



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

4th Sunday of Lent

March 11, 2018

Mass Schedule

Saturday

5:00pm

Sunday

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

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

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

9:00am—3:00pm

*Closed 12:00-12:30

The Church Says:

Grace encompasses a wealth of meaning, a form of God's presence, God's gift to us. Grace is undeserved, cannot be earned, and flows from God. Grace results in our participation in the life of God, through Jesus, whose Death and Resurrection made us adopted sons and daughters of God, sharing in God's own divine nature, and heirs to eternal life.

In Baptism we are made holy—sanctified—making us a new person, a new creation. We call this sanctifying or habitual grace, that is, the grace of Baptism gifts us to live out this new life. Actual grace describes God's continual help throughout our lives. Although we make these distinctions, the important fact is that grace demonstrates the tremendous love of God for us. Through God's Covenant with us, many graces, or gifts, are poured into our lives empowering us to attain and grow in union with God. We are free to respond to God's grace by leading a life of good deeds or to reject the gifts God offers.

*Foundations in Faith
2006 RCL Publishing LLC
Cincinnati, Ohio*

Pastor—Fr. Edmund Vargas efvargas@shaw.ca **Deacon**—Dc. Bruce Jurgens bruce.jurgens@calgarydiocese.ca

Secretary—Brenda Lerner office@stjamescalgary.org **Music Director**—Tom Linahan tglinahan@gmail.com

Parish Screening Coordinator—Lindsay Flynn pvsc@stjamescalgary.org **Bookkeeper**—Anna McKiernan

Parish Council—Nick Fader, Ralph Walicki, Daryl Engelman, Sheryl Schmitt, David Odongi, Elvira Castaneda, Ted Valentine, Kyle Hagan, Arkangelo Uyin **Finance Committee**—Neale Johannesson, Terry Gonsalves, Gregory Tychon **Children's Liturgy**—Becky Elder **Pastoral Care**—Stephanie Davis **Altar Servers**—Jennifer Brosseau **Food Bank**—Glen Lilly, Danielle McKinnon **RCIA**—Deacon Bruce Jurgens, Allison Hay, Karen Serafini **Sacramental Preparation**—Deacon Bruce Jurgens, Laura Meneses, Joanne Anderson **Baptism Preparation**—Dustin & Eloisa Greenwald **Maintenance Committee**—Arnie Funke, Richard Belzil, Al Meier, Tony Zuzic, Richard Roe, Roger vanHorne **Knights of Columbus**—Tim Cove **Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers**—Colleen Cove, Richard Belzil, Zita Fulawka, David Odongi **Hospitality**—Marie Funke, Angela Nagy, Florence Dickson **Sudanese Community**—Martin Onon **Syrian Refugee Committee**—Pat Barry **Ushers**—Al Meier **Reception Committee**—Zita Fulawka, Teresa Schubert **Art & Environment Committee**—Lin Samson, Anita Zyla **Sudanese Choir**—David Odongi **Library**—Colleen Montgomery **Sandwich Days**—Vicki Oliphant **Christian Meditation**—Engeline Piet **Landscaping Committee**—Evelyn Bond, Mary Corns **Liturgy Committee**—Tom Linahan, Stephanie Davis, Catherine Peet, Midge Chartier, Ted Valentine, Michael Hudec, Colleen deSouza, Anita Zyla, Vivian Moody, Al Meier

Pastoral Notes by Fr. Edmund
Our Human Blindness

The blind man's cure by Jesus in the Gospel today reveals who it is that is truly blind: those who stubbornly refuse to accept Jesus as the light of the world. Social sin is not the same as original sin, but flows from it, and is the accumulation of human choices to turn away from the light. The dramatic unfolding of John's story gives eloquent expression to the way individuals in a community compound their blindness. Everyone gets involved: the man's neighbors, his family, those have seen him begging, the Pharisees, the evil spread like a plague until in an act the man is expelled from the synagogue for acknowledging Jesus as the Messiah.

