ST. CECILIA'S PARISH

321 90 Avenue SE, Calgary AB T2J 0A1 (403) 252-2790



Nov 25/Nov 26, 2023

MASS TIMES & PARISH INFO

Parish priest:

Fr. V. Irudaya Paul Raj SAC vipaulraj45@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Christine Thibeault-Kurylenka office@stceciliacalgary.com

Sacramental Coordinator:

Kelly Sereda sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com

Music Director:

Ross N. Ferby

ross@stceciliacalgary.com

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm Sunday 9am & 11am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Saturday 9:00am

First Friday

Mass at 7pm (no 9am Mass)

PARISH OFFICE

Office is closed on Mondays

Tues to Fri 9am to 4pm Lunch break 12:00 - 1pm

Are you NEW or recent to our parish?

Welcome! If you have been coming consistently for 6 months or more, please pick up a registration form from our Information Desk in the foyer.

Confessions



Every Saturday 3pm -4pm Or by appointment



Adoration

Fridays:

9:30am - 6:00pm

First Friday:

9am to 6pm



NO Obligation Free Home Evaluation

I'm happy to answer all question you may ha













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Mass Intentions



Saturday, Nov 25

9:00am: †Mary McCabe

5:00pm: †Salus Fernandes

Sunday, Nov 26

9:00am: †Nicola Pagliano

11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased

Monday, Nov 27
No Mass

Tuesday, Nov 28

9:00am: †Fe and Gregorio Aguilar

Wednesday, Nov 29

9:00am: †Raymond Boyko

Thursday, Nov 30

9:00am: Int. Roger Einsworth—health

Friday, Dec 1

7:00pm: †Juanita Thibeault

Saturday, Dec 2

9:00am: †Salvacion Sestoso

5:00pm: Int. Vital and Frieda Morrissette,

60th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, Dec 3

9:00am: †Bill Eldeiry

11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased

Mass Readings		
Saturday, Nov 25 (9am) 1 Maccabees 6.1-13 Luke 20.27-40	Sun, Nov 26 Ezekiel 34.11-12, 15-17 1 Corinthians 15.20-26, 28 Matthew 25.31-46	
Mon, Nov 27 (no Mass) Daniel 1.1-6, 8-20 Luke 21.1-4	<u>Tuesday, Nov 28</u> Daniel 2.3, 9a, 10a, 27a, 31-45 Luke 21.5-11	
Wednesday, Nov 29 Daniel 5.1-6, 13-14, 16- 17, 23-28 Luke 21.12-19	<u>Thursday, Nov 30</u> Romans 10.9-18 Matthew 4.18-22	
<i>Friday, Dec 1</i> Daniel 7.1-14 Luke 21.29-33	<u>Saturday, Dec 2 (9am)</u> Daniel 7.15-27 Luke 21.34-36	

The Pope's Prayer Intention Nov 2023

Sunday, Dec 3—1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 63.16b-17; 64.1, 3-8

Matthew 13.33-37

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

For the Pope We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrust-

ed to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



<u>Got bottles for refunding</u>? We have a large, marked wooden box in the hall where the double doors are for those who wish to donate their bottles. All the refunds collected from these donations support our Youth Group. Please rinse bottles before donating.

FR. PAUL'S COLUMN

SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST. JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

4th DEC



St. Vincent Pallotti

St. John Damascene, also known as St. John of Damascus, was born in Damascus, Syria, in 675, to Christian parents. John's father was held in high esteem by the local rulers and was entrusted with important administrative responsibility. When John's father died, **John was given an important role in the city's administration** but later he resigned his position, sold his possessions, and **retreated to the desert monastery** of Mar Saba, near Jerusalem.

St. John Damascene spent his first two decades growing in spiritual perfection in the monastery. Under the guidance of his spiritual director, he embraced monastic disciplines, such as renouncing his own will, avoiding worldly attachments, and dedicating all actions to God. He studied, prayed, did penance, and continuously entrusted himself to His merciful God. He advanced so greatly in the spiritual life, humility, and learning, that his superiors deemed him worthy of priestly ordination, which was uncommon among the monks.

After thirty-five years as a monk, St. John Damascene was **ordained to the priesthood in 735 at the age of 60**. The focus of his final fourteen years was contemplative prayer. He also composed several Marian hymns, preached homilies on the Blessed Virgin Mary, and **wrote an Office of the Dead.**

St. John Damascene was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XIII in 1890. He

is the **Patron Saint** of pharmacists, icon *Fr. Paul Raj, SAC has been the pastor at St. Cecil-*painters, and theology students.

Sayings of the Saint

"The Eucharist is a fire which inflames us". St. John of Damascus.

"If a pagan asks you to show him your faith, take him into church and place him before the icons". St. John of Damascus.

