



Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church

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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

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Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

February 28, 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 28 – MARCH 6, 2016

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

Sunday, February 28	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
5:00 pm Saturday	MASS – <i>Kenneth John Strasser+</i> , requested by <i>William Baker</i>
9:00 am	MASS – “ <i>Pro populo</i> ” / <i>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>
Monday, February 29	FERIAL <i>The parish office is closed today</i>
Tuesday, March 1	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Maria Cherry+</i> , requested by <i>the Gaspard family</i>
10:30 am	<i>Council of Priests Meeting at the Catholic Centre</i>
Wednesday, March 2	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Jose (Ze) Leitao+</i> , requested by <i>Cecilia and Julio Santos</i>
10:30 am	MASS – at Golden West Centennial Lodge, 811 School Road
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank in Room 12
Thursday, March 3	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Gerry McCabe+</i> , requested by <i>Delores Dahm</i>
Friday, March 4	FERIAL – “ 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD ”
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Sean McCabe+</i> , requested by <i>Delores Dahm</i>
9:45 am	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION in the church until the evening
3:00 pm	Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (<i>in the main worship space</i>)
6:45 pm	Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm	Way of the Cross (<i>in the main worship space</i>)
7:00 pm	<i>World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service at Kirkfield Park United Church</i>
Saturday, March 5	FERIAL
5:00 pm	MASS – <i>Manuel Pereira+</i> , requested <i>Maria Pereira</i>
6:00 pm	Fellowship and Coffee in the Parish Hall <i>*** Olive wood religious items from the Christians of the Holy Land will be available for sale in the parish hall after all the Masses this weekend ***</i>
Sunday, March 6	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – “ LAETARE SUNDAY ”
9:00 am	MASS – <i>Victorina and Marcello Alberto+</i> , requested by <i>Vicky and family</i>
8:00 am	Fellowship and Coffee in the Parish Hall
10:15 am	Catechism Classes: “Laetare Sunday Family Celebration” in the parish hall
11:45 am	MASS – “ <i>Pro populo</i> ” / <i>Intentions of parishioners</i>
12:45 pm	Fellowship and Coffee in the Parish Hall

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING AND COMFORT: Darrell Aucoin, Connie Csizmadia, Eola Johnson, Angela Kalichak, Debra McEnturff, Dolores and Paul Mulaire, Cecile Roberts, Marie Stuart, Jacob Trudel and Ted Wood. *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.*

Please also remember in your prayers the **repose of the soul of Jose (Ze) Leitao**, brother of Cecilia Santos of our parish, who died suddenly on February 22nd in Portugal.

FEBRUARY 28, 2016
Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Moses sees a suspicious bush fire
that leads him to a divine encounter.

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11

God is worthy of all blessings
for the mercy and kindness we are shown.

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

Paul traces the revelation of Christ
through the story of Israel's divine rescue.

Luke 13:1-9

Rabble-rousing Galileans are no better,
and no worse, than the rest of Israel.



ODD PASSAGE SUNDAY

Let's just say it out loud: This is a weird grouping of readings we're invited to consider! We've got a bush that's burning and also not burning. We've got a rock that migrates all around the desert and is the Christ. And we've got a fig tree that doesn't produce figs. What are we to make of this biblical collage?

The characters in these passages are trying to do the same thing: fit the pieces together so they can see what each puzzling series of events is about. First there's Moses. He grew up in a palace raised by Pharaoh's daughter. But he's not an Egyptian, he's Hebrew—a dangerous thing to be since Hebrews aren't treated so well by Egyptians. Which makes Moses mad enough to kill. Which he does, murdering an Egyptian who's beating a Hebrew slave. Now Moses is a man on the lam.

Flash-forward to Moses 2.0. He's the husband of the daughter of a Midianite priest. But Moses is no Midianite. Nor is he really an Israelite, since he's never been circumcised. Moses sees a bush on fire that's not actually burning. Weird! What's even weirder is that the God of Israel is waiting for him there. God wants Moses to go back to Egypt and set the Israelites free. You've got to be kidding! Second reading: Paul is writing the Corinthians. They're not Jewish. Paul's not Greek. But Paul is something more than Jewish—he's an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul tries to explain Moses to the Greeks by way of Jesus. This leads to a very strange metaphor about Christ being the rock from which Israel drank in the desert years. And it followed them around, of course, because what good is a drinking rock if it's not there when you need it?

We arrive at the gospel. Folks are discussing current events with Jesus. Pilate just had some Galileans slain. Hardly newsworthy: Josephus says Galileans were troublemakers, and Pilate had put mobs of them to death before. Jesus is a Galilean. The people telling him these things are probably not. Jesus is in Judea. So the reporters are Judeans. Jesus responds to them by noting that some Judeans were also killed in a tower collapse recently in Jerusalem. He equates the two events: Pilate's cold-blooded killing with a random accident. The message: Don't read the will of God into either of these things.

Questions of identity permeate these readings. Who are we, and who is God? Is our identity in God, or just our ancestry? Is the story of God's people our story or not? Is it enough to be planted in this rich soil of faith—or do we actually have to produce something?

