

ST. CECILIA'S PARISH

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

True peace is born
from the encounter
of man with God.

SAINT JOHN PAUL II, 2002

Peace



YOU ARE CALLED.
YOU MATTER.
YOU
belong
catholiccyc.ca/RENEWAL



SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

December 7-8, 2024

MASS TIMES & PARISH INFO

Parish priest:

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

Administrative Assistant:

Christine Thibeault
office@stceciacalgary.com

Sacramental Coordinator:

Kelly Sereda
sacraments@stceciacalgary.com

Music Director:

Ross N. Ferby
ross@stceciacalgary.com

Weekend Masses | Weekday Masses

Saturday 5pm Tues to Saturday
Sun 9am & 11am 9am

First Friday Mass

7pm (no 9am Mass)

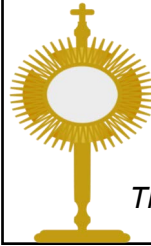
Confessions

Every Saturday 3 - 4pm
or by appointment



Adoration

Fridays 9:30am—6pm
First Friday: 9am—6pm



There must be at least 2 people at all times sitting with our Lord.

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.



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

Next meetings:

Jan 3, Feb 7, Mar 7

Prayer Shawl Ministry: last Tuesday of the month after the 9am Mass. New knitters welcome. Yarn is available.

Next meet: January 28th

Prayer shawls can be picked up from the parish library or parish office. They are free for everyone and make a wonderful comfort gift to someone in the hospital, those grieving, shut-ins, etc.



Acts of the Apostles | Every Tuesday after the 9am Mass in the boardroom. New members are always welcome! We will reconvene in January!



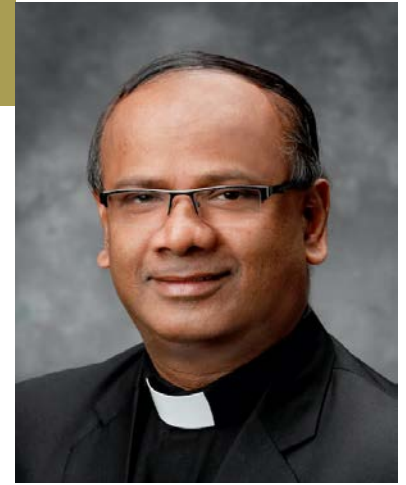
BIBLE STUDY

FR. PAUL'S COLUMN

SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST. DAMASUS I, POPE

DEC 11TH 24



St. Damasus I was born about 304 to Antonius and Laurentia in Rome. St. Damasus was a sixty-year-old deacon when he was **elect-ed bishop of Rome in 366.**

St. Damasus I was active in suppressing heresy and promoting the primacy of Rome. He was the one who **commissioned Saint Jerome to translate the Scriptures into Latin**, the Vulgate version of the Bible. He also **changed the liturgical language of the Church from Greek to Latin.** He worked hard to **preserve and restore the catacombs**, the graves of the martyrs, and relics. He wrote many epigrams on martyrs and saints.

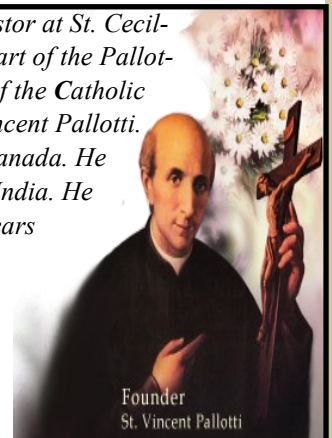
St. Damasus I was an active builder and restorer of churches. Latin was introduced as the language of the mass during Damasus's long pontificate. He convened synods in Rome to address heretical threats and to **affirm the Nicene Creed.** He also **worked hard to improve the liturgy.** He **introduced the singing of psalms**, and helped develop the General Roman Calendar.

In a **Roman cemetery is the papal crypt he built.** All that is left of him there, however, is this: " I, Damasus, wished to be buried here, but I **feared to offend the ashes of these holy ones.**" Instead, when he **died in 384**, he was buried with his mother and sister.

