



## SAINT JOHN BREBEUF ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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Email: parishoffice@sjbcommunity.ca  
www.sjbcommunity.ca

### ST. JOHN BREBEUF CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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 TEAM**

Father Mark A. Tarrant, Pastor ext 213  
Deacon Michael Thibert  
Deacon Joseph McLellan, Emeritus  
Laura Carreiro, Principal ext 242  
Tom Bailey-Robertson, Pastoral Associate ext 217  
Genevieve Makinson, Financial Administrator ext 211  
Eddie Melo, Building Operations ext 220  
Debbie Dusanek, Parish Admin. Coordinator ext 210  
Deb Bernier, School Admin. Assistant ext 241

#### **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.

*"Missioned to Stewardship, we  
are a community that Lives,  
Loves and serves in Christ."*

#### **PARISH CONTACTS**

Finance Council: Kevin McCulloch/ Peter Smith  
Parish Pastoral Council: Johnston Smith  
School Board: Elizabeth Matyi  
Ministers of the Word: Leann Smith  
Ministers of the Eucharist: Joe Brekelmans  
Altar Servers: Keith Mathewson  
Catechism: Parish Office  
Spiritual Journeying: Margaret Kingdon

**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 22, 2013: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, Dec. 22	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30am: Missa Pro Populo 9:35am: Share the Word 10:35am: Children's Catechism 11:30am: +Bernard Egan
Monday, Dec. 23	<b>Weekday Ferial</b> No Mass
Tuesday Dec. 24	<b>Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord</b> (Office Open 9am-Noon) 5pm: Missa Pro Populo 7:30pm: Missa Pro Populo 10pm: Missa Pro Populo ( <i>With Incense</i> )
Wed., Dec 25	<b>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</b> 10am: Missa Pro Populo
Thursday, Dec. 26	<b>Feast of St. Stephen</b> No Mass
Friday, Dec. 27	<b>Feast of St. John the Evangelist</b> (Office Open 9am- Noon) 8:50am: Rosary 9:15am: +Victims of Typhoon Haiyan
Saturday, Dec. 28	<b>Vigil: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> 5pm: +Kathleen & Leo Kyle
Sunday, Dec. 29	<b>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> 9:30am: Missa Pro Populo 11:30am: +Helen Luy
Monday, Dec. 30	<b>6th Day of the Octave of Christmas</b> No Mass (Office Open 9am-Noon)
Tuesday, Dec. 31	<b>Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</b> (Office Open 9am-Noon) 5pm: +Mimi Trainor
Wednesday, Jan 1	<b>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</b> 10am: Missa Pro Populo
Thursday, Jan 2	<b>Memorial: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors</b> 9:15am:+Marion Meyers
Friday, Jan. 3	<b>Weekday Ferial</b> 8:50am: Rosary 9:15am: +Raj Sharma 7:30pm: Installation of Archbishop Gagnon, St. Mary's Cathedral
Saturday, Jan. 4	<b>Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord</b> 5pm: +Raj Sharma
Sunday, Jan. 5	<b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</b> 9:30am: +Cornelio Parado 9:35am: Share the Word 10:35am: Children's Catechism 11:30am: +Liam Farrell 12:30pm: C.W.L. Meeting

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent:** *Matthew 1.18-24*

The Gospel according to Matthew begins with the genealogy of Jesus, a list of the forty-two generations from Abraham to Joseph. The Messiah was expected to be a descendent of these men with whom God had struck a covenant. Jesus' lineage came from his father's side, yet we hear today that Joseph essentially adopts Jesus when, on the advice of an angel, he takes Mary as his wife. God chose an unconventional family to bring Jesus into the world. It may strike us as a unique situation, but all throughout scripture God has worked miracles through unusual circumstances. Among the forty-two men in the genealogy, four women are mentioned: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba. All four women are undeservingly suspected of indecent behaviour, yet in each case prove to be more righteous than their accusers.

Tamar outwitted her father-in-law Judah, who had unjustly dismissed her and confined her to a life of widowhood. She winds up pregnant outside of marriage, so Judah tries to condemn her to death. She is able to prove that it is by Judah himself that she is pregnant, and so shows her innocence. Rahab ran a public house in Jericho and was suspected of harlotry. She attests faith in God though, proclaiming how God worked to free the Hebrew people from Egypt. She agrees to help the Israelite army capture Jericho and in exchange the invaders promised to spare her family. Through her faith, Rahab and her kin became family to Israel. Finally, the story of Ruth tells of the unflappable loyalty and love between her and her Israelite mother-in-law, Naomi. After Ruth's husband dies, she refuses to leave Naomi's side, "...your people shall be my people, and your God my God." Ruth makes a bold move to marry Naomi's relative Boaz: she uncovered him and lay at his feet while he slept. He awoke halfway through the night, startled to find Ruth under his sheet. Her daring paid off—she married Boaz and bore a son who became grandfather to David. This is how a Moabite woman became an ancestor to the Kings of Israel.

