



# SAINT JOHN BREBEUF ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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Fax (204) 489-6097  
Email: parishoffice@sjbcommunity.ca  
www.sjbcommunity.ca

## ST. JOHN BREBEUF CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Laura Carreiro, Principal ext 242  
Gail Gel, School Admin. Assistant ext 260  
Kindergarten to Grade 8  
605 Renfrew Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 1J8  
Phone: (204) 489-2115  
Fax: (204) 928-7455  
Email: schooloffice@sjbcommunity.ca  
www.sjbschool.ca



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### **Masses on the Lord's Day:**

Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 9:30am & 11:30am

### WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

### CHILDREN'S CATECHISM

*(Sundays, September to May)*

Grades 1-8: Weekly 10:40am in the school

### SHARE THE WORD

*(Sundays, September to May)*

Ages 3-6: Bi-Weekly during the 9:30am Mass

### **PASTORAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Father Mark A. Tarrant, Pastor	ext 213
Deacon Michael Thibert	
Tom Bailey-Robertson, Pastoral Associate	ext 217
Debbie Dusanek, Administrative Coordinator	ext 210
Eddie Melo, Building Operations	ext 220
Mira Salter, Finance Officer	ext 211
Andie Kim, Finance Assistant	ext 225

### **Parish Office Hours**

**Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm**  
**Closed for Lunch 12:00pm to 1:00pm**

*For admittance to the Church or the School Office during office hours, please use the intercom button located at the Renfrew School Entrance, the Courtyard or the Parking Lot door.*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday, 4:00 to 4:30pm (or by appointment)

**Sacrament of the Sick:** At home or in the hospital. Please call the Parish Office.

**Baptism of Infants:** Usually celebrated with the Community on the Day of the Lord. We encourage parents to participate in the preparation process as early as possible. Please call the Parish Office.

**Initiation of Adults/ Children:** Please call Parish Office for more information.

**Sacramental Preparation for School-aged Children:** Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation is provided through our Parish Community. Information is available through the parish office, on line or in the bulletin.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Couples planning to get married at St. John Brebeuf must contact Father Mark (ext 213) at least one year in advance. Marriage preparation and Church attendance is expected and required.

**Funerals:** Please speak to Fr. Mark **before** meeting with the Funeral Home.

**Catholic Women's League:** Meets at 12:30pm on the first Sunday of the month (October to May).

**Knights of Columbus Council 1107:** Meets at 7:30pm on the second Wednesday of the month (September to June).

## December 19/20, 2015: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 20	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30am: Missa Pro Populo 11:30am: +Cornelio Parado
Monday, Dec. 21	<b>Weekday Ferial</b> No Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 22	<b>Weekday Ferial</b> 8:50am: Morning Prayer 9:15am: +Matt Jones
Wednesday Dec. 23	<b>Weekday Ferial</b> 8:50am: Rosary 9:15am: +Iolanda Macario
Thursday, Dec. 24 <i>Parish Office closes at noon</i>	<b>Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord</b> <i>(Caroling begins 30 min. prior to Masses)</i> 5pm: Missa Pro Populo (Tehillah, Sat. 5pm choir) 7:30pm: Missa Pro Populo (Emmaus, Sun. 9:30 choir) 10pm: Missa Pro Populo (Una Voce: Sun. 11:30 choir)
Friday, Dec. 25	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> 10am: Missa Pro Populo (Una Voce: Sun. 11:30 choir)
Saturday, Dec. 26	<b>Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> 5pm: +Ben D'Souza
Sunday Dec. 27	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> 9:30am: +Peter Clarke 11:30am: Missa Pro Populo 4pm: Not Alone Christmas Dinner

### From Father Mark:

Over that last few weeks I have been reading Pope Francis' first Encyclical on the care for our common home entitled **Laudato Si'**. A few pictures would have been nice, but seriously it has been a real eye opener. It was hard to put down at times, as it really is a call to remember that God entrusted the world to us, to take care of, to tend, and to respect – but in the past 200 years the earth has seen more disrespect than at any time in human history. He speaks of how much we consume as a developed society, and then shatters our comfort by saying “We know that approximately a third of all food produced is discarded, and “whenever food is thrown out it is as if it were stolen from the table of the poor.”(LS 50) What an image.

