Current Loan Balance</u></b>	\$5,395,519	\$5,375,581	\$5,355,479
<b><u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u></b>			
Together in Action Collections YTD	\$42,245	\$46,901	\$50,717
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	\$19,559	\$29,044	\$40,025

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