

# ST. CECILIA'S PARISH

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

FOR  
GOD SO  
LOVED  
THE  
WORLD

THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON

JOHN 3:16

YOU ARE CALLED.



*Lactare*  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF LENT

# March 9/10, 2024

# MASS TIMES & PARISH INFO

## Parish priest:

Fr. V. Irudaya Paul Raj SAC  
[vipaulraj45@gmail.com](mailto:vipaulraj45@gmail.com)

## Administrative Assistant:

Christine Thibeault  
[office@stceciacalgary.com](mailto:office@stceciacalgary.com)

## Sacramental Coordinator:

Kelly Sereda  
[sacraments@stceciacalgary.com](mailto:sacraments@stceciacalgary.com)

## Music Director:

Ross N. Ferby  
[ross@stceciacalgary.com](mailto:ross@stceciacalgary.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



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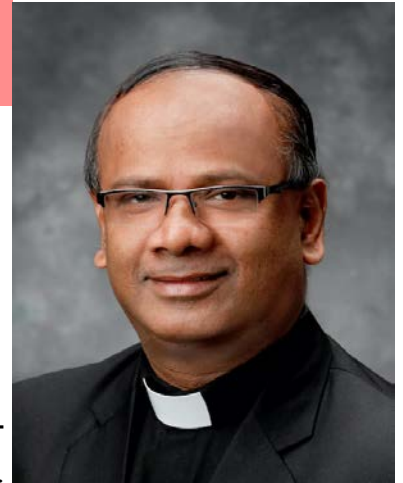
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# FR. PAUL'S COLUMN

## ST. JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS

1495 - 1550  
MAR 8<sup>TH</sup> 2024



**St. John of God** was born in the village of Montemor-o-Novo, Portugal to middle-class, **faith-filled parents**. St. John was **abducted from his home** when he was only eight years old and taken to the town of Oropesa, Spain, more than 200 miles away. He met a good man named El Mayoral who **gave him a job as a shepherd and a place to live**.

**St. John of God** after **hearing a sermon from the famous John of Avila on repentance**, he was so **overcome by the thought of his own sins**, that he started running through the streets like a madman, **shouting for mercy**.

**St. John of God** was **visited by Saint John**, when he was admitted to the hospital, who **advised him** to be more actively involved in tending to the needs of others. John gained peace of heart, and shortly after left the hospital to **begin work among the poor**. The **Lord blessed him** with the **gifts of prudence, patience, courage, enthusiasm, and the ability to influence and inspire others**. He realized **his nothingness in the face of God**.

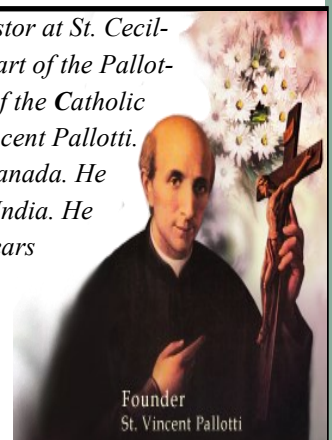
**St. John of God** was **Canonized** on October 16, 1690, by Pope Alexander VIII. **St. John of God** is the **Patron Saint of hospitals, nurses, fire-fighters, booksellers, alcoholics, and the sick**.

### **The Saying of the Saint.**

**“The first (virtue) is faith, believing all that holy mother church believes and holds, keeping and putting into practice what she commands.” - St. John of God.**

*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](http://www.pallotti.org)*



Founder  
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**ALL DAY**  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
**EVERY FRIDAY**

## Mass Intentions

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*Saturday, March 9*  
 9:00am: †Estevan & Loreto Palomo  
 5:00pm: Int. Everline Casiño—Birthday

*Sunday, March 10*  
 9:00am: †Michael Bulger  
 11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased

*Monday, March 11*  
**No Mass**

*Tuesday, March 12*  
 9:00am: †Michael Bulger

*Wednesday, March 13*  
 9:00am: †Jeannette & Alex Sereda

*Thursday, March 14*  
 9:00am: †Ernesto Balagtas

*Friday, March 15*  
 9:00am: †Anton Barth, †John Brilz


*Saturday, March 16*  
 9:00am: Int. Betty Gregorash—Birthday  
 5:00pm: †Roderick Sibthorpe

*Sunday, March 17*  
 9:00am: †Pearl Ferby  
 11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased

<i>Mass Readings</i>	
<u><i>Saturday, Mar 9 (9am)</i></u> Hosea 5.15b—6.6 Luke 18.9-14	<u><i>Sunday, Mar 10</i></u> 2 Chronicles 36.14-17a, 19-23 Ephesians 2.4-10 John 3.14-21
<u><i>Mon, Mar 11 (no Mass)</i></u> Isaiah 65.17-21 John 4.43-54	<u><i>Tuesday, Mar 12</i></u> Ezekiel 47.1-9, 12 John 5.1-16
<u><i>Wednesday, Mar 13</i></u> Isaiah 49.8-15 John 5.16-30	<u><i>Thursday, Mar 14</i></u> Exodus 32.7-14 John 5.18, 31-47
<u><i>Friday, Mar 15</i></u> Wisdom 2.1a, 12-22 John 7.1-2, 10, 25-30	<u><i>Saturday, Mar 16 (9am)</i></u> Jeremiah 11.18-20 John 7.40-53
<u><i>Sunday, Mar 17</i></u> Jeremiah 31.31-34 Hebrews 5.7-9      John 12.20-33	

## The Pope's Prayer Intention

### March 2024



**For the new martyrs** We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



**Got bottles for refunding?** 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.

# Parish News Update

## Lenten Penitential Service

Thursday, March 14  
6:30pm—7:30pm



## HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday (Mar 24): 9am & 11am

Holy Thursday (Mar 28): 8pm

Good Friday (Mar 29): 10am Outdoor  
Way of the Cross, Passion at 3pm

Easter Vigil (Mar 30): 8pm

Easter Sunday (Mar 31): 9am & 11am



Would box 213 please call the parish office. You need to register your number otherwise we won't know who is making the donation.



Please support the [CWL Meat & Fish Fund Raiser](#). Orders are done on line with the following link: [St. Cecilia's CWL 2024 Spring – Fund Forward](#) Contact Elaine Barth [eldan@telus.net](mailto:eldan@telus.net) with any questions.

## SACRAMENT CLASS SCHEDULE

*Retreat & Celebration of Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation on Saturday, March 9, 2024*

**Class Dates for 1st Comm (Sat. at 10am)**: 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)**: Mar 23

*Celebration of Sacrament: Wednesday, May 29th at 7pm*

### UPCOMING BAPTISM PREP CLASSES



Sat. Apr. 6 at 9:30am

Sat. May. 4 at 9:30am

**Please sign up via the office.**

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

403-252-2790 ext. 223

*Spiritual: It is easier to be grateful for obvious things like family, health, and life itself, than to look for the ordinary gifts in our life that we too easily take for granted. Before Lent, make a list of at least 10 things you take for granted and let gratefulness lift you up in times of your troubles. God has given them for your benefit and for you to share with others who need a lifting hand.*

**Pantry Needs:** canned fruit and pancake mix (just add water)



## STATIONS of the CROSS

*Every Friday during Lent at 7pm*

- March 8 Couples For Christ
- March 15 Youth & Altar Servers
- March 22 Pastoral Care, SSVP, Bible Study
- March 29 **10am** Good Friday Way of the Cross



The **Seeds of the Word** will be here the weekend of March 23/24 with their new Lectio Divina and homemade bread and cookies!

# SCAM ALERT

Please be aware of a very clever text message scam posing to be your child/grandchild who has dropped their phone. Sample text: "Hi mom. I'm sending this from a cashier's phone at the gas station, I dropped mine in the toilet. ### ### is my new number, text me on it now please". Never reply to these messages. Delete and block. Keep safe and keep aware! For more information on how to spot scams and stay protected, visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/campaigns/fraud-scams.html>

## 10-Minute Way of the Cross

We will be doing the 10-minute Way of the Cross after each Mass on the weekend during the Lenten season. We encourage as many of you to stay as possible.

## Our schools:

We have within our parish boundary: St. Matthew School (K-9), St. Cecilia School (K-6) and St. William School (K-6)

### MASS INTENTIONS

are open for bookings from May to August only. We will not be giving more than 2 Sundays/Saturday evenings, to allow other people to book those days.



