



Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church

3390 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3K 0Z3

Telephone: 204-832-7175 • Fax: 204-885-2447

Email: office@johnxxiii.ca • Website: www.johnxxiii.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Robert Polz

204-832-7335 rpolz.johnxxiii@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

204-832-7206 sharon@johnxxiii.ca

Administrative Assistant: Joanna Mason

204-832-7175 joanna@johnxxiii.ca

Executive Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 21, 2016

SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY LITURGIES (MASSES)

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Tuesday through Friday 9:15 a.m.

and/or as announced

COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

Contact the parish office for assistance

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Contact the parish office to make arrangements for the preparation and celebration of Baptism

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Contact the Pastor (Fr. Robert)
or the Pastoral Assistant (Sharon)

FAITH FORMATION OF CHILDREN

Catechism sessions for children (K to Grade 8) are held on **Sunday mornings, September through May, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.** Contact our Pastoral Assistant (Sharon) for further information and to register.

FAITH FORMATION OF ADULTS

In addition to formation sessions for those preparing for the Rites of Christian Initiation, periodically other programs, workshops, and/or study sessions will be offered throughout the year to help adult parishioners deepen their love of God and understanding of our Catholic faith. Contact our Pastor or Pastoral Assistant for further information.

GATHERING, FELLOWSHIP, AND COFFEE

After Masses on the first weekend of the month

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

and/or as announced or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Pastor (Fr. Robert)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements for preparation and celebration of marriages should be made through the Pastor at least six months in advance

CELEBRATION OF THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS

Contact the parish office before finalizing arrangements with funeral directors

DEVOTIONS

Rosary at 9:00 a.m. before weekday Masses

Eucharistic Adoration - First Fridays at 9:45 a.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy - Fridays at 3:00 p.m.

FACILITY BOOKINGS: PARISH HALL, MEETING ROOMS, ETC.

Contact the parish office for more information

SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 21 – 28, 2016

As circumstances suggest, the following schedule may be subject to change.

Sunday, February 21	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
5:00 pm Saturday	MASS – <i>Manuel Pereira+</i> , requested by <i>Maria Pereira</i>
9:00 am	MASS – <i>Deceased family members+</i> , requested by <i>Al and Marilyn Weimer</i>
10:15 am	Catechism Classes
10:15 am	Sacramental Preparation Session for First Reconciliation in room 10
11:45 am	MASS – <i>“Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</i>
Monday, February 22	FEAST: THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER, APOSTLE
10:00 am	Knitting Group in the lounge downstairs
Tuesday, February 23	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Gladys Murphy+</i> , requested by <i>the Corrigan family</i>
Wednesday, February 24	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Joseph Melnyk+</i> , requested by <i>Betty and family</i>
Thursday, February 25	FERIAL
7:30 am	<i>Multifaith Leadership Breakfast at the University of Winnipeg</i>
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Intention: T.B.A.</i>
Friday, February 26	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Special intention for Monica and Drew Elliott, requested by Linda Mitchell</i>
10:45 am	MASS – at Sturgeon Creek I Retirement Residence, 10 Hallonquist Drive
3:00 pm	Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (<i>in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel</i>)
7:00 pm	Way of the Cross (<i>in the main worship space of the church</i>)
Saturday, February 27	FERIAL
5:00 pm	MASS – <i>Kenneth John Strasser+</i> , requested by <i>William Baker</i>
Sunday, February 28	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
9:00 am	MASS – <i>“Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</i>
10:15 am	Catechism Classes
10:15 am	Sacramental Preparation Session for First Reconciliation in room 10
11:45 am	MASS – <i>Ruth Martinelli+</i> , requested by <i>the Martinelli family</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING AND COMFORT

Jacob Trudel (5 years old), Connie Csizmadia, Eola Johnson,
Cecile Roberts and Marie Stuart.

We are in the process of updating our prayer list. Some names had been on the former list for several years and we don't know the status of most of the persons involved. So we kindly ask the ongoing cooperation of members of the parish as we continue to update the names on the list. Please contact our Pastoral Assistant, Sharon, to have names added to our revised list. Please remember that to have names added to the list and printed in the bulletin we require permission from the person(s) concerned. Thank you for your help.



“As the gospels present it ... the mission of Jesus of Nazareth is about the way in which ... God’s people — historically, the Jewish people who had first received the law and the covenant — are being re-created in relation to Jesus himself.”

— Former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams

Pray together the WAY OF THE CROSS – Friday evenings during Lent

FEBRUARY 21, 2016

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

The divine covenant is sealed with Abraham through a mysterious ritual.

