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**DEACON**

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Bobby Georgopoulos

**BOOKKEEPER**

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**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday to Friday**  
9:00am—3:00pm  
Closed 12:00-12:30

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**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday**  
5:00pm

**Sunday**

8:30am 10:00am  
12:00noon

**Weekday Masses**

Tuesday thru Friday  
9:00am

**Eucharistic Adoration**

Wednesdays 9:30-10:30

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays 4:00-4:30  
or by request

**ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH**

5504-20 ST. SW  
CALGARY, ALBERTA  
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**March 26, 2017**

**4th Sunday of Lent**

Human experience confirms the fact that we are radically and thoroughly flawed. Our original alienation from God is thus known as Original Sin. We long to choose the good, but are drawn, in this weakened state, toward evil. This pull to give in to our base side is an ever-present temptation. When we cave in or miss the mark, the rift between the Creator, creation, and humankind grows wider. This is known as person sin. Social sin the consequence of our accumulated personal sins, which culminate in patterns of evil and injustice that become institutionalized and systematized.

However, grace lifts us out of this state. Our original alienation from God and creation has been redeemed by the saving action of Jesus. We are born again into this redeemed nature, becoming a new creation, through Baptism. While we still struggle with the inclination toward sin, the mystery of grace is at work, accomplishing all that Christ intended. Both sin and grace are at work in the human spirit. We are indeed graced sinners.

(Foundations in Faith)

**CONTACTS: Parish Pastoral Council**—Nick Fader, Ralph Walicki, Colleen Cove, Daryl Engelman, Sheryl Schmitt, David Odongi, Elvira Castaneda, Ted Valentine, Kyle Hagan **Finance Committee**—Neale Johanneson, Scott Iredale, Terry Gonsalves **Children's Liturgy**—Becky Elder **Pastoral Care**—Stephanie Davis **Altar Servers**—Vivian Moody **Food Bank**—Vivian Moody **RCIA**—Pauline Montemurro, Shirley Valentine, Allison Hay **Building/Maintenance Committee**—Arnie Funke, Richard Belzil, Al Meier **Knights of Columbus**—Tim Cove **Funeral Lunches**—Audrey McKean **Lectors**—Colleen Cove, Richard Belzil, Midge Chartier, David Odongi **Eucharistic Ministers**—Colleen Cove, Richard Belzil, Midge Chartier, David Odongi **Hospitality**—Marie Funke, Angela Nagy, Florence Dickson **Sudanese Community**—Martin Onon **Syrian Refugee Committee**—Pat Barry **Sacramental Preparation**—Vacant **Ushers**—Al Meier **Social Committee**—Vacant **Art & Environment Committee**—Lin Samson, Anita Zyla **Liturgy Committee**—Midge Chartier, Ted Valentine, Catherine Peet **Sudanese Choir**—David Odongi **Library**—Colleen Montgomery **Sandwich Days**—Emil Rawlyk **Christian Meditation**—Engeline Piet

Pastoral Notes by Fr. Edmund  
**The period of enlightenment**

The theme of blindness, so prominent in today's readings, continues the Lenten tradition of preparing for the Easter baptisms. It is not coincidental that this period of the liturgical year is referred to as the Period of Purification and Enlightenment.

Blindness, as attributed to the man born blind from birth in our gospel today, is a fitting image of the human condition we now know as original sin. John tells the story of the man's cure by Jesus in a way that 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 cancer 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, as told in the First Book of Samuel, speak 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 of God's people as king. 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.

As we gather today, 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 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 call us from our ordinary life an opens our eyes, through baptism and the other sacraments, to insight into his mighty works. God call on us to believe, to worship and to follow the footsteps of His Son. God call us to new life, to become children enlightened by the light of God.

**DEACON BRUCE JURGENS** and our parish have reached a new agreement which stipulates Dc Bruce to preach in all Masses on every first weekend of the month. He has also agreed to help with our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) classes after the dismissal of catechumens and candidates at the Sunday 10 am Mass as well as the Sacramental Preparation classes (First Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation) after the 10 am Sunday Mass. Considering his hectic schedule as a full-time commercial pilot, Dc Bruce does not have to concelebrate at every weekend Mass (which he used to comply with). He also has a wife who lives with him in the NW end of the city and adult children living outside of the province.

