



## Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church

3390 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3K 0Z3

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Email: [office@johnxxiii.ca](mailto:office@johnxxiii.ca) • Website: [www.johnxxiii.ca](http://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.

and/or as announced

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### 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

Check the bulletin or website for the current schedule

#### COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

Contact the parish office for assistance

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Friday 3:15 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.

and/or as announced or by appointment

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## PARISH BULLETIN

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – September 17, 2017 and**

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – September 24, 2017**

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## PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

### Pastor: Reverend Fr. Robert Polz

204-832-7335 [rpolz.johnxxiii@gmail.com](mailto:rpolz.johnxxiii@gmail.com)

### Administrative Assistant: Joanna Mason

204-832-7175 [joanna@johnxxiii.ca](mailto:joanna@johnxxiii.ca)

### Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

204-832-7206 [sharon@johnxxiii.ca](mailto:sharon@johnxxiii.ca)

### Head Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

### Trustee: Albert McMurdie

204-889-6606 [mcmurdie@shaw.ca](mailto:mcmurdie@shaw.ca)

### Building and Maintenance Chair: Claude Precourt

204-898-1893 [cfp3899@gmail.com](mailto:cfp3899@gmail.com)

### Trustee: Christine Carlyle

204-889-0238 [rccarlyl@gmail.com](mailto:rccarlyl@gmail.com)

### Music Ministry: Donna Vendramelli

204-888-8200 [d\\_vendramelli@mymts.net](mailto:d_vendramelli@mymts.net)

### Parish Stewardship Committee

#### Facilitator: Loris Vendramelli

204-888-8200 [loris@mymts.net](mailto:loris@mymts.net)

### Parish Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee

#### Facilitator: Laurette Burch

204-885-6988 [burchd@mymts.net](mailto:burchd@mymts.net)

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**FAITH FORMATION:** Catechism sessions for children (K to Grade 8) are held on Sunday mornings, September through May, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Periodically other programs, workshops, and/or study sessions are offered for adults. Contact our Pastoral Assistant (Sharon) for further information and/or to register.

**SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION (BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, EUCHARIST):** Contact the parish office for further information.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Contact the Pastor (Fr. Robert)

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Arrangements for preparation and celebration should be made at least six months in advance.

**CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS:** Contact the parish office before finalizing arrangements with funeral directors.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING AND COMFORT

Max and Monique Armstrong, Darrell Aucoin, Joan Brabant, Bill Camier, Frank Clarke, Peter Corcoran, Connie Csizmadia, Phyllis Dreveski, Sheila Everaert, Sylvia Ewaskow, Bonnie Joyce Irish, Angela Kalichak, Debra McEnturff, Donald Mitchell, Dolores and Paul Mulaire, Mak Ntwanga, Zonia Patson, Shirley Payment, Albin Polz, James Polz, Phyllis Rogoski, Hank Smith, Rose Stankewich, Marie Stuart, Don Thomas, Jacob Trudel, Maria Helena Viegas, Ronald Wells, Ted Wood and Helen Yankoski. *Please contact our Pastoral Assistant, Sharon, to have names added to our prayer list. Remember that to have names added and printed in the bulletin we require permission from the person(s) concerned. Thank you.*

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE BISHOPS OF CANADA:** The Plenary Assembly of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is being held September 25-29, 2017 at the NAV CENTRE, Cornwall, Ontario. Let us all ask God's blessings on the Bishops of Canada as they meet this week to support one another and to collaborate in their ministry of teaching, sanctifying and pastoral governance.

*"Challenges and favours which the Lord gives ... are ways by which he wanted his Church founded and established by the Apostles and Disciples. This is the same grace he has made to the Church in Canada, by which it has taken all its force and growth, and is sustained and maintained by patience and long-suffering in peace and union with Our Lord, all as he is pleased to permit."*

*- Saint François de Laval, first Bishop of New France, from a letter to the Vicar General of the Diocese of Québec, 15 February 1686*

The Canadian Catholic Television Network Salt + Light will broadcast events live online and on television with selected repeats throughout the day. Check [saltandlighttv.org](http://saltandlighttv.org) for more information.

