



# ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

5504 - 20 St. S.W. Calgary, Alberta T3E 1R2  
Ph: 403 243 2680 Fax: 403 287 1273  
office@stjamescalgary.org

[www.stjamescalgary.org](http://www.stjamescalgary.org)

## Christmas/New Year's Day

December 25, 2025

### MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 10:00am & 12:00pm

### Weekday

Tuesday thru Friday 9:00am  
1st Saturday of the month 9:00am

### CONFESSION

Wednesday & Friday 9:30 -10:00am  
Saturday 4:00 - 4:30pm  
(or by appointment)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday  
9:00am - 3:00pm  
*Closed 12-12:30 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. We hope to see you again soon!

### Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for the Month of December:

For Christians in conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor**—Fr. Domingo Bongalos [stjamespastorcalgary@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespastorcalgary@gmail.com)  
**Administrative Assistant**—Brenda Lerner [office@stjamescalgary.org](mailto:office@stjamescalgary.org)  
**Music**—Michael Scholfield - [musdir83@gmail.com](mailto:musdir83@gmail.com)  
**Bookkeeper**—David Mu [david.mu@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:david.mu@calgarydiocese.ca)  
**Volunteer Screening**—Kerstin Daly [pvsc@stjamescalgary.org](mailto:pvsc@stjamescalgary.org)  
**Sacrament Preparation**—Lindsay Klein [sacraments@stjamescalgary.org](mailto:sacraments@stjamescalgary.org)



Visit us on  
Facebook!

## *Pastor's Message*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As Christmas draws near and a New Year stands before us, I want to greet each of you with a grateful and hopeful heart. This past year has carried its share of joys and blessings—but also burdens, losses, and quiet struggles that only God has fully seen. Thank you for your faithfulness: for your prayers, your generosity, your patience, and your love for one another. You have kept this parish alive not just as a place, but as a family.

At Christmas, we celebrate a simple yet life-changing truth: **Emmanuel—God is with us.**

Not God above us only. Not God far away. But God *with us*. Jesus is born not in a palace, but in a stable. He enters not a perfect world, but a wounded one. He comes into our ordinary lives—into our tired hearts, our unanswered questions, our homes, our fears, and our hopes. Christmas assures us that wherever we are, God has already chosen to be there with us.

As we step into the New Year, many of us do so with mixed emotions. We carry hopes, but also uncertainties. We do not know what the coming year will bring. But this we know: **we know Who walks with us.** The same God, who was faithful yesterday, will not abandon us tomorrow. The Child in the manger becomes the Lord who walks beside us in every season.

I invite you, as a parish family, to enter the New Year with trust. Trust that God is still at work. Trust that grace is ahead of us. Trust that even when the road is unclear, God's love is steady. Let us walk together—rooted in prayer, strengthened by the Eucharist, and guided by compassion, forgiveness, and hope.

May this Christmas fill your hearts with peace.

May the New Year bring renewal, courage, and quiet joy.

And may we always remember this simple promise: **We are never alone—**

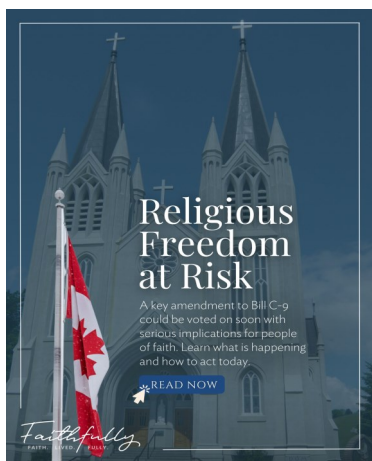
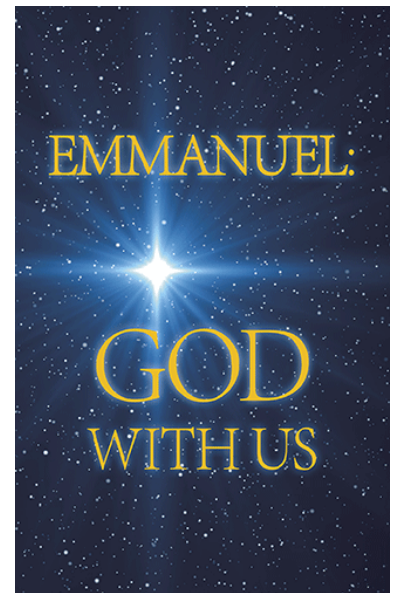
**Emmanuel, God is with us.**