Psalms 27:1, 7-8, 9, 13-14

If God is our life refuge,
we have nothing in this world to fear.

Philippians 3:17–4:1

Paul warns his beloved community
that some teachers will lead them astray.

Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus isn't who his friends thought he was.
Is he who we imagine he is?



KNOWING JESUS

We've all learned some useful things sitting in a classroom: How to read and write, add and subtract, [...] and random facts about the history of our country and the world. If we went to Catholic school, we also memorized prayers, lists of sacraments, and definitions of heavy mysteries like Trinity, Transubstantiation, and Virgin Birth.

You can learn a lot in a classroom. But there are some things we'll never learn from a book, teacher, or memorized fact. Some things have to hit us right between the eyes, or bull's-eye straight into our hearts. We have to experience these things to know them: like falling in love, being forgiven, or receiving grace in a perilous hour. People can tell us what those things are like. Poets describe the delirious feeling of seeing a loved one's face. Confessors tell us we're ritually forgiven by God. We memorize the definition of grace in the Catechism: "the gift of the Spirit who justifies and sanctifies." But we still don't know what any of those words mean until we have the personal, visceral, soul-shaking experience of love, forgiveness, and grace.

It's the same with knowing Jesus. Everybody here knows Jesus, right? We know he's the Son of God, and Mary's boy, and that he was born in Bethlehem and died in Jerusalem and rose in glory and ascended to heaven. What does all that tell us? Maybe not as much as we think it does. Nowhere near enough. There's a difference between the classroom lesson about Jesus and the actual encounter of him. Even the disciples, who hung around with Jesus all the time, didn't really know him.

That's why the Transfiguration comes as such a surprise, a shock really. The three friends who knew Jesus best—Peter, John, and James—literally "wake up" to the knowledge of who Jesus really is. He's the fulfillment of every story from the law of Moses to the prophecies of Israel! He's God's every promise come to earth and in the flesh! He's the one they've been waiting for! He is the light of the world, shining dazzling white before their eyes!

One minute they see Jesus this way. The next minute they don't. Is it because they fall back asleep? Is that why they remain the ignorant disciples who run from Jesus and deny him in his hour of greatest need? If so, we can't blame them. Most of us only see Jesus in little flashes of light, tiny glimmers of understanding that come and go. It's hard to stay awake all the time. Church is how we help each other do that more. —Alice L. Camille

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SACRED IMAGE ICONS: In response to the concern raised by some parishioners that we had no decent image of our patron Saint John XXIII in our church, we recently searched for something suitable to honour our patron until such a time when something more exquisite might be commissioned. We obtained a sacred image icon print of Saint John XXIII written by Vivian Imbruglia of Rancho Cucamonga, California. At the same time we also ordered icons of Saint Joseph (Patron of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg) and Saint Francis of Assisi. All three icons have been mounted and installed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. If anyone wishes to make a donation towards these sacred items, please speak with our pastor Fr. Robert or our pastoral assistant Sharon Camier. A.M.D.G.

WHY NO GLORIA DURING LENT?

Let's start with some basic rules of liturgy set down by the Second Vatican Council in its *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. The aim of liturgy is to serve the need to worship God in "full, active, and conscious participation" (no.14). The unfolding of the church year with its various feasts and seasons seeks to do that by revealing the "whole mystery of Christ" from Incarnation to Pentecost in due season (no. 102).

The Resurrection of Jesus is the number-one mystery Christians celebrate, so it's preceded by 40 days of penitential preparation (the season of Lent). Along with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to get ready for Easter, the church also fasts from saying or singing the word *Alleluia* as well as singing the "Gloria."

The "Gloria" is an exalted hymn that is not to be replaced by any other at that time in the Mass, say the norms of the Roman Missal. It adds a "celebratory character" to the Introductory Rites that is better expressed sung than in recitation—reminding us of its debut performance. "To sing belongs to lovers," as Saint Augustine once said. To yearn also belongs to lovers—which is why sometimes the church saves the song until its proper hour.

— Alice L. Camille

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EVERYBODY HAS A PART

Time and time again in the Gospels, Jesus places before us the call to live a life of stewardship. Intentional disciples place their time, talent and treasure at the disposal of Jesus and the faith community of the parish. The commitment of our time and talent is evident in the ways we meet the needs of our parish community and beyond. Every skill we have is God's own gift to us. Mature Christians grow in recognizing God's graciousness in their own daily living. They make the most of every opportunity of every day, using individual talents – however small they may appear to others – expressly for the praise of God and benefit of others.