Fr. Paul Raj, SAC has been the pastor at St. Cecilia's since November 2014 and is part of the Pallottine Fathers Community (Society of the Catholic Apostolate) who's patron is St. Vincent Pallotti. St. Cecilia's is his first parish in Canada. He comes from the Tamil province of India. He was also in the Philippines for 3 years serving and studying.

To learn more about the Pallottine Fathers please visit their website: www.pallotti.org

Parish News Update

SACRAMENT CLASS SCHEDULE

Class Dates for 1st Rec (Sat. at 10am): Dec 9, Jan 13

Retreat and Celebration of Sacrament on Saturday, March 9, 2024

<u>Class Dates for 1st Comm (Sat. at 10am)</u>: Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 16, Apr 13, Jun 1 Celebration of Sacrament on Saturday, June 2, 2024 at the 11am Mass

Class Dates for Confirm. (Sat. at 10am): Dec 30, Jan 20, Feb 10, Mar 23

Celebration of Sacrament still to be determined



The Angel Tree is now in the foyer. Please take a gift card and bring back with the value amount written on. We would like increments of \$20 or \$25, preferably from Walmart. Cards are due by December 10th.



Isn't she beautiful? And what providential timing! On the day of our Feast of St. Cecilia, patron saint of *music*, our parish received a gift of this stunning baby

grand piano that you can see to the right of the altar. Thank you thank you thank you to Maureen Barton for her amazing donation, and to our music director Ross Ferby for organizing the transfer!

BAPTISM CLASSES

Sat. Dec 2 @ 9:30am Sat. Jan 6 @ 9:30am

You must sign up through the office.

St. Vincent de Paul Society 403-252-2790 ext. 223

Spiritual

Sometimes we are ready - as individuals, as a family, as a couple - to seek some opportunities to experience Advent with a different spirit. We are ready to have our hearts opened and engaged by doing some service for others. We know from past experience, or we've heard from others, that this is a very rewarding and grace-filled way to enter into Advent. It helps us

to prepare for Christmas because we focus on how grateful we are and we enter into the spirit of sharing by allowing us to imitate our Savior who simply gave of his very self for us. And, it helps us get closer to the experience of the poor and needy of our world. We think about their needs and we do something - even if it is a small thing - to reach out.

Pantry

At this time our pantry could use the following: white sugar (2kg), jello-powder, pancake mix (just add water), pancake syrup.

Please drop pantry items in our large white wooden box located in the church entrance (leading to the washrooms). Thank you!



Parish financial support -Thank you!						
	Oct 28/Oct 29	Nov 4/Nov 5	Nov 11/Nov 12			
Parish support (Envelopes + Loose)	\$2,943.00	\$8,817.00	\$3,907.85			
Together in Action	\$87.00	\$822.00	\$435.00			
St. Vincent de Paul	\$855.00	\$885.00	\$355.60			
Building Maintenance	\$495.00	\$55.00	\$40.00			
World Mission Collection	\$40.00	_	_			
Catholic Education	_	\$80.00	\$1,017.00			
DIRECT DEBIT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER: \$10,165.00 (includes special donations outside of parish support)						

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE FOR OUR PARISH

Thursday, December 21st 6:30pm—7:30pm



Every year we adorn the Altar at Christmas with poinsettias. If you would like to make a donation toward the flowers in memory of a loved one, please use the special envelopes

found at the Information Desk in the foyer. The names will be printed in the Christmas bulletin.

SIMBANG GABI 2023

(Filipino Mass)

Sunday, Dec 17 here at St. Cecilia's

Caroling starts at 6:30pm Mass at 7:00pm

Free meal to follow after the Mass.

Note to children: Santa will be visiting!

Cappy Smart Band

Our neighbours at
St. Gerard Parish would like to
invite you to the Cappy Smart
Band Christmas Concert on
Tues. Dec 5th at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$10/person or \$25/
family (max 4). This is a great
way to get into the festive spirit
while enjoying the talents of
the City of Calgary's Fire Department Community Band.





Cakes this month sponsored generously by Lu Schell. If you would like

to sponsor the monthly cakes, the cost is \$150

We are still in need of volunteers for our **Southwood Nursing Home Mass** on Tuesday mornings. Please contact Connie Claeys or the office if you can help out. Training is provided.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

First Practice: Sunday,
Dec 3 at 10am
(between the morning
Masses)

The Pageant takes place at the beginning of the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass.

2023 TIA GOAL:

31,539 Raised: 22,603.00 (72%)

Together in Action (formerly known as the Annual Bishop's Appeal) makes it possible for the Diocese to financially support ministries and programs that help families, individuals and communities (Elizabeth House, Mission Mexico, Care of Retired Priests, Vocations, etc). THESE DONATIONS CONTRIBUTE TOWARD YOUR TAX RECEIPT

e-bulletin Subscribe today!

