



ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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www.stjamescalgary.org

2nd Sunday of Lent

March 1, 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 March:

For disarmament and peace: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor—Fr. Domingo Bongalos stjamespastorcalgary@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant—Brenda Lerner office@stjamescalgary.org
Music—Michael Scholfield - musdir83@gmail.com
Bookkeeper—Leanne Plamondon (temporary)
Volunteer Screening—Kerstin Daly pvsc@stjamescalgary.org
Sacrament Preparation—Lindsay Klein sacraments@stjamescalgary.org



Visit us on
Facebook!

“Transfiguration: When Heaven Breaks Through”

~Fr. Domingo

Transfiguration. Even the word feels big on the tongue.

But what if I told you, it simply means this: **“God pulled back the curtain.”**

For one breathtaking moment, heaven broke through earth. For one shining instant, three frightened disciples saw the full truth about Jesus. And they would never be the same.

To understand this mountain moment, we go back to the Second Book of Kings. Israel was at war with Aram. The prophet Elisha kept warning Israel about the enemy’s secret plans. The King of Aram was furious. He decided to capture Elisha. He sent troops at night. They surrounded the city of Dothan where Elisha can be found.

In the morning, Elisha’s servant stepped outside — and froze. Horses.

Chariots. Soldiers. Everywhere. He ran back in panic: “Master, what shall we do?”

Elisha calmly said, “Don’t be afraid. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

Can you imagine? The servant must have thought, “Did my master lose his mind?” So, Elisha prayed, “Lord, open his eyes.” And suddenly — the hills were full of **chariots of fire**. Heaven’s army had been there all along. Nothing changed around him. The enemy was still there. But everything changed within him. **He could see.**

Now fast forward to the mountain of Transfiguration. In today’s Gospel, Jesus brings Peter, James, and John up a high mountain.

Why? Because they were scared. Jesus had just told them He would suffer. Be rejected. Be killed. Peter had even tried to stop Him: “Never, Lord!” They were afraid for Him. They were afraid for themselves.

And on that mountain — **Jesus is transfigured**. His face shines. His clothes blaze with light. Moses and Elijah appear.

But here is the question: **Why did Jesus do this?**

Not to show off. Not to impress. He did it to prepare them. Because after the mountain would come the valley. After the glory would come the cross. He was saying to them: *“When you see me bleeding, remember this light. When you see me dying, remember this glory. The cross is not the end of the story.”*

The Transfiguration is God opening their eyes — just like Elisha prayed for his servant. It was a rescue from a crisis of faith.

Now let me ask you this: Are you in a valley right now? Are you surrounded by problems that feel bigger than you? A diagnosis. A broken relationship. Financial pressure. Uncertainty about the future. Do you feel like Elisha’s servant — looking at the enemy and saying, “We’re trapped”? Sometimes nothing changes around you. But God changes what you see.

The mountain experience does not remove suffering. It gives you strength to walk through it. After the mountain, Jesus did not say, “Build tents and stay here.” He led them down. And here is where it gets personal. Everybody you will meet this week has a hidden hurt. Everybody you encounter needs hope. And God is asking us to be the channel of hope.

There are two kinds of people in the world: Those who give hope. And those who drain it.

When your children talk to you — do they feel lifted? When your spouse shares a struggle — do they feel strengthened? When someone confesses fear — do they leave lighter? Or heavier? The Transfiguration invites us to become curtain-lifters. To remind people: “This is not the last chapter.”

Life will take you to valleys. But never forget the mountain. When the world grows dark, remember the light. When fear surrounds you, remember the chariots of fire. When the cross appears final, remember the glory.

Because the same God who opened the servant’s eyes is the same God who opened the tomb.

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday

February 18—Mass 9am & 7pm

**Day of Fasting and Abstinence*

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent at 6pm

Penitential Celebration—March 10 at 7pm

Parish Lenten Recollection

March 26 6pm Mass (No 9am Mass)



Coming Soon! NEW Children’s Liturgy Program 10am Mass

3-8 year olds

(*younger children may come with a parent)

Registration is required. No fee.

Visiting children may join without registration.

Adult volunteers are needed. Please contact

Kerstin if you would like to help. We strongly encourage parents with children attending the

program to consider volunteering. Welcome to

our new coordinator, Xochitl Alvarez. We thank

Michelle Jung for her years of volunteering.

Volunteers Needed—Please Help

Lectors at 10am Sunday Mass

Eucharistic Ministers at 10am Sunday Mass

Funeral Sacristans—As Needed

Pastoral Care

Scheduling

Children's Liturgy

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.