**TOGETHER IN ACTION (TIA)**, formerly Bishop's Appeal, has for its theme this year: *"Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy..." (Matthew 5:7)* Our Together in Action campaign flows from a profound experience of God as the Father of Mercy. May we respond to the generous love of the Father through our financial contributions which enable our diocesan family to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy in so many ways. Our parish goal is \$28,655. All our surplus contribution will go to our Maintenance Fund.

**Mass Intentions**

**Tuesday, March 28**

9:00am Iris Wolfe—RIP

**Wednesday, March 29**

9:00am Marjorie McKnight—RIP

**Thursday, March 30**

9:00am Fern Makarenko—RIP

**Friday, March 31**

9:00am Edward Vroon

**Saturday, April 1**

5:00pm Francesco Mele—RIP

**Sunday, April 2**

8:30am Graciano Alvarez

10:00am St James Parish

12:00 Lisa Frehlich

**THE ECONOMICS OF RUNNING ST JAMES CHURCH**

is dependent of the love and generosity of our parishioners. More than 95% of our workforce are volunteers.

The cost of our recent church renovations (\$400,000 plus) depleted our "lifetime savings" deposited in the diocesan Central Fund. In addition to the renovations, we still have repair issues requiring almost immediate attention, including the flat roofing in the office and rectory areas which have occasionally leaked recently, the re-surfacing and repainting of the parking lot and the boiler system, among many others. Having mentioned that, we need to replenish our savings for the rainy days, so to speak. We are looking at establishing a Building Fund to cover our repair and maintenance issues.

Last year (2016), our total income was \$449,780. We spent \$405,767 in total. The 2016 average attendance per week is 575, based on the count taken by ushers at every weekend Mass. This means that it would roughly cost \$13.75 per attendee per week to maintain our church facilities and to offer our current services. Reportedly, the average share of income that North American Catholics give to the Church is a mere 1%. That's the lowest percentage of giving of any major religious denomination. Fewer than one in three who identify themselves as Catholic attend Mass on a 'regular' basis (defined as at least once a month), and of those regular attendees, only 30% give to the support of their parish." (Joanne McPortland, Aleteia) Part of the solution, of course, is for everyone to give more or to give what he or she is capable of. In a real way, those who give more cover those who give less. This is partly the idea of what Church is all about.

**"Please support St. James Church!"**, which you now read at the entrances, is a reminder of our need for your support, financial or otherwise. Please pray for the intentions of our parish. In front of the signage, there is a slot marked "DONATION/SUGGESTION BOX" for your use and for the use of visitors.

## *This Week's Events*

Monday	Christian Meditation	7:30pm
Tuesday	Mass	9:00am
	Marian Cenacle	9:30am
	Parish Council	7:00pm
Wednesday	Mass	9:00am
	Adoration	9:30am
	Choir	7:30pm
	Reconciliation	7:30-8:30pm
Thursday	Mass	9:00am
	RC Women's Group	10:00am
Friday	Mass	9:00am
	Bridge	1:00pm
	Stations of the Cross	6:00pm
	Fish Fry	6:30pm

### **Rejoice in God's Mercy**



In addition to the regular parish schedule, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at parishes throughout the Diocese of Calgary all Wednesdays of Lent from 7:30-8:30pm.

**Action:** *Reach out and touch someone in your life, or a stranger, by performing a random act of kindness.*

### **Please pray for the Sick**

Gail Willis, Claire Oliphant, Mariah Lerner, Cameron Gibson, Harry Piet, Shirley Valentine, James Wilson Jr., Betty Harrison, Terrence McKinney, Arnie Thiele, Gabriel Serpas, John Kramer

### **Last Sunday's Donations**

Children's Collection	\$30.00
TIA	\$75.00
Food Bank	\$455.10
Regular	\$3422.10
PAPS	<u>\$1195.00</u>
	\$4617.10

2017 Together in Action Goal: \$28,655

TIA to date: \$7456

*Thank you!*

## *Lenten/Easter Schedule*

March 1, Ash Wednesday—Mass 9am & 7pm  
1:15 pm—School Mass (Weather Permitting)

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & April 7,  
Lenten Fridays

Mass 9am  
6pm—Stations of the Cross  
6:30pm—KC Fish & Chips Dinner

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 & 12  
Lenten Wednesdays—Confessions 7:30-8:30pm

April 4—Parish Penitential Service 7:30pm

April 5—Triduum Rehearsal 6:30pm

April 10, Holy Monday, 7pm—Chrism Mass  
(St. Mary's Cathedral)