St. Damasus I is the Patron Saint of **archeologists.**

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) whose 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



Founder
St. Vincent Pallotti

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 7

9:00am: †Nicola Pagliano

5:00pm: †Buensocena Peñaloza

Sunday, December 8

9:00am: Int. Ayin Mapanao-Tagle and Marty Tagle,
Wedding Anniversary

11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased

Monday, December 9

No Mass

Tuesday, December 10

9:00am: Int. Edilberto Alfonso

Wednesday, December 11

9:00am: †Fred Dauk

Thursday, December 12

9:00am: †Evangeline Bernardo

Friday, December 13

9:00am: †Leslie D'Souza

Saturday, December 14

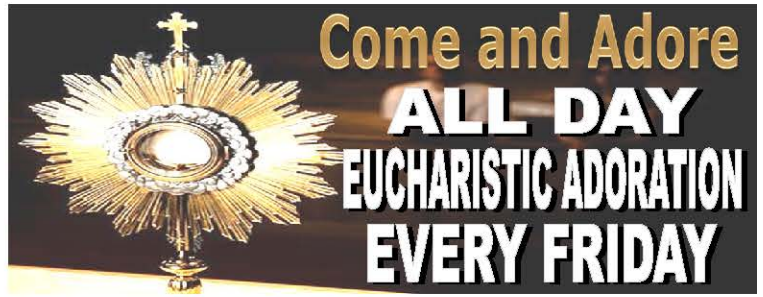
9:00am: Int. All those with Special Needs

5:00pm: †Bobot Paleracio

Sunday, December 15

9:00am: Int. Elvie de la Paz—Thanksgiving

11:00am: All parishioners, living & deceased



Mass Readings

Saturday, Dec 7 (9am)

Luke 1.26-38

Ephesian 1.3-6, 11-12

Sunday, Dec 8—2nd Sun-

day of Advent

Baruch 5.1-9

Philippians 1.3-6, 8-11

Luke 3.1-6

Mon, Dec 9 (no Mass)

Genesis 3.9-15

Luke 1.26-38

Tuesday, Dec 10

Isaiah 40.1-11

Matthew 18.12-14

Wednesday, Dec 11

Isaiah 40.25-31

Matthew 11.28-30

Thursday, Dec 12

Zechariah 2.14-17

Luke 1.26-38 or Lk 1.39-47

Friday, Dec 13

Isaiah 48.17-19

Matthew 11.16-19

Saturday, Dec 14 (9am)

Sirach 48.1-4, 9-11

Matthew 17.9a, 10-13

Sunday, Dec 15—3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3.14-18a

Philippians 4.4-7 Luke 3.10-18

The Pope's Prayer Intention Dec 2024



For pilgrims of hope We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that

it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Christmas Pageant Practices

will take place in the parish hall every Sunday after the 11am Mass.



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.



The 2025 Donation Envelopes should arrive in the next week and will hopefully be in the foyer for pickup next weekend.

@bulletin

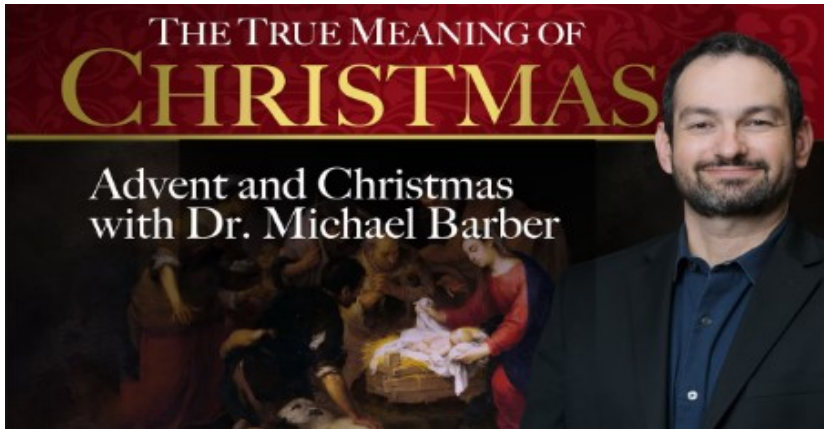
Email the parish office or scan the QR code to be added to the list. By signing up you can expect the following: **Help reduce our printing cost, Diocese News, Parish Alerts** (emergencies, last minute notices). Your email address is kept private and is not visible to anyone.



