

# ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

219 - 18 AVE. SW  
CALGARY, AB. T2S 0C2  
PH: (403) 228-4170 FAX: (403) 244-1965

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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.

## STAFF DIRECTORY

**Rev. John Nemanic**, Rector

fr.john@stmaryscalgary.ca

**Rev. Julian Studden**, Assistant Rector

fr.julian@stmaryscalgary.ca

**Rev. Mr. Deacon Dennis Foraie**

dennis.foraie@calgarydiocese.ca

**Lillian Illescas**, Accounting/Finance

Lillian@stmaryscalgary.ca

**Marilyn Belle-McQuillan**, Volunteer

Coordinator Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca

**Michelle MacPhee**, Reception

michelle@stmaryscalgary.ca

## OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Closed Statutory Holidays

## I'LL BE HOME

One thing that reminds me of home is our family's Christmas tree tradition. We would put ours up a few weeks before Christmas and while doing so, we'd listen to *Boney M's* Christmas album. My favourite song on the album was "I'll be Home for Christmas".

Don't all of us want to go home - and not only at Christmas? A theme in this Sunday's readings is to 'prepare the way of the Lord' (Lk 3:4). In the scriptures, whenever Israel is far from God they get in terribly desperate situations. So, God always sends prophets, both spiritually (in the case of John the Baptist) and physically (in the case of the prophet Baruch) to bring them from slavery in Babylon to return home to Israel.

As God's prophet, what does Baruch say in order to prepare the way for their homecoming? *For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.* Baruch 5:7

Miraculously, after 70 years in Babylon, Israel returned home. In today's passage from the Gospel of Luke another prophet calls his hearers to prepare the way for the Lord as they also will go home. John the Baptist prepares the way to Jesus for the spiritually exiled, repeating the words of Isaiah 40:3-5:

*The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.* Luke 3:4-6

We can take it for granted when we put up Christmas trees, and listen to Christmas songs like Boney M's "I'll be home for Christmas," that lots of people don't have a home to come to— physically and spiritually. In their very desperate situations they're looking for a miracle. The prophetic words of Baruch and John the Baptist prepared the lost and forsaken of Israel to find a home with the Lord. Let's take up this challenge this week.

- Fr John Nemanic

**READINGS FOR DECEMBER 12 (THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT)**

**First Reading:** (Zephaniah 3:14 -18a) The Lord will rejoice over you with gladness.

**Second Reading:** (Philippians 4:4 -7) The Lord is close at hand.

**Gospel:** (Luke 3:10 -18) The crowds asked, "What should we do?"

**Stewardship of Treasure Nov. 20 - 26, 2021**

**General Collections**

Envelopes/Loose/Debit/etc.

**Last Week**

\$6,890

**Together in Action** is an annual diocesan-mandated parish charitable appeal that funds diocesan, local, national & international initiatives: [www.catholiccycc.ca/tia](http://www.catholiccycc.ca/tia)

**TIA Goal: \$41,552      Donations to date: \$18,774**

Thank you for your financial support to St Mary's Cathedral during this challenging time! Questions about charitable giving? Email [Lillian@StMarysCalgary.ca](mailto:Lillian@StMarysCalgary.ca) or call (403) 228-4170.

For online contribution: [stmaryscalgary.ca/content/donations](http://stmaryscalgary.ca/content/donations).

Would you like to support St. Mary's? Here's how you can help! 2022 **Offertory Envelopes** are ready for pick up by the main entrance before or after each weekend Mass. Or visit the parish office (403-228-4170) for pick-up during the week. **DO NOT use these new boxes until January 2022.**

Consider the use of **Direct Debit** for your Sunday offertory donation. This benefits St. Mary's with predictable cash flow, allowing us to plan our parish needs and programs. Plus it helps you as Christian stewards to plan your finances, and gives you a convenient way to support your church, even if you are away for travel/illness. It helps avoid the last-minute "Where did I put the envelope?!" scramble on your way to Mass. Finally, in keeping with *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment, direct debit will save some trees!

If your address has changed in 2021, please contact the parish office so we can send your tax receipt to the correct address.

 The Gift Booth can still provide for your **Advent needs**, as well as **Christmas gifts** for teachers, friends & family: religious ornaments, nativity bracelets, CDs, rosaries, books (the Cathedral Guidebook makes a lovely gift for out-of-towners!) plus 2021-22 Sunday missals are still available. We also have items to celebrate **upcoming feast days** of the Immaculate Conception (Dec 8) and Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12).

**CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS** past and present to rejoin the team as we resume this ministry. If you have been previously trained and would like to serve again, please email your name & phone number: [Michelle@StMarysCalgary.ca](mailto:Michelle@StMarysCalgary.ca). Practice date TBA.

**HELPING HANDS NEEDED:** Available after the 12pm Mass on December 19th to help prep the church for Christmas? Email [Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca](mailto:Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca). We need to plan ahead for covid restrictions/social distancing. Many hands make light the work!

**LITURGICAL VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS:** If you are a commissioned **Eucharistic Minister** or volunteer **Ushers**, we need you! To serve during any of the Christmas Masses, please contact [Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca](mailto:Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca) as soon as you can (to allow time to establish a schedule). Thanks in advance for your help!



**Rejoice in the Lord Always! 33 HOURS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION:** To prepare for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete* or Rejoice Sunday) from Fri Dec 10 at 8a until Sat Dec 11 at 4p the Cathedral will host EUCHARISTIC ADORATION and the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR 33 continuous hours, interrupted only for the Friday 5PM & Saturday 9AM Masses. We still have many open spaces — to come and adore, please sign up ASAP at [bit.ly/3oMv4oj](http://bit.ly/3oMv4oj). As a community, let's stay with Jesus every moment of those 33 hours!



**Monday, Dec 6**

7:30 am Ryan Bickert (INT)

5:00 pm Marion Limoges (INT)

**Tuesday, Dec 7**

7:30 am Carmen Toole (INT)

5:00 pm Mario Amarilla (RIP)

**Wednesday, Dec 8**

7:30 am Souls in Purgatory

5:00 pm Reeves Family (RIP)

**Thursday, Dec 9**

7:30 am Souls in Purgatory

5:00 pm Olive Arges (RIP)

**Friday, Dec 10**

7:30 am Bill O'Leary (RIP)

5:00 pm Arturo T. Ferrer (RIP)

**Saturday, Dec 11**

9:00 am Sylvia Vega (RIP)

5:00 pm Antonio Dilello (RIP)

**Sunday, Dec 12**

8:00 am Roberto Lazaga (RIP)

10:00 am Gerald Cadrain (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 Renee Wilson and Tamara Herrera. For those who have died in Christ, especially Willis O'Leary, that they may be resurrected with Him into eternal life.

**Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist:** Preparation classes for children in grade two or above who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Sacrament of Confirmation:** Preparation classes for children in grade six or above who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist.

**Preparation for both sacraments** begins in February. If you have not yet registered your child(ren), please fill out a registration form, which you will find by the main entrance of the Cathedral, on-line, or in the parish office. Dates for all preparation classes are listed on the registration forms.

**CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** Draw on Dec 12 after the noon Mass for quilts and edible goodies gift baskets. \$25/ticket by cheque or e-transfer. Inquiries to Sharon Bernard at (403) 991-0804. Proceeds support Elizabeth House & St. Mary's CWL initiatives!

**CORRECTION!** All **Christmas flower centerpiece orders** should be sent to: [Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca](mailto:Marilyn@stmaryscalgary.ca).