For many years as a priest I have had close to my heart that table of the poor, however, I had not really considered how wasteful I can be. This table needs to get food and those who sit at that table to eat must have the same dignity that you and I are called to. This December month we will be eating and making merry. What a lovely way to celebrate our salvation in the one who was born in poverty in a stall in a barn twenty centuries ago. Our hearts are called to ensure that we are using that third that is usually wasted, to become the best that we have and to ensure that we remember the words of the prophet Isaiah who tells us that “the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.” (Is. 25:6)

This December month there will be refugees coming to our country, and if we truly understand our responsibility towards those who sit at the table of the poor, we will first and foremost welcome them as a member of the family. We may not meet a refugee, or be part of their family –but I think that one third of what we say about people is unnecessary and dare I say sinful. Let us make a place for them in our hearts and minds as we will be asked. The Christ was a refugee in a foreign country; the Christ has a place at the table of the poor and invites us to sit with him. Are we “faithful” enough to ask someone to pass that one third that is discarded so we can know who we are?

I pray that we as a community will take care of our poor, our hungry and those who are on the periphery of society. At our Christmas table, we will pray for them and remember to put something in the bin.

Merry Christmas!  
Father Mark

(Originally published in the December St. John Brebeuf School Newsletter)

### St. John Brebeuf Parish Offerings:

#### **Regular Offertory:**

**December 12/13, 2015: \$13,754**

**2016 Offertory Envelopes** available for pick-up at Lanark entrance.

#### **Least Coin Collection**

Each weekend, a second collection of pocket change will be taken immediately following the offertory. These funds will be used for our ongoing ministry of charity, beginning with support of refugees.

**December 12/13, 2015: \$764.50**

#### **Sharing God's Gifts:**

Our Target: **\$83,720**

Current Pledges and Donations: **\$62,495**



#### **A Special Thank You...**

... to Omer DeWandel, Peter Sheridan, John Tanner and Alf Stephens, our weekly bulletin stuffers.

...to Rick Mayhew and his crew for their work creating and installing the beautiful Christmas garland in our church.

...to Rick St. Croix, for his annual donation of the magnificent Christmas tree that adorns our altar.

These acts of kindness are truly appreciated.

### Let us Pray for our sick, homebound and those who need our prayers:

*Therefore...pray for one another, so that you may be healed (James 5:15)*

Marie A., Marie M., Don Barnicki, Gisèle Bertalanffy, David Bruneau, Kathleen Foster, Mario Di Fonzo, Irene Glass, Janice Harvey, Edith Heinrichs, Leslie Hiebert, Kay Hunt, J.D., Carol Kruse, Paul L., Marvin Lavitt, Robert Lee, Debra M., Kelly M., Romulo Magsino, Trisha Magnus, Paul Mazur, William Mendes, Monica Midgley, Eric Moscarella, Amparo Pagtakhan, Peter, George Reznik, Adeline Schmidt, Louise Soubry, Brenda T., WJ, Geraldine Walker, Brian Woods

***If someone in your family is ill and requests the prayers of the parish community, please contact the Parish Office.***

# December 19/20, 2015: Fourth Sunday of Advent

## **Fourth Week of Advent:** *Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45*

The region of Judea went through something of an unlikely baby boom: first Elizabeth found herself pregnant, though she was “getting on in years;” then Mary received some perplexing news about conceiving a child, though she was a virgin. Her situation was more tenuous than Elizabeth’s, so she immediately set out, with haste, to seek support. The well-established mother-to-be celebrating her long-awaited pregnancy strikes a stark contrast to the young virgin frantically making arrangements for her unsolicited baby. Though Mary had put on a brave face, there were still preparations to be made and much remained uncertain. The only help the angel had provided were some words of assurance; the angel told Mary about Elizabeth as an example that nothing would be impossible to God. Mary was not only looking for a place to lay low while she coped with the news, she was looking for hope.