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**MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY:** All weekend Masses require additional volunteers to serve as **ushers** to welcome our parishioners and visitors. If you are able and willing to help us out, please speak to one of our current ushers and/or contact one the following: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass: Richard Carlyle 204-889-0238; Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass: Lawrence Barton 204-889-1322; 11:45 a.m. Mass: Toni Anciro 204-889-3544.

We also are looking for additional volunteers, especially for Saturdays, to assist with preparing and **servicing coffee and refreshments** after Masses on the first weekend of the month. If you are able and willing to help us out in any way, please contact Chris Carlyle 204-889-0238 or email [rccarlyl@gmail.com](mailto:rccarlyl@gmail.com). Thank you.

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## PARISH CATECHISM CLASSES 2017 – 2018

Catechism classes are scheduled to begin in our parish with an **ORIENTATION SESSION** for parents/guardians and children at **10:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall**. Once again we will utilize the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies* liturgically-based catechetical program that provides weekly handouts with a short description of the Sunday Gospel plus suggested activities and discussion starters for each age level. In keeping with the seasons and feasts of the liturgical year, children in class and with their families can have fun while learning about Jesus, his Church and the teachings of our faith.



**Those who would like their children to take part in catechism classes are asked to complete a REGISTRATION FORM for each child.** A catechism registration fee will help defray some of the costs of running our program. Nevertheless, this requested fee should in no way be considered a reason to refrain from enrolling children for whose parents the fee would impose an undue hardship.

As a rule, each Sunday children participating in our parish catechism program gather in the parish hall with their parents/guardians by 10:15 a.m. for some initial prayers and announcements. Then children break into their various catechetical groups and proceed with their catechists to their designated classrooms. Catechetical classes are divided into the following age groups: SEEDS (Preschool), PROMISE (Kindergarten – Grade 1), GOOD NEWS (Grades 2-3), VENTURE (GRADES 4-6) and VISIONS (Grades 7-8). Parents/guardians are asked to return to the parish hall by 11:15 a.m. to be ready to pick up their children.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS CATECHISTS and assistants for each designated catechetical group. If you are willing to help in any way, please advise Sharon Camier (our Pastoral Assistant) or Father Robert Polz (our Pastor). Let us all pray for the continued success of our faith formation program for children.**

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## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

### *How Do I Become Catholic?*

Many avenues lead individuals to the Catholic Church. The journey of faith can be a winding road. Whatever path has led you to this time of searching or interest in becoming a baptized Christian or, if already baptized, making a profession into the full communion of the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process that could be Good News for you in your journey of faith.

**To help us prepare for RCIA sessions, please let us know if you are interested in participating. Initial inquiry sessions will be held immediately following Mass on Wednesday evenings beginning WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.**

You may speak with Father Robert and/or Sharon Camier. We have a limited number of packs of leaflets of the series *Understanding Christian Initiation* which we can distribute to those discerning whether they would like to begin participation in the RCIA process.

## TWO WEEK SCHEDULE: SEPTEMBER 17 – OCTOBER 1, 2017

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

*(Fr. Robert is on-call at Grace Hospital from September 15<sup>th</sup> to September 22<sup>nd</sup>)*

### Sunday, September 17

5:00 pm Saturday

9:00 am

10:15 am

11:45 am

6:00 pm

### TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**MASS** – *Intentions of Sr. Cathy Laviolette (50<sup>th</sup> jubilee of religious profession), requested by Marnie and Bob Puchniak*

**MASS** – *Juanita Edwards (health), requested by Margaret and Jerome Strachan*

**Catechism Orientation for parents and students** *(in the parish hall)*

**MASS** – *“Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners*

**CHICKEN AND RIB DINNER** hosted by the Knights of Columbus St. James Council

### Monday, September 18

FERIAL

*Parish office closed Monday*

6:30 pm

**MASS** – *Intention for the healing of those suffering from any physical, emotional or spiritual pain, requested by the pastor and parish staff*

