

ST. CECILIA'S PARISH

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



December 21-22, 2024

MASS TIMES & PARISH INFO

Parish priest:

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

Administrative Assistant:

Christine Thibeault
office@stceciliacalgary.com

Sacramental Coordinator:

Kelly Sereda
sacraments@stceciliacalgary.com

Music Director:

Ross N. Ferby
ross@stceciliacalgary.com

Weekend Masses | Weekday Masses

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

First Friday Mass

7pm (no 9am Mass)

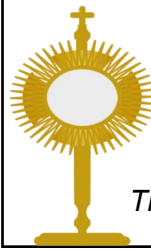
Confessions

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

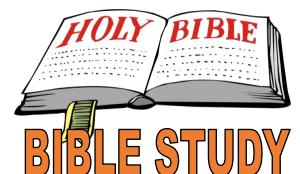
Prayer Shawl Ministry: last Tuesday of the month after the 9am Mass. New knitters welcome. Yarn is available.

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!

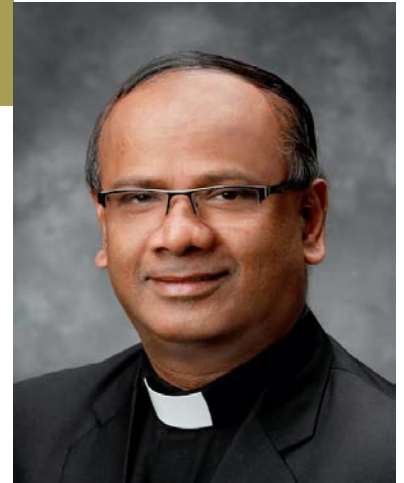


FR. PAUL'S COLUMN

SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST. SYLVESTER I, POPE

DEC 31ST 24



St. Sylvester I, was **born in Rome** around the year 250. At a young age, his mother put him under the care of a priest to be taught the practice of religion and sacred literature. He was **ordained a priest by St Pope Marcellinus**.

St. Sylvester I, enjoyed **providing shelter to Christians passing through the city**. He would take them with him, **wash their feet**, serve them at table and care for them, all **in the name of Jesus Christ**. One of the Christians whom **St. Sylvester hosted** was **St Timothy of Antioch**, an illustrious confessor of the faith.

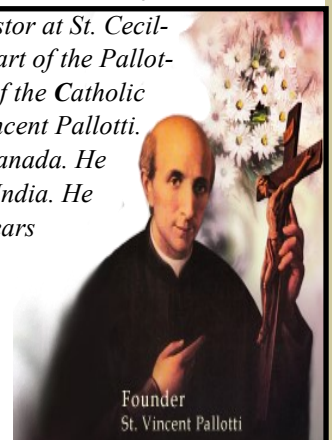
St. Sylvester I, was the **Pope from 314 to 335**, whose long pontificate saw the beginnings of the Christian Roman Empire. The **most important event of his reign was the Council of Nicaea** in May 325. During his pontificate were **built the great churches** founded in Rome by Constantine, including **St Peter's Basilica**, the **Basilica of the Holy Cross** in Jerusalem and the **Basilica of St John Lateran**. He is connected also with the **establishment of the Roman school of singing**.

St. Sylvester I, died on **31 December 335**, in Rome, Italy. He is **believed to have built a church**, where he was **buried, at the cemetery of St. Priscilla** on the Via Salaria. His **relics were transferred in 762 by the pope St. Paul I** to the basilica of San Silvestro in Capite.

St. Sylvester I, is the **patron saint of animals, good harvests, stone masons, Order of Saint Sylvester, and Italy**.