**St. Matthew School**  
Monthly Newsletter  
[https://stmatthew.cssd.ab.ca/documents/4d8c89b3-b21d-4e54-8cdd-e28660c447c4/December%202023%20Newsletter%20\(1\)%20\(4\).pdf](https://stmatthew.cssd.ab.ca/documents/4d8c89b3-b21d-4e54-8cdd-e28660c447c4/December%202023%20Newsletter%20(1)%20(4).pdf)



**St. William School**  
Monthly Newsletter  
<https://stwilliam.cssd.ab.ca/newsletters>

### Parish financial support -Thank you!

	Dec 16/Dec 17	Dec 24/Dec 25	Dec 30/Dec 31	Jan 6/7
Parish support (Envelopes + Loose)	\$3,954.50	\$4,680.00	\$1,726.00	\$2,905.00
Together in Action	\$330.00	\$1,930.00	\$426.00	\$483.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$331.00	\$20.00	\$390.00	\$140.00
Building Maintenance	\$35.00	\$135.00	\$20.00	\$45.00
Christmas/New Year	—	\$6,270.00	\$2,442.00	\$60.00
Mission Mexico	\$129.25	\$10.00	—	—
<b>DIRECT DEBIT FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER: \$11,380.00</b> (includes special donations outside of parish support)				

Thank you and welcome to our new bookkeeper **Ryan Summers!** Due to the backlog it will take time to catch us up so we appreciate your continued patience as we await the updated financials. All methods of your donations have always been getting put through to the bank, there was no change there.

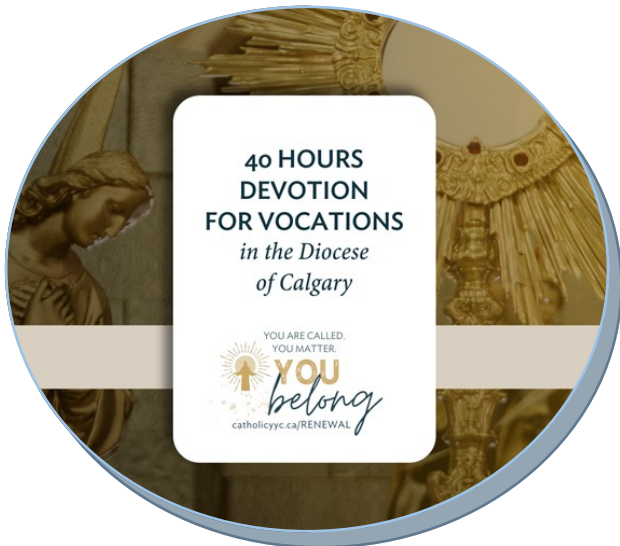




# Diocesan News

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

**2024 is the Year of Prayer** In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope,' 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer. The Holy Father encourages us to highlight the importance of both communal prayer and individual prayer this year. To learn about the Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope" - visit: [catholiccyc.ca/blog/yearofprayer](http://catholiccyc.ca/blog/yearofprayer)



As part of the Diocesan Renewal, the Office of Vocations is excited to launch the 40 Hours Devotion for Vocations in the Diocese of Calgary - [catholiccyc.ca/40hours](http://catholiccyc.ca/40hours). This initiative invites us to pray continuously for forty hours before the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with a focus on increasing vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

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

*no available positions at this time*

Visit [www.catholiccyc.ca/careers](http://www.catholiccyc.ca/careers) for more information and details.



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## A Pastoral Message from Bishop McGrattan on *Lent & Social Media*

As we approach Lent, Bishop McGrattan reminds us to take a step back, pause, and reflect on our use of social media. Using insights from the latest CCCB pastoral letter, "Let Your Speech Always be Gracious," and the Holy Father's Lenten message, the Bishop highlights the seven commitments we should make to witness to core Christian values and help build a healthy online environment that serves the common good. **Read the Bishop's message** [here](#).



