



St. Mary's Parish
3rd Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023 - Year B

Isaiah 61: 1 - 2a, 10 - 11
1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24
John 1: 6 - 8, 19 - 28

“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my soul shall exult in my God.”

Our Mission:
“Together Building Up the Body of Christ”

Parish Staff: Father Mirek Kostarzewski;
Deacon Roger Reilander; Greer McIvor, Pastoral Assistant;
Donna Annett, Administrative Assistant

6 McMillan Avenue
Red Deer AB, T4N 5X8
Ph.: 403-347-3114

For more information,
visit us at our website:
stmarysparish.jimdo.ca

Contact us by email:
StMarys.RedDeer@caedm.ca

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 9am, 11am & 7pm
Daily Mass:
Tuesday - 7 pm
Wednesday - Friday - 9 am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 1:00-4:00pm
Tuesday - Thursday:
10:00am - Noon;
1:00pm - 4:00pm
Friday: 10:00am - Noon

E-transfer donations

Send your e-transfer donations to
StMaryRD.etransfer@caedm.ca

Scammers at work: beware and be careful!
Father Mirek nor anyone from St. Mary's Parish would ever send
anyone email messages asking for help, money or gift cards.
These are scam emails.

Please report them and move them to the junk folder.

Prayer Group:

Join us at 8:30am, before the 9am daily Mass, to pray the Rosary.
The rosary is also prayed after the 9am daily Mass.

Adoration:

8-9am on Saturdays.
(1st Saturday of the month: 7:30-8:30am)

Holy Face of Jesus:

This group meets on Tuesdays, from 1-2pm, in front of the Blessed
Sacrament for prayer, devotion and reparation to the Holy Face of
Jesus, as well as recitation of the Rosary for priests.

Zoom Rosary

A monthly Rosary is prayed on Zoom, usually on the 22nd of each
month at 7pm, but there is no obligation to make a monthly
commitment. If you would like to join, please contact Isabel at
403-314-0031 to get the Zoom link.



Mass intentions for the week of December 17 - 23

The intentions in brackets are said by
retired priests in Edmonton

- Sun. 9 am: All Parishioners
- Sun. 11 am: Sister Lynn Rouleau (Joe Risling)
- Sun. 7 pm: Georgia Nadine Alvarez
- Tue. 7 pm: NO MASS (Zak Baker— said privately)
- Wed. 9 am: †David LaGrange (†Carlos & †Eliza Arens)
- Thu. 9 am: †Michael Francq (†Carlos & †Eliza Arens, Ronald Ramos)
- Fri. 9 am: †David Vogel (†Carlos & †Eliza Arens)
- Sat. 5 pm: Olga Puchala ((†Claude Demers, †Socorro Bongco)

St. Mary's Justice and Mercy Committee Christmas Backpacks

Last chance to donate to St. Mary's Justice and Mercy
Committee Christmas Backpacks for the homeless and needy.
The deadline is Monday, December 18.

Thank you and God bless you for your support.

1st Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation

Please register your child online for
these sacraments on our
website: stmarysparishreddeer.ca



Advent Penitential Service
Our Lady of Peace Parish, Innisfail
Wednesday, December 20 at 7pm

Several priests will be available for confession

Pray an AVE today

AVE is an apostolate of prayer for
parish priests.

Parishioners are encouraged to make a
commitment to pray one Hail Mary
everyday for our priest, Father Mirek.
Together we can provide thousands of
prayers to offer our love, appreciation,
and care for God's great gift to us in our parish priest.



Misa de Gallo

The Misa de Gallo Filipino traditional 9 day Novena Mass
before Christmas schedule

- December 16: 7am
- December 17: All Sunday Masses
- December 18: 7am
- December 19: 7am
- December 20: 7am
- December 21: 7am
- December 22: 7am

December 23: 5pm Potluck after mass
December 24: All Sunday Masses

*It is not how much we give, but how much love we put
into giving.*

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Christmas/New Year's Mass Times

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

9:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

4:30pm - Christmas Pageant

5:00pm Mass

7:30pm Mass

10:00pm Mass

Midnight Mass (12am)

Christmas Day (The Nativity of the Lord)

Monday, December 25

10:00am Mass

New Year's Eve (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph)

Sunday, December 31

9:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

New Year's Day (The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

Monday, January 1

9:00am

11:00am

The office is closed on December 25 and 26.

