



Saint Michael Catholic Community

800 85th Street SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3H 4C7

September 7, 2025: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Narthex as place of welcome...

The Narthex is a gathering area which demonstrates that we are expected by God to come. We are indeed summoned to appear before God and do our priestly duty in Christ on behalf of all humanity. The entrance rite has actually begun in our departure from our homes. The process of coming together is the beginning of worship. A gathering place indicates that Christ is already at work in our midst as we recognize and greet one another. The narthex is also the place where we celebrate events: potlucks, receptions, and other celebrations.

The incorporation of a gathering area in the design of Christian churches is as old as Christian architecture. Large open courtyards preceded the great fourth-century churches in Rome such as St Peter's. The narthex, the courtyard or atrium was intended for the purpose of gathering and welcoming. This is known from both the history of the space as an architectural form and from early references to fountains and other provisions for pilgrims and visitors. A rectangular building, called a basilica, was adapted for Christian use. Basilicas were civic structures, often located adjacent to a public forum or open marketplace. Our church at St. Michael's features a large gathering area (referred to as the Narthex) just outside of the 1200-seater Sanctuary. The Narthex (and not the Sanctuary) is the proper place for greeting and socializing. The Narthex is the meeting place. The Sanctuary is the worship space.

The human need for social interaction as part of coalescing into a larger group should be considered. People who are comfortable with each other will participate in the worship rather attend as spectators.

Pope John Paul II reminds us to keep our vision as church community: *"It is necessary that in the light of faith, all rediscover the true meaning of the parish, that is, the place where the very 'mystery' of church is present... The parish is not principally a structure, a territory or a building, but rather 'the family of God', 'the fellowship afire with a unifying spirit', 'a familial and welcoming home, 'the community of the faithful'.* Plainly and simply, the parish is founded on a theological reality because it is a Eucharistic community.

Fr. Edmund, fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Healing Lines...



Confronting Violence and Abuse... Both survivors and persons who have offended may minimize the violence and reinterpret what occurred to excuse or erase it. For a person to say "No!" to violence and abuse, they must name violence and abuse for what it is. Jesus tells us that we cannot be his disciples if we come with hatred of others in our hearts. As we begin this time of school and fall activities let us recognize any violence or abuse and confront it. Let us interact with each other with compassion, love and support.

Church Schedule:

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 on 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

Anointing of the Sick or Hospital Communion:

24 Hour Emergency Diocese Hotline
403-231-9505

Contact Us:

Office:

Phone: 403-249-0423 info@saintmichael.ca

Pastor:

Fr. Edmund Vargas fredmund@saintmichael.ca

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Kelvin Chukwurah frkelvin@saintmichael.ca

Secretary:

Loreen Morrison lmorrison@saintmichael.ca

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Pina Rino prino@saintmichael.ca

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Music Director:

Jim Howells jhowells@saintmichael.ca

Volunteer Coordinator:

info@saintmichael.ca

Children's Liturgy Coordinator:

Caroline Dixon cdixon@saintmichael.ca

Technical Director:

Kyle De Jaegher kdejaegher@saintmichael.ca

Bookkeeper:

Michelle Gregory accounting@saintmichael.ca

Children's Sacraments

Registration for all children's Sacraments are now open! If you would like more information, or would like to register your children for Baptism, First Reconciliation/ First Communion, or Confirmation, please visit the Sacrament section of our website.



Interested in Becoming Catholic?



If you or someone you know is an adult interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Don at bryant-don40@gmail.com to learn more about RCIA.

RCIA Sponsors Needed!

RCIA is beginning on Tuesday, September 9 here at St. Michael's, and we are looking for Sponsors for our new catechumens and candidates. In order to be a Sponsor, you must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic over the age of 16. If married, you must be married in the Catholic Church. Sponsors are asked to attend sessions every Tuesday night from 7:00pm-9:00pm, and accompany their candidate to Mass on Sundays. If you feel called to be a Sponsor, please contact Don at bryant-don40@gmail.com



Parish Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist



DAY 30 HOLY MOMENTS: "Some moments are holy, some moments are unholy, and you get to decide. Fill your life with holy moment, one at a time." Please read Day 30 in your *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book. Here is a reflection by Fr. Jonathan Meyer: [Day 30 YOUR PRO-FOUND INFLUENCE](https://forms.gle/XSxAXUPWACLHbdBr7) Any questions or comments click on this link: <https://forms.gle/XSxAXUPWACLHbdBr7> or go to [Eucharistic Adoration Ministry](#)



A Eucharist Series

A Eucharistic series is scheduled on three consecutive Thursdays, September 18 and 25, and October 2, starting with a Mass at 6pm at the Day Chapel, followed by a presentation on the following themes: Eucharist as Sacrifice, Eucharist as Communion, and Eucharist as Presence. Fr Edmund is our facilitator, who holds a Licentiate in Sacred Theology (1980) and Master of Arts in Higher Religious Studies (1980) from the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas in Manila. All evenings culminate with a Q&A forum and a reception.

