



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

211-6 Ave SE., Calgary, Alberta T2G 0G4.

Tel: 403-266-2512. E-mail: [info@stfranciscalgary.com](mailto:info@stfranciscalgary.com)

Pastor: Fr. Michael Phi Tri Nguyen, O.P. Parish Website: [stfranciscalgary.com](http://stfranciscalgary.com)



## **Entrance Antiphon** (*Isaiah 66.10-11*)

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

## **First Reading** (*1 Samuel 16.1b, 6-7, 10-13*)

The Lord said to Samuel, "Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

When the sons of Jesse came, Samuel looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as the human sees; the human looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." Jesse sent and brought David in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (*Psalms 95*)

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. **R.**

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me. **R.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **R.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. **R.**

**Second Reading** (*Ephesians 5.8-14*)

Brothers and sisters: Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*John 4. 42-45*)

**Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory!** I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. **Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory!**

**Gospel** (*John 9.1-41*)

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool water of Siloam" (which means Sent).

Then the man who was blind went and washed, and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is

this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."

But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a Prophet."

They did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, who had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing!"

They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

### **Sunday Bulletin Reflection:**

This is the second in a series of three "Scrutiny" Sunday gospel stories (the Lenten readings from Year A are always used in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for those who are journeying through their final weeks of "purification and enlightenment" before their baptism at the Easter Vigil.) The story of the man born blind is artfully told in an imaginative way, exploring the relationship between faith, knowledge, sin and vision. Even though the healing of the blind man is the central physical change, the moral and theological reality of sin is equally important in this gospel account. The disciples' first question, "Who sinned?" and Christ's answer are provocative still today. The Pharisees are so threatened by Jesus' action – an action that explodes their neat traditional categories – that they resort to meaningless nit-picking.

1. What sentence or phrase in the gospel speaks to you?
2. Has there been a time when you "saw" Jesus clearly, perhaps in a person, a news story or an ordinary event in your life? Explain.
3. Has your own stubbornness or unwillingness to see another's point of view ever caused hurt or division?
4. We all have blind spots in matters of justice and charity. They affect the way we see things in family life, work, etc. What will help us to improve our vision, in order to "truly see"?

(Source: Diocese of Saskatoon)

<p><b>Pope's Prayer Intention for March 2026:</b> For disarmament and peace: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.</p>
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# ***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.

### **OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD**

for the week of Mar 03 – 08, 2026

**Loose: \$ 1,025.00**

**Envelopes: \$ 2,260.00**

**TIA: \$ 55.00**

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: \$ **10,902.00**

To be raised: \$ **2,849.99**

Please help our church get a goal for TIA in 2026 starting from January by online or contribution by envelopes. Thanks. May God bless your generosity.

ONLINE GIVING



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

## Lent 2026

**Stations of the Cross:** You are invited to walk with Christ through the Stations of the Cross All Fridays of Lent – February 20, 27 & March 6, 13, 20, 27 **after the 12:05pm Mass.**

### **The Outdoor Way of the Cross**

Save the date: Good Friday, Apr 3, at 8:30 am at St. Mary's Cathedral, Calgary. Join Bishop McGrattan and the faithful of the Diocese of Calgary for the Outdoor Way of the Cross.

### **Chrism Mass | March 30**

The Diocese of Calgary will celebrate the Chrism Mass on Monday, March 30 at 7 pm, at St. Mary's Cathedral.

During this mass, the priests, deacons, and all the faithful gather around Bishop McGrattan, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year.

Cathedral doors will be open to the public at 6pm.

### **2026 HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM SCHEDULE**



**Holy Thursday, April 2:** \*No Mass at 12:05 PM

**7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper**

(Eucharistic Progress and Adoration to follow Mass until 10:00pm)



**Good Friday, April 3:**

**3:00 PM - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**

\*This is a day of fasting and abstinence.



**Holy Saturday, April 4:**

**8:00 PM - Easter Vigil of Christ's Passover**

**Easter Sunday, April 5:**

9:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 4:30 PM

**The Solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection**