



St. James the Greater Church

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2nd Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 10:00am & 12:00pm

Weekday

Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am

1st Saturday of the month 9:00am

CONFESSION

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30 -10:00am

No Confession on Thursday

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30pm

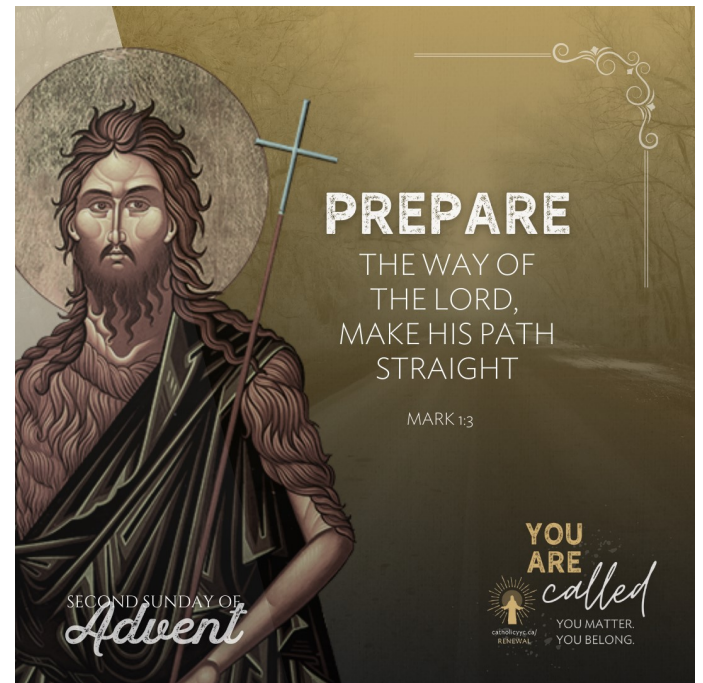
(or by appointment)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday

9:00am - 3:00pm

*Closed from 12:00-12:30pm for lunch,
and on all statutory holidays.*



Thank you for joining us! We warmly welcome all new parishioners and visitors to our parish. If you are new to our parish community, please fill out a registration form available on our website, at the SW entrance of the church, or at the parish office.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the month of December:

Pray that people with disabilities may be at the center of attention in our society .

PARISH STAFF

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

Administrative Assistant—Brenda Lerner - office@stjamescalgary.org

Music - Michael Scholfield - musdir83@gmail.com

Bookkeeper—Magda Aguillon

Volunteer Screening—Kerstin Daly - pvsc@stjamescalgary.org



Visit us on
Facebook!

The Shepherd Speaks—Fr. Eli Canete

Who is St. John the Baptist? From the day of his birth, people know John is different. What then will this child be? When John grows, he lives in the desert, dresses in skins and eats locusts and honey. In his preaching, he calls people to repent, act justly, and prepare something yet to come—the Kingdom of God.

On August 29 each year, we hear the description of John's death in Mark 6:17-29. John's disciples come to his cell with Christ's answer to the question, are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?

The main focus, however, is on John the Baptist, chained and kneeling in his prison cell. Two soldiers come to him holding a platter, with a sword already pointed toward John who is about to die. John joins his hands in prayer, meeting death with courage, knowing that Christ has come into the world and his own mission is complete.

The message of John calls us to confront and confess our sins, to turn away from them in sincere repentance, to receive God's forgiveness and most importantly, to look to Jesus.

Do we need to receive God's forgiveness? There are basically two reasons why we fail to receive forgiveness. The first is that we fail to repent and the second is that we fail to forgive. Jesus was very explicit about this second failure in Matthew.

Jesus says, for if you forgive men and women their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men and women, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Is there someone we need to forgive today? Let us not allow what others have done to destroy our life. We cannot be forgiven unless we forgive. Let us let go of that bitterness and allow God to work healing in our life.

John's voice was very moving and touching because his life was his message. He lived what he preached. And his humility was great, saying, "the Lord must increase, I must decrease." We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives so that Jesus may be reborn in us.

