



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.

and/or as announced

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

PARISH BULLETIN

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME and THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 5, 2017 and February 12, 2017

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Robert Polz

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

Administrative Assistant: Joanna Mason

204-832-7175 joanna@johnxxiii.ca

Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

204-832-7206 sharon@johnxxiii.ca

Head Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

Trustee: Albert McMurdie

204-889-6606 mcmurdie@shaw.ca

Building and Maintenance Chair: Claude Precourt

204-898-1893 cfp3899@gmail.com

Trustee: Christine Carlyle

204-889-0238 rccarlyl@gmail.com

Music Ministry: Donna Vendramelli

204-888-8200 d_vendramelli@mymts.net

Parish Finance Council

Fr. Robert Polz, Christine Carlyle, Anthony (Tony) Keck, Albert McMurdie, Loris Vendramelli

Parish Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee

Fr. Robert Polz, George Brown, Laurette Burch, Sharon Camier, Christine Carlyle, Ken Derendorf, Janine Gaudry, William Gould, Albert McMurdie, Gemma Minerva, Colette Mozol, Rod Olinyk, Marnie Puchniak, Victorina Tualla

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.



COUNTDOWN FOR LENT...

Ash Wednesday this year is on March 1, 2017

***Please bring last year's palms to church a.s.a.p.
so these may be collected and burned
in preparation for Ash Wednesday.***

At Saint John XXIII Church

Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m.

“CARNIVAL” PARISH PRE-LENT FIESTA FUNDRAISING GATHERING

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017
SAINT JOHN XXIII PARISH HALL
3390 PORTAGE AVENUE, WINNIPEG**

Come out and enjoy good food, fun and fellowship!

**DOORS OPEN 6:00 P.M.
POTLUCK DINNER 7:00 P.M.**

**CASH BAR, SILENT AUCTION, 50/50 DRAW, CARNIVAL MASK MAKING,
GAMES, MARDI GRAS BEADS, ENTERTAINMENT, DANCING, KARAOKE ...**

**YOUTH / ADULT – ADMISSION \$10 PER TICKET
CHILD (12 & UNDER) – ADMISSION FREE TICKET**



Admission to our Pre-Lent “Carnival” is by ticket and by the donation of your favourite food dish to share. Net proceeds from our fundraising gathering will go to the Parish to help defray the *Sharing God's Gifts* shortfall for 2016 and other parish operating expenses. For tickets and/or further information please contact one of the following persons:

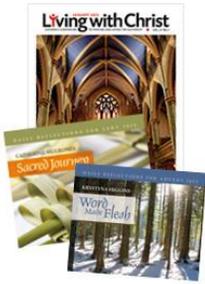
Gemma Minerva	204-291-5320	gemma_minerva@yahoo.com
Sharon Camier	204-832-7206	sharon@johnxxiii.ca
Nina Turner	204-832-7260	npturner@mts.net

Our upcoming “Carnival” is another opportunity to support the needs of our parish and to celebrate the diversity of our community with a variety of food dishes, music, entertainment, dancing, karaoke, and other fun activities. In preparing dishes to share for the potluck dinner, please be sure to bring items to the church in a manner that protects food quality – i.e. preference is given to foods that are not prone to spoil and do not need cooking on site. It is important that we follow proper food handling procedures for the safety and enjoyment of all.

If you are willing to donate something suitable for the silent auction, please contact the parish office.

We also need volunteers to help set-up the hall, assist in the kitchen, and to join in the cleanup after the festivities have concluded. If you are able and willing to help out, you may contact Christine Carlyle at 204-889-0238 or email rccarlyl@gmail.com and/or Sharon Camier (see Sharon's contact info above).

So we may be able to prepare ample supplies for the bar and the potluck buffet dinner, please obtain your admission tickets as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support!



LIVING WITH CHRIST is the perfect prayer companion. Whether or not you attend Mass daily, it gives you daily Bible readings and most everything you need to support your prayer life. The publisher *Novalis* invites you to help your parish by subscribing to *Living with Christ* yourself and/or by offering a gift subscription to someone. For each new subscription, *Novalis* will donate \$10 to your parish. Subscription forms are available through the parish office. To participate, please fill in the form and return with payment before March 15, 2017.

February 5, 2017

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:6-10

Israel becomes a people-covenant, a light that arrives as faithful as the dawn.

Psalms 112:4-5, 6-7, 8a-9

One just person brings light to the dark place and creates a lasting legacy.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

The cross of Christ is all that matters to Paul, since he counts on God's power alone.