Sharing our God-given talents leads to heightened confidence in God's love. Truly, each day is God's gift in which differences are made for the good by the ways we choose to live. There are a variety of opportunities available at Saint John XXIII Parish for people to share their time and talents for the common good and thereby to grow in their own understanding and practice of the faith.

Please prayerfully consider your participation as a member in the life of our parish and mark your areas of interest on a TIME AND TALENT RENEWAL FORM. Forms are available in the narthex.

Please submit your completed forms to the parish office or place in the collection basket at Mass. In the following weeks, a member of our parish team will be in contact with you to discern further your participation in the work of our parish. THANK YOU for your prayers and for your generous response!

Safe Environments

The Archdiocese of Winnipeg strives to foster safe environments in which church activities unfold. Policies and protocols are directed toward the protection of children and youth and vulnerable adults in parishes across the Archdiocese. Fostering safe environments also protects those whose ministries bring them into contact with the vulnerable. Catechists, catechist assistants and anyone else **involved in ministry with minors** and **anyone involved in any ministry to the vulnerable sector** are required to participate in safe environment formation and to have child abuse registry and criminal record checks. **Please contact Sharon, our pastoral assistant, for further assistance on fulfilling safe environment requirements. Thank you.**

PLEASE NOTE: When making your offering at Mass, please use your current 2016 parish offering envelopes only. Please do NOT use envelopes from previous years or use offering envelopes with numbers assigned to other persons. Visitors may use "My Offering" envelopes which are available in the narthex. Thank you for your kind cooperation.

"Faith is a light of such supreme brilliance that it dazzles the mind and darkens all its visions of other realities, but in the end ... we gain a new view of all reality transfigured and elevated in the light itself."

— Thomas Merton

Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church, Winnipeg, MB
SUPPLEMENT TO THE PARISH BULLETIN

Second Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2016



The Holy Year of Mercy: Reflections

***"How much wrong we do to God and his grace
when we speak of sins being punished by his judgment
before we speak of their being forgiven by his mercy.***

***We have to put mercy before judgment,
and in any event God's judgment will always be in the light of his mercy."***

— Pope Francis, in the Mass marking the start of the Jubilee Year of Mercy

IN AND AROUND THE PARISH, ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

SERENA MANITOBA: The next Serena Manitoba Natural Family Planning course will be on **Saturday, February 27, 2016** from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. Please contact us for more information or to register at mbserena@gmail.com, 204-783-0091 or toll free at 866-317-5362. Your contact information and \$150 class registration and materials fee can be mailed to Serena Manitoba, 99 Cornish Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A2.

PARABLES OF MERCY IN LUKE'S GOSPEL: A Day of Reflection. **Saturday, February 27, 2016**, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (lunch included). St. Charles Retreat Centre, 323 St. Charles Street. The day will be divided into times of teaching, personal prayer & silence, and group sharing. Come and reflect on "Mercy" in Scripture and in your own life. Offered by the Chemin Neuf Community. Please register by calling Ted & Nancy Wood, 204-885-2260, stcharlesretreat@hotmail.com. Cost is a freewill donation.

CHRISTIANS OF THE HOLYLAND will be visiting our parish community on the weekend of **March 5th and 6th, 2016**. A display of olive wood religious items will be available in the parish hall after all the Masses. All the items are locally hand carved in the Holy Land by our brothers and sisters there. A representative will brief us at the end of Mass concerning the plight of those families and invite us to see their display. Our support is a wonderful way to show solidarity towards our Catholic brothers and sisters living in the land where our Lord once walked!

ST. CHARLES RETREAT CENTRE: Monthly Prayer Group - Chemin Neuf Community gathers on the Second Tuesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. at the St. Charles Retreat Centre, 323 St. Charles Street. Next one is Tuesday, **March 8th**. The hour will include praise and worship, silence and listening, sometimes a brief teaching or testimony. All are welcome.

STEVE BELL IN CONCERT: Join us for an evening of music and stories of hope with renowned singer-songwriter Steve Bell at 7:00 p.m. on **Saturday, March 19th** at North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church, 1315 Gateway Avenue. Entrance is free with a freewill donation to help children in Latin America get a quality education. For more information visit genrising.org

ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY TEA: St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada invites everyone to their Annual Palm Sunday Tea to be held on **Sunday, March 20, 2016 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** in St. Basil's Parish Auditorium, 202 Harcourt Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Dr. Anne Penny, Principal of St. Charles Catholic School, will officially open the tea. Home Baking – Raffle – Silent Auction.

