



# ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

**Palm Sunday**

**March 29, 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 April:

For priests in crisis: Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, let us pray to the Lord.

### 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**—Leanne Plamondon [leanne.plamondon@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:leanne.plamondon@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!

## Jesus Needs Your Donkey—Fr. Domingo

What if one day, in the middle of your ordinary routine, someone knocked on your door and said: **“The Lord needs something that belongs to you.”** Not something extra. Not something you don’t care about. But something simple... something you use every day... something that is part of your life. How would you respond? Would you hesitate? Would you question? Or would you trust and let it go?

Jesus tells His disciples to go into a village and bring back a donkey and its colt. Then He adds these simple but striking words: **“The Lord needs them.”** That line is surprising. Jesus is the Son of God. He has authority over all creation. He could have performed a miracle. And yet, He chooses to *need* something from someone

**Why?** Because God, in His love, chooses to involve us in His mission. God can take the ordinary things in our lives and use them for extraordinary purposes—if we are willing to offer them.

**What is your “donkey”?** The story invites us to reflect on our own lives. Each of us has something that the Lord is asking for—our own “donkey,” so to speak. It may not seem important. It may feel small or insignificant. But in God’s hands, it becomes meaningful.

Your **“donkey”** could be:

- Your time, especially when you feel too busy
  - Your talents, even if you think they are limited
  - Your resources, offered generously to those in need
  - Your voice, used to encourage or speak truth
  - Your presence, simply being there for someone who is hurting
- Your story, including your struggles, which can bring hope to others

Often, we hesitate because we think what we have is not enough. We compare ourselves to others and feel inadequate. We wait until we feel more prepared, more confident, or more “worthy.”

One of the biggest obstacles we face is fear. We fear losing control. We fear inconvenience. We fear that if we give something to God, we might not get it back. And yet, the opposite is true. When we hold on tightly to what we have, it remains small and limited. But when we place it in the hands of God, it is transformed.

The owner of the donkey in the Gospel could have refused. He could have questioned the request or demanded an explanation. But instead, he allowed the disciples to take it. That simple act of trust allowed his donkey to carry Jesus into Jerusalem—a moment remembered and celebrated for generations.

The Gospel is not just a story from the past. It is a living invitation. Today, the Lord still says: **“I need it.”** He needs your time. He needs your gifts. He needs your willingness to love, to serve, and to trust.

You may feel ordinary. You may feel unqualified. You may feel like what you have to offer is too small. But God specializes in using the ordinary to accomplish the extraordinary. What matters is not the size of the gift, but the openness of the heart.

As we reflect on this Gospel, it is worth asking: **What is the “donkey” in my life that the Lord is asking for?**

Is there something I am holding back?

Is there an area where I feel called to give more, but hesitate?

Is there a way I can allow God to work through me more fully?

The answer to that question may be simple—**but it can also be life-changing.**

The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem was not made possible by power or prestige. It happened because someone was willing to offer something small. And that made all the difference. The same is true today. When we offer to God what is ordinary in our lives, He transforms it into something meaningful and beautiful for His glory. So, when the Lord asks, **“I need it,”** may we have the courage to respond: **“Yes, Lord. You can have it.”**

Because in that simple act of trust, we may discover that what we give to God is never lost—but lifted, blessed, and used in ways we could never have imagined.

## Lenten/Easter Schedule

**Palm Sunday**—March 29

### **HOLY WEEK**

**Chrism Mass (Cathedral)** - 7:00pm

**Holy Thursday**—7:00pm

**Good Friday**—3:00pm

**Easter Vigil**—8:00pm

**Easter Sunday**—10:00am & 12:00pm



## Pastoral Care

We welcome Cheryl Aitkens as our new Pastoral Care Coordinator. Sharon Jeanson will be stepping down as coordinator but will continue in the ministry adding on to her 28 years of Pastoral Care to date. Thank you, Sharon, for your generosity, compassion and service to the sick and homebound who are so happy to receive the Eucharist. The same thanks goes out to all the Pastoral Care volunteers who so diligently serve these individuals.

## A Message from our Multiply the Hope Team

In order to take advantage of the increased attendance on Easter Sunday, all donations that day will go to Multiply the Hope.



## Beloved Daughters Women's Conference

Join Beloved Daughters Ministry for their fourth annual women's conference entitled, "Who You Say I Am." Conference will be held from May 22-23, 2026 at Our Lady of Fatima Church (Calgary, AB) with guest speakers Sr. Hope, SV and Sr. Fidelity Grace, SV from the Sisters of Life as well as Fr. Cristino Bouvette. For more information visit: [www.beloveddaughtersyyc.com](http://www.beloveddaughtersyyc.com)"

## Good Friday Collection For the Needs of the Holy Land

The Collection for the Holy Land is an annual worldwide Catholic collection taken up on Good Friday, serving as the primary funding source for maintaining Christian holy sites and supporting local Christians in Israel, Palestine, and neighboring regions. Funds support parishes, schools, and social works, and help Christians remain in the region, particularly during conflicts. Envelopes are in the pews.

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*Christians from the Holy Land* will be here the weekend of April 11 & 12. Items will be available for sale after each Mass in order to support their community.

## Surplus Funds—3rd Notification

If, at the end of the year, we have surplus funds for Together in Action, those funds will be allocated to our 1) Operations & Programs or 2) Repairs & Maintenance.

## Volunteers Needed To Help Set Up During Holy Week

**Wednesday, April 1 at 6pm**—Set up for Holy Thursday  
**Saturday, April 4 at 10am**—Take down Holy Thursday set/  
Set up for Easter Vigil

*No need to register with the office, just come at the designated time. Volunteers greatly appreciated.*

## Chrism Mass

The Diocese of Calgary will celebrate the Chrism Mass on **Monday, March 30 at 7 pm**, at St. Mary's Cathedral. The door opens at 6 pm. During this Mass, the priests, deacons, and all the faithful gather around Bishop McGrattan, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. All are welcome!

## Office Hours—Holy Week

Holy Thursday, April 2—Closed at noon  
Good Friday, April 3—Closed  
Easter Monday, April 6—Closed  
Regular office hours resume on April 7.

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, March 31

9am Intention of Fr. Peter An

### Wednesday, April 1

9am Intention of Janelle Andrusiak

### Thursday, April 2—Holy Thursday

### Friday, April 3—Good Friday

### Saturday, April 4—Easter Vigil

8pm Intention of our RCIA Candidates

### Sunday, April 5

10am Intention of Fr. Andrew Bogdanowicz

12pm Parishioners of St James

## Farewell to Michael Scholfield

Michael will be retiring effective April 6, 2026. We thank Michael for his dedication and support at St James for the past several years. Michael and Rosemary will be moving to Saskatoon later this year to be closer to family.

### NOTE CHANGE:

**Please join us after the 10am Mass this weekend for cake and coffee.**

**(The event on April 26 has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.)**

## Employment Opportunity—Music Director CASUAL

A new music director is needed for the parish. Availability is required for the 5pm Saturday and 10am Sunday Masses, choir practices, special celebrations throughout the year, weddings and funerals. Candidate should be familiar with the Catholic liturgy and have a proficiency and knowledge of music.

Responsibilities will also include music selection, working with the pastor and parish staff, and leading/creating two choirs. Music style is flexible but must be from approved Catholic sources. Preference given to individuals who can play piano, organ, and/or guitar as well as lead.

[Diocese of Calgary employment](#) page for more details. Competition will remain open until a suitable person is found.



### Next Week at the Church

Monday	6:00pm	Legion of Mary
Tuesday	9:00am 7:00pm	Mass Parish Council
Wednesday	9:00am 1:00pm 7:00pm	Mass/Confession Choir RCIA
Holy Thursday	7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	3:00pm	The Lord's Passion
Saturday	8:00pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday	10:00am 12:00pm	Mass Mass

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

### Save the Date

April 12—Pancake Breakfast/Bottle Drive  
 May 1—Teen Night—grades 7-12 (7pm-9:30pm)  
 May 2—Mother's Day Tea  
 May 22—Mass for the Unborn 7pm  
 May 22 & 23—Knights' Garage Sale  
 May 29—Confirmation Celebration (7pm) - Bishop J. Hansen  
 June 5—Games Night for Kids—grades 1-6 (7pm-9pm)  
 June 6—First Communion Mass (5pm)  
 June 26—Memorial Mass for the Dead: 2025-present (7pm)  
 June 28—Parish Picnic  
 July 5—Stampede Breakfast

*\*More details will follow regarding these upcoming events.*



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

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

Ali Boyd, Emma Boccardo, Lucy Ciccaglione, Stephanie Davis, Patrick Driscoll, Mia Dumonceaux, Gabrielle Engels, Scott Evans, Emidio Faba, Tracy Fader, Nancy Farrell, Mary Figley, Bernice Foley, Marie Funke, Merle Gonsalves, Aidan Hanes, Jennifer Hazen, Sharon Jeanson, Charlotte Johansen, Lara Lavallo, Martin McCarthy, George McDonald, Monty Montemurro, Bill Montgomery, Dave Moran, Mark Naylen, Tyler Norris, Elliott Nowell, Guy Ouellette, Ashleigh Patterson, Emil Rawlyk, Nash Reyes, Jocelyn Robb, Brad Sluiter, Graham Smith, Marie Swab, Ildiko Szikora, Mary Terek, Frank Toone, Maria Zuzic

### And Those Who Have Died

Avelina Ayoro, Gabriel Oberg, James Lokiru, Frances Kapp, Pauline Montemurro, Joe Fark, Jim Walters

*\*please inform the office if names can be removed from the sick list*

### Sunday Collections

Regular	\$2,351.25
Maintenance	\$245.00
Flowers	\$50.00
Food Bank	\$ -
Together in Action	\$60.00
	-

### To Date

**Together in Action (Goal: \$36, 218)**  
 \$2918  
**Maintenance**  
 \$4625

### 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.catholicyc.ca](http://www.catholicyc.ca)