



St. James the Greater Church

5504 - 20 St. S.W. Calgary, Alberta T3E 1R2

Ph: 403 243 2680 Fax: 403 287 1273 www.stjamescalgary.org

1st Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

5:00pm

Sunday

8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00pm

Weekday Mass

Tuesday thru Friday

9:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday 9:30am—10:30am

Reconciliation

Tuesday thru Friday 8:30am

Saturday 4:00pm-4:30pm

or by appointment

Morning Prayer/Rosary

8:30am Tuesday thru Friday

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday

9:00am—3:00pm

Closed 12:00-12:30

Did you know?

The traditional Advent wreath is made of evergreen branches formed into a circle with four candles, each representing the four Sundays of Advent. The importance of the Advent wreath in Christian households is derived from its rich symbolism. The circle shape of the wreath signifies eternity, with no beginning and no end. The greenery symbolizes ongoing life. The four candles around the circle are a symbol of the gradual approach of the Light of the world that will dispel the darkness.

Foundations in Faith
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Pastor—Fr. Edmund Vargas efvargas@shaw.ca

Secretary—Brenda Lerner office@stjamescalgary.org

Bookkeeper—Anna McKiernan **Music Director**—Tom Linahan

Deacon—Bruce Jurgens bruce.jurgens@calgarydiocese.ca

Parish Screening Coordinator—Marielle Thom pvs@stjamescalgary.org

Interim Music Director—Michael Scholfield mcscholfield@icloud.com

Parish Council—Nick Fader, Ralph Walicki, Daryl Engelman, David Odongi, Elvira Castaneda, Ted Valentine, Kyle Hagan, Arkangelo Uyin **Finance Committee**—Neale Johannesson, Terry Gonsalves, Gregory Tychon **Children's Liturgy**—Sarah Straathof **Pastoral Care**—Stephanie Davis **Altar Servers**—Jennifer Brosseau **Food Bank**—Danielle McKinnon **RCIA**—Karen Serafini, Deacon Bruce Jurgens **Sacramental Preparation**—Laura Meneses, Deacon Bruce Jurgens **Baptism Preparation**—Dustin & Eloisa Greenwald **Maintenance**—Arnie Funke **Knights of Columbus**—Tim Cove **CWL**—Lisa Frehlich **Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers**—Colleen Cove, Richard Belzil, Zita Fulawka, Rose Lokiru **Hospitality**—Marie Funke, Angela Nagy, Florence Dickson **Sudanese Community**—Arkangelo Uyin **Refugee Committee**—Pat Barry **Ushers**—Al Meier **Reception Committee**—Zita Fulawka **Art & Environment Committee**—Lin Samson, Anita Zyla **Sudanese Choir**—Manas Ariki **Library**—Dianne O'Neill **Sandwich Days**—Vicki Oliphant **Christian Meditation**—Florence Dickson **Landscaping Committee**—Evelyn Bond, Mary Corns **Liturgy Committee**—Stephanie Davis, Catherine Peet, Midge Chartier, Ted Valentine, Colleen deSouza, Anita Zyla, Vivian Moody, Al Meier

**Pastoral Notes by Fr. Edmund
The Advent of Hope**

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who lived in a land as dark as death a light has dawned. You have increased their joy and given them gladness. They rejoice in your presence as those who rejoice in harvest, as warriors exult when dividing spoil.” (Isaiah 9:1-2) As we light our Advent wreaths, may Christ our light brighten our way and guide us with His truth. As we await for His coming, may His promise of salvation bring life in the darkness of our world.

As we make preparations for the season, may we set aside a time when we can gather around our own Advent wreaths to express our hope in the coming of our Savior who is our light and life. We recall the stories of the people of faith who waited for centuries for the coming of the Saviour. We open our hearts and minds to embrace the mystery of the coming of Christ into our daily lives, through the events that happen in our history, through our encounter with one another in relationships, through the ministry of the Church and through grace-filled rites of the Sacraments. We look forward to the parousia: the day when Christ’s kingdom will finally be established.

Advent recalls the first coming of Christ to our world. It also directs our minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time. Advent is a season of joyful expectation and spiritual hope.