Together in Action 2026

Ash Wednesday marks the official kick off for Together in Action 2026. For more than 40 years, TIA has supported diocesan ministries and partner organizations serving communities locally, nationally, and internationally. Every gift to TIA helps bring faith into action by supporting evangelization. Advancing social justice and providing compassionate care to those most in need. Together, we make a lasting difference in the lives of people from all backgrounds and circumstances.

Our Together in Action goal for 2026 remains the same as the last 2 years: **\$36,218**

Together in Unity Circle

2026 Together in Action marks the completion of the Diocese of Calgary's commitment to raise \$3 million in support of the national \$30 million Indigenous Reconciliation Fund.

Over five years, TIA raised \$600,000 annually, for a total of \$3 million, dedicated to grants supporting local and regional Indigenous-led initiatives across Southern Alberta.

Tax Receipts

The 2025 tax receipts were mailed out this past week. Only receipts over \$20 were mailed. **Please check for errors and advise the office if there are any discrepancies.** If your donations go through Canada Helps, they will provide your tax receipt.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

On Friday, February 20th 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.



Beginning this weekend, there will be a children's program in the library during the Fish Fry.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 3

9am Victor Hinton +

Wednesday, March 4

9am Intention of Isaac Klein

Thursday, March 5

9am Neil Jeanson +

Friday, March 6

9am Beatrice Gross +

Saturday, March 7

9am Intention of Fr. Eli Canete

5pm Intention of Nancy Farrell & Jacques Thibault

Sunday, March 8

10am Annunziata Morrone +

12pm Parishioners of St James

Michael Scholfield will be retiring effective April 6, 2026.

The Diocese will be posting a job opportunity in the days ahead. If you know of anyone who may be interested in the position of Music Director, please let them know. Singalong for Seniors has been cancelled.

Let's Talk About Dementia

The Diocese of Calgary invites pastoral care ministry teams, family members, hospital chaplains, clergy and anyone interested in Dementia. Learn how to support people and their families by promoting empathy, dignity, and quality of life.

- When: **Wed, Mar 11, 2026 from 10 am to 3 pm**
- Location: **Catholic Pastoral Centre, Calgary.**
- Complimentary lunch & refreshments will be provided.

Please [register online](#) by March 4 or contact Mara at 403-218-5521.

Horizons of Hope

Horizons of Hope is an educational resource to help understand and reflect end-of-life issues and to promote the need for excellent palliative care. It will assist in clarifying misinformation and reverse the deceptive messaging found in this increasing culture of death. We invite you to attend the 4-module workshop program.

St Mary's Cathedral Hall

March 5, 12, 19 & 26 6-8pm

Register by March 1

St Gerard's Parish Hall

May 2, 9, 16 & 23 7-9pm

Register by April 28

Please see poster and QR code at the SW entrance.

New Bookkeeper

We welcome Leanne Plamondon who is our new temporary bookkeeper. And we thank David Mu for his service to St James during the past year.

Next Week at the Church

Monday	6:00pm	Legion of Mary
Tuesday	9:00am	Mass
	7:00pm	Liturgy Meeting
Wednesday	9:00am	Mass/Confession
	1:00pm	Choir
	7:00pm	Mass
	7:00pm	RCIA
	7:00pm	Confirmation Class #4
Thursday	9:00am	Mass
	6:30pm	1st Communion Class #2
	7:00pm	Opus Dei Men
Friday	9:00am	Mass/Adoration/ Confession
	1:00pm	Singalong for Seniors
	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross
	6:30pm	Fish Fry
Saturday	4:00pm	Confession
	5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	10:00am	Mass
	12:00pm	Mass

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

We Pray for the Sick and All Who Care for Them

Ali Boyd, Emma Boccardo, Paul B., Lucy Ciccaglione, 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, 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

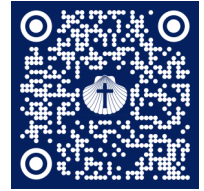
And Those Who Have Died

Frances Kapp, Pauline Montemurro, Joe Fark, Jim Walters

Parish Renewal Team

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

- A new video message from Bishop McGrattan
- 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



Check out our Renewal page on our parish website: stjamescalgary.org/parish-renewal/



Find out more about this campaign at www.catholicyyc.ca/multiplythehope

Stations of the Cross Schedule

- February 20—10am Choir
- February 27—Knights of Columbus
- March 6—Parish Council
- March 13—Sacrament Children
- March 20—Legion of Mary
- March 27—Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers



Sunday Collection

February 15 & 22

Regular	\$	4931.50
Maintenance	\$	375.35
Flowers	\$	49.00
Food Bank	\$	0
Together in Action	\$	415.00

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