

BLESSED JOHN XXIII PARISH
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THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – JANUARY 3, 2010

MASS INTENTIONS – JANUARY 2 – 10, 2010

5:00 pm Saturday (2nd)	†Howard Nielson req. Roger & Shirley Sylvestre
9:00 am Sunday (3rd)	†Pierre Lafrance req. Marcel & Louise Molot
1:00 pm Sunday (3rd)	For all our Parishioners' Intentions
	NO MORNING MASS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 4th
9:15 am Tuesday (5 th)	†Joe Downey req. Margaret Downey
9:15 am Wednesday (6 th)	†Germaine Laval req. Laval Family
<u>2:30 pm Wednesday (6th)</u>	<u>Monthly Mass at Golden West Centennial Lodge</u>
9:15 am Thursday (7 th)	†Deceased Family & Friends req. Sue & René Gobeil
9:15 am Friday (8 th)	Special Intention Stephanie Dandewich req. Morning Mass Group
<u>10:45 am Friday, (8th)</u>	<u>Monthly Mass at Sturgeon Creek II</u>
5:00 pm Saturday (9th)	†Susan Csizmadia req. Flora Zaharia & Family
9:00 am Sunday (10th)	†Albert & †Tillie Lavallée req. Louise Lane
1:00 pm Sunday (10th)	For all our Parishioners' Intentions

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Catechism Sunday:	January 3, 2010	Immediately following 1:00 pm Mass – approx. 2:00 pm downstairs.
<i>Knights of Columbus:</i>	Monday, January 4	Monthly Mass & General Meeting 7:00 pm
<i>ACC Knitters Group:</i>	Monday, January 4	7:00 pm Lounge
<i>Scripture Study:</i>	Tuesday, January 4	10:00 am Room 10
<i>Development & Peace:</i>	Tuesday, January 4	7:00 pm Lounge
Because the First Friday in January was New Year's Day, First Friday Devotions, i.e. Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, will take place after Mass, Jan. 8th		

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – JANUARY 3, 2010

From the Pastor's Desk:

Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany that celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the nations, the showing forth of the glory of God, a past event, a present reality, and an object of hope. The story of the Magi coming from the East is only reported in Matthew (2:1-12). Matthew's account of the Gospel says nothing of their home country, their status, their religion, their number, or their names. So where did the traditions and folklore originate? Three Magi have prevailed because of the gifts mentioned, and the names of Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar persist because they appeared in a ninth century Italian manuscript. The representation of these Magi as kings comes from the references in both the First Reading from Isaiah and today's psalm, Psalm 72. This solemnity, which dates to the third century, was the original Feast of Jesus in the East, and one of the two dates for the initiation of catechumens in the early Church. In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah proclaims that the glory of the Lord will shine upon Jerusalem and make of God's people a light to the nations. The tribute of the nations will be laid at the feet of God's people and all will proclaim the greatness of the Lord. As Christ is made manifest today, we lay the gifts of our lives before Him, so that His body, the Church, may be more fully a light to the nations. In Psalm 72, the Church proclaims the glory of Jesus, the Messiah and King who rules the world with justice and rescues the poor who cry out to Him. In the Second Reading, St. Paul writes to the community of Ephesus of God's revelation to him concerning the gift of salvation to all peoples. The Gentiles have been established as coheirs with the Jews, and share in the blessings of the promise manifest in Christ. The gift of covenantal love revealed in Christ Jesus is offered to all. Jesus enables us to live together in harmony and peace. In the Gospel, in their search for the newborn King of the Jews, the Magi are assisted by Herod, who assembles the priests and scribes to unfold the meaning of the scriptures. Bethlehem, the least of the cities of Judah, is the birthplace of the shepherd of God's people, of the One who comes in humility to save the poor of the earth. The Magi lay their precious gifts before God's anointed who has emptied Himself for our salvation. (*Sourcebook*)

Open House at the Rectory! Know that you are most welcome to join me at the rectory next Sunday afternoon, January 10, 2010. The rectory is at 530 Banting Drive. Banting is located south of Portage across the street from the Superstore. As mentioned a couple of weeks ago, offering open houses has been a tradition in my family and has been a recent tradition when I was pastor in Stonewall. I hope many are able to drop by for some food and fellowship as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord!