God's choice of David over his other brothers in the First Book of Samuel speaks of our own inability to see spiritual truth as God sees it. David is portrayed as the least likely to be the candidate for divine election. God sees into the heart and directs the prophet to choose and anoint the young David and consecrate him to be shepherd and king of God's people. The blindness of those around David to his potential as God's chosen leader speaks of how sin can blind us to God's will for us.

"By the mystery of the Incarnation, he has led the human race that walked in darkness into the radiance of the faith and has brought those born in slavery to ancient sin through the waters of regeneration to make them your adopted children..." (Preface)

As we gather, we ask God to let His light penetrate the darkness of our lives, shining forth in goodness, righteousness and truth. We seek His light and long to be become children of His light, good and pleasing in His sight.

Just as Jesus opens the eyes of the blind man to the wonders of belief in God's son, God opens our eyes, through baptism and the other sacraments, to see His mighty works. God call on us to believe, to worship and to follow His Son. God call us to become enlightened children of the light of God.

Parish Band—We are planning to form a parish band this coming spring. If you are interested and have experience in playing a musical instrument, please contact Michael Scholfield to set up an audition time. For more information contact Fr. Edmund or Michael at 587 578 9927 or email to mcscholfield@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 13

9:00am S/I of Colleen & Bill Montgomery

Wednesday, March 14

9:00am Martin Mann—RIP

Thursday, March 15

9:00am John Kramer—RIP

Friday, March 16

9:00am Robert Shannon—RIP

Saturday, March 17

5:00pm S/Intention of Becky Hill

Sunday, March 18

8:30am Alan Wittet—RIP

10:00am St. James Parish

12:00pm S/Intention of Laura Meneses

Good Friday Collection—The Pontifical Collection for the benefit of the Holy Places is scheduled to take place on Good Friday, March 30. Our parish is called to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday collection helps to maintain not only the Holy Places above all, but also the pastoral, welfare, educational and social works that the Church carries out to the benefit of the Christian brothers and sisters and the local population.

Healing Corner. God is available to forgive all our transgressions and heal us. If we have been the aggressive one in our families we can seek out the resources available in our community and His help will support us in our journey. Take responsibility and be the model for your children and others around you. If we and our children have been harmed by interpersonal violence our responsibility is to our and their safety, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Seek help. For resources to help you, contact www.connectnetwork.ca

Ministry Sign-Up for Holy Week—Sign up sheets for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Sacristans and Altar Servers can be found at the back of the church along the west wall. Your help is greatly appreciated! We also need 12 volunteer 'apostles' to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday.

This Week at St. James

Monday	Christian Meditation	7:30pm
Tuesday	Robert Barron DVD series	9:30am
Wednesday	Reconciliation Choir	7:30pm 7:30pm
Thursday	RC Mom's Group	9:30am
Friday	Cenacle Stations of the Cross Italian Night	9:30am 6:00pm 6:30pm
Saturday		
Sunday	Reconciliation Class	11:00am

Please pray for the sick:

Aidan Hanes, Harry Piet, Brian McAuley, Gary Briand, Shirley Valentine, Betty Harrison, Tony Doucette, Rolande Parel, Laura Restrepo, Gabriel Serpas, Marjorie Lefaivre, Darlene Otis, Laz Terek, Marcelle Quaghebeur, Robert Jackson, Wesley Scott, Gary Ritter

And for those who have died:

Wilma Gibbons

CWL—All women are invited to a talk, sponsored by Holy Name CWL, at Holy Name Hall (2223 34 St SW) on Tuesday, March 13th at 7 PM. The topic is Discovery House, a shelter which provides housing and therapeutic programs to 650 abused women and their children each year.

Carpet Mats Needed—We are in need of finding 20-30 sample carpet mats to be used for the classroom. Anyone who may know where we can get some of these donated, please contact the office.

Rejoice in God's Mercy

The Diocese of Calgary invites you to re-discover the meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation in your life. In addition to the regular parish schedule, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at parishes throughout the Diocese of Calgary all the Wednesdays of Lent from 7:30-8:30pm.