### **KARA PROGRAM**

**SOW SEEDS OF COMPASSION: LENTEN LOVE FOR PREGNANT & PARENTING STUDENTS**

**FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 31, 2024**

## Pastoral Care Ministry Training

The Diocese of Calgary invites individuals who feel called to assist their parish in a healing ministry. This Pastoral Care Training is designed for those who wish to support the sick, elderly, dying, homebound, and bereaved members of their community. **Whether you're a new minister or someone with prior training in Pastoral Care Ministry, this workshop warmly welcomes you.** When: Sat. Apr 20 (9am-4pm) and Sat. May 4 (9am-4pm) at the Catholic Pastoral Centre. Register here [catholiccyca.ca/pastoralcare](http://catholiccyca.ca/pastoralcare) by April 15. The cost is \$70

## Solidarity Sunday | March 17

**The Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 17**, is celebrated throughout most of Canada as Solidarity Sunday, where parishes hold **a special collection** for Development and Peace - Caritas Canada and pray for greater fellowship and understanding amongst people worldwide. Please pray for Development and Peace - Caritas Canada, **its members and partners as we strive for God's kingdom to come here on earth as it is in heaven.**

This Lenten season, Calgary Catholic Education Foundation (CCEF) invites us to come together to make a meaningful impact in the lives of pregnant and parenting students in our Catholic community.

**Donate online at:** [theccef.ca](http://theccef.ca)

## God Squad Men's Conference "The Way to the Father"

Encourage the men in your parish to attend the upcoming 2024 God Squad conference. As Brother Simon and Brother John Paul put it, this is an opportunity "to renew our yes, our life to him, as a man who surrenders ourselves to him." [For more information & tickets](#)

