



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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Entrance Antiphon (*Cf Malachi 3.1; I Chronicles 29.12*)

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

First Reading (*Isaiah 60.1-6*)

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (*Psalms 128*)

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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.**

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service. **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.**

Second Reading (*Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6*)

Brothers and sisters: Surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind as it has now been revealed to his holy Apostles and Prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Matthew 2.2*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. We observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay homage to the Lord. **Alleluia.**

Gospel (*Matthew 2.1-12*)

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the Prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out: and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

SUNDAY'S REFLECTION: MANIFESTATION OF THE LORD

After celebrating Christmas, we are invited to ponder more deeply the Epiphany of our Lord who had come as man into our world. Very often we desire and seek the manifestation of the Lord in expensive gifts and grand festivities. For many, Christmas is very much felt only when gifts are plentiful and celebrations grand.

In today's Gospel reading we are told that the Messiah is to be born in the insignificant town of Bethlehem. The Lord manifests himself in ordinary events among ordinary people.

Today, the wise men from the East recognized Jesus' greatness even as a little Child in an ordinary house. May we be like the wise men who knelt before the little Child and offered him their precious gifts.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January 2026: For prayer with the Word of God: *"Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church."*

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 Dec 23 – 28, 2025

Loose: \$ 732.00

Envelopes: \$ 2,395.70

TIA: \$ 60.00

Christmas Collection: \$1,850.00

**Mass Intentions Transferred to
Diocese in December: \$ 990.00**

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

TOGETHER IN ACTION (TIA)

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

Raised to date: \$ **9,401.00**

To raise: \$ **4,460.99**

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.



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