7:00 – 9:00 pm

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

*Prayers for recovery of health and other spiritual needs will be imparted following Mass. Andrew (Andy) Pigg, the nephew of Gwen and Malcolm Broughton of our parish, who is visiting and has exercised an effective ministry of healing in Auckland, New Zealand, will join us for Mass and prayers for healing.*

7:00 pm

Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting *(in room 10)*

### Tuesday, September 19

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

FERIAL

Office open

10:00 am

Al-Anon Meeting *(in room 12)*

### Wednesday, September 20

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

**MEMORIAL: SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAE-GON, Priest, PAUL CHONG HA-SANG, and COMPANIONS, Martyrs**

1:00 pm

Office open

Knitting Group Gathering *(in room 10)*

6:45 pm

**Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions**

7:00 pm

**MASS** – *Emma Vendramelli+, requested by Laurette and Doug Burch*

7:30 pm

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Inquiry Session** *(in the Guadalupe Room)*

### Thursday, September 21

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

**FEAST: SAINT MATTHEW, Apostle, Evangelist**

1:00 pm

Office open

**FUNERAL MASS for Archie Homer Lucier+ and Curtis Corie Lucier+**

*Rite of Committal to follow at Assumption Cemetery*

7:00 pm

*Archdiocesan Synod Orientation Session for synod members at St. Anthony’s Church, WK*

<b>Friday, September 22</b>	<b>FERIAL</b>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>MASS at Sturgeon Creek I Retirement Residence, 10 Hallonquist Drive</b> <i>For the repose of the soul of Fr. Raphael Glofcheski+</i>
3:00 pm	<b>Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)</b>
<b>Saturday, September 23</b>	<b>MEMORIAL: SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELCINA (PADRE PIO), Priest</b>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>MASS – Intentions of the newly confirmed, requested by St. James Assiniboia CWL</b>
<b>Sunday, September 24</b>	<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>MASS – Intentions of Lena Gray (birthday), requested by Margaret and Jerome Strachan</b>
10:15 am	<b>CATECHISM CLASSES (begin in the parish hall)</b>
<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</b>
<b>Monday, September 25</b>	<b>FERIAL</b>
7:00 pm	<i>Parish office closed Monday</i> CWL General Meeting (in the parish hall)
<b>Tuesday, September 26</b>	<b>FEAST: SAINTS JOHN DE BRÉBEUF and ISAAC JOGUES, Priests, and COMPANIONS, Martyrs</b>
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>MASS – Fr. Raphael Glofcheski+</b>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
10:00 am	Al-Anon Meeting (in room 12)
3:00 pm	<i>Fr. Robert is scheduled to attend a board meeting of the Manitoba Multifaith Council</i>
<b>Wednesday, September 27</b>	<b>MEMORIAL: SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, Priest</b>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
5:00 pm	Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank (in room 12)
<b>6:45 pm</b>	<b>Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions</b>
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>MASS – Deacon Gary McCallum+, requested by Al and Ann McMurdie</b>
<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Inquiry Session (in the Guadalupe Room)</b>
<b>Thursday, September 28</b>	<b>FERIAL</b>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
2:00 pm	<b>MASS at Heritage Lodge, 3555 Portage Avenue</b>
<b>Friday, September 29</b>	<b>FEASTS: SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL, Archangels</b>
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>MASS – Deceased family members+, requested by Linus Endacott and family</b>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
3:00 pm	<b>Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)</b>
<b>5:00 – 7:00 pm</b>	<b>RUMMAGE SALE downstairs in the parish hall</b>
<b>Saturday, September 30</b>	<b>MEMORIAL: SAINT JEROME, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b>
<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>MASS – Keira Bond+, requested by Bill and Irene O’Byrne</b>
<b>Sunday, October 1</b>	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>*** Coffee and fellowship after all Sunday Masses this weekend ***</b>
10:15 am	<b>MASS – Claude and Martin Hazzard+, requested by Margaret and Jerome Strachan</b>
<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>CATECHISM CLASSES (begin in the parish hall)</b> <b>MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</b>



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS – PATRONAL FEAST

Solemn Mass for the Feast of Saint John XXIII will be celebrated on  
Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