Parish News Update

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Our parish is very happy to offer to you a free subscription to FORMED, commonly dubbed "Catholic Netflix". Sign up by searching our parish postal code, register your email and enjoy watching!



Do you love Christmas traditions but don't know where they come from? Tune in for Dr. Michael Patrick Barber's Advent reflections called "The True Meaning of Christmas" and learn the meaning behind your favorite Christmas pastimes.

Office Hours over the holidays The parish office will be open regular hours on Friday, December 20th and will be closed the following two weeks. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 7th at 9am. The final bulletin will be Dec 21/22 and will return Jan 11/12.

UPCOMING BAPTISM PREP

CLASSES



Sat. Dec. 7 at 9:30am
Sat. Jan. 4 at 9:30am
Sat. Feb. 1 at 9:30am

Please sign up via the office.

We are looking for Prayer Partners for all the children making their 1st Reconciliation, 1st Communion, and Confirmation.

You would not be meeting with the child, you will just be keeping the child in your personal prayers. If you would be interested in committing to praying for one of our children, please contact Sebastian Correa of the Renewal Team:
sebastian_systems@yahoo.com
or Kelly Sereda
sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com



St. Vincent de Paul Society

403-252-2790 ext. 223



We begin our Advent journey by giving ourselves some time to reflect on how much God promises us by inviting our Lord to be in our lives. We want to get in touch with ourselves, our desires, our emptiness, anxieties or worries, but especially those parts of ourselves that are in need of a Saviour. "Come, Lord. I feel my longing for you grow, my hope grow. And, as I place my hope in your promises, Advent begins to come alive in me."

PANTRY NEEDS

Thank you to everyone who has donated. We are thrilled to have an overflowing pantry to fill our Christmas Hampers!

Overview of scheduled events:

Dec 8: Simbang Gabi Filipino Mass

Dec 9-14: St. Vincent Christmas Hamper packing **VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED**

Dec 20: **Advent Penitential Service**, 6pm-8pm

Dec 24: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 5pm & 11pm

Dec 25: Christmas Day Mass 9am & 11am

Dec 31: New Year's Eve Mass 5pm & 11pm

Jan 1: New Year's Day Mass 9am & 11am

Jan 2: *Fr. Paul flies to India*

Feb. 12: *Fr. Paul arrives back to Calgary*

Mar. 5: **Ash Wednesday**

SACRAMENT CLASSES

Confirmation Class 3: Dec 19, 7pm

1st Rec Class 4: Dec 28, 10am

1st Rec Class 5: Jan 11, 10am

Confirmation Class 4: Jan 16, 7pm

1st Rec Class 6: Jan 25, 10am

1st Com. Parent Session: Jan 30, 7pm

1st Com. Class 1: Feb 8, 10am

Confirmation Class 5: Feb 13, 7pm

1st Rec Celebration: Feb 22, 10am

Confirmation Class 6: Mar 6, 7pm

1st Com Class 2: Mar 8, 10am

1st Com Class 3: Mar 22, 10am

1st Com Class 4: Apr 12, 10am

1st Com Class 5: Apr 26, 10am

1st Com Class 6: May 24, 10am

1st Com Retreat: May 31, 10am

1st Com Celebration: June 1, 9am Mass

PENITENTIAL SERVICE



Friday, December 20th
6pm to 8pm



This is the last week to make donations for Christmas Poinsettias in memory of a loved one. Envelopes can be found on the Information

Desk in the foyer. Names will be published in the Christmas Letter. You can put the envelope in the collection basket, the marked drop box at the pamphlet rack, or bring to the office.

