



St. Mary's Parish

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
December 31, 2023

The Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God
January 1, 2024

See inside for Mass times and readings

Our Mission:

“Together Building Up the Body of Christ”

**Parish Staff: Father Mirek Kostarzewski; Deacon Roger Reilander;
Rod Steeves, Administrator, Greer McIvor, Pastoral Assistant;
Donna Annett, Administrative Assistant**

**6 McMillan Avenue
Red Deer AB, T4N 5X8
Ph.: 403-347-3114**

For more information,
visit us at our website:
stmarysparish.jimdo.ca

Contact us by email:
StMarys.RedDeer@caedm.ca

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 9am, 11am & 7pm
Daily Mass:
Tuesday - 7 pm
Wednesday - Friday - 9 am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 1:00-4:00pm
Tuesday - Thursday:
10:00am - Noon;
1:00pm - 4:00pm
Friday: 10:00am - Noon

E-transfer donations

Send your e-transfer donations to
StMaryRD.etransfer@caedm.ca

Scammers at work: beware and be careful!

Father Mirek nor anyone from St. Mary's Parish would ever send anyone email messages asking for help, money or gift cards.
These are scam emails.

Please report them and move them to the junk folder.

Prayer Group:

Join us at 8:30am, before the 9am daily Mass, to pray the Rosary.
The rosary is also prayed after the 9am daily Mass.

Adoration:

8-9am on Saturdays.
(1st Saturday of the month: 7:30-8:30am)

Holy Face of Jesus:

This group meets on Tuesdays, from 1-2pm, in front of the Blessed Sacrament for prayer, devotion and reparation to the Holy Face of Jesus, as well as recitation of the Rosary for priests.

Zoom Rosary

A monthly Rosary is prayed on Zoom, usually on the 22nd of each month at 7pm, but there is no obligation to make a monthly commitment. If you would like to join, please contact Isabel at 403-314-0031 to get the Zoom link.



**Mass intentions for the week of
December 31- January 6**
The intentions in brackets are said by
retired priests in Edmonton

Sun. 9 am: †Luis Barreto & †Ida Garcia
 Sun. 11 am: Jason Malaka
 Sun. 7 pm: Edna Soliven (†Socorro Bongco)
 Mon. 9 am: †Suzanne Lambert
 Mon. 11 am: Mike Breunig (Jandinero Family)
 Tue. 7 pm: Louis & Micae
 Wed. 9 am: Louis & Henry
 Thu. 9 am: Olga Puchala
 Fri. 9 am: Joanna Clement (†Juraj Janovicik)
 Sat. 5 pm: Eleanor McNeil (†Socorro Bongco)

Special days this week

Sun. Dec 31: The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph
 Mon. Jan 1: The Solemnity of Maru, Mather of God.
 Tue. Jan 2: St. Basil the Great
 Wed. Jan 3: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Sat. Jan 6: The Epiphany of the Lord

**The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, January 1, 2024 and will reopen on Tuesday,
January 2 at 1pm**

*Wishing you a Happy New Year with the hope that you
will have many blessings in the year to come!*

Thank You...

To all who brought greetings and gifts to the office staff.
 To the many people who donated flowers, helped decorate the
church for Christmas and created another beautiful Nativity.
 Your kind actions gave us all lovely surroundings to celebrate
the glorious birth of Jesus.
 God Bless.

1st Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation

Please register your child online for
these sacraments on our
website: stmarysparishreddeer.ca

**St. Mary's Justice and Mercy Committee
Bottle Drive on January 6-22**

Parishioners are encouraged to drop off empty and
clean beverage containers and flattened milk
containers at the parish rectory garage
before weekend masses.



When the garage doors are open, please place items in the
garage. When the doors are closed, place them in front of the
Southernmost garage door. Proceeds from the sale of the
bottles will be spent on food cards for the needy.

Thank you for your support and awesome generosity in
donating to the Christmas Backpacks.

*You made many unfortunate and needy people have
a Merrier Christmas.*

**Readings for December 31,
Feast of the Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sirach: 3: 2-6, 12-14 OR Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
 Colossians 3:12-21 OR Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19
 Luke 2: 22-40

Readings for January 1

**New Year's Day is the The Solemnity of
Mary, Mother of God**

Mass Times for Monday, January 1, are
9:00am and 11:00am

Numbers: 6: 22-27

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2: 16-21

**Statement from Canadian Conference of
Catholic Bishops (CCCB) on Vatican's Document
Addressing Pastoral Blessings.**

With respect to the Declaration "Fiducia supplicans"
issued by the Holy See's Dicastery for the Doctrine
of the Faith, the CCCB offered the following
statement from Bishop William McGrattan, president
of the CCCB.