A simple “Parish Fiesta” Reception will follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

We will be looking for help to prepare fruit and dainties, coffee and tea, and various *ethnic finger food dishes* for the reception to be held after Mass. Further details in the next bulletin to be published the weekend of October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**CALL FOR CONSCIENCE CAMPAIGN:** Archbishop Richard Gagnon is asking for our non-partisan support in an important campaign to promote Bill 34, put forward by the Government of Manitoba, which protects conscience rights for doctors, nurses and other health care professionals. As you are aware, our Canadian Government legalized euthanasia/assisted suicide on June 17, 2016. Bill 34, if passed this fall in our Provincial Legislature, will uphold and protect the charter rights of conscientious objectors. At all Masses on September 23-24, the Archbishop's pastoral letter will be read and distributed to parishioners. His Grace is asking for our prayers and support for this campaign, especially by writing letters addressed to our local MLAs. Further information and materials will be made available September 23-24, 2017.

## September 17, 2017 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Anger never feels good or right; why is it so hard to let it go?

### Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

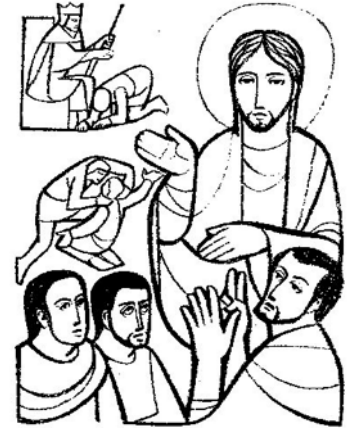
God's famous wrath actually comes on slow. God's mercy is faster.

### Romans 14:7-9

Once we belong to Christ, our life and our death remain in Christ.

### Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness is not a numbers game. It's a matter of the heart.



## PRACTICE WHAT YOU WOULD TEACH

I teach 10-year-olds their catechism. It's the hardest job in the world, or so it seems each week as I prepare to face the children. After a lifetime as an adult religious educator—a cakewalk by comparison—I feel thrown into the lion's den as a parish volunteer. You know what a parish volunteer is? Someone who couldn't get away fast enough from a swirling drain of need and got sucked down.

Catechetical Sunday [today in the USA, October 1<sup>st</sup> in Canada] might sound like the booby prize for "volunteers" like me. We may earn brief applause from the assembly this Sunday. We may receive a cheap plastic cross or prayer card from our grateful parishes. Still, I've never been so proud to claim any position in the church. I teach *our children*. I'm preparing the future church that will one day replace us all.

Like most catechists, I plan careful lessons, spend far too much time creating original props I can't find in any catalog, and watch each week as plans to teach the heck out of some religious concept get derailed by factors beyond my control. One child's elbow intersects another's ribs, and there goes the group's fragile attention for the hour. I've finally determined the only good lesson plan boils down to One Big Idea. If I just say one thing across the hour—write it, say it, make them repeat it, sing it, dance it, pin it to a donkey—with any grace it may stick.

Jesus had days like this. Three years' worth, to be exact. How many times, in how many ways, did Jesus teach the forgiveness lesson? He told parables about seeking out wandering sheep or misplaced coins, receiving home a disgraced child, dismissing huge debts. He preached that prostitutes would go to heaven in advance of more pious folk. He taught his disciples to pray: "Forgive us our trespasses—the same way we forgive." Jesus modeled forgiveness by eating with disreputable people, choosing the hospitality of Zacchaeus the Roman collaborator, even including Matthew (another tax collector) among the privileged 12 apostles. In the end, Jesus hands over his body and blood, then mounts a cross in the name of forgiveness. Could any lesson be more poignantly brought home?

