

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

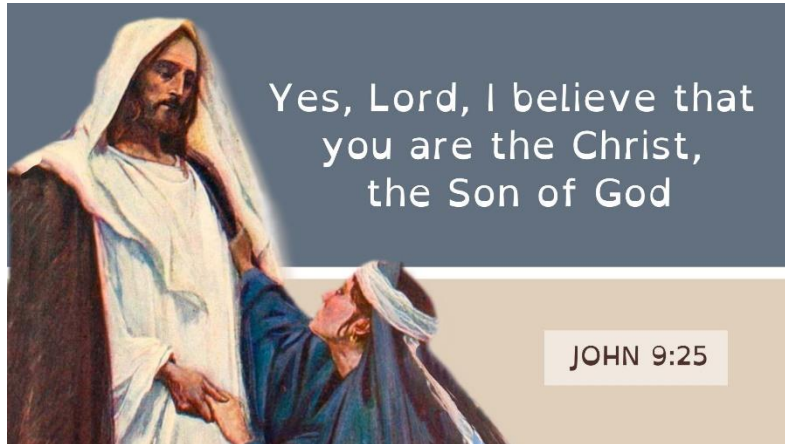
Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

March 24, 2023



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Little Rock Scripture Study presents:

Galatians and Romans; March 29th at 9:45 am – 11:30 am. Lesson 6 in the North Hall.

Welcome back Fr. David!

While Fr. Ignatius is away end of March.
Please welcome back Fr. David Purcell.

Check out Fr. Ignatius message:

Recognizing God in your Daily Life – pages 2 - 3

Tuesday, March 28 Cancellation

NO adoration and NO evening mass.

Fr. Ignatius will be away March 27 – 31. Please keep him in your prayers as he travels to visit a family member.

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

Gay Abuan-Summers

Pastoral Program Coordinator

Pastoral Related Inquiries:

pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca

Nicolette Eden

Administrative Assistant

General Inquiries:

frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca

Gordon Skaluba, Maintenance

WEBSITE: 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

Recognizing God in your daily life



Does God send us signs?

Yes. Although there is no particular sign that shows that God is trying to reach you or tell you something, He may be trying to get your attention.

But... We need to be careful. If the sign you are looking for is God's permission for you to go ahead and do something illegal or immoral, then you are fooling yourself. God would never approve anything that goes against His Commandments.

My friend, Terry, told me her mother loved dragonflies. Her mother often told her that after she passes she would ask God to send dragonflies to Terry to let her know she was still alive and well.

The day after her mother passed, Terry was sitting in her backyard with a photo album on her lap and so many tear-drenched tissues all around her. The pictures brought back so many happy memories of the times shared with her mother. Her heart ached with the loss. Terry recounted that a large swarm of dragonflies seemed to come from nowhere and descend on the picture of her mother she was crying over. She has no doubt at all that God was sending her a message that her mother was with Him and all was well. It brought her great comfort knowing that her mother was still near her, that she was not alone and that she would see her mother again.

Several years ago, a friend of mine, Angela, told me that she had been thinking about cutting her long hair and donating it to make wigs for cancer patients when, out of the blue, a total stranger came up to her in the mall and complimented her on her “beautiful hair.” After talking for awhile, the stranger mentioned she had to go through chemo and was further very anguished at the thought of losing her hair. That clinched it for Angela. She saw it as a sign from God to proceed with that idea and made an appointment to get her hair cut and she donated her hair for cancer patients.

God does send us signs. In order for us to “get the message” we have to keep our minds and hearts open. We need to be attentive to read the signs.

God may be communicating his message to you through a close friend, a family member, through nature, or objects. Sometimes even a total stranger could give you advice or a solution that you were desperately trying to find.

I’m sure that there were times when you have wondered if it really was a sign from God or just a coincidence. I believe coincidences are a way that our God communicates with us. My heart instantly knows that it is God arranging things to ease a problem or event. I know God is there giving me a sign.

Let us remember to be open to the signs and to thank God for listening and responding to us! Our God is *never* far away!

