

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

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CALGARY, AB. T2S 0C2
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OCTOBER 24, 2021

30TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blind Ambition

Last week we heard James and John asking Jesus: *Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory* (Mk 10:37). Their personal ambition blinded them from the horrible destiny that awaited their teacher, who previously stated to them: *We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles* (Mk 10:33).

That last stop for Jesus in his final destiny to Jerusalem is Jericho. At this point, he is literally ascending to the great city. The 25 km stretch between from Jericho and Jerusalem was a notoriously dangerous road. Jerusalem is 700 m above sea-level; the Dead Sea, near which Jericho stood, is 400m below sea-level. So then, in 25 km, this road rose over 1 km. It was a narrow road filled with blind corners and sudden turnings, perfect places for bandits to hide and rob pilgrims, which served as the context for the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37.

Also, Jericho would have been a city filled with much activity, as Jewish pilgrims and many Temple priests were on their way for the feast of Passover in a week. Those unable to make the difficult journey because of age or disability, would have lined the streets of Jericho to bid farewell to the pilgrims. Yet in the midst of Jericho's chaos, someone told Bartimaeus, a blind beggar unable to go up to Jerusalem himself, that Jesus of Nazareth was leaving the city.

How did this blind man know of Jesus? Why did he call him out in particular, when there so many other holy people were going up to Jerusalem? Obviously he knew about Jesus from all the miracles he had performed. By the point, St. Mark recounts 18 miracles in his gospel, such as the healing of the blind man at Bethsaida (Mk 8:22-26) about a 100km away from Jericho. So persistently did Bartimaeus want the miracle that he calls out to Jesus twice: *Son of David, have mercy on me!* Jesus is a man on a mission to die, preoccupied by the pilgrimage ahead to Jerusalem, yet calls Bartimaeus to him.

When Bartimaeus hears that Jesus wants to see him *he throws off his cloak, and sprang up and came to him*. Bartimaeus is so excited to come to Jesus that he casts off one of his few possessions. Jesus then enters into a dialogue with Bartimaeus: *What do you want me to do for you? The blind man said to him, My teacher, let me see again* (10:50-1).

The blind man now becomes a man with sight. What does he do? Does he look for the cloak, or go back home? No, he followed him on the way. Contrast this with the rich young man earlier in Mk 10:17-27.

The impact of Bartimaeus' healing touched the pilgrims so deeply that they praised Jesus as he entered Jerusalem triumphantly, *Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!* (Mk 11:10), and also *"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!* (Mt 21:9).

While James and John were blindly ambitious for Jesus to serve them for personal glorification. In contrast, Bartimaeus was blindly ambitious to follow Jesus triumphantly. So, like Bartimaeus, let us follow Jesus blindly so we can glorify for him.



welcome

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM,
12:00 PM, 4:00 PM (St. Francis Xavier
Chaplaincy)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM & 5:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM

(Statutory Holidays during the week —
9:00 AM Mass only)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tues - Thurs & Sat. 4:30—4:50 PM

Friday 8:00-9:00 AM & 3:00-4:30 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday 8:00 AM—4:30 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact Deacon Dennis at the
Parish Office (403) 228-4170.

DONATIONS OVER THE PHONE, ON LINE

& IN PERSON. If you would like to donate to help with the costs and maintenance of the Parish, please call Lillian at (403) 228-4170.

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. John Nemanic, Rector

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Rev. Julian Studden, Assistant Rector

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Coordinator Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca

Michelle MacPhee, Reception

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Closed Statutory Holidays

Readings for October 31st. Thirty-First in Ordinary Time

First Reading: (Deuteronomy 6:2-6) Hear, O Israel: You shall love the Lord your God.

Second Reading (Hebrews 7:23-28) Jesus holds his priesthood permanently.

Gospel: (Mark 12:28-34) This is the first commandment. And a second is like it.

Stewardship of Treasure Oct. 9 - Oct. 15, 2021

General Collections

Envelopes/Loose/Debit/etc.

Last Week

\$4,695.