REFUGEE CRISIS: DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is mobilizing to respond to the growing refugee crisis that is currently affecting Europe and the Middle East. Funds collected will go towards humanitarian aid for Syrians living through the suffering of war and those who have fled to other countries, including Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey who are hosting the vast majority of Syrian refugees. Donations will be matched by the Canadian government until February 29th, 2016. An income tax receipt will automatically be sent to your e-mail address for a one-time donation. In the case of a monthly donation, a receipt for the sum of your donations during the year will be mailed to you in February of next year. Go online to www.devpo.org

RESPONDING TO THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION REPORT

A number of St. James-Assiniboia churches are hosting the following sessions. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. All sessions listed here will begin at **7:00 p.m.** and be held at Sturgeon Creek United Church, 205 Thompson Drive. **February 22, 2016 – Listening to Survivors:** Residential school survivors will relate their experiences. All in attendance will receive a copy of *The Survivors Speak*. **March 14, 2016 – Then and Now:** Ry Moran, Director of the National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. The political history of Indian Residential Schools. **April 25, 2016 – Truth and Reconciliation Report:** Justice Murray Sinclair will discuss the TRC findings and its recommendations. **May 16, 2016 – Walking Together:** Considering our response to what we have learned.

IGNATIAN LECTURE SERIES

The Ignatian Lecture Series will be held **Wednesday evenings during Lent** from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the St. Ignatius Parish Adult Education Centre, 925 Jesse Avenue, Winnipeg. To register call Valerie at 204-453-9243.

24 February: The Jesuits, Social Justice and Quixote House - Fr. Eduardo Soto Parra, SJ, Superior, Jesuits of Winnipeg.

2 March: Pope Francis and the Year of Mercy For Us - Dr. Christine Butterill, Dean Emerita, St. Paul's College, U of M.

9 March: An Encounter of Christ's Mercy at Communion and in the Confessional - Fr. Jeff Burwell, SJ, Professor, U of M.

16 March: Reflections on Reconciliation & Mercy - Dr. Eموke J E Szathmary, CM, OM, FRSC, President Emeritus, U of M.

All are welcome. Free-will offering.

YEAR OF MERCY - GUEST PRESENTATIONS

In our Year of Mercy, St. Paul the Apostle Parish is hosting a guest speaker series each month on various life issues and challenges in order to tear down our prejudices, judgements, and discriminations. Come and hear the stories of people who have experienced struggle and pain as well as mercy and hope in their lives. On **Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.** guest presenters from Headingly Corrections Center will speak on **Prison Life & Re-Integration in Society**. All are welcome.

Upcoming presentations:

Thursday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. – PTSD: not just in soldiers

Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. – Domestic Abuse: Why & How

Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. – Cancer Survivor: What to say and not to say to those suffering

Thursday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m. – Addictions & Recovery

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2016

On **Friday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.** a local World Day of Prayer service will be held at **Kirkfield Park United Church**, 472 Kirkfield Street. The text of this year's service was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cuba. The leadership of our local service will involve women from seven of our area churches. Christians of various denominations and traditions will gather to unite in prayer and song and to present the program sharing stories originating from Cuba. All are welcome. Refreshments to follow.

Media Release from the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada:

"Receive children. Receive me." Christian Women in Socialist Cuba

National Flower of Cuba is the white butterfly jasmine. Cuban women have used the flower not only as an adornment for their hair, but also to transmit messages during liberation wars, and as a sign of their being Cuban. There can be no better emblem for the 2016 World Day of Prayer service written by the World Day of Prayer committee of Cuba. The service transmits their witness and experience of being Cuban and Christian, even when their faith meant isolation within the country they love.

With the triumph of the Revolution, a trade embargo by the United States brought Cuba economic isolation and material scarcity. Within Cuba a similar isolation formed around people of faith in the officially atheist state. Now the embargo is lifting, but uncertainty remains for the Cuban people. What can these women tell the rest of the world about how faith endures in a secular world, of material and social challenges, and of hope?

On March 4, 2016, Christians in more than 170 countries and in 2,000 communities across Canada will gather to learn about, pray for, and celebrate Cuba in solidarity with the women of Cuba through the World Day of Prayer. Please join us and invite your friends and family to attend the World Day of Prayer 2016.

For other events in and around the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, please see information posted on bulletin boards in the narthex and at the entrance of the church, and/or go to the website: www.archwinnipeg.ca/weekly_bulletin.php