



# ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Word of God**

**January 25, 2026**

### **MASS TIMES**

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

### **Weekday**

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

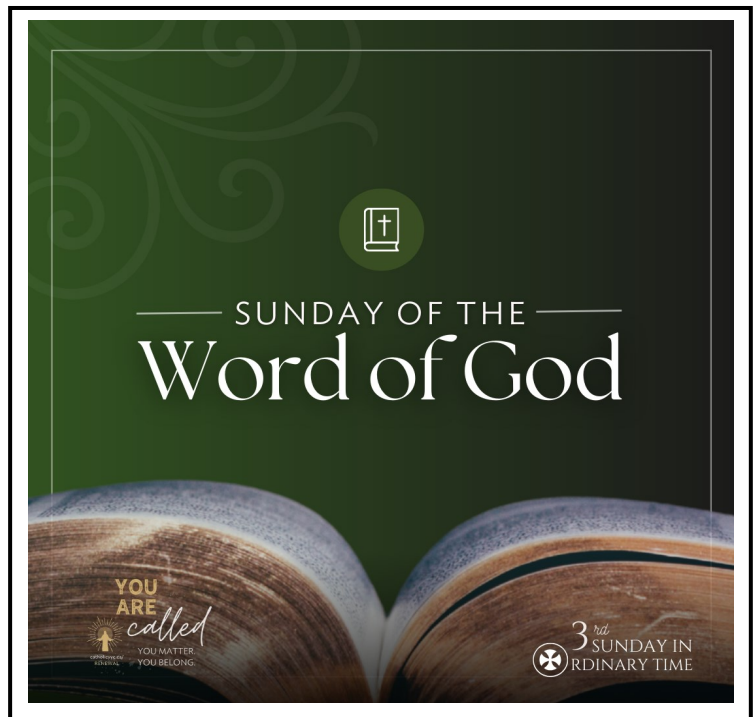
### **CONFESSION**

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 January:**

For prayer with the Word of God: Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### **PARISH STAFF**

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



Visit us on  
Facebook!

## "Jesus Calls the Ordinary People to be Fishers of Men."

Fr. Domingo

Most life-changing moments don't come with thunder or lightning. They come quietly—in the **middle of an ordinary day**.

You're at work. You're driving the same road. You're doing laundry. You're paying bills. You're just trying to get through another week.

That's exactly where today's Gospel begins—not in a palace, not in the Temple, but **by the Sea of Galilee**, where fishermen are doing the same thing, they've done every day of their lives. And suddenly, Jesus passes by... The ordinary life is never the same again.

This Gospel is not about heroes. It's about **people like us**.

Jesus does not begin His ministry by recruiting scholars, the famous, religious experts, or influential leaders. He calls **fishermen**. Men with rough hands. Men who smell like the sea. Men who know nets better than Scriptures.

And this is deeply theological. It tells us that **God's Kingdom is not built on credentials, but on availability**. Jesus is not looking for impressive résumés—He is looking for open hearts. God does not say, "*Become extraordinary, then follow me.*" He says, "*Follow me—and I will make you.*" **That's grace.**

The Gospel says something startling: "*At once they left their nets and followed him.*"

Those nets were not sinful. They were necessary. They were how they fed their families. The nets represent **security, comfort, identity, control**.

This is where discipleship becomes real. Following Jesus always involves **letting go**. Not because God wants to take from us—but because some things, even good things, can hold us back from something greater.

Sometimes Jesus doesn't ask us to leave our job— He asks us to leave fear. Or resentment. Or the need to be in control. Or the belief that "this is all my life will ever be."

Jesus says, "*I will make you fishers of people.*"

Notice this: He does not erase who they are—He **transforms** it. He takes what they already know and gives it **new purpose**. God does not waste your story. Your past, your struggles, your skills—nothing is wasted when placed in His hands.

This Gospel asks us three uncomfortable but life-giving questions:

Do I believe God can use someone like me?

Many people disqualify themselves: "I'm not holy enough." "I don't know enough." "I've failed too much." But Jesus didn't call the qualified—He qualifies the called.

**What nets am I holding on to?** Is it fear of change? The need for approval?

Bitterness from the past? Comfort that keeps me from growth?

Who am I called to "fish" for? Fishing is relational. You don't fish from a distance. Your mission field is: Your family, your workplace, your school, and this community

The most powerful line in this Gospel is not what the disciples say— It's what Jesus says: "**Follow me.**"

That call is not history. **It's present tense.**

Jesus still walks by our lives. Still sees us at work. Still believes in us more than we believe in ourselves.

And the question today is simple: **Will I follow... or will I keep holding the nets?**

### Entering the Year of St Francis

From **Jan 10, 2026 to Jan 10, 2027**, the Church marks a special **Jubilee Year of Saint Francis of Assisi** on the 800th anniversary of his death. During this year, the faithful may obtain a **plenary indulgence** by fulfilling the usual conditions (confession, Communion, prayer for the Holy Father, detachment from sin) and engaging in acts inspired by the Franciscan spirit, such as pilgrimage, prayer, works of charity, and humble service.



### Lenten Schedule

#### Ash Wednesday

February 18 - 9am & 7pm

#### Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent at 6pm

#### Fish Fry

Following the Stations of the Cross



### Volunteers Needed

Lectors at 10am Sunday Mass  
Eucharistic Ministers at 10am Sunday Mass  
Funeral Sacristans—As Needed  
Pastoral Care

Please give these volunteer roles some prayerful consideration in order to lighten the load for the existing volunteers. For more information, contact Brenda or Kerstin in the parish office.