Fr. Ignatius Tran

HOLY WEEK AT ST. GERARD’S:

- Holy Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm
- Good Friday, April 7 at 3 pm
- Easter Vigil, April 8 at 8pm
- Easter Sunday, 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Holy Thursday is washing of the feet of the 12 disciples. If you would like to participate as one of the 12 disciples, please contact pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca

Following the mass on Holy Thursday, all are welcome to adore the blessed sacrament until 12:00 am (Midnight). Please consider stay and visit with Jesus for an hour, sign up via website <https://www.stgerards.ca/adoration-sign-up>

Bishop McGrattan will celebrate the following liturgy at St. Mary’s Cathedral:

- Chrism Mass, Monday, April 3 at 7 pm
- Holy Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm

- Good Friday, April 7 at Noon and 3 pm
- Easter Vigil, April 8 at 8pm
- Easter Sunday, April 9 at Noon

Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of March 24, 2023:

Collections Last Week – \$6,930.85

(= the sum of TIA Donations plus General donations)

Weekly Break Even - \$8,184

(= Budgeted Expenses -\$403,931 plus \$36,194 (TIA) / 54 weeks)

SHORT - \$1,253.15

TIA (Together In Action) to date: \$3,110

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 ; 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:

Session 4 - April 1 at 9:00 am; plan to arrive at least 20 minutes early. Focus on Chapters 8, 9 & 10.

CONFIRMATION (Grade 6 and up)



Session 4: April 1 at 10:45 am (Lesson 21 & 24)

This week read & reflections on:

CHOSEN Lesson 24 "Where do I go from here?"

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

MISSION COUNCIL MINISTRY



Support the Mission Council by recycling your used cards. Please **DO NOT** cut the back of the cards, donate as is. Easter Cards are available at the gathering area this weekend or by visiting the parish office.

REFLECTIONS ON GOSPEL READING – John 11:1-45



Approaching the end of his own journey, Jesus, in raising Lazarus, dramatically establishes his power over death, leading to a radical reinterpretation of what life and death are really about. As on the previous two Sundays, this Gospel accompanies a “Scrutiny” for the candidates for baptism, the last of three. Each Gospel connected to the three RCIA Scrutinies (The Woman at the Well, The Man Born Blind, and this week The Raising of Lazarus) is full of paradox and drama. The characters in each of these Gospel stories undergoes significant changes. These are not simply changes that have happened to people in the past – the stories also capture the changes that are happening in those being prepared to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

1. What part of the story of Lazarus speaks to you most strongly today?
2. Have you ever experienced dramatic changes in your faith, as if moving from death to life?
3. What part of our own vision for life or for the Church needs to be revived?

4. Who do you identify with in this story at this moment in your life: the disciples, Mary, Martha, Jesus, Lazarus, the crowd?

LIVING THE WORD

What is God's challenge for me this week? Perhaps it is to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation, visit the grave of a loved one, seek out the dying in our parish, or examine the vitality of your life vision?

Stations of the Cross Devotion



Stations of the Cross
February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31

Soup & Bun
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
Fellowship 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Silent Reflection 6:30 pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Thank you to our Ministry Sponsors:
Sacristans, Cards Group, Baptism, Ushers,
PPC, Knights of Columbus and the CWL.

Lenten Stations of the Cross also after 9:00 am mass Wednesday – Friday.

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.

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

Thank you to all guest and our sponsoring ministries.

Annie Jr presented by St. John Choir Schola



St John Choir Schola Presents

Annie Jr.

Original Broadway Production
Directed by Martin Chuzzle
Book by Thomas Merton
Music by Charles Strouse
Lyrics by Martin Chuzzle

Based on "The Original Annie"
by Florence and John F. Case
Copyright 1999, U.S.C.

April 26, 27, 28

Tickets: www.sjcschola.ca/anniejr
Bow Valley Christian Church
Showtime 7pm

All are invited and welcome for an evening of music and entertainment!

St. Gerard's Colette Martinez is one of the directors, organizer and choreographer for this wonderful production.

Purchase a ticket online
<https://www.sjcschola.ca/anniejr.html> by credit card or e-transfer with no addition

fees. For more information, contact Collect via the parish office.

Important Details:

Play location: Bow Valley Christian Church auditorium [5300 53 Ave NW, Calgary](https://www.bowvalleychristianchurch.ca)

Dates: April 26, 27, 28th - all evening shows

Time: 7pm, sharp. Running time about 100 min, including intermission.

Concession available during intermission.

Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to all March celebrants including...

