

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

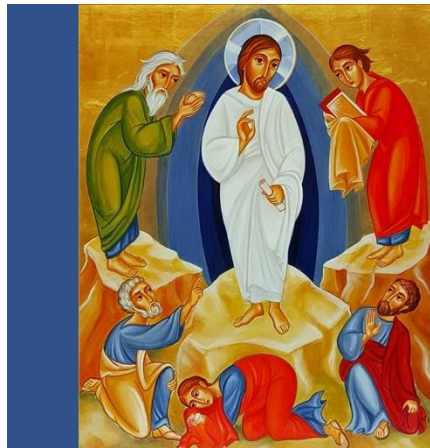
# Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

**March 3, 2023**



This is my Son,  
the Beloved;  
with him I am  
well pleased;  
listen to him!

MATT 3:17

**Second Sunday of Lent**

**Little Rock Scripture Study presents:**

**Galatians and Romans ; March 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am – 11:30 am.** Lesson 4 in the North Hall

**Check out Fr. Ignatius message: Lent – pages 2 to 3**

**Evening of Conversation with Catholic Thought Leader, Fr. Raymond De Souza**

In partnership with the St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy, St. Mary's University invites you to an evening of food for the soul, mind and body featuring a talk by Fr. Raymond De Souza with conversation and questions from Dr. Sinda Vanderpool, President of St. Mary's University. When: **Thursday, March 16** at 7 pm at St. Mary's University. There will be time to connect

## MASS TIMES

Tuesday 6:30 pm

Wednesday - Friday 9:00 am

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 am

## ADORATION

Tuesday 3:00 - 6:00 pm

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

## PARISH TEAM

**Pastor: Fr. Ignatius Tran**

[fr.tran@stgerards.ca](mailto:fr.tran@stgerards.ca)

**Gay Abuan-Summers**

Pastoral Program Coordinator

*Pastoral Related Inquiries:*

[pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca](mailto:pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca)

**Nicolette Eden**

Administrative Assistant

*General Inquiries:*

[frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca](mailto:frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca)

**Gordon Skaluba**, Maintenance

**WEBSITE:** [www.stgerards.ca](http://www.stgerards.ca)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday:

9 am to 12 pm (noon)

Closed noon - 1 pm (*lunch break*)

Afternoons **by appointment only:**

from 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Closed Holidays

**Deadline for Parish Newsletter**

Wednesday at 4:00 pm

with others and enjoy a pulled pork sandwich prior to the talk. [Register now](#)

## Lent



  
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8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW  
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TEL 403 253 2251  
[stgerards.ca](http://stgerards.ca)

Dear Friends,

We are now on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the holy season of Lent. It is a liturgical season of forty days reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer.

Jesus underwent great fear, humiliation, immense suffering and death on your behalf. That's how much He *loves* you! That's how much He *values* you! If God finds *you* worthy enough to undergo all that suffering and torture for, what will you do *for Him* this season? Will you love *yourself* enough to consider yourself worthy to serve Him?

Lent is a time of intense spiritual renewal. It's a time for each of us to experience a *reawakening* of our relationship with God through *penance and prayer*.

Penance may consist of *fasting* from some much-loved food (all Sundays during Lent are excluded from fasting since every Sunday is the Lord's day) or *abstaining* from a favourite activity (a tv show, limiting your time on your cell phone, computer, etc) or it may consist of *doing* something nice for others on a daily basis.

It's a call to deep self-examination and this is a great time to see you celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It's a time for taking a good look at our attitude and behaviour towards others. Remember, when we serve others, we serve our God.

When we love others, we love our God. We *grow* spiritually and become more Christ-like.

Lent calls us to spend more *time* with God in prayer. There is never a shortage in our lives for needed prayer. The problems and tragedies of the world can at times overwhelm us and leave us feeling helpless. Let's pray earnestly for the Russia-Ukraine war to come to an end soon. When we pray, we join our voices in unison with those of the saints that have gone before us. God hears our prayers. We must never underestimate the effect our prayers have before God.

Lent invites us to come back to the Lord with all our hearts. Let's use this time to get closer to our God, praise Him more, repent and refresh our spiritual energy.

## FATHER IGNATIUS TRAN

### PRIESTLY ORDINATION

**Rev. Mr. Santiago Torres**, a traditional deacon currently completing studies at St. Joseph Seminary, Edmonton, has been called to ordination to the Holy Priesthood at St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary, on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday, June 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

### Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of March 3, 2023:

**Collections Last Week – \$8,744.28**

(= the sum of TIA Donations plus General donations)

**Weekly Break Even - \$8,184**

(= Budgeted Expenses -\$403,931 plus \$38,000 (Anticipated TIA) / 54 weeks)

**OVER - \$560.28**

**TIA (Together In Action) to date: \$1,755.00**

Donation envelopes are available at the parish office.

**Welcome NEW parishioners!!** Have you officially signed up to become a member of our parish? Sign up today to become a member of the parish.