Eucharistic Consecration

Have you been preparing for Consecration to Jesus in the Eucharist? Our parish consecration will occur at all Masses on the weekend of September 27 & 28. To assist with planning, please use the link to RSVP:



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenYF2Ip24WC4Co8T6H5loMY5qqfbL0aplp0zPi260-E-U5PQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

Coffee Connections

Coffee Wednesdays resumed Wed. Sept. 3, 2025 after the 9:00am Mass. Coffee Sunday will resume Sun. Sept. 7, 2025 after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.



Potluck Sunday



Potluck Sundays for St. Michael Community will be on the first Sunday of each month at 6:00pm. September 7 will be our first one of the year. This is a free event. Please bring a main dish, bread, salad, pickles, vegetable tray, or dessert to share with others. Please bring your food ready to serve. Come celebrate our community!

SSVP Share Sunday Food Drive



Please help the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) to provide food hampers to struggling families by participating in our Share Sunday Food Drive. After all masses on Sept 6 & 7, members of SSVP will be handing out food lists, bags, and donation envelopes. Please return your food and financial donations on Sept 13 & 14. Thank you.

CWL Meeting



St. Michael's Catholic Women's League will reconvene after the summer break with a General Meeting on Tues. Sept. 9 at 6:30 PM (following Mass) in the St. Michael's Room. Members and visitors are invited to join us as we plan the upcoming year based on our pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice.

Men's Ministry



The St. Michael Men's Ministry is excited to announce that this year's That Man Is You program is a 2025 update of the original session, Becoming a Man After God's Own Heart. We've kept the heart of the original: the biblical message on manhood and leadership, the wisdom of the saints, the 7 Steps, a powerful Lenten Journey, delivered by multiple dynamic speakers focusing directly on the challenges men face today. Never been to TMIY? Now's the perfect time. Stepped away for a while? We want you back. Already in the program? Let's go deeper together. We meet Wednesdays, beginning September 10, in the reception area with breakfast at 6:00am, video at 6:30am, and discussion at 7:00am. Please reach out to us at mensministry@saintmichael.ca.

Knitting Ministry



We meet every Thursday at 10:00am in the library beginning September 11. We invite everyone to join us.

Women's Bible Study



"The Beatitudes", a 9 week study, will run from September 17 to November 19, 2025. In-person sessions are on Wednesdays from 9:30am-12:00pm at St. Michael's in the Theater, and ZOOM sessions on Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00pm. Register through womensministry@saintmichael.ca, or using the following link: <https://forms.gle/irgrMp9AePg9LLHV8>

Together in Action (TIA)

TOGETHER
IN ACTION 2025

This year's goal is \$121,243 and currently, we have reached 63% of this target amount. Thanks to your generosity, we reached this target amount last year. All surplus funds will go to our Building Fund to help pay our loan.

Altar Server Training

There will be an altar server training session on Sunday, September 28 from 12:00-2:00pm in the Sanctuary. Please come prepared to stay for two-hours.



Monday Bible Study "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life"

In everything from friendships to finances, from making decisions to attaining peace of mind, Scripture offers a vision for happiness and well-being. "Wisdom: God's Vision for Life" bible study will be drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible - Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, and Ecclesiastes - where you will learn how to grow in wisdom and experience the joy it brings to life. It will start on September 29 with 8 in-person sessions in St. Nicholas Room at 7:00pm. To register or to get additional information, please contact Augusto Bitter at abitter@telus.net.



Altar Servers Alb Laundering

Behind the scenes is very important work that needs to happen in order for the Altar Servers to serve according to the Catholic guidelines, and to look clean and uniform. We are in need of 1 or 2 volunteers who can wash and iron the Albs approximately every 2nd month. If you are called to help with this, please send an email to altarservers@saintmichael.ca.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

At present, the greatest need for Eucharistic Ministers is for the Sunday 11:00am Mass. EMHCs must be a minimum of 18 years of age, be fully initiated in the Catholic Church (have received the Sacraments), strive to live the Christian life, and be devoted to the great mystery of the Eucharist. This is a scheduled Ministry; at present serving once every 3 weeks. Training is provided. If you are interested in joining the Eucharistic Ministry, please contact Kris Renger at Eucharist@saintmichael.ca.



Children's Liturgy of the Word 2025/2026

KIDS' KINGDOM is pleased to offer a Mass Preparation & Children's Liturgy of the Word session, every Sunday at 10:30 AM. Sessions include the traditional prayers of the Mass, good music, Church building activities, mini-reflections, and demo's geared toward young children in K. to Gr. 3 before & during the Liturgy of the Word portion of the Mass. Please click **HERE** to register online now for SMCC's Children's Liturgy of the Word. Volunteers Needed! Please contact Mrs. Caroline Dixon cdixon@saintmichael.ca or call the office 403-249-0423.



Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is set to meet on Tuesday, September 30, 7pm at the St Michael's Room. The council is now composed of the following: Brina D'Souza, Claudia P. Dutoit, Michael Fitzsimmons, Keefer Gibson, Deana Helton, Sean Thomas Kelly, Marilyn Nasse (chair), Ken McKinnon, Gabrielle Puhl, Margaret Tapuska (secretary) & Usaze Uwagboe. Michael McGee (Finance chair), Fr Edmund & Fr Kelvin are ex-officio. The council membership has been selected after due consultation and prayerful reflection.



Catholic Women's League Book Sale

St. Michael's Catholic Women's League will be holding a sale of gently used books, puzzles, and board games the weekend of September 20/21. Please consider donating fiction, non-fiction, children's books, cookbooks, etc. as long as they are free of explicit content. Items may be dropped off at the church (designated bins) the weekend of September 13/14. For more information please contact Edie Lozinsky at smcwlpresident@gmail.com.



40 Days for Life Fall Prayer Campaign

40 Days for Life is a prayerful, respectful campaign that seeks to save babies from being killed in abortion. Our prayerful presence near the abortion centre draws attention to the humanity of the preborn and seeks God's help through intercessory prayer. Sign up and be a loving, prayerful voice for the preborn babies who have no voice. We know from the testimonies of many that these campaigns save lives. 25,695 lives have been saved since 2007. St. Michael has two days to pray this campaign: Friday, September 26 and Friday, October 3. Our team will be there between the hours of 8am to 1pm each of those days. Please join us by signing up online at [40 Days for Life](https://www.40daysforlife.org). Signs are provided and you will not be alone. Questions? Call Karen at 403-870-7080.



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

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: contact SSVP@saintmichael.ca. ANNUAL REPORT 2024: <https://www.ssvpstmichael.ca/annual-report-2024/>



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. Sept. 6 - Sun. Sept. 14, 2025):

Saturday, September 6:

SSVP Share Sunday Appeals for Food & Donations, before & after Masses

Sunday, September 7:

SSVP Share Sunday Appeals for Food and Donations, before & after Masses

Coffee Connection: after 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

Potluck Sunday and Name Tag Sunday: Narthex, 6:00pm

Monday, September 8:

No Events

Tuesday, September 9:

Rosary Group: Day Chapel, 5:20pm

CWL Meeting: St. Michael's Room, 6:30-8:30pm

RCIA: St. Nicholas Room, 7:00-9:00pm

Grief Share: Rooms 144 & 145, 7:00-9:00pm

Wednesday, September 10:

Men's Ministry: Narthex & Theatre, 6:00-7:30am

Coffee Connection: after 9:00am Mass

Thursday, September 11:

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

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

Friday, September 12:

Eucharistic Adoration: Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 10:30am-8:00pm

Saturday, September 13:

SSVP Share Sunday Collection of Food & Donations, before & after Masses

Sunday, September 14:

SSVP Share Sunday Collection of Food & Donations, before & after Masses

Coffee Connection: after 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

Children's Liturgy (Begins): Guardian Angel Room, 10:30am

Monday, September 15:

No Events

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, September 6:

5 pm: Elpidio & Regina Pagdanganan † (Fr. Kelvin)

Sunday, September 7:

9 am: Gerald Mudry † (Fr. Edmund)

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

5 pm: Andrea Paget † (Fr. Kelvin)

Tuesday, September 9:

6 pm: Venee Gunn † (Fr. Kelvin)

Wednesday, September 10:

9 am: Ghina Younis † (Fr. Edmund)

Thursday, September 11

9 am: John Lee † (Fr. Edmund)

Friday, September 12:

9 am: Marie Therese Rouhana † (Fr. Kelvin)

Saturday, September 13:

5 pm: Christina Schuh † (Fr. Edmund)

Sunday, September 14:

9 am: Jesus Puerto † & Yolanda Mejiu † (Fr. Kelvin)

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

5 pm: Andy Alessio † (Fr. Kelvin)

Please Pray For:

Please contact the office with your request.

Maria Riza Gardoce, Justin Hewitt, Carmelita Diolata,
Frederik V., Marguerite Fisk, Elizabeth Chandless,
Genevieve Lewis, Helen Sanderson, Mary Anne Harach,
Clint Walsh, John McClintock, Uly Hart,
Harry Clark, Andrea Gonzalez

For the Souls Of:

Elizabeth DeCoste, Lucien Marchand

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

	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025
<u>General Collections</u> Collections	\$101,987	\$122,203	\$87, 509
Other Income	\$55,409	\$42,890	\$20,917
Operating Costs	\$160,700	\$123,017	\$124,903
Surplus (Shortfall)	(\$3,304)	\$42,076	(\$16,477)
<u>Central Fund Loan (Mortgage)</u> Building Fund Collections	\$11,708	\$40,532	\$11,322
<u>Current Loan Balance</u>	\$3,228,187	\$3,204,035	\$3,179,800
<u>Diocesan Annual Campaign</u> Together in Action Year-to-Date	\$71,395	\$74,611	\$77,040
% TIA Goal \$121,243.00	58%	61%	63%
Society St. Vincent de Paul (monthly)	\$1,293	\$856.00	\$1056.00