April 12, Holy Wednesday—Mass 9am  
1:30 pm—School Lenten Mass

April 13, Holy Thursday—Last Supper Mass 7pm  
(No other Masses)

April 14, Good Friday—Good Friday Liturgy 3pm  
6 pm—Stations of the Cross  
(No Masses—No KC Fish & Chips)

April 15, Holy Saturday—Easter Vigil Mass 8pm  
(5pm Mass is cancelled)

April 16, Easter Sunday  
8:30, 10 am & 12noon Masses

### **Mother's Book Study**

The 1st Thursday of each month (April, May, June) in St. James Hall. Next study is **Thurs April 6, 2017 at 9:45am**. Our current book is "*His Needs, Her Needs for Parents*" by Willard F. Harley, Jr.

We also meet the 3rd Thursday of each month for a Holy Hour. New mom's welcome!

For more information email: [richelletabelon@gmail.com](mailto:richelletabelon@gmail.com)

**Holy Week Ministry Sign-up** sheets can be found at the back of the church along the west wall. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Sacristans and Altar Servers are needed for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil. (Easter Sunday schedules can be found on the regular schedule.)

**A rehearsal for all involved with the Triduum celebrations will be held on Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30pm.**

## Next Weekend's Ministers

Mass Times	Lectors	Communion Ministers	Ushers	Altar Servers
SATURDAY April 1 5:00 PM	*	*	*	*
SUNDAY April 2 8:30 AM	Richard Belzil Allison Hay	Kathy Oczkowski Colleen deSouza	*	*
SUNDAY April 2 10:00 AM	Richard Roe Kathleen McKay	Elvira Castaneda Lindsay Davis	*	*
SUNDAY April 2 12 NOON	Tona Allam Sabina Karama	*	*	*

***\*NB—Ministers required in the vacancies***

### Sacrament Registration

**\*First Eucharist**—Orientation will take place on Sunday, April 23 at 11:00. Registration forms are available at the SW entrance or online. Please bring completed form to the office or to the Orientation along with a copy of the child's baptism certificate. Classes will be Sundays from May 7 to June 11 at 11:00 (with the exception of Mother's Day). The celebration of First Communion will be on June 18, 2017.

### \*Baptism Guidelines

In baptism, a person may only have one or two godparents (also called sponsors). In order for someone to be eligible as a godparent they must be chosen by the parents, have the ability and intention to fulfill the role, be at least 16 years of age, and be a confirmed Roman Catholic, who has already received the Most Holy Eucharist, and is leading a life in harmony with the Catholic Faith (including Marriage) and will be a good role model for the one being baptized., and be neither the father nor the mother of the child.

If you are interested in baptizing your child at St James Parish, please contact the parish office. A baptism workshop is required.

### ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH LENTEN MISSION

**By Bishop Frederick Henry**

**Monday: A Reason to Hope** – 1Thess 4:13ff –

"You must not grieve as others do who have no hope"

**Tuesday: Listen to the Whisper** – Psalm 118 –

"Your word is a lamp for my steps, a light on my way"

**Wednesday: Turn and Live** – Deut.30:19

"Choose life so that you and your descendants may live"

Please join us **March 27-29, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** followed by coffee and fellowship in the Vatican II Hall. (5340 4St SW)

**The Outdoor Way of the Cross** is a Diocesan sponsored event that happens annually on Good Friday. This year will be its 34th year. This annual event is an opportunity for many to walk with our Lord in his passion, suffering and pain. In the experience, many see aspects of their own life reflected in the burden of the cross and the way He laid down his life for those He loves. For many, it is also a personal journey.

This event could not happen without the help of numerous volunteers. Many of them come back year after year, but life happens and many others move on. We are in need of volunteers, especially those with a medical background who might consider helping as First Aid volunteers. The event attracts an ever increasing number of participants, especially when the weather is favorable. The City requires that we have at least 6 healthcare professionals and an additional 20 certified First Aid volunteers in attendance. If you are able to assist with this event, please register on the website at [www.wayofthecross.ca](http://www.wayofthecross.ca). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Marilou LeGeyt at 403 281 5519 or [marylou.legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:marylou.legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca).

**Diocesan Announcements** from the Catholic Pastoral Centre will no longer be printed but will be posted on the bulletin board at the SW entrance to the church.

***Deadline for bulletin entries is Wednesday at noon.***