24th -Ray-Happy 70th Birthday

28th – Elizabeth Huntley

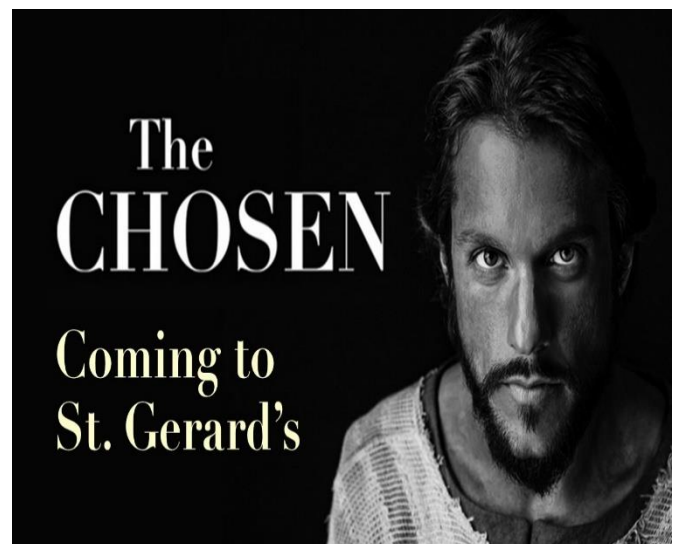
31st - Reynald Tagnuinod



MASS INTENTIONS –MARCH 2023

Tuesday, March 28 @ 6:30 pm	CWL Memorial Mass	RIP
Wednesday, March 29 @ 9:00 am	Andy Szakony	SI
Thursday, March 30 @ 9:00 am	Rose Stinn	RIP
Friday, March 31 @ 9:00 am	Don Prince	RIP
Saturday, April 1 @ 5 pm	Andrew Szakony	SI
Sunday, April 2 @ 9:00 am	Laurence Alay	RIP
Sunday, April 2 @ 11:00am	Elizabeth A. Alba	SI

SAVE THE DATE!



In Honour of Father Greg Coupal's 50 Years in the Priesthood Celebration

Please Save the Date- Saturday, April 29th, more details to follow.

Please sign his celebration to priesthood card at the entrance of the church.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

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
- Hospitality/Security (Part-time) – Sacred Heart, Calgary
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) – Sacred Heart, Strathmore
- Administrative Assistant (Part-time) - St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Calgary
- Children's Liturgy Coordinator (Casual) – St. Michael Catholic Community, Calgary

Please visit catholiccyyc.ca/careers for more information and application details.

Holy Family Conference

*Pricing Family of four \$50.00
\$10.00 for each additional youth
12 and older
Single adult \$40.00
Contact: Lyle Thorne
780-915-6091
lrthorne66@gmail.com
to pre register
or Register at the Shrine Friday
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.*

**Our Lady of the Rockies Shrine
Canmore Alberta**

April 28 & 29 2023

Theme:

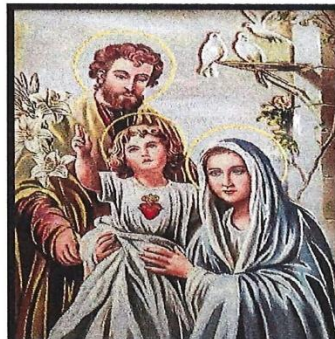
It takes a Family to Heal a Family



Lyle Thorne
Facilitator



Karen Wildcat
St. Kateri
Tekakwitha



Music Ministry by Enoch



Fr. Paul Moret
The Cloak of St. Joseph
Our Lady of Guadalupe



Chief Wilton Littlechild
Truth and Reconciliation

Deacon Ed Meding
Prison Ministry



A YOUTH EXPERIENCE
FOR STUDENTS FOR LIFE



Saturday Night Lights

25 March

29 April

27 May

24 June

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Register at:



**Grades
7-12**

www.access52.com/events

St. Michael
Catholic Community
800 85 Street SW

PIZZA - MUSIC - FRIENDSHIPS - TALKS - GAMES

The Call of the Catechist – A webinar Series Presented by the CCCB office for Evangelization & Catechists

The three-part series will explore the needs of the catechist today and will be of interest to those involved in evangelization and catechesis, including clergy, consecrated persons, lay ministers, directors, and Catholic educators.