And Jesus still has to put up with primal-scream-inducing questions like Peter's: "How often must I forgive someone for hurting me? Is seven times enough?" By the tone, Peter seems convinced that seven times is six too many. Yet every good catechist learns the drill: If a lesson is important enough, write it, say it, sing it, dance it. Bake it into bread and serve it. Pin it to a cross, do what's necessary—until finally, your students know it by heart

— Alice Camille

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***"The Sovereign Judge has marked for us the rule of his judgments in order that we may judge our offending brothers and sisters in the way we want to be judged by him."***

— Saint John Cassian (c. 360-433)

***"If, then, you are looking for the way by which you should go, take Christ, because he himself is the way."***

—Saint Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-1274)

## September 24, 2017 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Isaiah 55:6-9

Looking for God? Try the neighborhood of mercy and forgiveness.

### Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

The Lord is near enough to hear us when we call out.

### Philippians 1:20-24, 27

For the devoted believer, the equation is simple: Life is Christ. Death is gain.

### Matthew 20:1-16

Laborers question the ludicrous pay scale of the vineyard owner.



## HOW CAN THIS BE FAIR?

Where did we first learn to idolize fairness? Maybe it was in math class: a nickel equals five pennies, no more and no less. If someone gives you four pennies for your nickel, you've been robbed. Of course, fewer of us object if someone gives us six pennies for the same nickel. We tend to pocket the six and call it good fortune—if not evidence of our business acumen. The one thing we don't call penny number six is unfair. Which, in the world of even-stein, it most certainly is.

How to live with the variant value of a nickel in a world of unequal pennies? We're bruised by unfairness at every turn. I bought a great house on the cheap, because someone was in the midst of a difficult divorce and needed to sell. I got six pennies—at the cost of someone else's pain. Then I was obliged to sell the house—at the bottom of the market in 2008. Ouch! My nickel was surrendered for pocket lint.

We all know someone who visits the gym faithfully, never smokes, eats only farmer's market food—and develops a serious illness anyway. A lousy return on the nickel. Then there was my grandfather, who worked like an ox in the coal mines, drank a fifth of whiskey and two cases of beer every week of his life, and survived six heart attacks. I'd like to have his nickel.

Civilians die under enemy fire every day. Not fair. They flee the carnage and wind up in refugee camps—no way forward, no way back. Unfair. Meek children are the victims of bullies on every playground. A weak spouse is battered by a stronger one in too many households. Children suffer at the hands of grownups assigned to protect them. The elderly are abandoned by the young, the trusting swindled by the schemer. The list of what's not fair is endless. Very few nickels wind up being bartered for the whole five pennies. Yet we keep expecting it to be so.

Our indignation is huge in the face of these realities—as it should be. But what about the unexpected financial windfall, the miraculous recovery, the bonehead move that should have ended in disaster but didn't, the forgiveness that comes when we really don't deserve a second chance? We're less likely to protest when our nickel winds up being worth a dollar. But it has to be *our* nickel, doesn't it? If mine is worth five cents and yours is worth seven, suddenly I feel ripped off. If God loves us all the same, no matter what we do, is that unfair? Or simply a reminder that they're all God's nickels?

— Alice Camille

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***“Our sins are nothing but a grain of sand alongside the great mountain of the mercy of God.”***

— Saint John Vianney (1786-1859)

***“How can we pray to God for mercy if we ourselves have no mercy?”***

— Isaac Bashevis Singer (1904-91)

***“Mercy is the fulfillment of justice, not its abolition.”***

— Saint Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-74)

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## OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help are held in our parish on **Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.** followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m. The icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help has inspired devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary for centuries, and is honored in hundreds of thousands of homes and churches throughout the world. When the original icon was brought to Saint Alphonsus Church in Rome in 1866, devotion to the Blessed Mother as depicted in this icon spread rapidly throughout the world largely through the missionary efforts of the Redemptorist Order.

