



St. James the Greater Church

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

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2nd Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am & 12noon

Weekday Mass

Tuesday thru Friday 9am
1st Saturday of the month 9am

Confession

Tuesday thru Friday 9:30am -10am
Saturday 4pm - 4:30pm
(or by appointment)

Adoration and Benediction

After Friday morning Mass for 30 minutes

Office Hours

Monday 9am—2:30pm
Tuesday to Thursday
9am - 12:30pm
Closed Fridays and statutory holidays.



PARISH STAFF

Pastor—Fr. Eligio “Eli” Canete - eligiocanete@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant—Brenda Lerner - office@stjamescalgary.org

Music - Michael Scholfield - mcscholfield@icloud.com

Bookkeeper—Magda Aguillon

Volunteer Screening—Vivian Moody—pvsc@stjamescalgary.org

Parish Pastoral Council: Nick Fader (Chairman), Fr. Eli Canete, Elvira Castaneda, Ralph Walicki, Daryl Engelman, Brian Lerner, Mike Adelino, Kyle Hagan, Andrew Beingessner

Finance Council—Joe Bichel (Chairman), Terry Gonsalves, Neale Johannesson, Kim Moody

The Shepherd Speaks—Fr. Eli Canete

Who are our ADVENT GUIDES for the Second Sunday of Advent? What do they share to us from their stories, faith experiences and from their relationships in welcoming the Lord in their lives?

St. John the Baptist provides us the SPIRIT OF HUMILITY. I must decrease, he must increase. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. I baptize you with water for repentance but one who is to come is more powerful than I. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

St. John is telling us that the first step in going home to the Lord is HUMILITY. When we recognize that at times we failed the Lord, we betrayed the Lord and we have sinned against HIM, the healing journey back home begins. As in the words of the Prodigal SON in coming home to his Father, he said, I have sinned against You and against God, I am no longer worthy to be called your son. But the Father simply embraced HIM, called for a celebration, and welcomed the Son.

Return and repent. Jesus calls us to a life of repentance. We need forgiveness. Forgiveness happens because God's mercy and God's love is greater than the greatest of our sins. As we meet the Lord in an encounter of forgiveness and love, in an encounter of new life and healing, we come to Jesus filled with renewed hope and strengthen by our faith trusting and believing that everyone who approached and return to Him in humility and repentance will experience being sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

When we have the strength to say, I want to return, I want to come home, Lord, here I am with my sins, you will find the door of forgiveness wide open. God will come to you because He is searching and looking after you.

In the first reading, the Lord is addressing to us the words He spoke to His chosen people through the prophet Baruch: Jerusalem, put aside your garments of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God forever.

St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians is sharing to us that God was his witness and His helper to a life of his conversion. God never abandoned Him. There is no reason to be afraid of reconciling with God. There is no reason to be afraid of exposing the wounds of sin in our bodies before the presence of God. Let us not be afraid to tell Jesus that we have sinned. Jesus can only say, welcome back. Long have I waited for your coming.

Like our ADVENT GUIDES, let us point our loved ones to JESUS CHRIST, THE IMAGE OF THE MERCIFUL FATHER WHO NEVER LEAVES US IN TIMES THAT WE ARE DOWN, BROKEN, AND IN NEED OF HEALING AND NEW LIFE. Amen!

Please Note: We place a Christmas Tree near the baptismal font for our TIA (Together in Action) with envelopes in it. Kindly drop by and donate for our TIA. Huge thanks for your generous help. Greatly appreciated!

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 7

9:00am Anica Herciu—R/S

Wednesday, December 8

9:00am Intention of Peter Thov

Thursday, December 9

9:00am Maria Petrollini—R/S

Friday, December 10

9:00am Intention of Dionne/Todd Hirtle & Family

Saturday, December 11

5:00pm Giovanni & Maria Petrollini—R/S

Sunday, December 12

10:00am Gabriel Waschmann Ortiz—R/S
12:00pm St. James Parish

Ushers Needed

We are looking for men, women and teens 16 and older who are interested in ushering. As our Mass attendance numbers have increased, it is apparent that there is a need to have ushers in place for our weekend Masses and especially as we start to plan our Christmas Mass schedule. Training will be provided as protocols have changed. Please contact the office as soon as possible if you would like to usher.

Seating: To help with seating, especially at our busier Mass times, please consider moving to the middle of the longer pews to allow for better use of seating and easier entry for those coming later.

Sunday Missals—The 2021/22 Living with Christ Sunday Missals are here. They are on the book cart as you come into the sanctuary. Missals are \$5.00 each. Please leave payment in the box attached to the cart.

