



Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary

Announcements from the Catholic Pastoral Centre

For December 24/25, 2017

4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas: Nativity of the Lord

CPC HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Please note that the Catholic Pastoral Centre will be closed for Christmas from December 22, 2017 to January 1, 2018. We will reopen starting January 2, 2018 at 8:30 am.

DO WE GO TO MASS TWICE ON DEC 24 AND DEC 31 THIS YEAR?

Question: Do I go to Mass twice on Christmas Eve and New Year this year?

Answer: The Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on December 24. Christmas Eve/Midnight/Day Mass does not fulfill the Sunday obligation. Christmas is a distinct holy day of obligation from the Sunday obligation. So, the answer is YES - we go to both the Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass and Christmas Eve/Day Mass. The same will apply for Dec 31/Jan 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation which occurs on Monday this year.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S RELIC PILGRIMAGE IN CALGARY

St. Francis Xavier's incorrupt forearm, a sacred first class relic, is making a rare visit to Canada. It will be in Calgary for only a short time.

January 21 at Sacred Heart Church

- 1 pm to 4:30 pm - Public Veneration
- 5 pm - Mass with Bishop McGrattan
- 6:30 pm - Sung Vespers with Bishop McGrattan for the Solemn Reception of the Relic
- 7:30 pm - 10 pm - Public Veneration

January 22 at St. Michael's Church

- 7 pm to 10 pm - Public Veneration
- 7 pm - Relic program: Life of St. Francis Xavier and the three graces
- 9 pm - Procession of the Relic and Litany of St. Francis Xavier

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to venerate the relic. You don't want to miss it. For more details on the timetable, visit: cco.ca/relic

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY AND MASS

A message from St. Patrick's Parish, Calgary: We are forming a new ministry whose mission is: "To create a loving, supportive and compassionate church community that renews and restores faith and hope to families and children living with special needs." We recognize that for families who have children who live with special needs: physical, cognitive or emotional, bringing them to Mass may be a challenge. Our Special Needs Mass will be a place of understanding, acceptance and welcome for those who live with special needs as well as those who care for them. This Mass will give families the opportunity to celebrate God's presence in their lives together. Children and adults with special needs will be filling as many liturgy positions as possible. Special Needs Mass Schedule in 2018: Sundays on Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27 and June 24 at 5 PM. For more information, please contact Brenda-Lee Kearney at 403-835-2749 or specialneedsministry@stpatrikcalgary.com

DIOCESAN PASTORAL CARE COURSE

St. Martha's Parish in Lethbridge will be hosting a Diocesan Pastoral Care Course on Saturday January 20th and Saturday January 27, 2018 from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. This course will introduce you to the basic visiting skills required for Pastoral Care Ministry in the health care facilities or parish. Registration fee: \$30, payable at the door. For more information and to register, call the Parish Office 403-381-8884, or Email Mary Gruber: mandg_gruber@hotmail.com

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

It's our fifth birthday! Coldest Night of the Year - Calgary will turn five this February 24, 2018. We'd love to have you celebrate with us by walking or volunteering in support of Feed the Hungry (a Diocesan program) and our friends KAIROS Calgary as they work to pay down the mortgage on Bankview Apartments (affordable housing). We'll be starting from Eau Claire Market again this year, offering 2, 5 and 10 km routes so the event is accessible for all. For more info visit <http://www.cnoy.org/calgary> or connect with Samantha at 403-218-5531 or samantha.jones@calgarydiocese.ca

YEAR END GIVING

If you are planning on making a gift to the Diocese before the end of the year, please note that all gifts must be received or post marked by December 31, 2017 in order to receive a charitable tax receipt for 2017 tax returns. If you need more information, you can visit <http://www.calgarydiocese.ca> – highlighted with a banner on the front-page. Thank you for your generous support over the past year. It is our privilege to serve you and your parish.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Diocesan Office of Religious Education invites you to a Saturday Morning Workshop on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd on January 13 from 9 am to Noon at Canadian Martyrs Parish, Calgary. Dorothy Burns, former Director of Religious Education for Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools in Okotoks and Paula Sabatini, Catechist for the Good Shepherd Catechesis at Canadian Martyrs Parish will break open this amazing pedagogical method of teaching our children the Faith, which was created by Montessori Educator Gianna Gobi. The morning will also include an opportunity to spend time in the "Atrium", a sacred space created for young children to learn about their faith in a very tactile and experiential way. To register, please call Alicia at 403-218-5501 or email: alicia.zubot@calgarydiocese.ca – or go to: <http://www.calgarydiocese.ca> under Events.

EFFECTIVE CO-PARENTING: PUTTING KIDS FIRST

'Effective Co-Parenting: Putting Kids First' is an educational 5-week program for separated and divorced parents to help raise their children through this difficult time and increase the understanding of needs of children for developing self-esteem and security. It will offer skills about managing diverse shared parenting situations and provide strategies for improving communication, resolving conflict, and managing day to day children's issues between parenting partners. Parents are encouraged to attend separately. The next program will run 7 pm – 9 pm on Wednesdays, February 21 - March 21. For more information or registration contact the Life & Family Resource Centre at 403-218-5505 or email lifeandfamily@calgarydiocese.ca

TRANSITIONS

Transitions is a 15-week peer support program for those recently separated or divorced. Participants will meet every week to reflect upon and discuss topics such as self-esteem, stress, anger, guilt, blame, loneliness, forgiveness, blended families and more. The next program will begin on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. For more information or to register, please contact Alida at 403-218-5505 or email lifeandfamily@calgarydiocese.ca

PROJECT RACHEL POST ABORTION WEEKEND RETREAT

The retreat offers a journey of healing and reconciliation for women and men who are suffering from a past abortion experience. Trained certified counselors are available to accompany people on a journey toward hope and inner peace. The next retreat is scheduled for February 23 - 24, 2018. For more information or to register call Project Rachel at 403-218-5506 or toll free at 1-877-597-3223. You may also e-mail info@projectrachel.ca

ATTENTION YOUNG WOMEN!

Attention: Single Young Women between 16-35! The Vocation Committee of AWR (The Assembly of Women Religious) is planning two events:

- Feb. 8, from 5 to 9 pm, at St. Mary's Cathedral: Mass followed by potluck and an information session on religious life.
- Feb. 28 retreat on a Lenten theme. More information in January.

For more information about this publication email jane.ediau@calgarydiocese.ca or contact Jane-Rose Ediau or Carol Hollywood, Library & Archives, 403-218-5510; Fax: 403-264-0526 Address: Catholic Pastoral Centre, 120 - 17 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB, T2S 2T2