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



Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 21

9:00am: **Int. Rose and Lambert Risling**

5:00pm: **†Candida Reyes**

Sunday, December 22

9:00am: **†Maria Rajammal, 11th death anniversary**

11:00am: **All parishioners, living & deceased**

Monday, December 23

No Mass

Tuesday, December 24

9:00am: **Int. Dan Barth—health**

5:00pm: **†Osmaida Silva**

11:00pm: **†Susan Burden**

Wednesday, December 25

9:00am: **†Adoracion and Josue Suple**

11:00am: **All parishioners, living & deceased**

Thursday, December 26

Int. Terry Delorme—health

Friday, December 27

9:00am: **†Tomas Ratio**

Saturday, December 28

9:00am: **Int. Isaac D'Souza—Birthday**

5:00pm: **†Loreto and Estevan Palomo**

Sunday, December 29

9:00am: **†Nick and Pearl Ferby**

11:00am: **All parishioners, living & deceased**

Monday, December 30

No Mass

Tuesday, December 31

9:00am: **†Maria Rajammal**

5:00pm: **†Richard Mallett**

11:00pm: **All parishioners, living & deceased**



Mass Readings

<i>Saturday, Dec 21 (9am)</i> Zephaniah 3.14-18a Luke 1.39-45	<i>Sunday, Dec 22 (4th Sun.)</i> Micah 5.2-5a Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45
<i>Mon, Dec 23 (no Mass)</i> Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6 Luke 1.57-66	<i>Tuesday, Dec 24 (9am)</i> 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 16 Luke 1.67-79
<i>Wednesday, Dec 25</i> Isaiah 52.7-10 Hebrews 1.1-6 John 1.1-18	<i>Thursday, Dec 26</i> Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-59 Matthew 10.17-22
<i>Friday, Dec 27</i> 1 John 1.1-4 John 20.2-8	<i>Saturday, Dec 28 (9am)</i> 1 John 1.5—2.2 Matthew 2.13-18
<i>Sunday, Dec 29—Holy Family</i> 1 Samuel 1.20-22, 24-28 1 John 3.1-2, 21-24 Luke 2.41-52	
<i>Mon, Dec 30 (no Mass)</i> 1 John 2.12-17 Luke 2.36-40	<i>Tuesday, Dec 31 (9am)</i> 1 John 2.18-21 John 1.1-18
<i>Wednesday, Jan 1</i> Numbers 6.22-27 Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.16-21	<i>Thursday, Jan 2</i> 1 John 2.22-28 John 1.19-28
<i>Friday, Jan 3</i> 1 John 2.29; 3.1-6 John 1.29-34	<i>Saturday, Jan 4 (9am)</i> 1 John 3.7-10 John 1.35-42
<i>Sunday, Jan 5—Epiphany</i> Isaiah 60.1-6 Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2.1-12	



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 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.

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!



Welcome to the Tierney home, where Kendra and her ten children celebrate Catholic feast days with delicious recipes and wacky traditions. Are you looking for meaningful ways to observe the faith with your family? Liturgical living in the home is a fun and natural way to evangelize to the people closest to us. It celebrates and revives ancient tradition and repackages it for modern, busy Catholic families. Let Kendra and her kids show you how! Kendra Tierney is a widowed Southern California mother of ten children from toddler to college student. Her passion is liturgical living in the home.

Office Hours over the holidays The parish office will be closed from Dec 23rd to January 6th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 7th at 9am. **This is the last bulletin** until January 11/12. Mass Intentions for Jan 1 to Jan 12 will be printed in the Christmas Letter.

UPCOMING BAPTISM PREP

CLASSES



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



Throughout our Advent journey we give 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 regular hampers and will let you know which items get low.

Overview of scheduled events:

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**



Last Christmas Pageant

Practice will take place this Sunday after the 11am Mass. Full dress rehearsal! Thank you so

much to all of our volunteers and wonderful children, and especially a huge thank you to Veronica Planicka for organizing.



Thank you so much for everyone who has been bringing their bottles to the hall, or bringing their deposit refunds. Last week we collected \$136! This money goes to our Youth Group for their activities. You are welcome to bring any bottles from Christmas and New Year celebration to our drop box!

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



SACRAMENT CLASSES

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



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

Our schools:

Fr. Paul visits all 3 of our schools monthly, offering class visits, Confession, Adoration, and liturgies, all as requested.



St. Matthew School
Monthly Newsletter

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



St. Cecilia School
Weekly Newsletter

<https://secure.smores.com/n/s9b4mq>



St. William School
Monthly Newsletter

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



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU to everyone for their donations and support of our Christmas Hampers and Angel Tree gift cards. Because of your generosity we were able to pack and deliver 79 hampers, which served 155 adults and 77 children.



And a huge thank you to all of our amazing volunteers: the packers, sorters, callers, pick up teams, and the incredible cooks who ensure our volunteers stay well fed.

This is what the operation looks like!

Fr. Paul will be leaving for India on January 2nd to represent Canada at a Pallottine Fathers meeting. Following the conclusion of the meeting he will begin his annual 4 week leave. He returns to us on February 12. In his absence we will be looked after by Fr. Terry Gubiana and Fr. Ajeesh Cherivuparambil.



The cakes for December have been very generously sponsored by Marsha Herras. If you would like to sponsor a monthly cake, the cost is \$150. We take care of the order and pickup! We are accepting sponsors for Nov and Dec 2025. Thank you so much to everyone who has been sponsoring months!





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Diocesan News

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



Reminder: In order to receive a tax receipt for the 2024 calendar year: Online donation to parishes or diocesan ministries must be received by Tue, **Dec. 31, 2024**. To give online, visit catholiccyyc.ca/give For gift of securities or cheque/mail - [click here](#) | For more information, visit catholiccyyc.ca/yearendgiving

Prison Ministry We are urgently seeking volunteers to lead the Liturgy of the Word and Rosary prayers at correctional facilities in the diocese. Serve with empathy and a heart for Jesus: "I was in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:36). Please email reception-ist@calgarydiocese.ca or call 403-218-5500. [More info](#)

OPENING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR

JUBILEE 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Celebrate the opening of the Jubilee Year with Bishop William T. McGrattan, rooted in the Church's tradition of spiritual renewal, forgiveness, and hope, as we journey together as "Pilgrims of Hope."