Matthew 5:13-16

Salt preserves, and light reveals. Together, these qualities describe the true disciple.



IN PRAISE OF SIMPLE THINGS

Things are better when we take care of one another. Things grow worse if we don't. That is nowhere truer than in families. Loving and purposeful families grow together and yield abundant dividends in loyalty, mutual encouragement, and assured welfare. Careless, neglectful, or abusive families reap sorrow and hostility that winds through the years and spreads the malignancy further.

What's true for the microcosm tends to be magnified in the macrocosm. Communities that care for their weaker members thrive in peace and well-being. Communities cut off from the fate of their disadvantaged ones will harvest division, unrest, and violence. Follow this simple formula through a single nation, or the league of nations, and its veracity continues to prove out. Hebrew prophecy proposed an answer as simple as the problem: Share your bread. Shelter your homeless. Clothe the naked. Don't turn your back on your own. The nation that cares for its afflicted will be a beacon to the world. And woe to the nation that doesn't. Even in midday, the gloom that it sows will overtake it.

Jesus is also a fan of simplicity. "Love one another" is a great rule to live by. So is forgiving our trespassers, and being not afraid. If we practiced those three—love, forgiveness, courage—we'd have marvelous, radiant lives. We'd find our hearts curiously free of obstacles to becoming the people we want to be, happy and fulfilled. We'd also supply the salt to our communities so that everyone around us would lead richer lives simply because they know us, harvest our love, and are illumined by our example. When we live in the light and become the light ourselves, we discover our true purpose.

Saint Paul understood that when he made his startling resolution to keep his gospel plain and simple. It wasn't instinctive for him. Paul was a scholar: Pharisee-trained to delve into the webbed intricacies of law and celebrating the fine print in every legislated aspect of life. Living in a Hellenist society, he appreciated that wisdom teachers were supposed to show off their learning to garner impressed crowds. Paul could have done that. Yet he kept Christianity simple. He stayed close to the cross.

Many prefer to multiply the requirements of faith, making salvation a Mt. Everest of expectations to climb and heaven itself the land of Unobtainia. Christ, Paul said, opened a door through which this whole sinful world may pass. That's it. No circumcision, no sacrifices, no umpteen Deuteronomic regulations to keep. Salvation is achieved, and it's yours: Only reach out and take it! Is living according to our true purpose a challenge we are ready to embrace?

— Alice Camille

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"Our acts make or mar us, we are the children of our own deeds." — Victor Hugo

February 12, 2017
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 15:15-20

Commandments aren't designed to make life hard. Guidelines make it easier.

Psalms 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

Precepts and statutes become a path to navigate for the faithful.

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

A mysterious and hidden wisdom arrives in the Spirit from the depths of God.

Matthew 5:17-37

The greatest in the kingdom are those who take God's laws to heart.



JOTS AND TITLES

Some of us were raised in authoritarian households rife with laws. One false move and you're in trouble! Others grew up in chaos without boundaries or safeguards. Neither environment is particularly happy, and I leave it to the survivors of each to compete for which was most personally destructive. The rest of us were brought up with at least a minimum of law and order by parents who wanted the best for us. Their rules were at times arbitrary, eccentric, or shifting according to the mood of the household. The fact that there were lines beyond which we dare not venture was perhaps the most useful thing about them.

The problem of abiding by rules isn't always the rules, of course, but our relationship with the idea of rules. Some of us detest any bridling of the will and resolve to cross every line simply because it's there. Others of us cower before the authority of law and therefore live diminished lives, fearful of the smallest violation. Cautious rabbis talk about building a fence around the Torah: the need to create a secondary layer of laws to make sure the first set is never accidentally breached. The fence around the law may come to require its own fence, and pretty soon the territory of human freedom is 2,000 cubits of walking permitted on the Sabbath.

Still others of us utilize laws like alibis. We parse their meaning to discover every available loophole, not to uncover what a law hopes to protect in the first place. The Hebrew word we translate as law means guidance. Biblical law is meant to be a friend, not an agent of misery.

Sages like Sirach a century before Jesus avowed that keeping commandments does not restrict but actually rescues the keeper: law as life raft. Pharisees like Paul of Tarsus 1.0 revered law for its own sake, creating an idol of one's own righteous adherence to it. But let's not dump on the Pharisees: We all know perfectionists who still anticipate their immaculate morality will save them. They really don't want to spend eternity with folks rescued by means of God's grace!