— Alice L. Camille

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Archdiocese of Winnipeg Synod
Commences Pentecost Sunday May 15, 2016

*The Archbishop's Pastoral Letter announcing the Synod
is included with this Sunday's bulletin.*

It is also available on the archdiocesan website www.archwinnipeg.ca

WHY DIFFERENT CHURCH BUILDINGS?

"Where you stand is holy ground," God tells Moses, a place where Moses encounters the presence of God. While Christ is present wherever people gather in his name, building or no, for millennia human beings have constructed temples to worship God and bring God's presence closer.

The Roman Catholic Church puts its houses of worship into different categories based on their status. Your basic church takes its cue from the Greek origins of the word assembly and the phrase "belonging to the Lord." If a building is consecrated to assemble the faithful for worship and therefore a "house of God," then it's a church. A cathedral, by contrast, is the particular church in which the bishop presides over worship and over the diocese at large.

Basilicas were originally official buildings of the Roman Empire; the Greek word means "king's hall." When Christians acquired these buildings, they were appropriated for Christ the King. These historical structures include four major basilicas in Rome as well as more than 1,550 minor basilicas [...] which have historical significance for a particular region and encircle the globe. Chapels serve more specific populations: airports, prisons, hospitals, schools, convents, and religious houses. Some churches have a smaller chapel attached for daily use.

— Alice L. Camille with Joel Schorn

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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.**

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!

***"Jesus ... was making his way to the heights of the Cross, to the moment of self-giving love.
The ultimate goal of his pilgrimage was the heights of God himself;
to those heights he wanted to lift every human being."***

— Pope Benedict XVI, a Palm Sunday homily

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.

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

Third Sunday of Lent
February 28, 2016



THE "24 HOURS FOR THE LORD"
INITIATIVE 2016
Eucharistic Adoration and Confession

This coming **Friday, March 4th** we will hold several hours of Eucharistic Adoration in conjunction with the request of His Holiness Pope Francis to spend 24 hours with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration and to make readily available the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Immediately following morning Mass on Friday,**

March 4th the Holy Eucharist will be exposed in the monstrance on the main altar in the church. The church will remain open for Eucharistic Adoration until 6:45 p.m. when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be given just before the Way of the Cross devotion is held. Throughout the day, Father Robert will be available on request for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If he is not in the church or reconciliation room when you wish to go to confession, please do not hesitate to ask at the parish office for him to come out and meet you in the Reconciliation Room. *(Please note that on this day the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3:00 p.m. in the main body of the church rather than in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.)*

Although our church will not be open all through the night like some of the churches in Rome and others throughout the world, let each of us nevertheless make an effort to join in prayer with millions of Catholic Christians around the globe in observing 24 Hours for the Lord on March 4 - 5, 2016. The 24 Hours for the Lord initiative is an excellent way to prepare our hearts to receive the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent and the many other graces the Lord offers us as we prepare for Easter in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

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.

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



The Holy Year of Mercy: Reflections **Put some muscle in your faith**

Valerian and Tiburtius became converts to Christianity during the third century through the urging and inspiration of Saint Cecilia. They, along with Saint Cecilia, were martyred for their faith. What capital crimes did Valerian and Tiburtius commit against the state? They buried their dead, which was against the Roman law. Burying the dead is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy—deeds that have to do with providing bodily comfort. The others are feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, tending to prisoners, sheltering the homeless, and visiting the sick. In memory of these early martyrs, practice a work of mercy this week.

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IN AND AROUND THE PARISH, ARCHDIOCESE AND BEYOND

CHRISTIANS OF THE HOLYLAND will be visiting our parish community next weekend **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!

PUBLIC WAY OF THE CROSS 2016: Join us on **Good Friday, March 25th**, for the Archdiocese of Winnipeg's Annual Public Way of the Cross. It will be held at St. Peter's Church, 748 Keewatin Street, with the program beginning at 8:30 a.m. For further information, please call the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 204-452-2227, ext. 273.

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.

IGNATIAN LECTURE SERIES: The Ignatian Lecture Series is being 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.

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. 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

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. Sessions listed will begin at 7:00 p.m. and be held at Sturgeon Creek United Church, 205 Thompson Drive. **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.

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

Central Winnipeg Deanery

**SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
LENT 2016**



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9TH

7:00 p.m. ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH, 2400 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg

THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH

10:00 a.m. SAINT JOHN XXIII CHURCH, 3390 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg
7:00 p.m. ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, 172 Worth Street, Winnipeg

FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH

7:00 p.m. ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH (HUNGARIAN), 365 Burnell Street, Winnipeg

TUESDAY, MARCH 15TH

10:15 a.m. St. Charles Catholic School Children at St. Charles Church
7:00 p.m. ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, 353 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg
7:00 p.m. BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH, 19 Elie Street West, Elie, Manitoba

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH

7:00 p.m. ST. CHARLES CHURCH, 320 St. Charles Street, Winnipeg

THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH

7:00 p.m. GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH, 1125 Saskatchewan Avenue East, Portage la Prairie
7:00 p.m. OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH, 95 MacDonald Avenue, Winnipeg

FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH

6:30 p.m. ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR CHURCH, 836 Arlington Street, Winnipeg