THE HOLY MASS *with*
BISHOP WILLIAM MCGRATTAN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 AT NOON

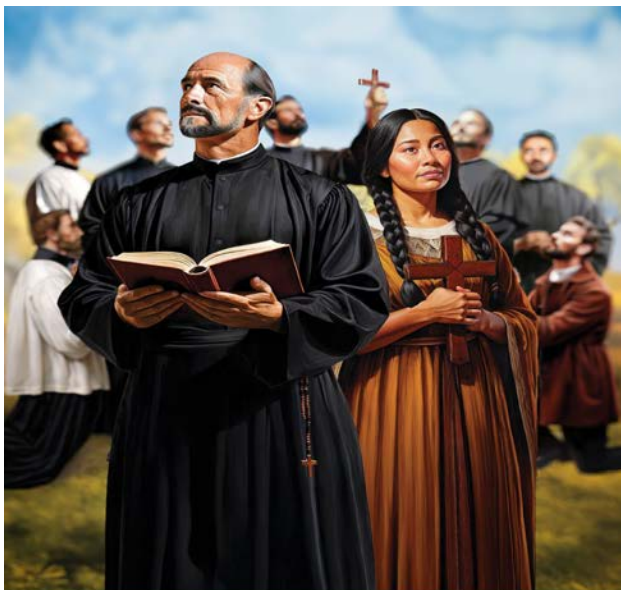
St. Mary's Cathedral
219 18 Ave SW
Calgary

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of Calgary
YOU ARE called
YOU MATTER. YOU BELONG.

Join us for the Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year on **Sunday, December 29, 2024, at Noon** at St. Mary's Cathedral. This special celebration, led by Bishop McGrattan, marks the beginning of the Holy Year 2025, themed "Pilgrims of Hope." All are welcome!

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.



NATIONAL VISITATION OF
THE RELICS OF

**St. Jean de Brébeuf
and of
St. Kateri Tekakwitha**



MARTYRS' SHRINE



JESUITES | JESUITS
du Canada | of Canada

National Visitation of the Relics of St. Jean de Brebeuf and of St. Kateri Tekakwitha | The relics of St. Jean de Brebeuf and St. Kateri will be visiting the Diocese of Calgary! When: **Sat, Jan 4, 2025** - Mass: 9 am (with Fr John O'Brien) and 5 pm (with Bishop McGrattan) at St. Albert the Great, Calgary. [More info](#)

Fun Night with the Sisters Inviting young women: Join us on **Fri, Jan 24, 2025, from 6–9 pm** at the FCJ Centre (219-19th Ave SW, Calgary) for an evening of pizza, games, conversations, and night prayer. Register by Jan 22 by email to sisterdianne.turner@calgarydiocese.ca. Free-will offering. All are welcome!

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

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

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

[Maintenance Worker \(Part-time\), Sacred Heart, Calgary](#)

[Bookkeeper \(Part-time\), Holy Family, Medicine Hat](#)

[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.catholicyyc.ca/careers for more information and details.



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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 1.39-45

*Elizabeth knew that Mary was the mother of the Messiah.
What did she say to Mary when she came to visit her?
Use the code to find out!*

A B D E G L M N O R S U W Y
▲ ♀ ○ ↑ ▲ × − □ ● + ! ■ ↓ ♀

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 23		Mon	Dec 30	6:00pm—Couples For Christ (Boardroom)
Tues	Dec 24	9:00am— MASS (Daily) 5:00pm— VIGIL MASS 11:00pm— VIGIL MASS	Tues	Dec 31	9:00am— MASS (Daily) 5:00pm— VIGIL MASS 11:00pm— VIGIL MASS
Wed	Dec 25	9:00am— MASS 11:00am— MASS	Wed	Jan 1	9:00am— MASS 11:00am— MASS
Thur	Dec 26	9:00am— MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 6:00pm—Private Party (Hall)	Thur	Jan 2	9:00am— MASS (rosary at 8:30am)
Fri	Dec 27	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 (Hall)	Fri	Jan 3	9:30am—Adoration All Day 3:00pm— Divine Mercy 5:00pm—Legion of Mary—(Board) 7:00pm— MASS + Youth Group
Sat	Dec 28	9:00am— MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 10:00am—Sacrament Class 3:00pm-4:00pm—CONFESSION 5:00pm— MASS	Sat	Jan 4	9:00am— MASS (rosary at 8:30am) 10:00am—Baptism Class (Auditorium) 3:00pm-4:00pm—CONFESSION 5:00pm— MASS
Sun	Dec 29	9:00am— MASS 11:00am— MASS	Sun	Jan 5	9:00am— MASS 11:00am— MASS
			Mon	Jan 6	
			Tues	Jan 7	<i>Office Back to Regular Hours</i>



e-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.