Paul 2.0, of course, rejected his original perception of how religion operates and embraced a circumcision-free soteriology that upset his contemporaries—including Peter. How exactly are we to live with religious law: in it or around it? Is law a dance partner or nightmare boss? Is it fixed or fluid, friend or foe?

All too often, Jesus becomes part of the propaganda we hope to spread about law. Is he a hippie revolutionary, an outlaw, a moralist, a stern judge? One thing is for sure: He took the laws of God more seriously than we do.

— Alice Camille

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***“As for the destitute, we can only reach them with love
and the works of mercy, performed personally, at a sacrifice.”*** — Dorothy Day

STATEMENT FROM ARCHBISHOP RICHARD GAGNON: ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL PROPERTY REDEVELOPMENT

The recent article in the Winnipeg Free Press on proposed developments on the Cathedral property in the city of Winnipeg requires clarification. This proposal for the development of buildings on the downtown Cathedral property is a long term plan at the initial feasibility stage of development only. In order for any proposal to proceed, much consultation needs to occur among the people of the Archdiocese and the Cathedral as to design, the type of facilities, land use and funding. There are no plans to launch a capital fundraising campaign in the Archdiocese in the near future; all of these feasibility questions would need to be carefully assessed.

TWO WEEK SCHEDULE: FEBRUARY 5 – 19, 2017

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

Sunday, February 5

5:00 pm Saturday
9:00 am
10:15 am
10:15 am
11:45 am

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Coffee and fellowship after all Sunday Masses this weekend (including after 5:00 p.m. Mass Saturday)

MASS – Eulalio Minerva+, requested by the Minerva family

MASS – Robert Kabel+, requested by Bob Puchniak

CATECHISM CLASSES

Sacramental Preparation Session for First Reconciliation (in room 12)

MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners

Mass will include the Baptism of Martin Nicolas Ocampo

Monday, February 6

7:00 pm
7:30 pm
7:30 pm

MEMORIAL: SAINT PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, Martyrs

Office closed

MASS – Yolande Pharand+, requested by Linus Endacott and family

Knights of Columbus general meeting (in parish hall)

CWL executive meeting (in room 10)

Tuesday, February 7

10:00 am – 4:00 pm
10:00 am
5:00 pm

FERIAL

Office open

Al-Anon Meeting (in room 12)

Fr. Robert will attend Award Ceremony and Reception at Government House

“Lieutenant Governor’s Award for the Advancement of Inter-religious Understanding”

Wednesday, February 8

~~10:30 am~~
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
1:00 pm
6:45 pm
7:00 pm

FERIAL

~~Central Winnipeg Deanery Meeting at St. Patrick’s Church (moved to February 15th)~~

Office open

Knitting Group Gathering (in room 10)

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

MASS – Betty Fox+, requested by Laurette Burch

Thursday, February 9

9:00 am
9:15 am

FERIAL

Recitation of the Rosary

MASS – Julien Dussesoy+, requested by George and Olga Bonnefoy and family

Friday, February 10

9:00 am
9:15 am
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
~~10:45 am~~
3:00 pm

MEMORIAL: SAINT SCHOLASTICA, Virgin

Recitation of the Rosary

MASS – Antonia Zarrillo+, requested by the Bonnefoy family

Office open

~~**MASS** – at Sturgeon Creek II Retirement Residence (cancelled due to flu outbreak)~~

Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)

Saturday, February 11

11:00 am

5:00 pm

MEMORIAL: OUR LADY OF LOURDES – “WORLD DAY OF THE SICK”

MASS – Special intention for all the sick and the suffering

Saturday morning Mass will include the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

MASS – Albert Gillis+, requested by the Bonnefoy family

Sunday, February 12

9:00 am
9:30 am – 12:00 noon
10:15 am

11:45 am
1:15 pm

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS – David Brown+, requested by Bob and Marnie Puchniak

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST (in parish hall)

CATECHISM CLASSES (begin in the east end of parish hall)

Note: Sacramental Preparation Session for First Reconciliation to be done at home this week

MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners

Confirmation Preparation Session (in room 12)