Sudden changes in health, jobs, or family can send us over the moon or for a loop. Unexpected news can hit us in different ways. Sometimes we suddenly find ourselves face-to-face with a long sought after wish, while other times the surprise is unwelcome; both can be overwhelming. Life’s major jolts and shocks can leave us hungry for a word of hope—hope that says even though this change has happened, God will still be faithful to us, so we can trust God’s promises.

Mary’s great song of praise, the Magnificat, comes after her visit with Elizabeth, not after the angel’s announcement. It’s from Elizabeth that she received the support she needed: love, acceptance, reassurance, and a word of hope. Elizabeth gave this pregnant teenage-girl exactly what she needed, and it didn’t cost Elizabeth a cent. For all the gifts that we will give and receive this week, the most precious of all will be those given without price tags. This Jubilee Year of Mercy invites us to first accept that we indeed truly are recipients of God’s great mercy, and then to extend that mercy to one another. It’s actually the first half of the equation that we struggle with—we can be harder on ourselves than on others. Mary might have known that feeling all too well. Did she mull over the words of the angel and think, “Who am I, that God should choose me for this task? Who would ever believe it?” Her cousin’s greeting must have been a great consolation to her; so great was the realization of God’s great mercy for her that she broke into singing, “My spirit rejoices in God my saviour.” What a tremendous grace it is to once again be able to share this great mystery of endless mercy with one another.

~Tom Bailey-Robertson, Pastoral Associate

## **Refugee Sponsorship Update:**

St. John Brebeuf Parish is teaming up with St. Paul the Apostle to begin sponsorship of a refugee family. This is a big commitment for both of our parishes. There is a lot of energy around refugee sponsorship right now, but our commitment to this ministry must persist after the headlines have subsided and the other crises call out for our attention. A committee made up of members of both parishes has met and is working on taking the next steps towards sponsorship—namely to secure the paperwork necessary for sponsorship and to set up the necessary groups who will be responsible for all aspects of resettlement. Our parishes will be responsible for all the needs of the family during their first year. This means providing housing, clothing, food, medical/dental/eye care, education, transportation, employment and skills development, personal finance, and social/leisure. Each area will need a subcommittee. Our plan is to put one person from the main sponsorship committee as the contact person for each subcommittee, who will then recruit volunteers from each parish. Already parishioners are coming forward with offers of clothing and household items—there’s nowhere to put donations just yet! Our greatest need going forward will be devoted people with open hearts and time to volunteer. Stay tuned for more soon.

## **Our Place/Chez Nous:**

This winter, the centre urgently needs:

- + Men’s and women’s winter coats
- + Sweaters & hoodies, long-sleeved shirts
- + Jeans & Long sleeved shirts, Long Underwear
- + Warm blankets & throw blankets
- + Dark-coloured gloves and toques & neck warmers
- + Warm Socks and underwear (new only, please)
- + Personal sized toiletries (shampoo, soaps etc.)
- + Canned goods & Kraft dinner

Donations accepted at the main church entrance.

**Spare Change (and bills) for the Poor:** During Advent, we are collecting change and bills for Our Place/Chez Nous. Donation Jars are located at the main church entrance.



## **Knights of Columbus #1107:**

Our Knights are selling Sobey’s cards in \$25, \$50 or \$100 denominations following weekend Masses. To donate your gift card to Winnipeg Harvest, indicate this at purchase. A tax receipt will be issued.

2015 total to date: **\$11,885**



## **Will you be alone at Christmas?**

### **Would you like to join us?**

Deacon Mike and Holly Thibert invite you to join us for a traditional Canadian Christmas Dinner

**Sunday, December 27, 2015**

**Fellowship at 4pm/Dinner at 5pm**

**St. John Brebeuf Parish Hall**

Please contact Deacon Michael to **RSVP** by **Dec.20, 2015** at 204-688-4145 or Michael.Thibert@gmail.com



*Visiting us today?* **Welcome!** If you are new to our area, and are seeking a new parish family, we invite you to join us. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin boards at the main entrances. Please complete and drop in the offertory basket, or forward to the Parish Office. [www.sjbcommunity.ca](http://www.sjbcommunity.ca)



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