As we begin the liturgical calendar, we look for new beginnings. We join together in expressing our hope for a new beginning in terms of our own journey of faith. We strive to live the values of God’s kingdom in our life, despite the problems and difficulties we encounter in our personal lives. We seek out ways and means to be closer with our own God through the people we encounter in our lives.

Our best preparation for Christ’s coming into our lives would be to make our life open to do God’s work as we continue to do our respective duties and responsibilities in life.

Healing Corner—*“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 year.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 4

9:00am Jennifer Edwards—RIP

Wednesday, December 5

9:00am S/Intention of Cor & Tilly Stuijts

Thursday, December 6

9:00am S/I of Roger & Sharon Jeanson

Friday, December 7

9:00am Moe Nasser—RIP

Saturday, December 8

5:00pm S/Intention of Emma Oczkowski

Sunday, December 9

8:30am Donald Kelly—RIP

10:00am St. James Parish

12:00pm S/Intention of Tom Linahan

**UPDATE: Christmas Hamper Delivery—
December 17 at 6pm** As per Diocesan directive, volunteers who wish to help with Christmas Hamper deliveries must now have their Police Information Checks (PIC) in place. **ADULT VOLUNTEERS WITHOUT SCREENING CAN ACT AS DRIVERS** along with a screened volunteer. (No children please.) If you would like to help deliver hampers this Christmas, please contact the office as soon as possible to **register** as a delivery volunteer so that we know how many helpers we have.

CHRISTMAS/ADVENT SCHEDULE

Parish Penitential Celebration

December 18 at 7:30pm

Christmas Eve Masses

5pm & 7pm

(Carols 30 minutes prior.)

Christmas Day Masses

8:30am, 10am, 12noon

New Year’s Eve Mass

5pm

New Year’s Day Masses

8:30am, 10am, 12noon



The office will be closed Dec 24, 25, 26, 31 & Jan 1.

This Week at St. James

Monday	Christian Meditation	7:30pm
Tuesday	Cenacle	9:30am
	Mindful Movement	9:45am
Wednesday	Choir	7:00pm
Thursday	Opus Dei Men	7:00pm
	Regnum Christi Women	9:30am
Friday	Bridge/Eucher	1:00pm
Saturday	Orchestra Rehearsal	12:00pm
	Simbang Gabi	7:00pm

2018-2019 Sunday Missals are now available on the book rack near the baptismal font or through the office. Suggested donation \$5 each.

Please pray for:

Aidan Hanes, Harry Piet, Laz Terek,
Rolande Parel, Shirley Valentine, Laura Restrepo,
Gabriel Serpas, Sarah Straathof, Joe MacNeil,
Evelyn Bond, Terry Davidson, Gary Ritter,
Marie Hood, Marie Funke, Lado Family,

And for those who have died:

Loretta Gundry-White, John Dicey,
Lauralei Dumonceau

Christmas Hampers

If you or someone you know is in need of a Christmas Hamper this year, please contact the office. Deadline for hamper requests is **Monday, December 10**. Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable, unexpired food are welcome.

Angel Tree

Thank you to those who took tags from the Angel Tree last weekend. We still have several tags left on the tree. Each tag indicates the age and gender of the children to whom Christmas Hampers will be given this year. Please bring a new UNWRAPPED gift (or gift card) for the child on the tag and drop it off at the office or under the tree by **Monday, December 10th**. Thank you for your generosity!

Gift Wrapping

Volunteers are needed to help wrap Angel Tree gifts on **Saturday, December 15 at 7pm** in the parish hall.

Food Bank Goes Green—in an effort to reduce the use of plastic bags, the Food Bank will now be using re-useable bags. In so doing, we are asking for donations of new or gently used, clean, reusable shopping bags. Please drop off at the office or in the Food Bank box at the SW entrance of the church.

Mission Mexico Day is next weekend. The 2nd collection at each Mass will be in support of Mission Mexico.

