

# St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral

## Archdiocese of Winnipeg



**Most Reverend  
Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg**  
[www.archwinnipeg.ca](http://www.archwinnipeg.ca)

353 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0M8  
Telephone: (204) 947-0294 Fax: (204) 944-1676  
Email: [stmarys\\_cathedral@mts.net](mailto:stmarys_cathedral@mts.net)  
Web: [www.stmaryscathedralwpg.ca](http://www.stmaryscathedralwpg.ca)

### **Mass Times:**

Sunday Eucharist:  
Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.  
Weekday Eucharist:  
Monday to Friday 12:10 noon  
1st Friday - Adoration - 9:30 am

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Holy Names House of Peace located at  
211 Edmonton Street  
Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am – Noon  
Saturday : 10:00 am – Noon  
Or Upon Request

### **Ordained Ministers:**

Rector: Very Reverend Geoffrey Angeles  
Parochial Vicar: Reverend Marcelino Bandico  
Deacon: Reverend Mr. Rudy Le Maître  
Sacramental Assistant: Reverend Ken Barclay (Retired)

### ***Mission Statement***

*As the Cathedral parish of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, we welcome and serve all people on their faith journey as we promote and celebrate the Catholic faith in the living Christ. Through excellent liturgy, we are inspired to embrace social justice and diversity, and foster personal growth. In an atmosphere of acceptance, we encourage hopefulness, love and transformation.*



## Mass Schedule

**MONDAY, December 18/17 Ferial**  
12:10 pm - † Jean, Walter, & Gloe Cormie/ Suzanne Cormie

**TUESDAY, December 19/17 Ferial**  
12:10 pm - † Natividad Verona Aguadara/ Remy

 - Amanda Lynn Barcelona

**WEDNESDAY, December 20/17 Ferial**  
12:10 pm - † Teresita Martin/ Sister, Adelaida

 -Kay Prost

**THURSDAY, December 21/17 Ferial**  
12:10 pm - † Dante Buenaventura/ Family

 -Jamie Duque


**FRIDAY, December 22/17 Ferial**  
12:10 pm - Thanksgiving for Mark, Todd & Christopher/  
Mother

**SATURDAY, December 23/17 - 4th Sunday of Advent**  
5:00 pm - † Victor Stepanuik/ Family  
- † Maria Bevacqua/ Pat and Bill  
Fr. Geoffrey Presiding

**SUNDAY, December 24/17 - 4th Sunday of Advent**  
9:30 am - For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
Fr. Marcelino Presiding  
11:30 am - For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
Fr. Marcelino Presiding

**SUNDAY, December 24/17 - Vigil of the Nativity**  
**(Christmas Eve)**

5:00 pm - For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
Fr. Geoffrey Presiding  
10:00 pm - For the Parishioners of St. Mary's  
Archbishop Gagnon Presiding

 - Yee-Heng Chan  
- Candida V. Munoz  
- Victoria C. Buenaventura

### Liturgical Staff:

Director of Music: Ian Campbell  
Sacristan: Connie Nepomuceno

### Support Staff:

Administrative Assistant: Nicholas Barker  
Caretaker/ Building Maintenance: Rickey LaPointe  
Operations Business Manager: Eva Dunlao

### Faith Formation:

Children's Catechism: Nicholas Barker  
Young Adult Ministry: Bénédicte Le Maître

### Parish Councils:

Finance: Bill Wachko

### Affiliated Organizations:

Catholic Women's League: Eileen Rieger  
Knights of Columbus: Art Lopuck  
Legion of Mary: Linda Delapena

"There is one ... coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."



Untying sandal straps was no prestigious job. In the days of John the Baptist, those straps would have been especially unpleasant to deal with. Besides the usual odors that accompany sockless leather footwear, there would have been the grime and dirt from the sandy roads and paths that swirled around the people who went everywhere on foot. Taking off someone's shoes upon their arrival was the task of the lowly servants. So when John says he's unworthy of doing this task for the "one who is coming after me," he is putting himself in a very humble position. And rightly so.

John realizes that the Christ—the Anointed One, the Messiah—is so far above him, so far above any of us, that we are truly unworthy of him. Indeed, the Son of God is not just the greatest of men; he is God-made-man and in his presence we most appropriately should bow in humble homage. Yet this God chose to stoop down to our human level and walk among us. He chose to get his sandals dirty. And still today he chooses to allow us to encounter him as a friend and companion. But as John reminds us by his example, this encounter with the Lord is not the result of our own merits or accomplishments. We are sinners who stand in need of Christ's help. But thanks be to God, he is always willing to extend this help to us. As St. Paul says in today's epistle, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy." Indeed it is God who does the perfecting, not us by our own power. So let us approach the Lord this Advent season with a spirit of hopeful humility, trusting that God alone can make us worthy of welcoming his Son.