### Food Bank Coordinator Needed

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we are in urgent need of a volunteer Food Bank Coordinator. For more information, please contact Kerstin or Brenda in the parish office. We thank Andrea Engels for her dedication over this past year.

This role requires receiving calls from clients through a secure line, coordinating volunteers for assembly and distribution of food hampers, hamper inventory, grocery orders and deliveries. Hampers are provided every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month. Coordinator will also provide support with Christmas Hampers.

### Mass Intentions

#### Tuesday, January 27

9am Intention of Fr. Andrew Bogdanowicz

#### Wednesday, January 28

9am Intention of Sharon Jeanson

#### Thursday, January 29

9am Intention of Shawn Klein

#### Friday, January 30

9am Shirley Valentine +

#### Saturday, January 31

5pm Carmine D'Ippolito +

#### Sunday, February 1

10am Rudy & Carmela Torjan +

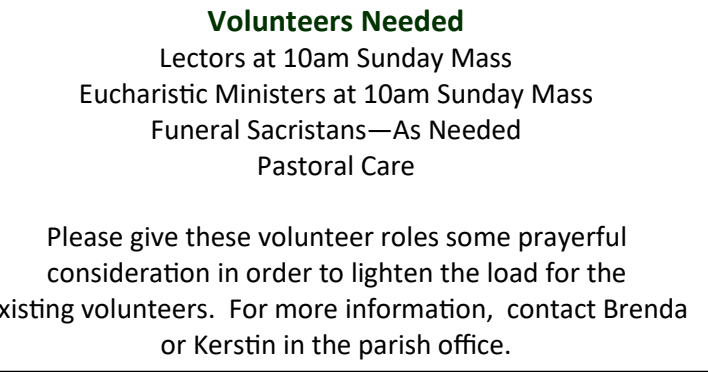
12pm Parishioners of St James

### Word of God Sunday

The Sunday of the Word of God invites the Church to renew her love for Sacred Scripture and to deepen how God's Word shapes our prayer, our decisions, and our life together. Celebrated next Sunday, January 24/25, 2026, this year's theme, "*The Word of Christ Dwells Among You*" (Colossians 3:16), reminds us that the Scriptures are not only read but also lived in our homes and parish communities.

### CCEF Cash Raffle + 50/50 (Jan 1-Mar 2, 2026)

The Calgary Catholic Education Foundation (CCEF<<http://www.theccef.ca/>>) is back with Alberta's largest Catholic school-supporting raffle-running January 1 to March 2, 2026-in support of Catholic education for 64,000 students across 120 schools in Calgary and area. This year includes 4 Early Bird cash draws with prizes totaling \$20,000, plus the 50/50 with a chance to share in a \$1 million pot. When you purchase, be sure to add on the 50/50 and select your school in the drop-down so it can share in the 50/50 proceeds. Thank you for supporting Catholic education in our community. Tickets start at \$10 and can be purchased here: <https://bit.ly/CCEFRaffle>



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

### Welcome to our Christian Community!

Milah Barry, Ethan Tuchscherer,  
Ozzy Baldwin, Gordon Kenway,  
Charleston Thorne. Cassington Thorne,  
Carter Wilson, Amanda Uy,  
Ella Young, Knox Martin, Ezra Martin



### Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

On Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our first of six Stations of the Cross at 6:00pm. It will be followed by the famous Knights of Columbus Fish Fry, a great family event. Prices are \$10 for a piece of fish, \$5 for each additional piece. Includes all the fries you can eat, coleslaw, and an ice cream sandwich.

## Next Week at the Church

Monday	6:00pm	Legion of Mary
Tuesday	9:00am	Mass
	7:00pm	Parish Council
Wednesday	9:00am	Mass/Confession
	1:00pm	Choir
	7:00pm	RCIA
Thursday	9:00am	Mass
	6:30pm	Parent Gathering (1st Euch)
Friday	9:00am	Mass/Adoration/ Confession
	1:00pm	Singalong for Seniors
Saturday	4:00pm	Confession
	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	10:00am	Mass
	12:00pm	Mass

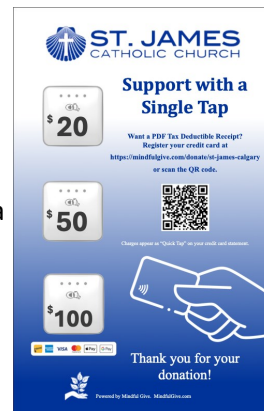
*Rosary at 8:30am prior to all weekday Mass.*

## Old Palms

Old palms are being collected to burn for ashes on Ash Wednesday. Please drop off at the parish office or in the box provided at the SW entrance by February 15.

## Mindful Give

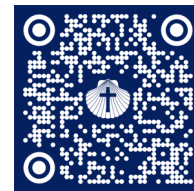
We have a new donation method called Quick Tap at the SW entrance. Quick Tap is a secure, contactless way to support the parish—simply tap your debit or credit card on the device to make a contribution and continue on your way. It is fast, easy, and especially helpful for those who don't carry cash or 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.



## Parish Renewal Team

We encourage parishioners to check our updated parish Renewal website page. The content has been refreshed with

- new video message from the bishop
- a copy of our parish renewal mission
- A copy of our Renewal plan
- A booklet of all the ministries at St. James
- A place to leave your ideas and feedback.



It can be found on our parish website at [stjamescalgary.org/parish-renewal/](http://stjamescalgary.org/parish-renewal/)

## Donations January 18

Regular  
\$2404 + \$2250(PAPS) = \$4654

## 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, 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, Frank Toone, Maria Zuzic

## And Those Who Have Died

Joe Fark, Jim Walters, Sheila Ross, Simon Duku

## 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](mailto: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.catholicyy.ca](http://www.catholicyy.ca)