It will reopen on
Wednesday, December 27 at 1pm.

St. Mary's Children's Christmas Pageant

Any children 4 years of age or older wishing to
take part in this pageant are asked to attend the
following rehearsal dates:

Thursday, December 21:

5-6:30pm

(costumes/assign roles/rehearsal)

Friday, December 22:

5-6pm (rehearsal)

Saturday, December 23:

11am-1pm (dress rehearsal)

Please call the office if you
have any questions!



Christmas 2023

Donations of poinsettias

Thank you for your past donations of
poinsettias. You are so welcome to donate
again this year. Please bring them to the
church between December 18-23.



Decorate the church

Consider decorating the church on December 24 at
12:10pm. Make it a family affair and bring the children.

Call Helen Lindsay at 403-343-8238 or

lindsayhelen47@gmail.com



This week:

We Need More Priests

Listen to it as a podcast, watch the video on YouTube, at <https://www.youtube.com/@UpfrontArchbishop> or online at <https://caedm.ca/upfront>

Read the Archbishop's Sunday homily at: <https://caedm.ca/archbishop/messages-homilies/>

Check other news and resources at the Archdiocesan website: <https://caedm.ca/>. You may also want to consider subscribing to other diocesan publications and resources, such as the *People of Mission Bulletin* or the *Window* newsletter.

St. Mary's Donations/Envelopes

Deadline for 2023 Donations:

If you want your donation credited to the 2023 tax year it must be given no later than 7:00pm Mass on December 31. All donations given on January 1, will be credited to 2024.

2024 Envelopes

Please pick up your 2024 donation envelopes at the back of the church. If you don't have envelopes assigned to you, call or stop by the office and we will give you a set.

Have you recently moved?

Have you contacted us with your new address?

Tax receipts will be sent in the new year, so please be sure we have your current address.



Secular Franciscans

An opportunity to pray, learn and share by living the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the example of St. Francis and St. Clare.

Join us the **first Monday** of each month, St. Mary's mezzanine at 6:30pm.

Call Irene at 403-318-8238.

NEWCOMERS:

We are blessed that you have chosen to join us in worship and ministry here at St. Mary's. If you are new or have not registered, please complete a Registration Form available at both entrances, and drop it off at the office or in the collection table during the weekend masses.

WELCOME!



The Pope's Monthly Intention:
December 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Pope Francis on X

We are heading toward Christmas:

Are we able to take concrete steps of peace? Let every effort be made to address and remove the causes of conflict, to protect civilians, hospitals, places of worship, to free hostages and guarantee human rights.

CWL NEWS

St. Mary's CWL is holding their annual Christmas Potluck on **Monday, December 18. Potluck supper starts at 6:00pm.**

Please supply a hot casserole or choice of dessert.

Also, please bring an unwrapped baby gift to give to the Central Alberta Pregnancy Care Centre.

CWL Word of the Week

PEACE

The Catholic Women's League helps members grow in their relationship with God and with each other, a true peace.

Women of Faith

Looking to grow in faith and connect with other women?

This ongoing program begins

January 5, 2024 and runs the **First Friday** of every month, **10am-noon** in the mezzanine.

Call the office for more information.

Bible Study on the Book of Revelations:

A group study of the Book of Revelations is planned for after Christmas on Wednesdays after the 9 am mass, from January 10 to March 20 (11 sessions) in the Parish Hall.

This is an Ascension Press production with Jeff Cavins as the presenter. Each video is approximately 55 minutes with some discussion to follow.

A study book is available for \$45, although not required to accompany these sessions.

If you would like to participate, please sign up at the Parish office before December 31.

For more information contact Glenn or Marna Claerhout at 403-784-2868.

Call for Volunteers

Adult Servers, Hospitality Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers, Proclaimers, Altar Servers, Social Justice and Mercy, Saint Vincent de Paul and others.

If this is something you would consider, please contact the office at 403-347-3114.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give back.

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH. YOUR SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL TO US AS WE CONTINUE OUR MISSION.

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