Email the parish office to be added to the list. By signing up you can expect the following: Help reduce our printing cost, Diocese News, Parish Alerts (emergencies, last minute notices). Your email address is kept private and is not visible to anyone.



Diocesan News

NEWS. *CalgaryDiocese.ca* | FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING *in the* DIOCESE. Contact: 403-218-5500 | communications@calgarydiocese.ca

Advent Season

Advent has a twofold nature: It prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation. During Advent, each Sunday's Gospel reading has a specific focus. The Old Testament readings, especially those taken from Isaiah, are prophecies about the Messiah and messianic times. The selections from the writings of the Apostles present exhortations and instructions on different themes of this season.

Advent Missions & Reflection

Dec. 4&5 | Holy Spirit Advent Mission – "Preparing for the Greatest Joy

Dec. 2 | CWL Calgary Region Women's Advent Retreat

Dec. 2 | CWL Medicine Hat Region Women's Advent Retreat

Advent & Christmas events

Dec. 2 | Christmas Concert, Paroisse Sainte-Famille, Calgary

Dec. 5 | Cappy Smart Band Concert - St. Gerard's, Calgary

Dec. 9 | The Living Nativity – St. James, Okotoks

Dec. 10 | Catholic Advent Market – St. Michael's, Calgary

Dec. 10 | Festival of Songs and Christmas Carols

Dec. 11 | Advent Carols & Cookies – Holy Name, Calgary

Dec. 17 | Nine Lessons and Carols - St. John Choir Schola

Dec. 17 | Cocoa & Christmas Sing-Along - St. Joseph's, Calgary

Simbang Gabi Masses

Dec. 2 | Simbang Gabi, St. Anthony's & St. Albert the Great, Calgary

Dec. 3 | Simbang Gabi, Ste. Famille, Calgary

Dec. 8 | Simbang Gabi, Holy Spirit, Calgary

Dec. 9 | Simbang Gabi, St. Michael's, Calgary

Dec. 10 | Simbang Gabi, St. Gerard, Calgary

Dec. 14-22 | Simbang Gabi - St. Mary's, Brooks

Dec. 15 | Simbang Gabi, Sacred Heart, Calgary

Dec. 16 | Simbang Gabi, St. Luke's & St. Patrick's, Calgary

Dec. 17 | Simbang Gabi, St. Cecilia, Calgary

Dec. 22 | Simbang Gabi, Ascension, Calgary

Dec. 23 | Simbang Gabi, Sacred Heart, Calgary



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DRIVING DOWN YOUR MAINTENANCE COSTS

Check out new **career opportunities** in the Diocese:

No postings at this time.

Visit www.catholicyyc.ca/careers for more information and details.

Elizabeth House Christmas Wish List

Let us bring a joyful Christmas to the residents of Elizabeth House and help them fulfil their wish list! Elizabeth House currently serves 7 women, 6 babies (one on the way) in residence, and 3 women and 3 babies in outreach. If you want to check the current most needed items from the list, please contact Sarah Cormier at sarah.cormier@calgarydiocese.ca Donations are accepted from the Wish List on **December 14 between 9 am to 12 pm and 1-3 pm** at the Catholic Pastoral Centre (120 17 Ave SW, Calgary). Volunteers will be at the Pastoral Centre to accept your donations. Please stop on 17th Avenue in front of the main doors and we will gratefully accept your donation.

Winter Gifts for Guests at Feed the Hungry

As the winter chill sets in, let's warm hearts and hands together! We cordially invite you to participate in the "Feed the Hungry winter gifts drive". Your contribution, be it **new mittens, gloves, socks, toques or \$10 gift cards** from fast food places, can make a significant difference our guests. These tokens of care will be distributed to Feed the Hungry's guests closer to Christmas. The deadline to drop off Winter gifts for guests of the Feed the Hungry is **Wednesday, Dec. 6** at St. Mary's Cathedral during business hours. If you have any questions, please email: feedthehungry@calgarydiocese.ca or call 403-218-5532.

Congratulations to our new Permanent Deacons!Congratulations to our twelve new permanent deacons, ordained on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023 at St. Mary's Cathedral by Bishop William T. McGrattan. Join us in rejoicing as we welcome new permanent deacons, ready and eager to serve Christ and His Church.

