



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,
MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

MATTHEW 3:3



SECOND SUNDAY OF
Advent

Entrance Antiphon (*Cf. Isaiah 30.19,30*)

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading (*Isaiah 11.1-10*)

On that day: A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (*Psalm 72*)

R. In his days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound forever.

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice. **R.**

In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
May he have dominion from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth. **R.**

For he delivers the needy one who calls,
the poor and the one who has no helper.
He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy. **R.**

May his name endure forever,
his fame continue as long as the sun.
May all nations be blessed in him;
may they pronounce him happy. **R.**

Second Reading (*Romans 15.4-9*)

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*See Luke 3.4,6*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia.**

Gospel (Matthew 3. 1-12)

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the Prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, John said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY'S REFLECTION: The Time to Change Our Hearts

In today's gospel, we heard St. John the Baptist said: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." He is calling for repentance. In response to this call, people from Jerusalem, Judea and the region around the Jordan flock to him for baptism. Obviously, they see themselves as sinners and transgressors of God's law. John, as God's messenger, accepted their repentance.

The Greek word 'metanoia' means change of heart. Metanoia is a biblical term for repentance or complete change of heart which turns one away from sin to serve the living God.

Today John the Baptist points something important that is coming and the people look at it and respond to John's call for repentance. They admit their sins and are baptized. They understand and act. The Season of Advent challenges us to do these four things: look, see, understand and act.

Our Parish Life of Service

Mass Times

WEEKDAYS: Tuesday-Friday: 12:05 PM.

WEEKENDS: Saturday: 5:30 PM; Sunday: 9 AM • 11 AM • 4:30 PM

Baptism: 2nd Saturday of the month - Parent preparation session required

Marriage: a minimum of six months before the desired date.

Contact: E-mail: info@stfranciscalgary.com or Tel: 403-266-2512.

Confessions: 20 minutes before all masses or after.

Rosary: 30 minutes before Mass.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: after Wednesday Mass.

Eucharistic Divine Mercy Adoration: 20 Minutes before Mass, every 1st Friday of the month.

OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD

for the week of Nov 28 – Dec 4, 2025

Loose: \$ 697.00

Envelopes: \$ 2,035.00

TIA: \$ 20.00

Living with Christ: \$ 340.00

TOGETHER IN ACTION (TIA)

Our Parish 2025 Goal: \$ **13,861.99**

Raised to date: \$ **8,571.00**

To raise: \$ **5,290.99**

Please help our parish reach the TIA goal by online contribution or by envelopes. Thank you very much. May God bless you for your generous donations.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our parish.

You can donate directly to St Francis of Assisi's parish by entering this URL on your browser: <https://www.catholycyc.ca/donatetoparish.html>

Mission Mexico Day | Dec. 13-14

Mission Mexico has always relied on the support of the Catholic parishes in raising the awareness on the work of the Diocese with our sisters and brothers in Mexico who experience poverty and are in need of support and empowerment.

There will be a **Second Collection** on the Third Sunday of Advent (Dec. 13-14) for Mission Mexico. Direct link to donate online -

<https://www.catholycyc.ca/donatemissionmexico.html>

Our Church will be closed on weekdays from December 8-12 to replace the church floorings. Church masses and services will resume the following Saturday and Sunday. We are sorry for the inconvenience. Thank you.

ADVENT, CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

1. ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available ½ hour before or after Masses.

2. CHRISTMAS MASSES

- Wednesday, December 24: 5:30 PM The Nativity Play
6:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass
- Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day Masses
1st Mass: 9:00 AM; 2nd Mass: 11:00 AM; 3rd Mass: 4:30 PM

3. NEW YEAR EVE & DAY MASSES

- Wednesday, December 31: 6:00 PM New Year's Eve Mass
- Thursday, January 01, 2026: New Year's Day Masses
1st Mass: 9:00 AM; 2nd Mass: 11:00 AM; 3rd Mass: 4:30 PM