Sound & Music Fund. The Roland DX708 piano/organ, ordered at the cost of \$7499 plus taxes through a local dealer, should arrive by February 2019. For the time being, we are looking at replacing the worn-out drivers of the two speakers in the altar area of the Rodgers organ for less than \$500 for its continued use. All extra contributions will go to a Sound & Music Fund which should cover future sound system and music expenses. We continue to appeal to our families for contributions towards the Roland DX708 purchase and other sound/music-related expenditures. All contributors will be issued tax receipts. As of this writing, we have received pledges and \$3350 in actual contributions. May God continue to bless our generous families.

Hand crafted rosaries will be available in the parish hall after all masses on Sunday, December 9, 2018. A few statues will also be displayed. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the education of seminarians and 25% towards St. James' Church.

Last Week's Donations

TIA	\$20.00
Maintenance	\$397.90
Children's Collection	\$18.00
Flowers	\$20.00
Regular	\$4175.05
PAPS*	<u>\$1333.00</u>
	\$5508.05

Weekly Goal: \$6725 Short: \$1216.95
**Pre-Authorized Payment System*

Thank you! Due to the generosity of our parishioners, we have met and exceeded our 2018 TIA goal!!

Class Schedule for Sacrament Preparation Program
**all classes are 2:00-3:30pm on Sundays unless otherwise noted*

First Communion (Part 2)

- Session 1—Sunday, January 27
- Session 2—Sunday, February 24
- Session 3—Sunday, March 24
- Session 4—Sunday, April 14

RETREAT—Saturday, May 4 1-2:30pm
CELEBRATION OF FIRST EUCHARIST—Sunday, May 5 @ 10:00am Mass

New program prepares students for both First Reconciliation and First Communion in the same school year. Please speak to the catechists if your child will be missing a class to arrange an alternative class at another parish. As of this year, all parishes in the Diocese are offering the same program on different days & times to allow for missed classes to be made up. **NO COFFEE AFTER 12:00 MASS ON CLASS DAYS.*

Sacrament of Confirmation—Parent Information and Registration is Sunday, January 13, at 2:00pm. Please bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate if he/she was not baptized at St. James. Registration is \$25. Classes will run on Sundays from 2:00-3:30pm according to the schedule that will be provided. This is a parent/child program so a parent or guardian must attend with their child. Classes begin January 20. The Sacrament of Confirmation is open to students who are in grade 6 or higher and have received Baptism, First Communion and Reconciliation.

Simbang Gabi Mass will be celebrated at St. James Church at **7pm on Saturday, December 8**, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This traditional Filipino Mass will be preceded by Christmas carols at 6:30pm and followed by a reception. All are welcome.

Art Display & Sale—Artists Adrianna Kelly and Judith McRae will have their paintings on display in the hall from December 7th to December 23rd. These items are for sale. Information cards for purchasing these items will be included with the paintings. 25% of proceeds will go towards the St. James Christmas Hampers. For more information, please contact Judith at 587 999 7153 or by email at judith@judithmcrac.com

Last Chance for CWL—CWL Sign-up and Information Session is **Sunday, December 16** after the 10:00am Mass in the hall. Come and find out more. Last chance for the ladies of the parish to show interest and participation with the CWL (Catholic Women's League) at St. James Parish. Without sufficient interest and participation, the CWL will not proceed at our parish. For more information, contact Lisa Frehlich (403) 969-4939 or Fr. Edmund (403) 874-2015.

Congratulations Knights of Columbus Grey Cup Raffle Winners: Eugene Phaneuf, Jaime Pantaleon, Stuart Hull, Doris McCullough, Karin Crawford.

A **'Master Email List'** is being compiled to enable the parish to send important notifications such as guest speakers, seasonal and special events electronically. The weekly bulletin can be emailed by request. With this, housebound parishioners can be updated with parish news and events. If you are in our Ministry list, your email address will be automatically placed on the Master List. (If you do not wish to be on this list, please advise the office.) You may complete the form below and place it in the collection basket or donation slots or drop it off at the office. You can also accept the invitation on our Facebook page, or by emailing or phoning the office.

Surname: _____

Given name: _____

Email: _____

Permission to receive parish emails: YES _____ To receive parish bulletins: YES _____