



Notices December 21st, 2025 - Advent 4

Readings for this Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25
Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

Sunday Services: 8am and 10.30am

**No Midweek service December 24th and 31st. Next
midweek service will be January 7th**

9 Lessons and Carols| December 21st - 4.30pm

Family Service| December 24th - 4.30pm

Choral Eucharist| December 24th - 9pm

Christmas Morning Eucharist| December 25th - 10.30am

Christmas Office hours

Wednesday December 24th - 9am to noon

**Thursday December 25th and Friday December 26th -
Closed**

Wednesday December 31st - 9am to noon

Thursday January 1st and Friday January 2nd - Closed

Weekly Events at Christ Church

Wednesdays 11am - Lectio Divina & Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Wednesdays 5pm - Meditation

Wednesdays 1pm - Seniors Bridge - All are welcome

Thursdays 10.30am - Bible Study

Search Committee Opportunity

As you are now aware, with Brandon's announced move to All Saints Church in Cochrane, Christ Church leadership will be launching a search for a new Rector.

Our first step in the recruitment process is to form a Selection Committee. The Committee is primarily responsible for :

- developing a Parish Profile
- communication with Christ Church congregation
- reviewing applicant resumes and interviewing candidates
- recommending a successful candidate to the Bishop

All Christ Church congregation members who are interested in being involved in this process are invited to submit a letter expressing their interest and relevant experience to church administration (office@christchurchcalgary.org) by December 23. Church Wardens will select the team in early January.

We hope to build a selection team that has diverse backgrounds and is strongly motivated for results.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Tim, Irene, Andy or Russell.

Donation Statements

Statements showing donations for the period March 1st, 2025 to November 30, 2025 have been mailed out.

Christ Church Family Ministries Updates!

Christmas Eve Service Reminder

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Join us on Christmas Eve for our Family Service as we re-live the story of Baby Jesus' birth. At 4:30pm we will sing songs, listen to the story of Christmas, and watch the characters in the stories come to life right before our eyes. We hope that you can join us for this numinous service as we celebrate the most important Christmas gift - Baby Jesus. This service is specifically geared towards children, but everyone is welcome. There will be hot chocolate and cookies for everyone after the service.



Interested in Volunteering with Our Youth and Children?

We need more hands to help us keep up with our incredible growth! We need people to help with greeting children, holding babies, crafts, games and so much more. You don't have to lead the lesson if you are not comfortable and everything is provided for you. We would love to have you. Please speak to Laurel if you are interested!

Upcoming Youth Events

Friday, December 26 - No Event Planned

Friday, January 9th @ 7pm - TBA

Family Programming Over the Christmas Season

We will continue to have Ignite and Sunday morning youth lessons throughout the Advent Season. There will be no Youth Group on Friday, December 26th as stated above.

Reminder - Youth Sunday Morning Lessons

Just a reminder that we now offer Sunday morning lessons for our youth at 1030am! We hope to see your youth there!

Family Ministries Instagram

Just a friendly reminder that I have created an Instagram account to document our adventures in Family Ministries! Please follow us @christchurchfamilyministries

Laurel Hatch
Director of Family Ministries

CHRIST CHURCH ELBOW PARK ENDOWMENT TRUST



Matching Campaign UPDATE

Matching Campaign UPDATE

We are 95% to our goal!

**We have received over \$95,000 - so far.
With just ONE WEEK left; we can do it!**

*Every dollar given to the Christ Church Elbow Park
Endowment Trust will be matched up to \$100,000 until
year end.*

Please make your cheque payable to:
Christ Church Elbow Park Endowment Trust

E-transfers can now be made directly to the
Endowment at
endowment@christchurchcalgary.org

***THANK YOU for those who have contributed
already!***

Outreach Update

This year for Advent, our Outreach Committee has chosen two very important Calgary Community groups to support, with your help!

#1) We are supporting the Calgary Drop-In Centre with items to "Fill-a-Sock" for their guests who are spending the Holidays in the Shelter.

We will collect the items in the Narthex and the Christ Church Youth Group and Ignite kids will help to assemble the gift packs!!

Items needed for the socks:

Toothbrushes
Deodorant
Men's / Ladies underwear (smaller sizes)
Mini hand lotion
Throat lozenges
Vaseline
Hand warmers
Gloves & mitts
Razors
\$10 Tim Horton's gift card
Reusable beverage containers
Chocolate & candies
Hats & toques
Lip balm
\$50 grocery gift card
Warm Socks

We will be accepting donations for the Socks until Sunday, December 21st

#2) In addition, we are excited to partner with Calgary Reads, and support their amazing Little Red Reading House “Book Bank”!!

These books are preferred new but gently used “like new” books are also welcome. Please consider that these books are often the first book that a child will receive to have for their very own!

Examples of Books needed:

Baby board books Babies enjoy chewing their first books,so we always need new ones!

Children's classics A few examples include The Velveteen Rabbit, Winnie-the Pooh, Anne of Green Gables and James and the Giant Peach.

Some favourite authors Like Barbara Reid, Robert Munsch, Eric Carle,.