Visit <https://www.stgerards.ca/becoming-a-registered-member>

Sign up for electronic giving at <https://stgerards.ca/donate>:

**E-transfers accepted** through [Frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca](mailto:Frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca) ; please specify intended ministry if applicable- ie. St. Vincent de Paul, Mission Mexico, TIA, etc.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:** Parishioners, please visit our Sacramental Preparation board (South Hall) and keep the **First Eucharist** and Confirmation candidates in your prayers. Thank you!



**First Eucharist:**

**Congratulations to ESPP (Extra Sacramental Preparation Program) First Eucharist candidates from St. Catherine and St. Stephen!** Please join us after mass (South Hall) for a light snack and refreshments. **Thank you** to all for your support - volunteers, Faith Leaders, candidates and parents!

**Session 3-** March 11 at 9:00 am; plan to arrive at least 20 minutes early.

**Candidates/ Parents:** **Don't forget to complete & post** your **"Please Pray for me"** profile at the South Hall Sacramental Prep board. **Completed placemats**, drop off via First Eucharist mailbox for lamination. Pick up laminated placemats in the same spot after weekend mass or drop off at the parish office. **Don't forget to write 2023 & your name.**

**CONFIRMATION (Grade 6 and up)**

**ESPP (Extra Sacramental Preparation Program)**  
**Confirmation candidates (St. Stephen & St. Catherine) -**  
**Session 1 Opening -** March 8 at 7:00 pm, Candidates and Parents



Session 3: March 11 at 10:45 am (Lesson 12, 13,14)

**This week read & reflections on:**

**CHOSEN Lesson 14 ""Why have I been Chosen?"**

**Candidates/ Parents:** **Don't forget to complete and post** your **"Please Pray for me"** profile at the South Hall Sacramental Prep board.

**May 13 @ 1:00 pm, Confirmation celebration (all including ESPP)**

Revised schedule posted on our website; <https://stgerards.ca/childrens-sacraments>  
Video Presentation of the pastoral letter, view: [https://youtu.be/fRmOqT\\_W2ZY](https://youtu.be/fRmOqT_W2ZY)



## REFLECTIONS ON GOSPEL READING – Matthew 17:1-9

In Scripture, the mountain is an essential place of encounter with the divine. It is no coincidence that God's revelation of who Jesus is takes place on a mountaintop. Here Jesus is linked to all the signs of God's revelation: a mountain, a light, a voice, and holy fear. In Matthew this event takes place after the prediction of Jesus' death in Jerusalem, pointing to God's plan in both this dazzling revelation and to the upcoming death on a cross.



1. What word, phrase, or thought speaks to you most strongly?
2. Is there a connection between Jesus' clothes being "dazzling white" and the symbol of the white garment we use in the baptismal rite?
3. What kinds of "mountaintop" experiences have you had? How did they affect you?

## Mission Council Ministry



## MASS INTENTIONS – MARCH 2023

Tuesday, March 7 @ 6:30 pm	Lois Goodfellow	SI
Wednesday, March 8 @ 9:00 am	Gloria Almoros	RIP
Thursday, March 9 @ 9:00 am	For Everyone Gathered Here	SI
Friday, March 10 @ 9:00 am	Antonio Yu & Family	SI
Saturday, March 11 @ 5 pm	Yu Siong & Crescencia Yepez	RIP
Sunday, March 12 @ 9:00 am	Araullo Family	RIP
Sunday, March 12 @ 11:00am	Rebecca Tablizo	RIP

## Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to all March celebrants including...

March 1 – Ruth Bascones

March 4 – Michelle McMeel

March 5 – Benedicta Davies, Prescy Rigor

March 7 - Gideon Van Metter

March 8 – Oliver Langille

March 12- Kay Power, Fieber Omana

**Saturday, March 19 - Ann Sunderland**

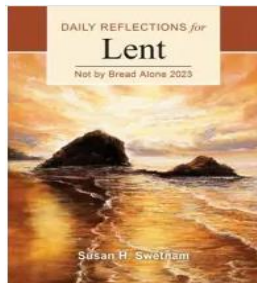
Happy Anniversary to **Fr. Greg Coupal** on his **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** to the priesthood on March 3<sup>rd</sup>! Thank you, Fr. Greg, for your 12 plus years of service at St. Gerard's parish and faithfulness to your vocation. Please include him in your prayers.

**Do you know anyone celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary in March 2023?**  
Let the parish office know and let's celebrate with you.



## Lent Reflection Booklets

Lent Reflection books will be at the back of the church for sale.



2023 Lent books **\$5.00 each** (limited copies)



Lenten Teen Reflection booklets): **\$2.00 each** while supply last.

## Stations of the Cross Devotion

**All are welcome** to join the community in prayer. Following the 9:00 am weekday mass (every Wednesday – Friday) and every Friday evening at 7:00 pm.