With prayers and blessings for you and your families,

Merry Christmas and a Hope-filled New Year.

In Christ through Mary,

**Fr. Domingo Bongalos**



A key amendment to Bill C-9 could be voted on soon with serious implications for people of faith. Read the Canadian bishops' letter at [www.catholiccycc.ca](http://www.catholiccycc.ca)



### **Loreto Crypt**

The Diocese of Calgary is pleased to announce the opening of the Loreto Crypt at Queen's Park Cemetery (3219 4 St NW, Calgary) — a permanent, above-ground mausoleum offering a dignified resting place for babies lost through miscarriage before 20 weeks of gestation. The crypt is open to all families, Catholic and non Catholic.

Families begin the process by contacting a licensed funeral home, which will coordinate directly with the Diocese and the City of Calgary. There is no diocesan fee, and burial costs are covered by the City during regular operating hours.

Full guidelines and information are available at [catholiccycc.ca/loretocrypt](http://catholiccycc.ca/loretocrypt)

### Mindful Give

We have a new donation method called Quick Tap at the SW entrance. Quick Tap is a secure, contactless way to support the parish—simply tap your debit or credit card on the device to make a contribution and continue on your way. It is fast, easy, and especially helpful for those who don't carry cash or prefer a quick, no-fuss way to give. If you would like to receive a tax receipt for each donation, just scan the QR code on the display to complete a brief one-time registration. After that, your receipts will be emailed to you automatically each time you donate. We hope this makes giving more convenient and accessible for everyone. Thank you for your continued support!



### Mass Intentions

#### Friday, December 26

No Mass

#### Saturday, December 27

5pm Intention of Merle Gonsalves

#### Sunday, December 28

10am Intention of Lerner Family

12pm Parishioners of St James

#### Tuesday, December 30

9am Intention of Ashlynn & Scott

#### Wednesday, December 31

5pm Laurette Martineau +

#### Thursday, January 1

10am Parishioners of St James

#### Friday, January 2

9am Intention of Kycak Family

#### Saturday, January 3

9am Intention of O'Brien Family

5pm Intention of Antonietta D'Ippolito

#### Sunday, January 4

10am Gerry Barrie +

12pm Parishioners of St James

### Multiply the Hope

The Calgary Diocese recognizes that parishes like ours carry financial challenges related to aging buildings that require necessary repairs, while other parishes also have loans to repay. In the spirit of the Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope Francis, our Diocese has launched a financial campaign called, **Multiply the Hope** to help with these costs. Under this campaign, the Diocese will match every dollar contributed to our repairs and maintenance fund up to a maximum of \$94,630. This means that every contribution made to our repairs and maintenance fund will have twice the impact, allowing our parish to move forward with some of our more significant repairs and maintenance initiatives. Thanks to donors like you, our 2025 Together in Action obligation has been met! Now we need additional funds to cover the remaining budget deficit so that we can benefit from this campaign for 2025. The **Multiply the Hope** campaign runs to the end of 2027, giving us 2025, 2026 and 2027 to benefit from this matching program and to reach our parish goal of \$94,630.