Children's much-loved books Captain Underpants; Goodnight Moon; Where the Wild Things Are; Where the Sidewalk Ends; The Very Hungry Caterpillar; The Real Mother Goose.

Book donations will be accepted until Sunday January 11th

We appreciate that Holiday spending may look a little different for everyone this year, so any contribution is appreciated!

Take advantage of Black Friday/Cyber Monday and use up those PC Optimum Points!!!

Please keep your receipts, as In-Kind donations are eligible for a tax receipt! Forms will be available on the table in the Narthex, or at the Office!



The Church will be decorated for Christmas on **Saturday December 20th starting at 9:30 AM**. There will be Christmas music and baking to get everyone in the festive mood. We welcome all to this fun event , but especially strong, tall people. There are many tasks if you prefer to stay closer to ground level, including tying bows and decorating wreaths. Please talk to Meredith Cashion if you need more information.



For many years the Altar Guild has decorated the church for Christmas with poinsettias. Once again this year the poinsettias

can be purchased for \$25.00 and will be in place for Lessons and Carols and the Christmas services. There will be an insert in the bulletins, including all parishioner names with their dedication to memory of a loved one, the Glory of God or Thanksgiving. Please consider helping to make the church welcoming and beautiful by purchasing a poinsettia.

History Column

Charles McPhail Jones, Rev. (Mac)

Mac was born in New Brunswick in 1935. His theological education was at Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Quebec and Kings College, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Mac was ordained deacon in 1959 in Moncton and priest in 1960 in the church in Woodstock Ontario, where he had been baptized and confirmed.

He was

Rector of 3 different parishes in the diocese of Fredericton. At one church in New Brunswick, he was serving fishing communities and one day 15 men and boys (Ages 1-65) from his parish were drowned at sea. It was the most tragic experience of his life.

Mac graduated Law School in Winnipeg Manitoba, in 1973. He practiced law in Port Hope, Ontario and was honorary assistant at St. John's Church.

He was appointed Crown Prosecutor in Drumheller, Alberta in 1982 and became Honorary Assistant at St. Magloire's Church in 1985. There he was twice Priest in Charge. He moved to Calgary in 2011 and was appointed Honorary Assistant at Christ Church on January 3rd 2012. Mac learned the organ in Woodstock and has played from time to time at various churches where he has served, including Christ Church. During his career, he has visited his cottage in New Brunswick as often as possible.

On May 26th, 2019 there was a Parish reception after Evensong, to mark the 60th anniversary of Mac's ordination to the diaconate. The church marked the 65th anniversary of that ordination at the morning service on May 26th. 2024, and a celebratory cake was served afterwards.

Mac has been an Honorary Assistant until a stroke in the summer of 2025 prevented him from continuing. He now resides at the nearby Chartwell Fountains of Mission Retirement

Residence. He is in regular contact with his four grown children, who live in Ontario and the Maritimes.

Looking back on his career, Mac is grateful for the opportunity he has had to serve God in the context of his church, ministering to many people in a variety of places

J.H.Mendham for History and Archives

Dear Christ Church friends,
Troy and I are so pleased to share that Granville chose to be confirmed in the Anglican faith. (He asked! We didn't push it.) He was confirmed on Nov. 30th at Holy Trinity in Edmonton. Troy was finally made a Canadian Citizen last week. Some pics We miss you and think of you often!
April, Troy and Granville







December 21st, 2025 Flower Memorials

The flowers at the Altar are given to the
glory of God and in loving memory of
Laurence and Catherine Gracie,
George and Barbara Clarke, and Ed
and Kay
Gracie, by Brenda and Elizabeth
Gracie

The flowers at the Chapel are given in
joyful and loving memory of Jill Tynan,
from her treasured family

The Power of Prayer

Forward Day by Day

Prayer books for November - January are available in the Narthex
Additional prayer resources can be found on Forward Movement's
website: [https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/forward_day_by_day.php?
d=29&m=4&y=2020](https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/forward_day_by_day.php?d=29&m=4&y=2020)

Prayer Shawls - "Tangible Evidence of Prayer" (ref: "The Prayer Shawl Ministry")

Each of our shawls , handmade by the members of this ministry includes the prayers of the shawl maker as it is made, receives a special blessing, then is available to be given to offer peace, and comfort to someone in need. Shawls are always available here. Please contact Cynthia at the office: 403-243-4680, or Barbara Robinson: barbcrobinson@gmail.com if you know of someone for whom a shawl would be helpful.

The Parish Prayer Chain

Have a friend who needs someone to pray for them? Our prayer chain does this daily, and welcomes requests for confidential prayer. Contact Alicia Hampshire, Adam Bedford or Rev. Brandon.

Praying with Alongside Hope

On the second Thursday of each month praying with Alongside Hope takes place over zoom at 11am (Calgary time). On the fourth Thursday of each month the Alongside Hope team in Toronto plans an educational webinar in the same time slot. Please contact Kim Umbach at kumbach@pwrdf.org for the zoom link to be included and for further details.



Anyone can be added to our email list... they just need to ask!
Know a friend who'd appreciate getting these emails?
Just forward this to them, and...
They can [click here](#) to be added to our mailing list!



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