**KNITTING GROUP:** The next gathering of the Knitting/Crocheting Group will be held on **Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** downstairs in Room 10. All women and men who can knit or crochet are invited to participate. We can provide materials and even teach you, if you wish. Over the years we have been creating "welcome baby" layettes to support mothers and babies assisted by *Villa Rosa* or *Thrive Community Support Circle* (formerly called *Pregnancy and Family Support Services*) and sometimes for other worthwhile causes. We greatly appreciate donations of yarn and other sewing materials. For the 2017-2018 term, our group will continue to meet on alternating Wednesday afternoons. For further information, you may contact Beverly Hewitt at 204-885-1202 or bevhe Witt@mymts.net



**ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY:** The ministry of altar server is one of several important ministries in the Church's Liturgy. Altar Servers assist the Priest (and the Deacon) in various liturgical celebrations, especially weekday and Sunday celebrations of the Most Holy Eucharist. Some Altar Server responsibilities include: lighting the altar candles, bearing the cross and candles in processions, assisting with incense and holy water, approaching the Priest (or the Deacon) whenever necessary to present the book, to help receive the offertory gifts at Mass and prepare the altar, and to assist in any other way required.

Both younger parishioners, from about grade 4 or 9 years old and up, and adult parishioners are invited to consider assisting in this ministry in our parish. Altar servers are expected to conduct themselves in a reverent and respectful manner at all times. For most Masses, servers should gather in the back of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (i.e. near the sacristy) and be vested at least 10 minutes before Mass. Duties after Mass, to help clean up the sanctuary and hang up servers' vestments, may require another 10 minutes or so. Preparation for this ministry may include "on the job training", adult mentoring, and some scheduled rehearsals before major celebrations of the liturgical year.

**Those interested and willing to assist as an altar server at any of our weekday or weekend Masses are asked to please speak with our pastor, Father Robert, and/or our parish pastoral assistant, Sharon Camier.**

**RUMMAGE SALE:** Our next rummage sale will be held **Friday, September 29, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** in Saint John XXIII Parish Hall. We are grateful for your donations of items for sale. Jewellery sells especially well. (N.B.: we can't use old TV sets or other large items.) Please bring your items to the church during office hours. **Volunteers are needed** to help set-up in the morning and to take down and put things away from about 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the evening.



**WINNIPEG HARVEST:** Members of the community are asked to donate whatever they are able of non-perishable food items such as canned meat, canned beans, canned soup, canned fruit, rice and pasta. Items are needed to build food kits that are distributed to Manitobans who receive food from Winnipeg Harvest. Here at Saint John XXIII Parish we serve as a Winnipeg Harvest outlet every second Wednesday throughout the year. **Parishioners with non-perishable food items to donate may drop them off in our Winnipeg Harvest Donation Box located under the pamphlet rack at the south entrance to the church.**

**PARISH GIVING COMMITMENT:** On the weekend of June 11<sup>th</sup>, a presentation was given at all the Sunday Masses updating the Saint John XXIII community of the Parish's current financial situation. The overview of our temporal stewardship since the departure of the Anglican Parish of St. Chad's in the fall of 2013 has convinced the members of our Parish Finance Council that "Our Parish Community is at a Financial Crossroad". **A special envelope package has been prepared for those on our parish list.** Each envelope includes a letter from our pastor, a copy of the presentation given on the June 11<sup>th</sup> weekend, and a *Parish Giving Commitment Form*. **If you haven't yet done so, please save us some postage by picking up your special envelope package up from the parish office.** After prayerful reflection and in gratitude for God's many blessings, we kindly ask you to make a personal commitment to the Lord and to your Parish by completing and returning your *Parish Giving Commitment Form* as soon as possible.

**PAD / OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2017:** Parishioners are encouraged to register for pre-authorized debit. Visitors may use "My Offering" envelopes available at the church entrance. New parishioners are encouraged to contact the parish office to register for pre-authorized debit or regular offering envelopes.

**SHARING GOD'S GIFTS 2017:** Archdiocesan Appeal website <[http://www.archwinnipeg.ca/sharing\\_gods\\_gifts.php](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca/sharing_gods_gifts.php)>

## FURTHER EVENTS IN AND AROUND THE PARISH, ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

**THE NEW TESTAMENT FROM A JEWISH PERSPECTIVE:** The lecture series featuring presenter Dr. Ruth Ashrafi continues for two more **Tuesday evenings, September 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 85 Kirkbridge Drive. For further information see the previous parish bulletin or the poster on the bulletin board.