On December 18, 2023, the Dicastery for the Doctrine of
the Faith released the Declaration Fiducia Supplicans,
which responds to questions that had been raised
regarding the possibility of offering blessings to persons
living in irregular unions, including same-sex relation-
ships. While explicitly affirming the Church's traditional
understanding of marriage, Fiducia Supplicans allows
pastors to bless people who freely request a blessing,
seeking divine help to live in fidelity to God's will.
The Declaration makes clear that such blessings must be
directed to the persons themselves rather than their
situation and that they must be spontaneously requested
and are not ritual or liturgical actions.

The guiding principle in the Declaration is the fact
that the very request for a blessing represents an
openness to God's mercy and can be an occasion for
greater trust in God.

St. Mary's Donations/Envelopes

Deadline for 2023 Donations:

If you want your donation credited to the 2023 tax year it
must be given no later than 7:00pm Mass on
December 31. All donations given on January 1, will be
credited to 2024.

2024 Envelopes

Please pick up your 2024 donation envelopes at the back
of the church. If you don't have envelopes assigned to
you, call or stop by the office and we will give you a set.

Have you recently moved?

Have you contacted us with your new
address?

Tax receipts will be sent in the new year,
so please be sure we have
your current address.





**NEW EPISODE
EVERY TUESDAY**



This week no new episode

A chance to revisit some old episodes

Listen to it as a podcast, watch the video on **YouTube**, at

<https://www.youtube.com/@UpfrontArchbishop>

or online at <https://caedm.ca/upfront>

Read the Archbishop's Sunday homily at:

<https://caedm.ca/archbishop/messages-homilies/>

Check other news and resources at the Archdiocesan website: <https://caedm.ca/>. You may also want to consider subscribing to other diocesan publications and resources, such as the *People of Mission Bulletin* or the *Window* newsletter.

Bible Study on the Book of Revelations:

A group study of the Book of Revelations is planned for after Christmas on Wednesdays after the 9 am mass, from January 10 to March 20 (11 sessions) in the Parish Hall.

This is an Ascension Press production with Jeff Cavins as the presenter. Each video is approximately 55 minutes with some discussion to follow.

A study book is available for \$45, although not required to accompany these sessions.

If you would like to participate, please sign up at the Parish office before December 31.

For more information contact Glenn or Marna Claerhout at 403-784-2868.

Women of Faith

Looking to grow in faith and connect with other women?

Women of Faith will begin operating an ongoing program for adult ladies the **first Friday** of every month, **10am-noon** in the mezzanine, starting

January 5, 2024.

We will be using a Bishop Barron video series, continuing with discussion, prayer and of course coffee.

Join us, bring your coffee mug and expect faith enrichment and fellowship. Any questions can be directed to the parish office.

NEWCOMERS:

We are blessed that you have chosen to join us in worship and ministry here at St. Mary's. If you are new or have not registered, please complete a Registration Form available at both entrances, and drop it off at the office or in the collection table during the weekend masses.

WELCOME!



The Pope's Monthly Intention:

December 2023

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

January 2024

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Pope Francis on X

We need to keep watch over our heart. Much of the favorable outcome of every spiritual battle is determined at its outset - by consistently watching over our heart.

Pray an AVE today

AVE is an apostolate of prayer for parish priests.

Parishioners are encouraged to make a commitment to pray one Hail Mary everyday for our priest, Father Mirek.

Together we can provide thousands of prayers to offer our love,

appreciation, and care for God's

great gift to us in our parish priest.



CWL Word of the Week

POWER

Power is the ability to influence the course of events. Catholic Women's League resolutions have changed lives. By joining us, you will be part of the power of resolutions.



The Leprosy Mission Canada

We are collecting postage stamps.

If you have any used stamps you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please drop them off in the containers provided at both entrances.

Our donors help cure 60+ people per year by sending us their trimmed, used postage stamps.

Call for Volunteers

Adult Servers, Hospitality Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers, Proclaimers, Altar Servers, Social Justice and Mercy, Saint Vincent de Paul and others.

If this is something you would consider, please contact the office at 403-347-3114.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give back.

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH. YOUR SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL TO US AS WE CONTINUE OUR MISSION.

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