Inspiration Unplugged: The Filthy Feet of Sacred ServiceCome to "Inspiration Unplugged - The Filthy Feet of Sacred Service: What Happens When Prayer Gets Off Its Knees" - Anchored in a reflection on the Washing of the Disciples' Feet, Dr. Troy Davies will take us on a tour of the 'soul of service' using examples drawn from the awe-inspiring work of Alberta's own Catholic Social Services. When: **Tue, Nov. 28 at 6 pm to 8 pm - McGivney Hall, St. Mary's University, Calgary.**



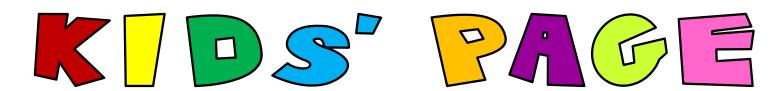
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Vocatio Have you ever thought of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Join **Vocatio**: An event for men discerning the Priesthood and men and women discerning the Consecrated Life. **Vocatio** begins with anticipated Mass at 5 pm, followed by pizza, presentations and discussions, and Night Prayer. There will be separate groups for men and women. When: **Saturday: Dec. 9,** from **5 pm** to **9 pm.** To register, contact Fr. Derek Remus at derek.remus@calgarydiocese.ca or Sr. Dianne Turner at sisterdianne.turner@calgarydiocese.ca.



Gospel Match-Up

In today's Gospel reading, Our Lord tells the people how they will be judged. What did the righteous people do when they found people in need?

See if you can match up the needs on the left with the help on the right!

1. I was hungry and •

 you welcomed me,

I was thirsty and •

· you clothed me,

3. a stranger and •

 you gave me drink,

4. naked and •

 you cared for me,

ill and •

· you visited me.

6. in prison and •

 you gave me food,













		RE	CTO	RY	
Pastor	Fr. V. Irudaya <u>Paul</u> Raj, SAC	403-700-9345	RCIA	Kelly Sereda <u>sacraments@st</u>	ceciliacalgary.con
Parish Office	Christine Thibeault-Kurylenka office@stceciliacalgary.com	403-252-2790	Knights of Columbus	Danny Barth	403-278-4347
Choir Director/	Ross N. Ferby	403-253-6757	St. Vincent de Paul	Heather Sereda 403-252-2790 e	xt. 223 (voicemail)
Organist	ross@stceciliacalgary.com		Couples for Christ	George Fournier	403-804-8446
5pm Choir	Marie Hill	403-252-3456		Orly Alcantara	403-263-3510
Campus Flowers	Sandra Dawson	403 259-3829	Library	Connie Claeys	403-931-4840
Finance Council Parish Council	George Fournier Joy Obah	403-271-4628	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Donna Suderman	403-252-2718
Maintenance	Christian Amizola	403-831-1483	Francis Klein Ctr	Lisa Van Gent	403-255-4480
	st.cecilia.maintenance.coord@	ogmail.com	Natural Family Planning	Pavla D'Souza	403-278-9677
Pastoral Care	Connie Claeys	403-931-4840	St. Matthew Sch	Annie Desrochers (Principal)	403-500-2030
Altar Servers	Cecilia McLaughlin ceciliamarymcl@gmail.com		St. Cecilia's Sch	Christine Hooey (Principal)	403-500-2040
Ministry	Kelly Sereda		St. William Sch	Candice Olsen (Principal)	403-500-2055
Scheduling	sacraments@stceciliacalgary.o	<u>com</u>	Bible Study	Gabriella Hernandez	403-258-1558
Sacrament	Kelly Sereda		CWL	Ester Butler	403-992-0515
Coordinator	sacraments@stceciliacalgary.o		Youth Coordinator	Veronica Planicka <u>st.cecilaparish</u> 《米米米米米米米米米米米米米	

ROOM BOOKINGS			
Monday	Nov 27		
Tuesday	Nov 28	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 10:00am—Bible Study (Boardroom) 7:00pm—RCIA (Boardroom) 7:00pm—SSVP (Library)	
Wednesday	Nov 29	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 7:00pm—Sunday Choir Practice	
Thursday	Nov 30	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am)	
Friday	Dec 1	7:00pm—MASS + YOUTH GROUP	
Saturday	Dec 2	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 9:30am—Baptism Class (Boardroom) 10:00am—Sacrament Class 3:00pm-4:00pm—CONFESSION 5:00pm—MASS Evening—Knights of Columbus (Hall)	
Sunday	Dec 3	9:00am—MASS 10:00am—PAGEANT PRACTICE 11:00am—MASS 1:00pm—Goan Mass + Hall	



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\$5 each



Every First Friday beginning with the 7pm Mass. Night concludes by 9pm.

Next meeting: Dec 1



Tuesdays after the 9am Mass. New members welcome!



Prayer Shawl Ministry: last

Tuesday of the month after the 700- 9am Mass. New knitters wel-

come. Yarn available. Next meet: Tues. Nov 28th

That Man Is You!

A great program for fathers and grandfathers, held at St. James Parish (Okotoks) hall on Saturday mornings from 7am to 9am. Contact Ken Moen for more info:

kenmoen19@gmail.com