

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

**December 31, 2023**



**The Holy Family Sunday**

## Key events Coming Soon:

- The Holy Family Mass **December 31 at 9 am and 11 am**
- Solemnity of Mary Mass, **Sunday, December 31 at 5pm**
- Solemnity of Mary **Monday, January 1 at 10 am**
- **No mass, January 2, and January 3**
- First Friday Adoration and Fellowship, January 5
- Liturgy Meeting, January 11
- First Eucharist Session 1 - January 13
- Confirmation Session 1 - January 13
- Baptism Preparation - January 17

## MASS TIMES

Tuesday 6:30 pm  
Wednesday - Friday 9:00 am  
Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 am

## ADORATION

Tuesday 5:00 - 6:00 pm  
First Fridays 9:30 - 10:10 am

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

## PARISH TEAM

**Pastor: Fr. Ignatius Tran**

fr.tran@stgerards.ca

**Deacon: Rob McLean**

Robert.McLean@calgarydiocese.ca

**Gay Abuan-Summers**

Pastoral Program Coordinator

*Pastoral Related Inquiries:*

pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca

**Caroline Conley**

Administrative Assistant

*General Inquiries:*

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

We give thanks to God for the past year, for all that He has done for us, the wonders and graces He has provided us in 2023.

As we begin 2024, we look forward and see an opportunity for us to do what we have not been able to do in the previous year.

2024 is like a beautifully wrapped gift box, full of possibilities. We have no idea what it will contain. We pray for good health, happiness, success, and peace.



However, we do know that in life there are both joys and trials and so we also need to pray for guidance, strength, and wisdom to overcome challenges and make the right decisions.

We also know that our God will be there with us delighting in our happy times and lovingly supporting us when our hearts are heavy.

It's a fresh start for us all and fitting that the new year should start with the celebration of Mary, Mother of God who experienced both the joys and blessings in life as well as difficult days with suffering and loss.

It is at these moments in our lives, that Mary invites us to reach out to her, to pray for her courage to keep our faith alive in spite of our pain, fear, sorrow or loneliness. She will take our needs and lay them before our God.

Thank you for your support, prayers, actions and your many forms of contact that have been such a blessing to me during the past year.

As always, I continue to keep my St. Gerard's parish family in my daily prayers. May God continue to bless you this year and throughout all your days.

***In Faith,  
Fr. Ignatius***

## New Year Mass Times:

**Saturday, December 30** (Holy Family Feast) - **5 pm**

**Sunday, December 31** (Holy Family Feast) - **9 am and 11 am (live-streamed)**

**Sunday, December 31** (New Year's Eve, Mary, Mother of God Feast) - **5 pm**

**Monday, January 1, 2024** (New Year's Day, Mary, Mother of God Feast) - **10 am**

**Tuesday, January 2, 2024** **No adoration and no Evening Mass**

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024** **NO MASS**

## NEW YEAR Office Hours:

**Office is Closed: New Year's Day**

**January 1, 2024 (New Years Day)**

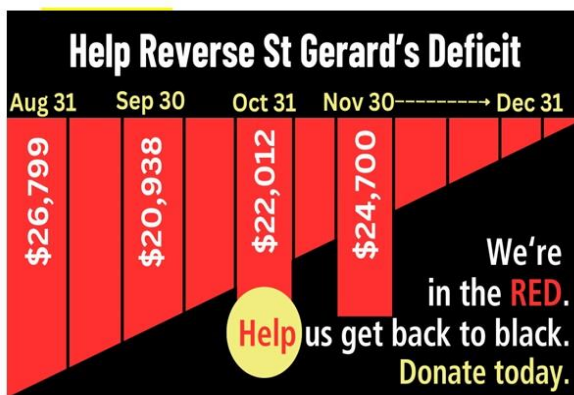
**Office hours resumes January 2, 2024**

## Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of December 28, 2023:



General donations are still in the **Red**. Help us get back to Black.

## Our Financial Picture General and TIA Collections



**December 2023 - Weekly Target:**  
\$8,184 vs actual weekly collections

- Dec. 3 \$13,120 (**over - \$4,936**)
- Dec. 10 \$12,766 (**over - \$4,582**)
- Dec. 17 \$21,937 (**over - \$13,753**)
- Dec. 24 \$16,764 (**over - \$8,580**)

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Cheques, and e-transfers must be **post stamped - December 31<sup>st</sup>** to be included in your 2023 donations.