November 21* & 28

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|---------|--------|
| Regular | \$7112 |
| PAPS | \$2748 |
| | \$9860 |

***Correction**

2021 Together in Action Goal: \$25,353

Collected: \$20,500

Please help us reach our TIA goal!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Class Registration NOW OPEN

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is open to all Catholic students who are in grade 6 or higher and who have already received the sacraments of Baptism and First Eucharist. Our program will be a combination of 5 monthly in-class sessions at the parish (Thursdays from 6:00-7:30pm) and 11 sessions with the **CHOSEN** online program. This program takes young people on a journey through the Catholic faith in all its richness and vitality. Teens will be captivated by the story from Creation through salvation history, and will come to see how the sacraments, prayer, and discipleship are the keys to a happy life. The **CHOSEN** program is nothing short of winning over the hearts of teens and making them disciples for Christ.

In-class sessions will be presented by Fr. Eli and our Confirmation Sacrament Coordinator, Vicki Oliphant. In-class sessions are **parent/student classes** with a parent attending each session with their child. Parent(s) and child will be seated together and physically distanced from other households. Registration deadline is January 14th, 2022 but it is recommended that you **register early as space is limited**. Registration forms can be found at the SW entrance of the church, at the office, and on our website. Return completed forms to the office along with a copy of your child's baptism certificate. More information and class schedule will be provided at time of registration.



Confession & Adoration

As we will not be holding our usual Penitential Celebrations, Fr. Eli will be hearing Confession on Friday **December 3 & 10** from **6pm-8pm**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during these times.

Donation Envelope Boxes

Envelope boxes are available now in the parish hall. Please stop by to pick yours up as you come into Mass. If you do not see a box assigned to you but would like one, please contact the office or leave your information on the notepad provided by the envelopes so that a box can be prepared for you.

Lighting our Advent Wreath

Would you or your family like to sign-up to light the Advent wreath at one of the Masses during Advent? Thank you to those who have already volunteered. We are still looking for volunteers for the 12:00 Masses for Dec 5th, 12th and 19th.



Christmas Schedule

ONLINE SIGN UP IS REQUIRED

Christmas Eve
3pm, 5pm, 7pm

Christmas Day
10am, 12pm

New Year's Eve
5pm

New Year's Day
10am

Access to the sign-up is through our website as before. If you are unable to do the online sign-up, please contact the office for assistance. Remember that EACH family member needs to be registered individually. Please only sign up for **ONE** Christmas Mass and **ONE** New Year's Mass to allow everyone to get the opportunity to attend. If you book seats for a Mass you will not be attending, please inform the office as soon as possible. Cancellations cannot be made online.

Festival of Creches

December 10th 6-8pm
December 11th 10am-7pm
St Mary's Cathedral

Suggested Donation: \$20/family, \$5/single
Bring some loonies for a chance to win a new Nativity Scene!

You are invited to attend the "Festival of Creches", an exhibit of magnificent Nativity scenes from around the world., accompanied by live seasonal music. This event is a fundraiser for West Plains Foundation, a registered charitable organization to promote women's vital role in the family and society.

St. James Christmas Donation Tree in support of Together in Action.

In previous years we have used the Christmas tree to help with gifts to children of our hamper program. This year our hope is that parishioners and visitors choose support of the Diocese of Calgary's fundraising campaign.

Established in 1992 Together in Action has raised more than 43 million dollars to assist our churches and vulnerable populations. The money raised will fund three areas of need.

1. Local Charities such as Elizabeth House and Feed the Hungry as well over 30 charities within the diocese region.

2. National and International Outreach including Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Mission in Canada, and International Ministries.

Diocesan Programs that include Care for Retired Priests, Education of Seminarians and St Mary's University.

The Donation tree is located at the back of the church. If you feel you can assist, please take an envelope off the tree, and place your donation in the donation box.

Thank you and God bless the works of Together in Action.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Darlene Otis, John Duffy, Linda Evans,
Mary Figley, Marie Funke, Aidan Hanes, Sylvia Kirkland, Shirley Klein, Elliott Nowell, Norma O'Hare,
Michael Paplawski, Anthony Parel, Gary Ritter, Sara Straathof, Gary & Janice Tipper,
Margaret Ukrainec, Shirley Valentine

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED

Marshall Swab, Violet Ducharme, Trudy Martin

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues at this time.

[CLICK HERE FOR UPDATED RESTRICTIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF CALGARY](#)

**NEW TEMPORARY MEASURES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 20
CAPACITY 1/3 (134 people) - First Come/First Serve**

- **MASKS ARE MANDATORY AS PER THE CITY OF CALGARY BYLAW IN THE SANCTUARY AND THROUGHOUT THE BUILDING**
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING IS ALSO MANDATORY**—Alternate rows are marked as before.—Please be respectful of distancing between parishioners when in the church and in the office areas.
- The reception of Holy Communion on the tongue is allowed. Communion will only be given under one species —the consecrated Host
- **50 person limit** for Funeral Masses, Weddings and Baptisms
- No social gatherings are allowed
- Meetings and classes may continue provided physical distancing and masking can be maintained

PLEASE...

- Continue to use hand sanitizer as you enter and leave the church
- Practice proper respiratory etiquette (coughing or sneezing into a bent elbow, promptly discarding used tissues in a garbage bin)
- If you have cold or flu-like symptoms, please refrain from attending Mass
- Exercise charity and kindness towards one another