The image of the crucifix is itself a prayer for many Catholics. We are encouraged to rest our eyes upon the crucifix and see the One, who has created all things. As you ponder the meaning of the Cross, above all consider this: God chose that His only Son suffer upon the Cross so that we might be healed. **Action:** What can you do to die to self during this week of Lent? Which virtues will help you to glorify God in this way?

Lent & Easter Schedule

Stations of the Cross—Fridays during Lent 6:00pm

Parish Penitential Celebration—March 20
7:30pm

Holy Thursday—March 29
7:00pm

Good Friday—March 30
3:00pm

Easter Vigil—March 31
8:00pm

Easter Sunday—April 1
8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00 noon

**Reconciliation available on Wednesdays through Lent from 7:30—8:30pm*

Stations of the Cross and our Friday Fish Fry

These are great events held each Friday of Lent with all profits being donated to projects in the parish. We charge \$5 per piece of fish and it comes with coleslaw, all the French fries you can eat and an ice cream sandwich but best of all you get an opportunity to enjoy a family evening with your parish community.

Special Event: March 16. Our wonderful Italian ladies will be cooking a delicious gnocchi main dish for us. Italian Night will replace our Fish Fry for that evening. Price for this special meal will be \$10/person with all proceeds being donated to projects in the parish.

Last Week's Donations

TIA	\$1098.00
Maintenance	\$368.20
Children's Collection	\$25.25

Regular	\$5732.60
PAPS*	<u>\$1195.00</u>
	\$6927.60

Weekly Goal \$6725.00

Exceeded: \$202.60

**Pre-Authorized Payment System*

2018 TIA GOAL: \$30, 990 To Date: \$4948

Please consider Pre-Authorized Payment for your church contributions. You can use the easy-to-accomplish white envelope found in the pews and at the entrances. Our church also accepts stocks donation as well as bequests which can be indicated in your last will. Thank you for your generosity!

Next Weekend's Ministers

Mass Times	Lectors	Communion Ministers	Ushers
SATURDAY March 17 5:00pm	Lois/Mike Ross Luisa Zimich	Sean Brosseau Gabby Morrissey Leila Wright	Larry Betts Glen Lilly
SUNDAY March 18 8:30 AM	Liz Desjardin Colleen deSouza	Allison Hay Kathy Oczkowski	Nick Fader Alex Fader Bill Fletcher
SUNDAY March 18 10:00 AM	Vivian Moody Vicki Oliphant	Doris McCullough Elvira Castaneda Lindsay Davis	Tony Zuzic, Al Meier Robert McKean, Roger Jeanson, James Emado
SUNDAY March 18 12:00	Rose Lokiru Ayak Tiordit	Bernadette Carrera John Atanasio Godfrey Bangisa Arkangelo Uyin	M. Malueth, R. Madhieu E. Boliamotoi, J. Atanasio,

God's Squad Men's Conference—Though we do not live in a time where the Catholic Faith is threatened as was the Judaism of Esther's generation, we need committed disciples of Jesus Christ. Teenagers and men with conviction who will recognize God has called us to be Catholics "for such a time as this" because we live in a generation where there are many forces intent on undermining Catholic faith, identity and practice. This year's conference will be held at St. Peter's on the evening of March 16th from 6-9 PM and March 17th from 9-4 PM. Speakers: Fathers Jerome Lavigne, Jonathan Gibson, Cristino Bouvette and Raymond de Souza. If you are 14 or over, please join us so that we can discover more how to form the virtues of courage, strength and unity. For more information and to register please go to WWW.GODSQUAD.CA.

Man of the Shroud Exhibit—St. Peter's Parish is excited to bring back the "Man of the Shroud" exhibit during Holy Week and beyond. The Shroud Exhibit which is a 14' long and 3' wide replica of the Shroud of Turin (the most studied Relic in the history of the world) will be on display at St. Peter's Church from Friday, March 23 to Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Shroud experts will be available for guided tours and talks. Visit www.st-peters.ca for more information.

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 _____