

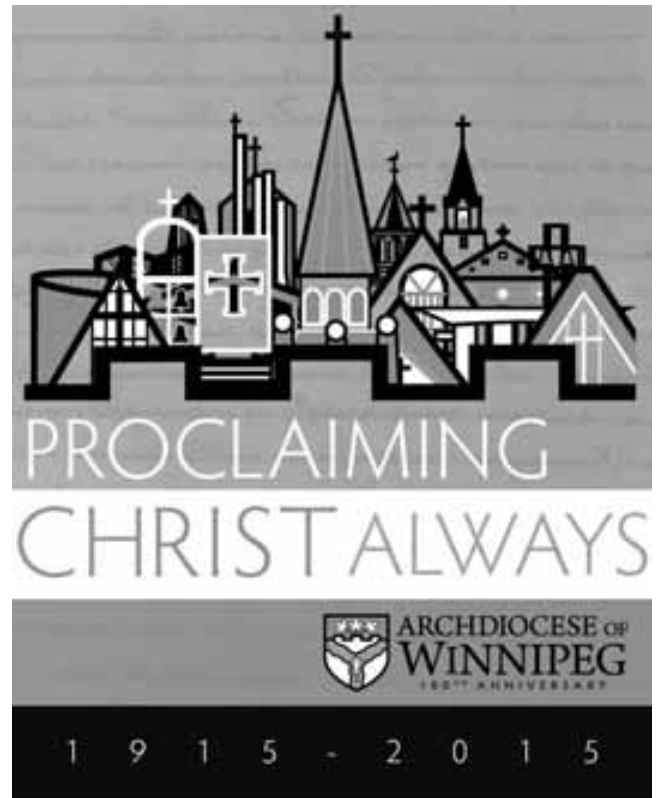


SAINT JOHN BREBEUF ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

1707 John Brebeuf Place
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 2A2
Phone (204) 488-4467
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



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
Kim Graeili, Financial 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 20/21, 2014: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 21	4th Sunday of Advent 9:30am: Missa Pro Populo 10:35am: Children's Catechism 11:30am: +Reverend Allan Stack
Monday, Dec. 22	Weekday Ferial No Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 23	Weekday Ferial 8:50am: Morning Prayer 9:15am: +Bernard Egan 1:30pm: Shaftesbury Mass
Wednesday Dec. 24	Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord 5pm: Missa Pro Populo 7:30pm: Missa Pro Populo 10pm: Missa Pro Populo
Thursday, Dec. 25	The Nativity of the Lord 10am: Missa Pro Populo
Friday, Dec. 26	Feast: St. Stephen, the First Martyr No Mass
Saturday, Dec. 27	Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 5pm: +Stan Wolfe
Sunday, Dec. 28	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 9:30am: +June Wilson 11:30am: Missa Pro Populo 2-5pm: Never Alone Christmas Dinner

Baptism: Are you expecting a child or contemplating Baptism for your child? We have returned to seasonal Baptismal Weekends. For further information, please contact Tom in the Parish Office: 204-488-4467.

Our Place/Chez Nous: Urgent Needs:
Backpacks, long johns, underwear & socks
Dark coloured toques, mitts and gloves
Shampoo, deodorant, razors, combs, brushes
Toothbrushes & toothpaste



Please leave donations at the main church entrance bin.

Spare Change (and bills) for the Poor: Throughout December, we are collecting change and bills for Our Place/Chez Nous. Donation Jars at church entrances.

St. John Brebeuf Parish Weekly Offerings:

December 13/14, 2014: \$6,048

2015 Offertory Envelopes are now available for pick-up at the Lanark entrance. Please advise Parish Office of any errors or omissions.

Church Donations: Those planning to make an **annual donation** for 2014 are reminded to contact Kim in the Parish Office by **December 29, 2014.**

Sharing God's Gifts: Our Target: \$81,730

Current Pledges & Donations: \$78,063.28

Donation envelopes available at church entrances.



Rest in Peace: +Phyllis Barich

(Wife of Helmut Epp)



*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**

First Sunday of Advent Year B: Isaiah 63:16-16; 64:1,3-8; Psalm 80; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

Advent couldn't be over fast enough when we were kids. The gradual lighting of the wreath was a torturous reminder of the seemingly interminable wait for the sheer bliss of Christmas. We measured the days by calendar chocolates and how-many-sleeps-left. We knew exactly how far Dec. 25 was from today. Given the means, we would have gladly jumped ahead, skipping over the month like it was daylight savings. All that potential energy smouldered away as slowly as the candles firmly affixed in their motionless wheel of a wreath.

How different is the waiting now, where the days seem to pile onto one another, faster and faster down the assembly line, whether we're ready to contend with each one or not. The once-steady advent wreath seems to have been swapped for a spinning top—a trade that slipped by us unnoticed even as we live out its effects every day. "Time passes like water through a sieve." We might wish for a jar instead, to bottle up the moments so they could be labeled and sealed with a lid. Time is a hungry beast that eats its children, each moment consumes the one before it, even as it chases after the next. Dare we expect to find God in this mess?

Jesus indicates that there is a season, a decisive time set aside, which we must catch. His command is to watch, to stay awake. Oh, but the time passes so slowly then when we watch. Better to stay busy; better to work away the days and sleep away the nights. God doesn't keep banker's hours; the master could show up later, at midnight, or sooner, at daybreak. So, do we add Jesus' warning to the Christmas list? Do the shopping, trim the tree, polish the silver, watch out for God... something seems off about this.

