

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral

Archdiocese of Winnipeg

353 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0M8

Telephone: (204) 947-0294 Fax: (204) 944-1676

Email: stmarys_cathedral@mts.net Web: www.stmaryscathedralwpg.ca

Ordained Ministers:

Rector: Very Reverend Geoffrey Angeles

Deacon: Reverend Mr. Rudy Le Maître

Sacramental Assistant: Fr. Ken Barclay (Retired)



*May the Blessings of this
Holy Season be with you Always.*



MONDAY, Dec 23, 2013 - Ferial
12:10 pm †- Victor Stepanuik - Family

TUESDAY, Dec 24, 2013 - Solemnity
Christmas Eve- Nativity of the Lord
5:00 pm & 10:00 pm

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

WEDNESDAY, Dec 25, 2013 - Solemnity
Christmas Day - Nativity of the Lord
9:30 am & 11:30 am

 - Nellie Noval

THURSDAY, Dec 26, 2013 - Feast
- St. Stephen, The First Martyr
12:10 pm †- William Lillies Sr. - Family

 - Bridget Sinnott

FRIDAY, Dec 27, 2013 -Feast
- St. John, Apostle, Avangelist
12:10 pm †- Dante & Victoria Buenaventura / Family

SATURDAY, Dec 28, 2013 - Feast
- Holy Innocents, Martyrs
5:00 pm - †- Francisco & Rosario Santiaguél Ayson
 - Dante & Arcie Amigo & Family

 - Victoria Umali Ilagan
 - Florence McKeon

SUNDAY, Dec 29, 2013 - Feast
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
9:30 am & 11:30 am - for St. Mary's parishioners



Readings for the Week of December 22, 2013

Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-14/Romans 1:1-7
 Matthew 1:18-24

Monday: Malachi 3:1-4; 4:5-6/Luke 1:57-66

Tuesday: Isaiah 62:1-5 or Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7
 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 or Titus 2:11-14
 Mathew 1:1-25 or Luke 2:1-16++

Wednesday: Isaiah 52:7-10/Hebrew 1:1-6
 John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Matthew 10:17-22

Friday: 1 John 1:1-4/John 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday: 1 John 1:5--2:2/Matthew 2:13-18

Next Sunday: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14/Colossians 3:12-21
 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
 and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with
 us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had
 commanded him and took his wife into his home..*
Matthew 1:23-24

"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" No other religion makes such a radical claim. To be Christian is to believe that God is truly with us, in the most personal, intimate way imaginable; he is one of us! What a remarkable reality. Through the Incarnation, God became human and lived among us to love us, to guide us, to heal us, and to strengthen us.



Three days from now, we will celebrate this extraordinary gift that came to us on the first Christmas Day. All other Christmas gifts, no matter how exquisite or precious, pale in comparison to the gift of Jesus Christ. All the joys and festivities of the season, all the love and generosity that go into our beautiful holiday traditions, can be all the more meaningful when we keep this in mind.

Although secular celebrations of Christmas ignore the significance of the holy day, the church gives us Advent to help us keep our focus. In these weeks of yuletide preparation, we stop to remind ourselves what it means to be Christian, in case we have begun taking it for granted. We reorient our hearts and minds to recall, once again, the mysterious glory of the Incarnation.

We have been praying throughout this season of anticipation, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The real magic of Christmas is that we get exactly what we prayed for! Jesus has come. God has answered our prayers and given us what we truly desire in the depths of our hearts: himself, Emmanuel, God with us.

Lectors
Group 3 will read next weekend, Dec 28 & 29, 2013.