### Make your 2023 donation count!

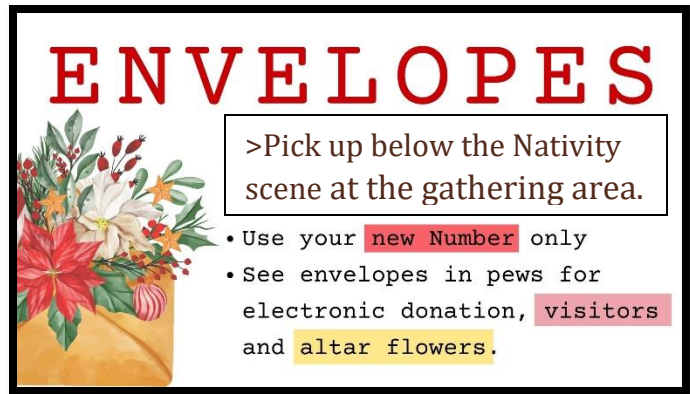
Anything over \$20/ year is eligible for a tax receipt. Please include your name & address.

- For on-line giving, visit:  
<https://stgerards.ca/donate>

**Have you officially registered to become a member of our parish?**

*Sign up today!*

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



### Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries

**Happy Birthday to all December celebrants including...**



December 26 – Chole Sembrana  
December 28 – Wally Smelski  
December 29 – Athena Sumague  
December 31 – Karen St. Germain

### MASS INTENTIONS – JANUARY 2024 \*\*RIP – Rest In Peace; SI – Special Intentions

Tuesday, January 2 - 9 AM	No Mass	
Wednesday, January 3 - 9 AM	No mass	
Thursday, January 4 – 9 AM	Helen Aguisanda	RIP
Thursday, January 4 – 10:15 AM	Laurance Daignault	RIP
Friday, January 5 – 9 AM	Peter Gouthor	RIP
Saturday, January 6- 5:00 PM	Lucia Lui	RIP
Sunday, January 7- 9 AM	George Remus	RIP
Sunday, January 7- 11 AM	Terry Smith	RIP



**You are never alone this Christmas!** St. Gerard's south hall was filled with sixty-five (65) guests. Family and friends came together to share a meal, conversation, and listened to Christmas music.

Many thanks to John and Blanche Crerar for sharing their dream and vision. Special thanks to all volunteers and guest who attended.

DECEMBER 25 POTLUCK

# Christmas Day Buffet

CHRISTMAS IS A TIME MEANT TO BE FILLED WITH LOVE & SHARED WITH OTHERS...AND IT WAS!

*A Very Merry Christmas!*



**Thank you** to everyone who attended and contributed!



**Christmas Buffet 2023**

Read the Faithfully below for Pastoral #Renewal Stories

Click Faithfully [here](#) for some exciting #Renewal messages:

- Kathryn Yakielashek's account of renewal at St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy. [Read now](#)

- Fr. James Hagel's story about newly confirmed Ysabelle and her impactful Confirmation preparation. [Read now](#)
- Share your #Renewal story with us! For more info, email: [communications@calgarydiocese.ca](mailto:communications@calgarydiocese.ca)

## Christmas Note Cards - Available at the Entrance or Hospitality desk

The Diocese provides Christmas note cards for you to use in conveying care to others this Advent and Christmas. Here are some ideas on how to use them:

- You can convey God's love and care to colleagues at work by leaving these cards at their desks, either signed or anonymously.
- Students, parents, guardians, and teachers can share these cards with others in their schools.
- These cards can be inserted into Christmas cards and gift boxes.
- They could be shared with a stranger who seems down or burdened.



Look for these cards in your parish before Christmas!

## Click to view information from the Diocese of Calgary

- **Dec 25** | [Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord](#) - Parishes in Calgary
- **Dec. 26 - 30** | Octave of the Nativity
  - **Dec. 26** | Feast of St. Stephen
  - **Dec. 27** | Feast of St. John
  - **Dec. 28** | Feast of the Holy Innocent
- **Dec. 30/31** | Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Sunday Mass) - [Mass Finder](#)
- **Jan 1** | [Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God](#) - Parishes in Calgary | [World Day of Peace](#)
- **Jan 2-8** | Season of Christmas
- **Jan 5-7** | [Young Adult Retreat](#) - Mount St. Francis, Cochrane
- **Jan 6/7** | Epiphany of the Lord (Sunday Mass) - [Mass Finder](#)
- **Fri, Jan 12** | [Fun Night with Sisters](#)

*From the  
staff of St Gerard's  
to your home*

Greet the New Year with open arms,  
learning from the past and awaiting  
new adventures.

May your 2024 New Year be fruitful.  
**HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR!**



### **Bishop McGrattan Parish Pastoral Visit at St. Gerard's**

- Mark your calendars February 2 -4<sup>th</sup>, Bishop McGrattan's parish pastoral visit in our parish. To Learn more, pick up a brochure at the hospitality desk or gathering area.