God carves out a time for us to pour his spirit into our hearts. "We are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." God fashions us into containers for his Spirit to once again be born into the world—a busy place with too many distractions and too little time. We long for God to act in a way that would make the mountains tremble, that would slow down the relentless march of time. Into this oppressive stream of passing moments, a fragile vessel becomes our hope. Amid the flooding waters we cling to the cross, "that paltry piece of wood" like it were Noah's ark itself, and God once more makes a dwelling place on earth.

~Tom Bailey-Robertson, Pastoral Associate

Pastoral References:

All pastoral reference requests for students seeking admission to St. Mary's or St. Paul's High School must be in to Fr. Mark by **January 16, 2015.** Please include a stamped, addressed envelope with your request.

December 27/28, 2014: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, Dec. 28	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 9:30am: +June Wilson 11:30am: Missa Pro Populo 2-5pm: Never Alone Christmas Dinner
Monday, Dec. 29	5th Day of the Octave of Christmas No Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 30	6th Day of the Octave of Christmas 9:15am: +Ann McInerney
Wed., Dec. 31	Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 5pm: +Mimi Trainor
Thursday, Jan. 1	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 10am: Missa Pro Populo
Friday, Jan. 2	Memorial: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors 8:50am: Rosary 9:15am: +Picola Trozzo
Saturday, Jan 3.	Vigil: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 5pm: Intentions of the McKinley Family 7pm: K. of C. Christmas Dinner
Sunday, Jan. 4	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 9:30am: Missa Pro Populo 11:30am: +Eileen Nash 12:30pm: C.W.L. Meeting

Holy Family: *Gen 15:1-6, 17:3-5, 15-16, 21:1-7; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2:22-40*

In the midst of the high season of time spent together with family, the Church sees fit to celebrate that families are indeed holy. Perhaps this is easier to believe when we have spent time apart from them than when they are still there sleeping on the fold out in the living room. While Holy Family brings to mind the nuclear family of Mary, Joseph, and little baby Jesus, it is important to celebrate the many forms that family takes. After all, Jesus was essentially adopted by Joseph. There is nothing traditional about the families we meet in today's readings.

God chose a retired couple, beyond their child bearing years, to be the progenitors of his covenant. In the twilight of their lives, as Abram and Sarai were winding things down, God suddenly shows up and announces a new direction for them. God renames them to fit their new identities in his covenant and promises them descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky. One moment their writing their wills, getting ready to name their servant as heir; the next they find themselves setting up a crib and picking out paint for a nursery. The whole situation was so fantastical, Sarah couldn't contain her laughter. You thought your family was weird: try crazy aunt Sarah and uncle Abe having a baby at a hundred years old!

Mary and Joseph don't drive straight home to Nazareth after giving birth at Bethlehem Memorial; they take Jesus to Jerusalem to perform the ritual prescribed for a first-born. There they share their joy with a devout local, Simeon, who speaks a word of blessing and praise. For all the excitement around Jesus' birth, you'd think that Mary and Joseph would have expected something special at the temple, but even this simple prayer of Simeon's astonishes them as much as the angels and shepherds in the manger. The joy and mystery of being a parent is amplified when it is shared. When our ministers of communion bless our parish's children, we are channeling something of that visit with Simeon, proclaiming the goodness of God's gift of life to this church.

The prophet Anna lived only seven of her eight-four years with her husband. She spent many more years at the temple, dedicating herself to prayer. She saw something that day of Jesus' visit, a fulfillment of God's promise that moved her to preach a word of good news to those at the temple. Our own families are guided and shaped by the wisdom passed on to us from our elders. Children grow up with many grandparents beyond their own flesh and blood—they don't distinguish love by relation. Our families, in all their forms, are indeed holy, because God has chosen to bring us together as family. Unlike our friends, who we choose, God gives us our family. We can receive this gift with joy knowing it was picked out for us with great care, even if they're not who we would have picked ourselves!

~Tom Bailey-Robertson, Pastoral Associate

Knights of Columbus #1107:

Your purchase of Sobeys Gift Cards can help feed the hungry in our city. Our Knights are selling cards in \$25, \$50 or \$100 denominations following weekend Masses. To donate your gift card to Winnipeg Harvest, indicate this at the time of your purchase and a tax receipt will be issued.

Each dollar donated allows Harvest to leverage \$20 worth of food. In 2014, St. John Brebeuf parishioners have purchased **\$11,132.40** in gift cards toward the purchase of much needed baby formula.



Keep Christ in Christmas Calendars:

During Advent, the Knights will be selling Keep Christ in Christmas Calendars featuring the artwork from the 2013 Keep Christ in Christmas Colouring Contest. Watch for details.

2014 Keep Christ in Christmas Colouring Contest:

Children are invited to submit a hand drawn picture (up to 8 1/2" x 14") or collage to the Parish Office by the end of December. Contest open to children K-7 and up. Prizes in each age category. Details: www.kofcwinnipeg.org

Let us Pray for our Sick and Homebound:

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

Marie A., Marie M., Don Barnicki, Nick Bencharski, Gisèle Bertalanffy, David Bruneau, Ben D'Souza, Kathleen Foster, Mario Di Fonzo, Irene Glass, Janice Harvey, Edith Heinrichs, Leslie Hiebert, Kay Hunt, J.D.,

Matt Jones, Carol Kruse, Margaret Lafrenière, Marvin Lavitt, Robert Lee, Debra M., Kelly M., Romulo Magsino, Trisha Magnus, Paul Mazur, William Mendes, Monica Midgley, Evan Morton, Eric Moscarella, Georgia Poirier, Wally Ross, Adeline Schmidt, Louise Soubry, Brenda T., Jack Tarnava, Geraldine Walker, Brian Woods

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

To have names published, we require permission requesting that their name be added or removed from the prayer list.

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