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**



2024 TIA GOAL: 31,539
Raised: \$10,385

Our schools:



St. Matthew School
Monthly Newsletter

<https://stmatthew.cssd.ab.ca/newsletters>



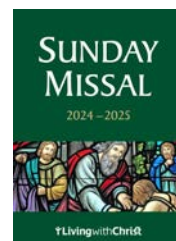
St. Cecilia School
Weekly Newsletter

<https://secure.smores.com/n/7zygut>



St. William School
Monthly Newsletter

<https://stwilliam.cssd.ab.ca/newsletters>



The Sunday Missal is available in the church store for \$5 each while supplies last.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES FOR SOUTH CALGARY



St. Gerard: Dec 12 (Thurs) 7:00pm
St. Patrick: Dec 12 (Thurs) 7:00pm
St. Albert the Great: Dec 13 (Fri) 7:00pm
St. Anthony: Dec 17 (Tues) 7:30pm - 8:30pm
St. Bonaventure: Dec 17 (Tues) 7:00pm
Holy Spirit: Dec 18 (Wed) 7:30pm

**The family Advent
Calendar for 2024
is available in the foyer.**



A huge **THANK YOU** from CWL for the incredible support for the Cookie Walk. We sold out faster than we ever have!



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- PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

403-271-8821

DRIVING DOWN YOUR MAINTENANCE COSTS



**We will be packing the
Christmas Hampers this
week with delivery on
Saturday, December 14th.
All items must now be in.**



**All angel tree cards must also now be in.
Please ensure dollar amount is on the card.**

**THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU to
everyone for their donations and support.**





YOU ARE called
 YOU MATTER.
 YOU BELONG.

Diocesan News

NEWS.CalgaryDiocese.ca | FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING *in the* DIOCESE.



The Most Reverend
 Frederick B. Henry

*The Seventh Bishop of the
 Diocese of Calgary*

11 April 1943 ✝ 03 December 2024

FUNERAL LITURGIES WILL
 BE HELD AT ST. MARY'S
 CATHEDRAL, CALGARY

✝ Prayers & Viewing

MONDAY, DEC 9, 2024
 9 AM TO 4 PM

9 am - Reception of the
 Body and Lauds
 Noon - Rosary
 3 pm - Divine Mercy
 Chaplet and Vespers

✝ Funeral Vigil

MONDAY, DEC 9, 2024
 AT 7 PM

✝ Funeral Mass

TUESDAY, DEC 10, 2024
 AT 10:30 AM

✝ Rite of Committal

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY,
 CALGARY

Reception

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL
 PARISH HALL



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

IN MEMORIAM: The Most Reverend Frederick Bernard Henry, Seventh Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary, died on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at the age of 81 years.

In living out his episcopal motto, "Dabo vobis pastores" (I will give you shepherds), Bishop Frederick Henry was a true spiritual father to the laity and the clergy of the dioceses he served.

Frederick Bernard Henry was born in London, ON, on April 11, 1943, the eldest of five sons in the family of Leo and Noreen Henry. After finishing high school, he entered St. Peter's Seminary in London, ON, and was ordained to the Priesthood on May 25, 1968. He served as Associate Pastor of Christ the King Parish, Windsor, ON, before being sent to further his studies.

In 1971, he earned a master's degree in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, and in 1973, a Licentiate in Theology, specializing in Fundamental Theology, from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Father Henry was an Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy at St. Peter's Seminary from 1973 to 1986. He also became Dean of Theology and Rector of St. Peter's Seminary from 1981 to 1986. As Rector, he oversaw the updating and reorganization of programs in theology and formation, as well as a major addition to the seminary's library to accommodate its growing collection. He was named a Prelate of Honour by Pope John Paul II in 1985.

