



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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LOOK, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE  
AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL  
NAME HIM EMMANUEL

MATTHEW 1:23



FOURTH SUNDAY OF  
*Advent*

## Entrance Antiphon (*Isaiah 45.8*)

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

## First Reading (*Isaiah 7.10-14*)

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.”

Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary the people, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

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

## Responsorial Psalm (*Psalms 24*)

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. **R.**

**R. May the Lord come in; he is king of glory.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? Someone who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up their soul to what is false. **R.**

That person will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

## **Second Reading** (*Romans 1.1-7*)

From Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an Apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God, which God promised beforehand through his Prophets in the holy Scriptures: the Gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

## **Gospel Acclamation** (*Matthew 1.23*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. The virgin shall be with child and bear a son; and they shall name Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia.

## **Gospel** (*Matthew 1.18-24*)

The birth of Jesus the Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the Prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife.

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

## **SUNDAY'S REFLECTION: GOD WANTS TO BE ONE WITH US**

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and few days from now; we are going to celebrate the birthday anniversary of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our gospel for today is about St. Joseph who has a plan to part ways with Mary secretly even if he is already betrothed to her when he finds out that Mary is pregnant. But the angel tells Joseph when he plans for a secret divorce: “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home,” (v. 20). This is now the message: Do not be afraid. Actually, Joseph is not afraid to take Mary as his wife. He is afraid that he could be the foster father of Jesus and to accept Him as his Son. Since he knows who Jesus is and to be his foster father entails a very personal and intimate relationship with Him. He is afraid of the challenges and demands that relationship might require of him.

Above all, let’s trust in God and do His will because God has a message on each one of us. Don’t be afraid!

**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.”*

***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 require

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

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

**Confessions:** 20’ before all masses or after.

**Rosary:** 30 minutes before Mass.

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

**Eucharistic Adoration:** 20 Minutes before Mass, every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month.

**OUR OFFERING TO THE LORD**

for the weeks of Dec. 12-14:

**-Looses:** **\$664**  
**- Envelopes:** **\$4,125**  
**- TIA:** **\$245**  
**- Mission in Mexico** **\$ 807**

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:** \$ 9,341.00

**To raised:** \$ 4,520.99

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

## **SUNDAY OFFERING TO GIVE ONLINE**

You can donate directly to St Francis of Assisi's parish by clicking on the website: <https://www.catholicyc.ca/donatetoparish.html>

## **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.

### **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, 2025: Christmas Day Masses.

1st Mass: 9:00 AM; 2nd Mass: 11:00 AM; 3rd Mass: 4:30 PM

#### **3. *NEW YEAR EVE & DAY:***

Wednesday, December 31: Mass at 6:00pm.

Thursday, January 01, 2026: Masses: 9:00am, 11:00am & 4:30pm

# **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026!**