Jesus is inviting us to come home, to stay with Him and rejoice in His mercy and forgiveness. Always remember that every time we go back for confession, it is always a joyful encounter with our God. John the Baptist reminds us too of announcing Christ to others through our lives, at home and in our community.

People around us should recognize Jesus's rebirth in our lives by our sharing of love, unconditional forgiveness, compassionate and merciful heart, and spirit of humble service. Let us accept Jesus as our savior and King. Let us use these days of preparation for Christmas to ready ourselves for Christ's coming remembering that the second coming will happen for each one of us on the day of our death, or on the day of the Lord, whichever comes first.

What do I profit if Jesus is born in the thousands of cribs all over the world unless He is born in my heart and soul?

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS:

Did you know your screening requirements must be up-to-date in order for you to continue in your ministry? This means:

All Volunteers: An online Praesidium Sexual Abuse Prevention Training Refresher course must be completed every **2 years**.

High Trust/Risk Volunteers: Your police check is valid for **5 years**, and must be redone before it expires.

We are in the process of reviewing the files and will contact you if you require an update. If you know you require updating, or if you have any questions, please contact Kerstin Daly at pvsc@stjamescalgary.org

Thank you!

Sunday Collection December 3

Regular	\$5147
PAPS	\$1638
	\$6785

DONATION ENVELOPE BOXES

Our 2024 donation envelope boxes are now available in the church. If you have don't see a box but would like one, please contact the office. If you prefer to use our easy pre-authorized payment system, just let us know so we can provide the forms.



Statement by
the Canadian
Conference
of Catholic
Bishops on
Euthanasia.

[Read Here](#)

REMEMBER that the sanctuary is a sacred space. PLEASE no chewing gum in the church. Properly dispose of gum (and garbage) in the garbage bins at the entrance before entering the church. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Tuesday, December 12**

9:00am Julia Almeida—R/S

Wednesday, December 13

9:00am Intention of Mary & Sergio Plazas

Thursday, December 14

9:00am Trevor Freeman—R/S

Friday, December 15

9:00am Gabriel Waschmann Ortiz—R/S

7:00pm Mercedes Hernandez—R/S

Saturday, December 16

5:00pm Giuseppina Redoglia—R/S

Sunday, December 17

10:00am Osadebamen Vanessa Omeike—R/S

12:00pm St James Parish

Christmas & New Year Schedule**Saturday, December 23—5pm*****Sunday, December 24—10am & 12pm*****4th Sunday of Advent***Christmas Eve - 5pm & 7pm****Christmas Day - 10am & 12pm****Saturday, December 30—5pm****Sunday, December 31—10am & 12pm****New Year's Eve, December 31—5pm*****New Year's Day—10am*****Solemnity of Mary—A day of obligation for the Universal Church*

Boxing Day— No Mass

(daily Mass schedule will resume on December 27)

Simbang Gabi Filipino Masses

December 15 to December 23

6:30 Carols

7:00pm Mass

All welcome.

Festival of Carols

December 10, 2023

2:00pm—3:30pm

St James Church

Come join us for an afternoon of carols! Our own wonderful choirs along with some special guests will be sure to bring some Christmas cheer!

Freewill Offering
Light reception to follow.



Our Together in Action campaign is ending at the end of the year. We know there are many demands for your donations at this time of the year. Please consider the many charities and church activities that are funded with your support of the TIA campaign. Unfortunately, at this time we are well short of reaching our target, however with your assistance we can achieve our goal. Your donations can be made with our TIA envelopes, online, or by contacting the parish office. Thank you for considering a donation to this worthy charitable appeal.

Collected: \$29,447 Goal: \$36,218

Remaining: \$6771

Fundraising

The Knights of Columbus Council #8471 (from Holy Spirit parish) will be selling ergonomic snow shovels for \$30 after our Masses this weekend.

St James Christmas Hampers

Huge thanks to all those who donated Walmart gift cards, funds, candy canes and chocolates for our Christmas Hampers. This year we will provide 47 hampers to individuals and families living in our parish boundary.

Thanks also to St James School for their food donations and their help with assembly, our St James Parish Food Bank donors, the Knights of Columbus and our Christmas Hamper Committee for their efforts and contributions. Special thanks to Elvira Castaneda, John Wilson, Andy Ostrowski, Brenda Lerner, Kyle Hagan and Mr. Bashaw.

This Advent, Bishop McGrattan alerts us to be intentional, not to become indifferent and unaware of the very presence of God in our lives. Begin by reflecting on the Bishop's five questions in the article and step into the Advent season differently this year.

Bishop McGrattan's Advent Message**Holiday Christmas Hours**

The parish office will be closed from December 22 to December 26, and again from December 29 to January 1. Calls and emails will be returned on the next business day. For urgent matters, please leave a message on Fr. Eli's extension or call him directly at 403 929 8972.

This Week at the Church

Monday	7:00pm	Legion of Mary
Tuesday	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am	Rosary Mass/Confession Marian/Divine Mercy Cenacle
Wednesday	8:30am 9:00am 1:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Rosary Mass//Confession Choir School Christmas Concert RCIA
Thursday	8:30am 9:00am 1:00pm 6:15pm	Rosary Mass /Confession Christmas Hamper Assembly Reconciliation Class #3
Friday	9:00am 1:00pm 3:00pm 6:30pm	Mass/Confession/Adoration Sing-a-long for Seniors Hamper Delivery (Knights) Simbang Gabi
Saturday	4:00pm 5:00pm 6:30pm	Confession Mass Simbang Gabi
Sunday	10:00am 12:00pm 6:30pm	Mass Mass Simbang Gabi

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

Coloring Page—[Click Here](#)
Kid's Bulletin—[Click Here](#)



Children's Liturgy of the Word—
[Click Here](#)

We have a great selection of re-purposed Christmas cards and Christmas gift tags at the SW entrance. All proceeds go to support missions. Simply drop payment into the white tin by the cards.

We welcome our new neighbor, Eugenia Landry, who has opened up Enchanted Petals, a floral shop, recently across the street from our church. We thank Eugenia for her generosity towards our Christmas poinsettia order and for her assistance in arranging our bouquets. If you happen to need flowers, drop in to see Eugenia.

enchantedpetals27@gmail.com
www.enchantedpetals.ca
587 777 0101



*Since the new millennium the financial support of the Catholic faithful from the Diocese of Calgary has provided much needed health and education projects for the Indigenous Peoples in the mountains of the State of Guerrero which is the poorest region in the country of Mexico. Let us continue to help our brothers and sisters to have a better future, and to sow hope among those who suffer. **There will be a second collection on the Second Sunday of Advent (Dec. 9/10) for Mission Mexico.** To donate online please visit missionmexico.com*

We Pray for the Sick and All Who Care for Them

Stephanie Davis, Wendy Denis, Gaetano Dumo, Fr. Noel Farman, Mary Figley, Marie Funke, Aidan Hanes, Sylvia Harris, Ann Hayes, Sharon Jeanson, Charlotte Johansen, Dean Klein, Clifford MacFarlane, McDonald/Born Family, Bill Montgomery, Mark Naylen, Elliott Nowell, Rita Ortiz-Waschmann, Andrew Pelletier, Jorge Carlos Rotela, Gabriel Serpas, Brad Sluiter, Fr. Julian Studden, Shirley Valentine, Richard Zelichowski

And For Those Who Have Died

Sylvia Kirkland, Bishop Emeritus Paride Taban, Deacon Bill Young, Fr. Salvador Ahumada, Sr. Helen Hengel SCSL

We Are So Grateful For Your Financial Support!

- ♦ Online giving on the "Contribute" page of our website—one time or monthly with debit, Visa, Visa debit, Mastercard, or American Express
- ♦ Mastercard, Visa or Debit through the office—one time donation or monthly
- ♦ Pre-authorized Withdrawal (Direct Deposit) - get forms from the office or at the church entrance
- ♦ E-transfer to ***isupport@stjamescalgary.org***
- ♦ Dropping off your envelope in the collection basket
- ♦ Dropping off your envelope at the office or into the office mailbox
- ♦ Mailing your donation to the church