**Thank you to all guest and our sponsor ministry the Sacristan team for hosting February 24<sup>th</sup> and the Card Game team, March 3.**



The poster is purple with white text and graphics. On the left is a black and white illustration of a person carrying a large cross. The text on the right reads: 'Stations of the Cross' in large white letters, followed by 'February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31'. Below this is 'Soup & Bun' in white, then 'Fellowship @ 5:30 – 6:30 PM' and 'Stations of the Cross @ 7 PM'. A small icon of a bowl of soup is to the right. At the bottom, it says 'FREE WILL DONATION WELCOME' and 'Thank you to our Ministry Sponsors: Sacristans, Cards Group, Baptism, Ushers, PPC, Knights of Columbus and the CWL.'

Join us for **SOUP & BUN every Friday at 5:30 pm.**

Next date: **March 10th**, sponsored by the **Baptism and Usher** team members.

*Self guided Silent Reflection starts at 6:30 pm, Church proper followed by Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm; led by the sponsoring ministry.*

## Turn Away from Sin: Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service

March 16, 2023  
7:00 PM

**Lenten  
Reconciliation  
Service**



## Lenten Parish Mission led by the Sisters of Divine Mercy

An opportunity for a deeper, intimate, and powerful relationship with Jesus: Face of Mercy. The Mission will be led by the Sisters of Divine Mercy, Sr. Katrina and Sr. Gabrielle

## MISSION SCHEDULE:

### Day 1: Sunday, March 19

5 pm Dinner, followed by 6 pm Angelus & Rosary and First Talk: "Be Not Afraid"

### Day 2: Monday, March 20

6 pm Angelus & Rosary, 6:30 pm Mass followed by Second Talk: "Living Your Life with Meaning and Purpose"

### Day 3: Tuesday, March 21

6 pm Angelus & Rosary, 6:30 pm Mass, followed by short concluding talk, Adoration, Confession and Inspirational Music (led by the Sisters of Divine Mercy)



## God Squad's annual Men Conference!

All men are welcome to a weekend of formation with guest speakers: Fr. Raymond De Souza and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers on God Squad's upcoming Conference "Memento Mori: Remember your death and live for heaven". When: March 17-18 at St. Michael's Church (800 85 St SW, Calgary). For more information or to register, visit [godsquad.ca/register](http://godsquad.ca/register) or call 587-888-5482. Order today and get a [Terror of Demons- Disc Golf set](#) (supplies are limited)

## Pastoral Care Ministry Training



The Diocese of Calgary is offering a Pastoral Care Ministry Training for those who feel called to assist their parish in a healing ministry to the sick, elderly, dying, homebound and bereaved members.

- **Session 1:** Friday, March 24 (7 to 9 pm) to Saturday, March 25 (9:30 am to 4 pm)
- **Session 2:** Friday, March 31 (7 to 9 pm) to Saturday, April 1 (9:30 am to 4 pm)

**Location:** Catholic Pastoral Centre (120 17 Ave SW, Calgary)

**Registration Fee:** \$50/person (Covers training

costs, lunch for both sessions, and refreshments). Note that **all participants must be pre-approved** by their Pastor and/or Pastoral Care Coordinator - Stefan Winters, please contact the parish office prior to registration.

For more information or to register, visit [catholiccycc.ca/pastoralcare](http://catholiccycc.ca/pastoralcare)



## Journey through Lent 2023 | 2nd Week of Lent

This year's Lenten reflections from CCCB are delivered by His Eminence Gérald Cyprien Cardinal Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec and Primate of Canada, and the Most Reverend Brian Joseph Dunn, Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth. On this Second Sunday of Lent, Bishop Dunn provides a reflection on God's breath of life in us. -

[Watch Video Here](#)

## Career opportunities:

The Diocese of Calgary is looking for passionate and dedicated individuals to join their team! Check out new career opportunities in the Diocese:

- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - Our Lady of the Rockies, Canmore
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - St. Pius X, Calgary
- Caretaker (Casual) - St. Ambrose, Coaldale
- Hospitality/Security (Part-time) – Sacred Heart, Calgary

Please visit [catholiccyyc.ca/careers](https://catholiccyyc.ca/careers) for more information and application details.

## KIDS Bulletin – Second Sunday of Lent

**Kid's challenge this week:** We hear about something very special that happened to Jesus while he was on a mountain with three of his friends. His appearance changed as his face and clothes shone like the sun. This also changed the lives of his friends as they realized that Jesus was the Son of God. We can change people's lives through our actions and our love, let's think about how today.

- [Colouring](#) page this Sunday
- [Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday](#)
- [Sunday Connection for this Sunday](#) (Gr. 1-8)

## Pastoral Letter for Young People (CCCB)

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has issued a Pastoral Letter to Young People in honour of the anniversary of the death of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the first beatified millennial. Read now at <https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/blog/pastoral-letter-for-young-people>

Video Presentation of the pastoral letter, view: [https://youtu.be/fRmOqT\\_W2ZY](https://youtu.be/fRmOqT_W2ZY)