Every year our church gets swamped with people at Christmas. They come for mass, the school Christmas concert, or just for a quiet place away from the mall. For those of us who are here the rest of the year, it can be difficult to accept the influx of guests. We can rejoice though, since these visitors are a sign that God is once again working to extend this unconventional family to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world. God gets creative about including those people whom we suppose are outsiders. We may find that our Lord has cast them in a central role this Christmas. Like Joseph, we don't have to be afraid that God likes to colour outside the lines.

~Tom Bailey Robertson, Pastoral Associate

**Church Donations:** Those planning to make an **annual donation** for 2013 are reminded to contact Genevieve in the Parish Office by **December 27, 2013**.

# December 29, 2013: Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

## **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph:** *Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23*

The Jewish readers of Matthew's Gospel could recognize in Jesus' story their own narrative of faith: God's covenant with the people of Israel—revealed by the prophets over time—enacted in history. The story of Jesus' infancy parallels the Israelites as God's chosen people. God promises a child to a couple through amazing circumstances; from humble beginnings, the lowest shall be lifted up; along the way there are hardships and time in exile; and finally there is deliverance from oppression. This is meant to invoke the great names of Jewish history: Abraham and Sarah, Jacob and Rachel, their son Joseph, Moses, Joshua, and David. Jesus didn't simply drop out of the sky, but was born into a family with deep Jewish roots. Mary and Joseph's Jewish faith prepared them to welcome Jesus into their lives. Likewise, God blesses our families with faith to hold us up in both times of trouble and times of joy.

How did Joseph know it was an angel of God that appeared to him in his dreams? If a dream commanded me to take my wife and child and run away from home, I might resolve to cut back on cookie dough ice cream before bed, then I would roll over and go back to sleep. Joseph, however, got up that very night and left. This wasn't the only time he listened to God in his dreams. He changed his mind about Mary after receiving a message in his sleep, and became her husband and the father of her unborn child. When the angel of God sends the all-clear for Joseph to return his family to Judea, he does it. Oh, but Judea still wasn't completely safe, said the angel—again in a dream—better settle down in a place called Nazareth. Hope you like obscurity and poverty, Joseph, because Nazareth has both. Joseph could trust in the bedtime dispatches because he knew from his faith that God had a track record of communicating through dreams. He took them seriously because he also knew from scripture what happened to those who ignored God's commands. Throughout the turmoil of an unexpected pregnancy, an unstable political ruler, and his family's exile, God reassured Joseph through the faith that he had and knew so well. God spoke in a way that Joseph could recognize and trust.

The most privileged moments in our parish church are when we accompany families through those life-changing moments: graduations, marriages, births, and deaths. Sometimes they are tumultuous, but these moments are just as often filled with grace and love, along with worry and grief. They are times when the story of our faith comes to life. Above all else, faith tells us that the Lord acts lovingly in our lives, even when there doesn't seem to be any evidence of God at work. God speaks to us in ways we can recognize to lift our families up in celebration and in sadness.

~Tom Bailey Robertson, Pastoral Associate

We welcome into the family of God and the Community of St. John Brebeuf



*Benjamin Alexander Michael Maltby*

who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism at St. John Brebeuf Church on December 15, 2013

***May God bless you and your family!***

**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.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Next session: **Wednesday, January 22, 2014** in the St. Marie Room

### **From the Principal:**

Dear Parishioners,

Fifty six years ago some wise Jesuits founded our St. John Brebeuf School along with the guidance of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Since then more than 15,000 students have come through our doors. Today their mission is still being carried out by our dedicated lay staff. Each person that walks through door is entrusted with the mission of Living, Learning and Serving in Christ as set out by the example of our Sisters.

In keeping with our mission statement, this year our Social Justice Committee and the Parent Council are jointly working with the students and their families to help raise awareness about hunger and poverty in our city and throughout the world. Following your example and commitment to help Winnipeg Harvest, our 275 students have committed to extending a helping hand at Winnipeg Harvest at least once this school year. We have also implemented an international program called "Empty Bowls" in an effort to spread awareness and fight hunger. During the next few months, each student and staff member will create their own unique bowl to symbolize those who go hungry each day and on April 27, we will share a simple meal of soup and bread, sell the bowls and donate the money to Winnipeg Harvest. As a third initiative, each classroom prepared Christmas hampers for the N.E.E.D.S Centre (for newcomers to Canada) which were delivered on December 16.

I would like to thank you for all your prayers, volunteer service and financial contributions made to provide the school with a new roof and bursary aid for many of our families who otherwise would not be able to attend our school. St. John Brebeuf School exists because of your dedicated faith and commitment.

As we approach another Christmas, on behalf of all students and staff at St. John Brebeuf School, I would like to wish you a blessed Christmas filled with love and charity.

~Mrs. Laura Carreiro, Principal

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