Frederick Bernard Henry was named Auxiliary Bishop of London and Titular Bishop of Carinola by Pope John Paul II and was ordained to the Episcopate on June 24, 1986. He was installed as the Fourth Bishop of Thunder Bay, ON, on May 11, 1995 and as the Seventh Bishop of Calgary on March 19, 1998. Due to health concerns, his request for an early retirement was granted by Pope Francis on January 4, 2017, after serving as the Bishop of Calgary for 19 years.

During his tenure as the Bishop of Calgary, the Diocese experienced significant growth, including several economic downturns and increased immigration. These developments led to the construction of several new churches, the establishment of programs addressing poverty, and the continued expansion of Catholic school divisions. He was known for his strong stance on social justice and life issues, working closely with leaders of other faiths to foster bonds of friendship and mutual understanding, united toward the common good.

Bishop Henry is survived by his brothers, Dave (Sharon), Leo (Maureen), Larry, and Rick (Darryl); 11 nieces and nephews; and 21 great-nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be live streamed. The link is on catholicyc.ca We will live stream it here in St. Cecilia's for those who would like to come together. Due to the Funeral Mass, our regular 9am Mass will be moved to 6:30pm

Winter Gifts for Feed the Hungry | Warm Hearts and Hands This Winter! As the chill of winter sets in, you can make a difference for our Feed the Hungry guests. We're collecting new mittens, gloves, socks, toques, and \$10 fast food gift cards to share warmth and kindness this Christmas season. Donations will be distributed to Feed the Hungry guests closer to Christmas. Drop off your contributions at St. Mary's Cathedral Parish Office (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am–3:30 pm, closed from 12–1 pm) **until Dec 12**. Together, let's bring hope and warmth to those in need!

Mission Mexico Day | Join us in supporting **Mission Mexico Day on Dec 12**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and **Mission Mexico Sunday on Dec 15 in the parishes**. These special days remind us of our call to walk in solidarity with marginalized communities in southern Mexico, providing vital support for education, healthcare, and sustainable development. Let us come together to share hope and transform lives through our generosity. **There will be a Second Collection on the Third Sunday of Advent (Dec. 14/15) for Mission Mexico.** Direct link to donate online - <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/donatemissionmexico.html>

Diaconal Ordination of Peter An | Join us as we celebrate with great joy the Ordination of Peter An to the Transitional Diaconate by the Most Reverend William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary. **When:** Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, **Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024** at 5 pm, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Calgary

Our Family Advent Journey - now online | Please note that the event has been moved online via Zoom. **Advent Journey with the Family** Workshop with Catechesis of Good Shepherd catechist Paula Sabatini. Space is limited! Call Mara at 403-218-5521 or register online at <https://forms.gle/gfJYJtzjoxf8FMsQ6>. **When: Wed, Dec 11 at 6:30 pm to 8 pm** **Zoom info:** Meeting ID: 819 9308 2685 | Passcode: 201914

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

[Controller \(Full-time\)](#) (Pastoral Centre)

[Bookkeeper \(Full-time\)](#) (Diocese)

[Various Positions with Clear Water Academy](#)

[Various Positions with Calgary Catholic School District](#)

[Various Positions with Covenant Health](#)

[Various Positions with Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools](#)

[Various Positions with Conseil scolaire FrancoSud](#)

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



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Men who would like to
make a difference!

Len White: 403-271-6055

or fs4878@kofc.ab.ca

Knights of Columbus



Sunday, December 22nd <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	9:00am and 11:00am
Monday, December 23rd	<i>No Mass</i>
Tuesday, December 24th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	9:00am Daily Mass 5:00pm <i>Vigil Mass with Pageant</i> 11:00pm <i>Vigil Mass</i>
Wednesday, December 25th <i>Christmas Day</i>	9:00am and 11:00am
Thursday, December 26th	9:00am Daily Mass
Friday, December 27th	9:00am Daily Mass
Saturday, December 28th	9:00am Daily Mass 5:00pm Mass (Holy Family)
Sunday, December 29th <i>Holy Family</i>	9:00am and 11:00am
Monday, December 30th	<i>No Mass</i>
Tuesday, December 31st <i>New Year's Eve—Solemnity of the Mother of God</i>	9:00am Daily Mass 5:00pm <i>Vigil Mass</i> 11:00pm <i>Vigil Mass</i>
Wednesday, January 1st <i>New Year's Day—Solemnity of the Mother of God</i>	9:00am and 11:00am
Thursday, January 2nd	9:00am Daily Mass
Friday, January 3rd	9:00am Daily Mass
Saturday, January 4th	9:00am Daily Mass 5:00pm Mass (Epiphany)
Sunday, January 5th <i>Epiphany</i>	9:00am and 11:00am

KIDS' PAGE



Luke 3:1-6

In Advent we hear about Saint John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who prepared the way for Jesus' coming. He preached to the people, telling them to repent, and baptized them.

When Jesus came Saint John told the people to follow Jesus because He was the Messiah.

Can you find your way from Saint John to Jesus?

DIRECTORY

Pastor	Fr. V. Irudaya <u>Paul Raj</u> , SAC	403-700-9345			
Parish Office	Christine Thibeault	403-252-2790			
	office@stceciliacalgary.com				
Choir Director/ Organist	Ross N. Ferby	403-253-6757	Knights of Columbus	Danny Barth	403-278-4347
	rossnferby@shaw.ca		CWL	Pauline Michaniuk	403-899-0118
5pm Choir	Marie Hill	403-252-3456	St. Vincent de Paul	Heather Sereda	403-252-2790 ext. 223 (voicemail)
Bookkeeper	David Mu		Couples for Christ	George Fournier	403-804-8446
Finance Council	George Fournier	403-271-4628		Orly Alcantara	403-263-3510
Parish Council	Joy Obah	403-975-4855	Library	Lucia Graham	403-710-7995
Maintenance	Christian Amizola		Prayer Shawl	Donna Suderman	403-252-2718
	st.cecilia.maintenance.coord@gmail.com		Ministry		
Pastoral Care	Connie Claeys	403-931-4840	Francis Klein Ctr		403-255-4480
Altar Servers	Martin Elifoh		Nat. Family Planning	Pavla D'Souza	403-278-9677
Ministry	Kelly Sereda		St. Matthew Sch	Josie Caruana (Principal)	403-500-2030
Scheduling	sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com		St. Cecilia's Sch	Denis Fortier (Principal)	403-500-2040
Sacrament	Kelly Sereda		St. William Sch	Erin MacLachlan (Principal)	403-500-2055
Coordinator	sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com		Bible Study	Parish Office	403-252-2790
Campus Flowers	Sandra Dawson	403 259-3829	Youth Coordinator	Veronica Planicka	st.cecilaparish.youth@gmail.com

ROOM BOOKINGS		
Mon	Dec 9	
Tues	Dec 10	MASS MOVED TO EVENING 6:30pm—MASS 7:00pm—RCIA (Auditorium)
Wed	Dec 11	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 6:00pm—Couples For Christ (Aud) 7:00pm—Sunday Choir Practice
Thur	Dec 12	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am)
Fri	Dec 13	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 9:30am—Adoration All Day 3:00pm—Divine Mercy 5:00pm—Legion of Mary—(Board) 6:00pm—Couples For Christ (Aud)
Sat	Dec 14	9:00am—MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 10:00am—Church Decorating 3:00pm-4:00pm—CONFESSION 5:00pm—MASS 6:00pm—Couples For Christ (Aud)
Sun	Dec 15	9:00am—MASS 11:00am—MASS 12:00pm—Pageant Practice (Hall) 6:00pm—Couples For Christ (Aud)

SSVP Hampers



South Calgary
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Phone: 403-253-7820 x 224 ken@certifiedalarms.ca



We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 14th at 10am. Anyone who would like to help we will gladly accept!



2024 donations must be in by December 31st. All cheques dated after December 31, 2024 will not be included in your 2024 Tax Receipt.