



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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## **Entrance Antiphon** (*Luke 2.16*)

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.

## **First Reading** (*Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14*)

The Lord honours a father above his children, and he confirms a mother's rights over her sons. Whoever honours their father atones for sins and gains preservation from them; when they pray, they will be heard. Whoever respects their mother is like one who lays up treasure. The person who honours their father will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they will be heard. Whoever respects their father will have a long life, and whoever honours their mother obeys the Lord.

My child, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives. Even if his mind fails, be patient with him; because you have all your faculties, do not despise him all the days of his life. For kindness to your father will not be forgotten, and will be credited to you against your sins - a house raised in justice for you.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (*Psalms 128*)

**R. Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.**

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways. You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. **R.**

Your wife will be like a fruit-ful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. **R.**

Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R.**

### **Second Reading** (*Colossians 3.12-21*)

Brothers and sisters: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as it fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Colossians 3.15,16*)

**Alleluia. Alleluia.** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the word of Christ dwell in you richly. **Alleluia.**

### **Gospel** (*Mathew 2.13-15, 19-23*)

After the wise men had left, an Angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the Prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an Angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of

Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the Prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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

## **SUNDAY'S REFLECTION: Learn The Example of Holy Family**

Today's feast is very important. The family is a natural society instituted by God and ratified by Jesus Christ. It is also a Christian institution, blessed at the wedding feast of Cana. It is a religious institution. So pray a great deal for the family in the natural, Christian and religious sense because society will be what its families are and so also will the Church. According to saint Pope John Paul II: "The family is first and foremost a place in which we come to appreciate and live the fraternal life, the life of charity and of solidarity in all its forms. In the family, we learn attentiveness, openness, and respect for others, who must always be able to find their proper place."

Let's pray for the families today that are struggling with their difficulties. May God show His blessings upon all the families with grace, peace and health.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for December 2025:** For Christians in areas of conflict: "Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope."



### ***Prayer for the Family***

*Dear Lord,*

*We lift our families to you in prayer — every generation! Bind our wounds, forgive our debts, show your mercy! Lead us to deeper communion with each other and You. Help us, too, to be a holy family. Amen.*

## ***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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month - Parent preparation session required

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

**Contact:** E-mail: [info@stfranciscalgary.com](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month.

<p><b>OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD</b> for the week of Dec 16 – 21, 2025</p> <p><b>Loose: \$ 770.00</b>  <b>Envelopes: \$ 3,857.70</b>  <b>TIA: \$ 500.00</b>  <b>USD: \$30.00</b></p> <p>Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our parish.</p>	<p><b>TOGETHER IN ACTION (TIA)</b></p> <p>Our Parish 2025 Goal: \$ <b>13,861.99</b>          Raised to date: \$ <b>9,841.00</b>          To raise: \$ <b>4,020.99</b></p> <p>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.</p>
<p>You can donate directly to St Francis of Assisi’s parish by entering this URL on your browser: <a href="https://www.catholicyc.ca/donatetoparish.html">https://www.catholicyc.ca/donatetoparish.html</a></p>	

**Donation Envelopes**

2026 Donation Envelopes are ready for pick-up at the entrance of the Church (on case). If you are unable to find your box or want to start one for 2026, please see the pastor. Thanks.

**Year-End Giving**

We are truly grateful for your support during this year! May God bless you and your family! You are in our daily prayers!

In order to receive a tax receipt for the 2025 calendar year, online donation to parishes or diocesan ministries must be received by Dec. 31, 2025 by check or online.

<p><b>New Year’s Eve and Day Mass Schedules</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, December 31, 2025:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noon Mass at 12:05 PM (including Novena of Mother of Perpetual Help)</li> <li>• 6:00 PM New Year’s Eve Mass: The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God</li> </ul> <p><b>Thursday, January 01, 2026:</b> New Year’s Day Masses (The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God)</p> <p><u>1<sup>st</sup></u> Mass: 9:00 AM; <u>2<sup>nd</sup></u> Mass: 11:00 AM; <u>3<sup>rd</sup></u> Mass: 4:30 PM</p>
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**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026!**