Monday, February 13

FERIAL

Office closed

Tuesday, February 14	MEMORIAL: SAINT CYRIL, Monk, and SAINT METHIDIUS, Bishop
10:00 am	Al-Anon Meeting (<i>in room 12</i>)
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
Wednesday, February 15	FERIAL
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
10:30 am	<i>Fr. Robert and Sharon will attend Central Winnipeg Deanery Meeting at St. Patrick's Church</i>
5:00 pm	Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank (<i>in room 12</i>)
6:45 pm	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
7:00 pm	MASS – <i>In thanksgiving, requested by Minerva family</i>
Thursday, February 16	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – <i>Jorge Chaves+, requested by Claude and Pat Precourt</i>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
2:00 pm	MASS – at Heritage Lodge Personal Care Home, 3567 Portage Avenue
Friday, February 17	FERIAL – <i>Fr. Robert on call at Grace Hospital February 17 -24</i>
8:30 am	<i>Fr. Robert plans to attend the Mass for the opening of the Catholic Schools Day Conference</i>
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
3:00 pm	Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (<i>in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel</i>)
5:00 pm	RUMMAGE SALE downstairs in the parish hall
Saturday, February 18	FERIAL
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Couples for Christ Music Ministry Workshop (<i>parish hall</i>)
5:00 pm	MASS – <i>Brigida and Peter Pittarelli+, requested by Sandra Braccio and family</i>
Sunday, February 19	SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 am	MASS – <i>Nick and Gladys Gural+, requested by Rick and Cindy Grabowecky</i>
10:15 am	Sacramental Preparation Session for First Reconciliation (<i>in room 12</i>)
	<i>*** No regular catechism classes this weekend – Louis Riel Day weekend ***</i>
11:45 am	MASS – <i>“Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</i>

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2017

The prayer intention of Pope Francis for February 2017 is **“that all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.”**

In a video message, the Pope remarks that while new developments grow in cities, “they abandon a part of themselves to marginal settlements on the periphery.” He says that “great sections of the population are excluded and marginalized: without a job, without options, without a way out.”

“Don’t abandon them,” the Pope urged, calling the faithful to join in prayer for those who are suffering.

This year the Vatican has inaugurated a new system for announcing the Pope’s monthly prayer intentions. Rather than announcing two intentions (one general intention, one for the missions) in advance each month, the Pope is working with the Apostleship of Prayer to create a video message promoting one intention each month. For the video and further info, go to the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network website <www.popesprayer.net>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING AND COMFORT

Max and Monique Armstrong, Darrell Aucoin, Keira Bond, Joan Brabant, Jacquie and Bill Camier, Frank Clarke, Peter Corcoran, Connie Csizmadia, Phyllis Dreveski, Sylvia Ewaskow, Bonnie Joyce Irish, Angela Kalichak, Deacon Gary McCallum, Debra McEnturff, Dolores and Paul Mulaire, Mak Ntwanga, Shirley Payment, Phyllis Rogoski, Hank Smith, Rose Stankewich, Marie Stuart, Jacob Trudel, Antonio F. Viegas, Maria Helena Viegas, 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.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017: MASS AT 11:00 A.M.

Mass will include the conferral of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

On Saturday, February 11, 2017 we will celebrate a special Mass at 11:00 a.m. during which the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be conferred. Parishioners are encouraged to assist in bringing to church those of their families and the parish community who are sick and those elderly who would benefit from the gift of God's healing grace in this sacrament.

POPE FRANCIS EXPLAINS: "The priest and those who are present during the anointing of the sick represent, indeed, the entire Christian community who, as a single body, gathers around those who suffer and their relatives, encouraging their faith and hope, and supporting them with prayer and brotherly warmth. But the greatest comfort derives from the fact that it is the Lord Jesus Himself who is made present in the Sacrament; He takes us by the hand and reminds us that we now belong to Him and that nothing - not even sickness or death - can ever separate us from Him [...] Are we afraid of the habit of calling the priest to give this Sacrament to the sick - I don't mean in the case of influenza that lasts three or four days, but rather a serious illness - and to the elderly, so that they can find the strength from Jesus to go on?" The Pope urges: "Let's do this!"

ST. JAMES KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The St. James Knights of Columbus will be hosting its annual Pancake Breakfast at Saint John XXIII Church on Sunday, February 12, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon downstairs in the parish hall.

Breakfast will consist of golden brown pancakes, sausages, fruit cocktail, coffee and juice. All this for just \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for youth 10 and under. **ALL ARE INVITED.** Profits from the breakfast will go to our parish to help offset catechism program costs. Tickets available at the door. For more information you may contact Bernie Davidowich at 204-832-2191. On February 12th St. James Knights also will be providing information about the Knights of Columbus for those parishioners who would like to get involved with our council and its many good works. Come join our team!