Find out more about this campaign at [www.catholicyc.ca/multiplythehope](http://www.catholicyc.ca/multiplythehope)

### Christmas Hampers

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, 46 households received Christmas Hampers this week. We are also grateful to St James School for collecting a ton of food, making Christmas cards, and helping sort groceries; the Knights of Columbus, the JB Schultz Foundation and our Christmas Hamper Committee (Brenda Lerner, Andrea Engels, Andy Ostrowski, Kerstin Daly and Jennifer Brosseau) for their efforts in making this year's hamper project a success once again.

**Many thanks to those who came out to help us with the hamper assembly on Wednesday and the delivery the following day.**

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one is in need of the Anointing of the Sick or For the Dying, please call 403 231 9505. The service will page the priest on call.

### Advent & Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass 5pm & 7pm  
 Christmas Day Mass 10am & 12pm

New Year's Eve Mass 5pm  
 New Year's Day Mass 10am

**\*New Year's Day is a Holy Day of Obligation in the universal Church**

**Office Hours—Open Dec 22 & 29 only**

Messages will be returned on the next business day  
 Regular hours resume on January 5. (For emergencies only, call 403 860 6357)



## Next Week at the Church

Monday	Office Open 6:00pm	Legion of Mary
Tuesday	9:00am	Mass
Wednesday	5:00pm	Mass
Thursday	10:00am	Mass
Friday	9:00am	Mass
Saturday	9:00am 4:00pm 5:00pm	Mass Confession Mass
Sunday	10:00am 12:00pm	Mass Mass

*Rosary at 8:30am prior to all weekday Mass.*

### Parish Directory Advertising Opportunity

If you would like to advertise your business in our new parish directory, please contact Lisa Frehlich (403 969 4939) prior to **December 31, 2025**.

Full page: \$750

Half Page: \$450

Quarter Page: \$250

Business Card: \$75

You must supply original art work on USB memory stick or online cloud. Image formats including JPEG, TIFF, PNG, PDF, BMP, EPS are acceptable. Full payment due at time of submission or postdated cheque for January 1, 2026.



*Solemnity of Mary,  
Holy Mother of God  
January 1*

*Holy Mary, Pray for Us*

## We Pray for the Sick and All Who Care for Them

Ali Boyd, Emma Boccardo, Paul B., Lucy Ciccaglione, Fr. Luciano Cortopassi, Stephanie Davis, Patrick Driscoll, Mia Dumonceaux, Gabrielle Engels, Scott Evans, Msgr. Noel Farman, Nancy Farrell, Mary Figley, Bernice Foley, Marie Funke, Merle Gonsalves, Aidan Hanes, Keith Hannan, Jennifer Hazen, Sharon Jeanson, Charlotte Johansen, Lara Lavalley, Martin McCarthy, Pauline & Monty Montemurro, Bill Montgomery, Dave Moran, Mark Naylen, Elliott Nowell, Kathy Oczkowski, Ashleigh Patterson, Emil Rawlyk, Jocelyn Robb, Gabriel Serpas, Brad Sluiter, Marie Swab, Ildiko Szikora, Mary Terek, Elizabeth Tisseverasinghe, Frank Toone, Maria Zuzic

### And Those Who Have Died

Simon Duku, Tomasa Tolentino, Shirley Valentine, Guido Ciccaglione, Juliette Seguin

### Closing of the Jubilee Year

**Saturday, December 27**

**Mass at 5pm**

**St Mary's Cathedral**

Join the diocesan community for Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family marking the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope, celebrated by Bishop McGrattan. All are welcome to gather in thanksgiving and prayers as we commend the fruits of this sacred year to the Lord.

### Regular Donations

**December 21**

Regular \$3074 + 2181 (PAPS) = \$5255

### Together in Action

Sorry for the confusion regarding our TIA balance.

**We have now achieved our goal thanks to donors like you!**

## Your Financial Support Is Greatly Appreciated

- ◆ 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
- ◆ Quick Tap

For a complete list of events in the Diocese of Calgary, please visit [www.catholicyyc.ca](http://www.catholicyyc.ca)