- Tuesday, March 28 - Discerning Charisms | Sherry Weddell (Catherine of Siena Institute)
- Tuesday, April 11 - The Spirituality of the Catechist | Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP (Adrian Dominican Sisters)
- Tuesday, April 18 - Theological Reflection & the Catechist | Dr. Anne Walsh (Redemptorist Lay Missionary);

Sessions are from 11 AM –12:30 PM (MT). [REGISTER HERE](#)

Volunteer for L'Arche

We are looking for volunteers to help with our annual Acera Run for L'Arche fundraising event on Saturday April 1st 2023 at Confluence Plaza at St. Patrick's Island! Volunteer jobs include Course Marshalls, directing runners which way to go on the course. Running water stations, handing out water to runners. Manning the registration desk for race kit pick-ups and shirt sales. Greeting people and handing out medals. We are in great need of volunteers so please register as a volunteer or reach out to Carmela DiMaio at cdimaio@larchecalgary.org if you're interested.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to help raise money for people with disabilities at L'Arche Calgary through their participation. They will meet people connected to the community, and will get a free t-shirt, coffee, and pizza on event day!

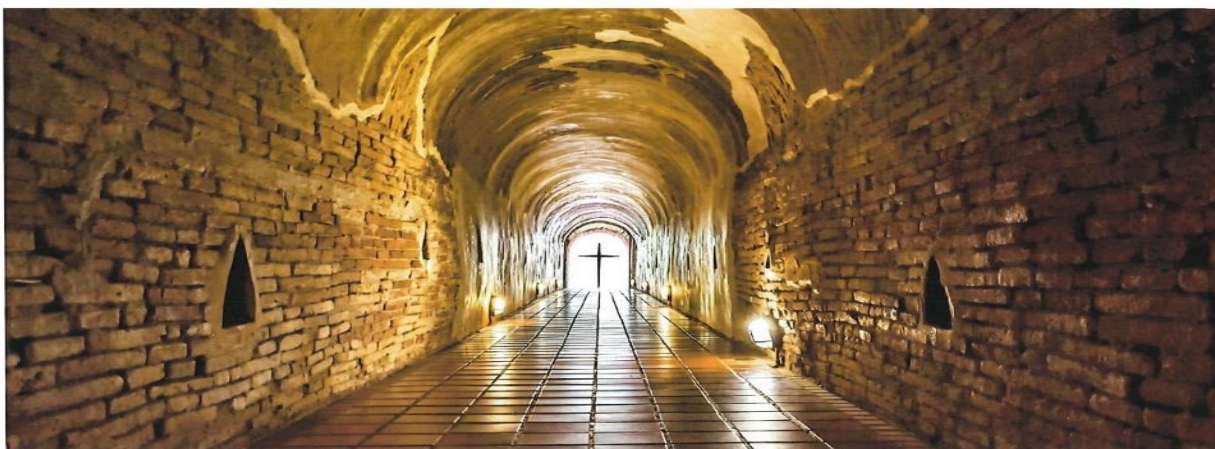
<https://raceroster.com/events/2023/64424/2023-acera-insurance-run-for-larche/volunteer>



[Volunteer details — 2023 Acera Insurance Run for L'Arche —](#)

2023 Acera Insurance Run for L'Arche Calgary, AB, Canada - SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023 We are delighted to launch our... - April 1, 2023

raceroster.com



Walking the Lenten Journey

Young Adults Event

COST
FREE

FACILITATOR(S)
Dawna Richardson

WHERE

In person: FCJ Centre 219 - 19 Ave SW

This is an evening of input, reflection and small group sharing, concluding with prayer outside around the fire pit.

STARTS

March 30, 2023 7:00pm

ENDS

March 30, 2023 9:00pm

ADDITIONAL DATES

NOTE

Program designed for people roughly 18-40 years of age.

REGISTER

AT

(403) 228 - 4215



KIDS Bulletin – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Kid's challenge this week: Today we hear about an amazing thing that Jesus does when his friend Lazarus becomes sick and dies. Jesus tells Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Lazarus walks out. He is brought back to life. God gives life to us all. God created us and wants every single one of us to live a happy life, with all the things that we need to grow and be the best people we can be. This week, say a special prayer for all people who are sick throughout the world, that they may get the care and help that they need and find strength in the love of those around them.

- [Colouring page](#) this Sunday
- [Kid's Bulletin](#) for this Sunday