Liturgical Staff:
 Director of Music: Ian Campbell
 Sacristan: Connie Nepomuceno
 Lector Leader: Mary Le Maître

Faith Formation:
 Children: Armi Yang, Don Schroeder
 Rite of Christian Initiation: Sr. Rose Mary Sander

Parish Councils:
 Finance: Bill Wachko
 Building & Grounds: Ky Mohammed

Support Staff:
 Secretary: Pat Stepanuik
 Administrative Assistant: Lori Gagnon
 Caretaker/ Building Maintenance: Rickey LaPointe
 Business Manager: Bill Wachko
 Pastoral Councilor: Sr. Rose Mary Sander

Affiliated Organizations:
 Catholic Women's League: Eleanor Ulasz
 Knights of Columbus: Ed Polkowski

December 22 – 4th Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel, Joseph was awoken by an Angel and immediately acceded to God's request. Even though we live in a culture that loves complexity and busyness, we need time to be still so that we can be awake to the voice of God. In order to be good stewards of time, it is vital to set aside a few moments every day to listen to God. Daily prayer provides an opportunity to discover God's plan for you, and to discern how to use your God given gifts wisely.

Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg,
www.archwinnipeg.ca

Stewardship.....for Life!
 Will return in the New Year

Can Your Tax Receipt Find You?

A kind reminder to all parishioners. If you have moved in the past year, and have not already done so, please update your information with the parish office at 204-947-0294, so that your income tax receipt can be delivered to you.

Marriage Preparation

Mondays, Feb 2, 10, 17, 24 and Mar 3, 10 from 7 - 9 pm
 Please register at the Parish Office, 204-947-0294

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

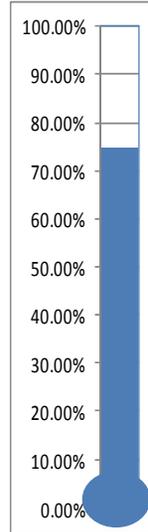
The Christmas season is upon us once again, calling us to pause and ponder the Christmas story - the mystery of God's boundless love breaking into the history of our world and living among us. Although this story took place thousands of years ago, its significance is renewed every year, growing deeper in our hearts. Unlike a fairy tale that is far removed from our reality of life where a particular event happened "once upon a time", Christ's coming at Christmas is a reminder of God's imminent and impartial presence. It is the reassurance that every moment, every heart-beat, every tear shed, every cry of laughter - every aspect of our lives is graciously embraced by God who is with us, Emmanuel. It is the promise of a loving presence that desires to draw us constantly towards the eternal, God's self. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, may we be changed by this wondrous act of unconditional love. May this mystery be the gift that we, in turn, offer to others.

Peace, blessings and joy!

Fr. Geoffrey



SHARING GOD'S GIFTS



Goal for 2013	\$ 54,140
Received to date	<u>40,812</u>
Shortfall	\$ 13,328

This is the last month where our parish will have the opportunity to reach its goal in Sharing God's Gifts for 2013. The last offering of the year for Sharing God's Gifts will be taken on December 28 & 29. It is our hope that this reminder will encourage all of us to reach our target goal for this appeal, considering the significant shortfall as noted above. We are grateful for all you do to support our wonderful parish.

AGAPE TABLE

The item for December is Non Dairy Creamer (items may be placed in the container in the sacristy) to volunteer : 204-783-6369 or volunteer@agapetable.ca

St Mary's Cathedral Christmas Schedule

Monday, Dec 23 - Mass at 12:10 pm

Tuesday, Dec 24 - (Christmas Eve)
 Mass at 5:00 pm & 10:00 pm
 "Carol Service begins 45 minutes before the 10:00 pm mass"

Wednesday, Dec 25 - (Christmas Day)
 Mass at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Thursday, Dec 26 - Mass at 12:10 pm

Friday, Dec 27 - Mass at 12:10 pm

Saturday, Dec 28 - (Feast of Holy Innocents)
 Mass at 5:00 pm

Sunday, Dec 29 - Mass at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Monday, Dec 30 - Mass at 12:10 pm

Tuesday, Dec 31 - (New Year's Eve)
NO NOON MASS / Mass at 5:00 pm

Wednesday, Jan 01 - (New Year's Day)
 Mass at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

During the holidays the parish office will be
CLOSED
 Dec 24, 25, 26, 27 and 31, 2013 and Jan 01

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