# WANTED:

## KOFC

**Men who would like to make a difference!**

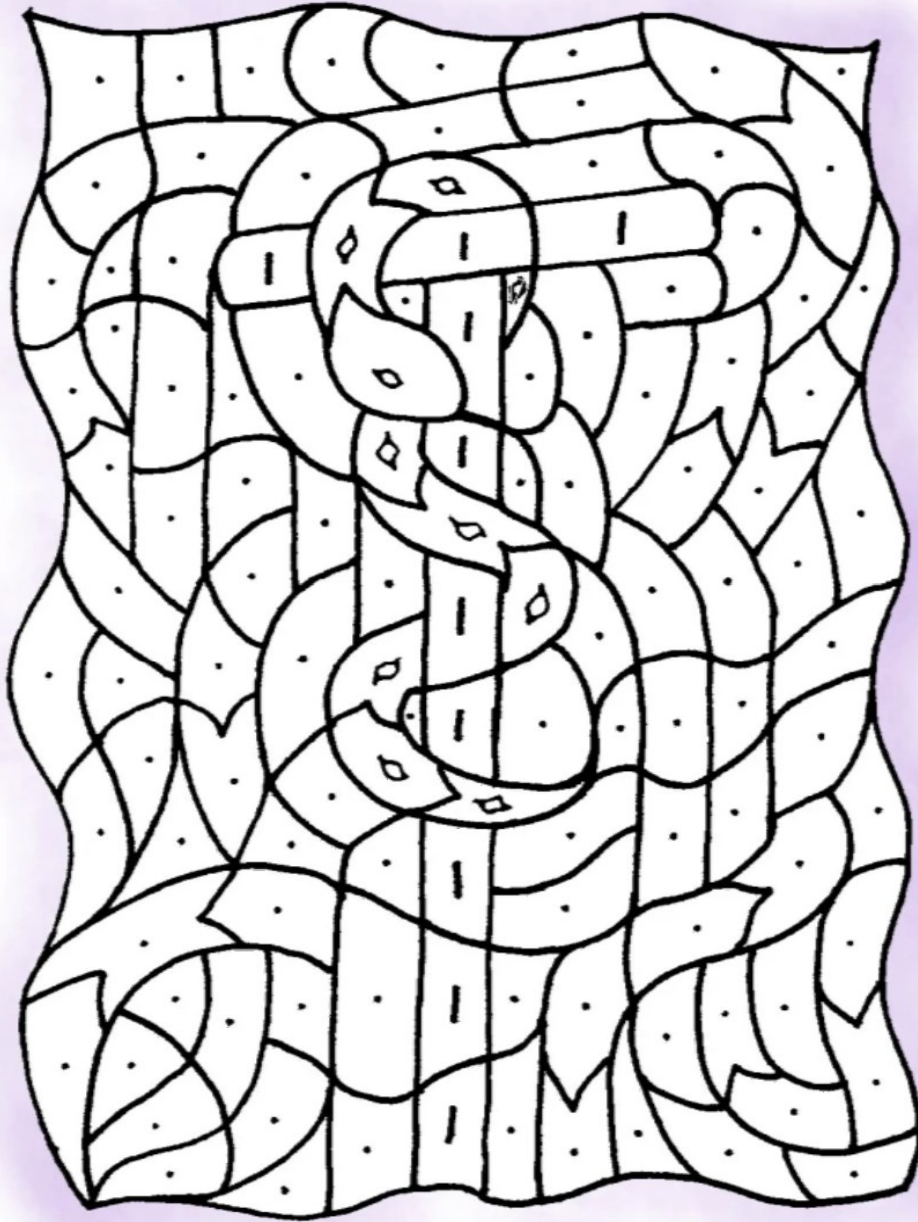
**Len White: 403-271-6055**

**or [fs4878@kofc.ab.ca](mailto:fs4878@kofc.ab.ca)**

# Knights of Columbus



# KIDS' PAGE



*Jesus died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven and we could go to Heaven.*

*When God's people in the desert were bitten by snakes, Moses held up something he made from bronze that the people could look at and live.*

*What was it? Use the colour code to find out!*

• blue

| brown

◇ green

# Directory

Pastor Fr. V. Irudaya Paul Raj, SAC 403-700-9345  
 Parish Office Christine Thibeault 403-252-2790  
[office@stceciliacalgary.com](mailto:office@stceciliacalgary.com)  
 Choir Director/ Organist Ross N. Ferby 403-253-6757  
[ross@stceciliacalgary.com](mailto:ross@stceciliacalgary.com)  
 5pm Choir Marie Hill 403-252-3456  
 Bookkeeper Ryan Summers  
 Finance Council George Fournier 403-271-4628  
 Parish Council Joy Obah 403-831-1483  
 Maintenance Christian Amizola  
[st.cecilia.maintenance.coord@gmail.com](mailto:st.cecilia.maintenance.coord@gmail.com)  
 Pastoral Care Connie Claeys 403-931-4840  
 Altar Servers Cecilia McLaughlin [ceciliamarymcl@gmail.com](mailto:ceciliamarymcl@gmail.com)  
 Ministry Kelly Sereda  
 Scheduling [sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com](mailto:sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com)  
 Sacrament Kelly Sereda  
 Coordinator [sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com](mailto:sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com)

RCIA Kelly Sereda [sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com](mailto:sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com)  
 Knights of Columbus Danny Barth 403-278-4347  
 Campus Flowers Sandra Dawson 403 259-3829  
 St. Vincent de Paul Heather Sereda 403-252-2790 ext. 223 (voicemail)  
 Couples for Christ George Fournier 403-804-8446  
 Orly Alcantara 403-263-3510  
 Library Connie Claeys 403-931-4840  
 Prayer Shawl Donna Suderman 403-252-2718  
 Ministry Lisa Van Gent 403-255-4480  
 Francis Klein Ctr Pavla D'Souza 403-278-9677  
 Natural Family Planning  
 St. Matthew Sch Annie Desrochers (Principal) 403-500-2030  
 St. Cecilia's Sch Christine Hooey (Principal) 403-500-2040  
 St. William Sch Candice Olsen (Principal) 403-500-2055  
 Bible Study Gabriella Hernandez 403-258-1558  
 CWL Pauline Michaniuk 403-899-0118  
 Youth Coordinator Veronica Planicka [st.cecilaparish.youth@gmail.com](mailto:st.cecilaparish.youth@gmail.com)

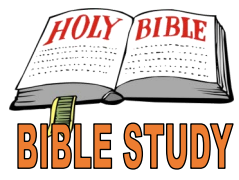
ROOM BOOKINGS		
Mon	Mar 11	
Tues	Mar 12	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 10:00am—Bible Study (Boardroom) 7:00pm—RCIA (Boardroom) 7:00pm—Maintenance (Auditorium) 7:00pm—CWL (Hall)
Wed	Mar 13	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 7:00pm—Sunday Choir Practice
Thur	Mar 14	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) <b>6:30pm PENITENTIAL SERVICE</b>
Fri	Mar 15	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 7:00pm—Stations of the Cross
Sat	Mar 16	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) <b>10:00am—Sacrament Class</b> 3:00pm-4:00pm—CONFESSION 5:00pm—MASS
Sun	Mar 17	9:00am—MASS 11:00am—MASS



**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** last Tuesday of the month after the 9am Mass. New knitters welcome. Yarn available. **Next meet: Tues. Mar 26th**



Every First Friday beginning with the 7pm Mass. Night concludes by 9pm. **Next meeting: Apr 5**



Tuesdays after the 9am Mass. New members welcome!



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