**HARVEST SUPPER:** The annual **St. Charles Catholic Church Harvest Supper** is being held at 320 St. Charles Street, on **Sunday, September 24, 2017 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** The doors open at 3:30 p.m. The cost for adults will be \$15, children from 5 to 12 is \$7 and children under 4 is FREE. Takeout orders are available by calling or texting Rita at 204-229-1383. For more information and tickets call St. Charles Parish at 204-889-3248 or by calling Laura at 204-837-7157 or texting her at 204-880-6504.

**THE ST JAMES ASSINIBIOA CWL GENERAL MEETING** will be held at St John XXIII Church on **Monday, September 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** We welcome guest speaker Mary-Margaret Patterson presenting "Gifts of the Spirit". Mary-Margaret is the Spiritual Chairperson on the MB Provincial CWL Council. This promises to be an insightful and interactive evening. Bring a friend and enjoy some fellowship with your sisters of the League.



**SERENA** teaches a two-hour class on the Sympto-Thermal Method of **Natural Family Planning**. The next two class dates are **Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and **Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Classes are held at the Misericordia Health Centre, 99 Cornish Ave., Winnipeg. For more information, call or text Serena at 204-783-0091 or email [mbserena@gmail.com](mailto:mbserena@gmail.com) or see our website [www.serenamb.com](http://www.serenamb.com)

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE:** Plan to join nearly one million others worldwide by participating in our 40 Days for Life Campaign. From September 27<sup>th</sup> to November 5<sup>th</sup>, we will pray, bear witness and vigil outside of Winnipeg's major abortion facility, the Women's Hospital (HSC), 735 Notre Dame Ave. **Opening Mass will be offered for a fruitful campaign at St. Anthony of Padua Church (WK), 250 Burrin Avenue, at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup>.** Twenty coordinated campaigns have resulted in more than 13,000 babies being saved from abortion and 85 abortion centers being closed. Please sign in on our calendar for a weekly hour(s) at [www.40daysforlife.com/winnipeg](http://www.40daysforlife.com/winnipeg). Contact Maria Slykerman at 204-452-2459 or by e-mail: [clcwpgmb@gmail.com](mailto:clcwpgmb@gmail.com).

**STEAK OR CHICKEN DINNER:** The Knights of Columbus Charleswood Council #7523 are hosting their annual Welcome back Steak or Chicken dinner on **Thursday September 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.) in the parish hall at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.** Tickets are available at the OLPH parish office 204-832-1993 during regular office hours. The cost is unchanged from previous years at **\$15.00 each**. Please state your preference of steak or chicken at the time of ticket purchase. Proceeds are in support of the OLPH catechism program and Knights youth support services. The menu consists of Steak or Chicken, baked potato, corn on the cob (or alternate vegetable) and coleslaw. Coffee, Tea and dessert are included. Wine tickets are available at the door at a cost of **\$3.00 each**.

**CANA WELCOME** is a new program for couples offered by the Chemin Neuf Community in Winnipeg. It is for couples seeking to build their marriages on a strong foundation, go deeper in their faith, and find support from other couples. There will be a "launch day" gathering where you can learn more about the program on **Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.** (children welcome). Please register for the session by September 25. Contact Ted & Nancy Wood at the St. Charles Retreat Centre, 204-885-2260, [StCharlesRetreat@hotmail.com](mailto:StCharlesRetreat@hotmail.com)

**GIFT OF LIFE CONFERENCE with keynote speaker Archbishop Richard Gagnon: "Faith: A way of Life"**  
The conference, open to all 14 years old and up, will be held on **Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 181 Austin St. North.** Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. Cost \$15 per person. A light lunch will be provided. We request that participants bring their own water bottles.

**GB TEC (TO ENCOUNTER CHRIST):** You are invited to the next GB TEC retreat to be held in St. Malo, MB, **October 7-9, 2017.** TEC is a unique experience in Christian living for people 16 years old and up. The central theme of TEC is the Paschal Mystery. For more information contact Gerald Marion 204-996-5896.

*For other events in and around the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, please see information posted on bulletin boards at the north and south entrances of the church, and/or go to the website: [www.archwinnipeg.ca/weekly\\_bulletin.php](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca/weekly_bulletin.php)*