LORD, HELP ME TO PRAY, WINTER RETREAT FOR WOMEN, MEN AND YOUTH

A Winter Retreat be held on **Saturday, February 18, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** (doors open at 8:30 a.m.) at St. Charles Church, 320 St. Charles Street. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch, snacks and beverages. Presenters are Deacon Ted Wood and Nancy Wood, Spiritual Directors and Retreat Leaders. For more information and registration, please call Anna 204-895-2420 or Fran 204-889-7348.

WE CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, FEBRUARY 12-18!

A little girl was visiting her grandmother and noticed that she had a pop bottle with a large cucumber growing in it. The little girl was intrigued – how did it get in there? And how does it get out?! Her Grandma sat her down and said, I have a little secret to share with you. She went on to explain how she had planted a seed in the bottle, and over time it grew into a cucumber. "But I have an even bigger secret" she said. "God has planted a seed in you, in each one of us – sometimes it doesn't show up until we are older and often we don't even realize that it was planted. The important thing is to be open to seeds and to nourish God's seeds in us with good works and prayer."

Every parent knows how important it is to nourish little tiny seeds. Over time, these seeds, or habits, grow. The environment plays a huge role as the seeds grow bigger and bigger until one day, they are fully grown. In fact, they eventually become so "big" that no one can take them away.

While the core curriculum is the same in public and Catholic schools, the students produced are very different. That is because the seeds, the environment, and the care offered during the growth process are very different. Students who are nurtured in a Catholic elementary school grow up to be very different adults. Just look around you – statistics indicate that people most engaged in parish community, most knowledgeable about their faith, and most trusted with leadership are products of Catholic schools.

Happiness in life starts with little seeds being planted from birth. Put a little faith in your child's education and watch God's grace take root.

Please contact St. Charles Catholic School to learn more about how to help your child grow into the best version of him/herself. Our next Open House is February 22nd. Personal tours are scheduled all year long. It would be our pleasure to work in the garden with your family.

God bless, Dr. Anne Penny, Principal

RUMMAGE SALE: Our next rummage sale will be held **Friday, February 17, 2017 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** in Saint John XXIII Parish Hall. We are grateful for your donations of items for sale, especially jewellery which sells well. 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.

Together in Christ

Lutherans and Catholics Commemorating the Reformation

Catholics, Lutherans and other interested Christians are cordially invited to take part in Ecumenical Study Sessions to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. For those in the Winnipeg area, our bishops have made arrangements to join with us for five sessions of conversation, study and prayer to be held over five months at various Lutheran and Catholic churches in the city.



Together in Christ

The first session will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 560 Arlington Street, Winnipeg. The evening will begin with a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Study Session.

These Ecumenical Study Sessions touch on some of the events and theological questions surrounding the Reformation and advancements in reconciliation which have occurred over the past 50 years. Please see the *Together in Christ* poster for the full list of dates and venues for the five sessions being held in the Winnipeg area. For more information, you may speak with our pastor or contact any of the churches listed on the *Together in Christ* poster or the MNO Synod Office at 204-889-3760, email: mnosynod@elcic.ca, www.mnosynod.org

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

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2016 are available for pick-up in the parish office following Masses or during office hours. Please help save us postage if you can. Tax receipts for donations of \$20 or more, which are not picked up within the next couple of weeks, will be mailed out before the end of February.

OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2017 are available for regular parishioners of Saint John XXIII to pick-up in the parish office following Masses or during office hours. **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.

Collections Deposited January 8, 2017: Regular offertory & other offerings = Total **\$5,327.15**

Collections Deposited January 15, 2017: Regular offertory & other offerings = Total **\$4,769.95**

Collections Deposited January 22, 2017: Regular offertory & other offerings = Total **\$3,244.05**

Collections Deposited January 29, 2017: Regular offertory & other offerings = Total **\$2,516.65**

Vigil Light Offerings Deposited January 31, 2016: Total **\$343.85**

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: While our Parish is thankfully experiencing positive growth as new families move into our community and more children and youth are participating in our Faith Formation programs, it is apparent that our Parish is also in need of major fundraising activities/programs to help satisfy our ongoing financial obligations. The establishment of an effective *Fundraising and Development Committee* in this New Year will be critical to our Parish's financial well-being for the future. **We are hoping to recruit suitable parishioners to form our new *Fundraising and Development Committee*.** Such persons need to be those who speak positively about the Parish and are willing to set a good example for others in the community. In collaboration with the members of our Parish Finance Council, they will be called to work together to lead the Parish in various efforts to raise funds to support the services needed to carry out the mission of the Parish. **If you have any constructive suggestions and/or are willing to help out, please let us know. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.**