**Lector's Schedule:** December 23rd and 24th  
**(AM Masses Only) - Group 1**



### Readings for the Week of December 17, 2017

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28  
Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25  
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25  
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14;8:10d/Lk 1:26-38  
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45  
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56  
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4;4 5-6/Lk 1:57-66  
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/  
Lk 1:26-38

**2017 Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Sunday, December 24th**

4th Sunday of Advent - 9:30am & 11:30am

Christmas Eve - 5:00pm & 10:00pm



**Monday, December 25th**

Christmas Day - 9:30am & 11:30am

**Sunday, December 31st**

Holy Family - 9:30am & 11:30am

Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Eve) - 5:00pm -

**Monday, January 1st**

Mary, Mother of God - 9:30am & 11:30am

**"Fill the Crib" for Villa Rosa**

This is CWL's annual project to assist Villa Rosa, a prenatal and postnatal residence with a mission to provide support to mothers, babies and their families before, during and after pregnancy. Donations for babies of the following articles would be much appreciated; diapers, baby wipes, baby clothes, bibs, receiving blankets: donations for moms include nursing bras and pads, maxi pads, body lotions, deodorant, shampoos, body wash, soap, and blank calendars for 2018.

**A bassinette to receive your gift is on the window sill of the Holy Mother window in the left sanctuary.**

Villa Rosa is at 784 Wolseley Ave. Wpg. R3G 1C6.

204-786-5741 [www.villarosa.mb.ca](http://www.villarosa.mb.ca)

**St. Elizabeth's Closet**

St. Elizabeth's Closet is now open. All types of clothing are available for those in need: men's, women's, children's. Thank you to all those who have made donations, we have reached our capacity for storage and will no longer be taking donations. *If you would like to help volunteer, please contact the office.*

**Meaningful Christmas gifts though CHALICE**



Chalice is the largest Canadian, Catholic sponsorship organization that primarily supports community initiatives in 15 countries through the sponsorship of children and elderly in need for over 21 years. Their Mission: *To bring Christ to*

*the poor and the poor to Christ.* Every year they provide a Christmas Gift Catalogue (inserted in this week's bulletin). Consider making a real difference this year by giving gifts to our friends and family by giving to those in need. Website: [chalice.ca](http://chalice.ca)

**SMC HOSPITALITY CENTRE**

*Find our hospitality centre by the Hardgrave street entrance where you can find various religious goods and information related to our parish. Some items include:*

Your 2018 offertory envelopes; "Keep Christ in Christmas" Buttons; Word Among Us; St. Mary's Angels in support of CKJS; St. Elisabeth Convent (Handmade religious goods)



The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all those parishioners that attended their Pancake Breakfast last Sunday. We would also like to thank the Knights and their wives that prepared and served the food. God Bless you all.

**Parish Offerings**

**Total offering for the week ended December 10, 2017:**

Weekday Envelopes	\$ 213.00
Weekday and Weekend Loose	\$ 1,813.55
Weekend Envelopes	\$ 5,372.40
Votives	\$ 556.75
PAR/PAD Monthly Contributions	\$ —
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ <u>7,955.70</u></b>

**Capital Campaign for December 10, 2017:**

Actual Offering	\$ 307.00
PAR/PAD Contributions	\$ —
2017 Goal per Week	\$ 1,000.00

**Sharing God's Gifts December 10, 2017:**

2017 Target	\$ 49,440.00
Donations Received to Date	\$ 64,819.50
<b>*Excess—Over 2017 Target</b>	<b>\$ 15,379.50</b>

*\*The excess on the 2017 Sharing God's Gifts will be carried forward and applied to our new 2018 SGG's target.*

**ORIGIN OF "THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS"**

**An Underground Catechism**

*(an excerpt from an article written by Fr. Hal Stockert, Fishnet)*

You're all familiar with the Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" I think. To most it's a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written. It is a good deal more than just a repetitious melody with pretty phrases and a list of strange gifts. Catholics in England during the period 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England, were prohibited from ANY practice of their faith by law - private OR public. It was a crime to BE a Catholic.

The songs gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so..."

The other symbols mean the following:

- 2 Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments
- 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
- 4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
- 5 Golden Rings = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
- 6 Geese A-laying = the six days of creation
- 7 Swans A-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
- 8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes
- 9 Ladies Dancing = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- 10 Lords A-leaping = the ten commandments
- 11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful apostles
- 12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

Reis Pagtakhan James Ferguson

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- Pope Francis, 2016

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