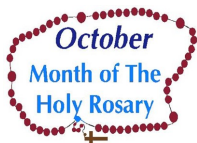
Together in Action

Together in Action is an annual diocesan-mandated parish charitable appeal that funds diocesan, local, national & international initiatives: www.catholicyc.ca/tia.html

Goal: \$41,552. Donations to date: \$15,399.

Some employers offer a charitable **donation matching program**, please contact Lillian at the parish office for more information about this (Lillian@stmaryscalgary.ca or 403-228-4170, ext. 222)

Thank you for your financial support to St Mary's Cathedral during this difficult time. It is now possible to make a donation through a variety of means. Please visit stmaryscalgary.ca/content/donations to make an online donation. If you have questions about charitable giving, please contact: Lillian at 403 228-4170.



While the precise origins of this month of the Holy Rosary are unknown, we know that Oct. 7th is the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary, a feast day that was originally entitled the feast of Our Lady of Victory and instituted in 1571. In addition we know that in 1917, when Our Lady first appeared in Fatima, she identified herself as Our Lady of the Rosary. At St. Mary's the rosary is prayed every Monday to Friday at 7:00 am and 4:30 pm before the 7:30 am and 5:00 pm daily Masses.



OCTOBER: ROSARY MONTH ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

is HOSTING a SECOND VIRTUAL ROSARY

- SCRIPTURAL JOYFUL MYSTERIES
- hymns to Mary
- Litany

Sunday October 31st, 2021; Time: 2 p.m.

Children are encouraged to dress up as their FAVORITE SAINT and be prepared to give 3 CLUES as to who they are.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84648047367?pwd=M1NyN0FEK3ZaQjZLN3RlOUVqSk9oQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 4804 7367 Passcode: 187396

Book of the Month: The Gift booth is featuring October's Spiritual Book of the Month: *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (2nd edition). We also still have copies of Scott Hahn's *The Lamb's Supper The Mass as Heaven on Earth*, the focus of Fr. Julian's August homilies. They are all available for \$30.

Sunday Missals for 2021-22 are expected to be available for sale in the next few weeks.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Monday, Oct. 25

7:30 am Mila Berroy (INT)

5:00 pm Edith Biebert (INT)

Tuesday, Oct. 26

7:30 am Luke Hengen (INT)

5:00 pm Rosario TAbingo (RIP)

Wednesday, Oct. 27

7:30 am Teda & Carla Joan Carbajosa (RIP)

5:00 pm Evaristo Aguinaldo Sr. (RIP)

Thursday, Oct. 28

7:30 am Cathy MacPhee (RIP)

5:00 pm Didello Family (RIP)

Friday, Oct. 29

7:30 am Reid MacPhee (INT)

5:00 pm Muthucumar Kanagalingam (RIP)

Saturday, Oct. 30

9:00 am Ncik Dilello (RIP)

5:00 pm Clement D'Souza (RIP)

Sunday, Oct. 31

8:00 am Exceltacion Zambra (RIP)

10:00 am Jaime & Elena Fallarco (RIP)

12:00 Noon St. Mary's Parishioners



PRAYER CORNER INTENTIONS: For the sick, the suffering, the elderly, the lonely and all who find themselves on the margins of society, that they may be empowered by God's special care of them. In particular, let us remember *Ian Griffin, and Laura Meier*. For those who have died in Christ, that they may be resurrected with Him into eternal life.



Offering Envelopes – We are preparing our data base for those who would like to use weekly offering envelopes. During COVID we have not automatically generated envelopes, therefore if you would like to use envelopes once again on a more regular basis, please contact lillian@stmaryscalgary.ca or call 403-228-4170. We would also be pleased to assist you with any questions you might have in regard to beginning a direct debit/credit donation either weekly or monthly. Direct debit/credit forms are available at the main entrance of the Cathedral.

THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE November is the month the Church remembers all the faithful departed. Please add the names of your beloved deceased in the Book of Remembrance. You are also welcome to email the names to Lillian at Lillian@stmaryscalgary.ca

You are most welcome to attend the All Souls' Day Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral as we pray for your loved ones, and for all who have died.

Masses will be held on **Tuesday, November 2 at 7:30 am and 5:00 pm**. You do not need to pre-register.