Liturgical Renewal: Toward a Full, Conscious, and Active Participation. A process of liturgical renewal. On Saturday, January 16, 2010, from 1:00 - 3:00 pm, I am offering a workshop on the Liturgical Renewal. This will be the first of four presentations to be offered on a monthly basis from January through April. This first presentation will be "From Gathering Rite to Introductory Rite."

Workshops for Lectors and Communion Ministers. There will be a Lectors Workshop from 9:00 - 11:00 am on Saturday, January 23rd and a Communion Ministers Workshop from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. (*Father Gerald*)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Aline Herner; Madeleine Dusessoy; Ruth Kuch; Karen Kirkpatrick; Lloyd Moist; Bert Whitnack; Marlene Scheffler; Allan Egan; Eleanor Kapitany; Stella James; Dolores Mulaire; Jeanie Gatien; Adelle Farkas; Shirley Payment; Jean Foley; Darcy Uzelman; Jack Krassie; Andre Meyer; Joan Nevins; Elsie Mason; Chris Holtmann; Joe Lebedeff; Leonard Lumsden

Stewardship Reflection: The word *epiphany* is secularly defined as, ‘*a sudden intuitive perception or insight into the reality [truth] or essential meaning of something*’. Stewardship often becomes a way of life in an epiphany – a flash of insight that changes the way in which we view the purpose and meaning of our lives. Christ is the way, the truth and the light. The stewardship way of life means swimming against the tide of over-consumerism, rampant materialism, and selfish individualism, but we do so with the truth at our side.

2009 Christmas Hampers: With all your generous donations we were able to deliver 34 hampers. Another successful year! 77 children received brightly wrapped gifts along with knitted hats, scarves, and mitts. Most of the families had 2 or 3 children and we also helped 4 single adults. Thank you to everyone – knitters, packers, wrappers, deliverers, and thanks to all my silent helpers.
(*Estelle, Hamper Coordinator*)

City-wide Ecumenical Celebration: To mark the opening of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the 2010 Festival of Prayer, the Christian faithful are cordially invited to gather with church leaders for a city-wide ecumenical worship service to be held at 7:30 pm on Sunday, January 24, 2010 at First Presbyterian Church, 61 Picardy Place (at Canora Street on the east side of Vimy Ridge Park). A reception will be held following the worship service. For more information on this and other events to be hosted by various city churches throughout the week, please see the “*Festival of Prayer*” poster at the church entrance.

Ecumenical Choir for City-wide Celebration: An ecumenical choir is being formed to lead music at the forthcoming celebration on January 24th marking the opening of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the 2010 Festival of Prayer. No audition is required. Anyone who can carry a tune and wishes to sing in the choir is welcome! Rehearsals will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 61 Picardy Place, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Sunday, January 17th and from 7:00 to 9:00 pm on Tuesday, January 19th. A final rehearsal will be held immediately before the Service on January 24th. For further information, you may call Michele Barr at 453-5016 or contact her via email: mbarr41@shaw.ca

Justice, Development, and Peace Reflection: *On the State & Social Justice (3)* Budgetary policies, with cuts in social spending often made under pressure from international financial institutions, can leave citizens powerless in the face of old and new risks; such powerlessness is increased by the lack of effective protection on the part of workers’ associations. [Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate* §25]

2010 Weekly Offertory Envelopes are available from the table in the Narthex. Also, for those who contribute each month through the Pre-Authorized Debit method, there are envelopes containing only the envelopes for special collections taken up throughout the year. **Please pick up your envelopes as soon as possible.**

Winnipeg Harvest Appeal: Canned Fruit or Fruit Juice

GiFT Growing in Faith Together: The Archdiocese of Winnipeg Presents *Keeping the Faith, Past, Present, and Future*. Fr. Dave Creamer, S.J. will give a presentation discussing how we can remain rooted in our faith, yet open to the Spirit in the church today. Thursday, January 14 at 1 p.m. St. Ignatius Education Centre, 925 Jessie Ave. There is also an evening session at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 4588 Roblin Blvd.

St. Paul's High School Open House will take place Wednesday, January 13th from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm. Within the admissions criteria, St. Paul's gives favourable consideration to boys who are active in the life of their parish. Visit the school's website, www.stpauls.mb.ca, for more information.

St. Mary's Academy is accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year. There will be an Information Evening Open House on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

St. John Brebeuf Catholic School (K to 8) invites you to an informational Open House, Thursday, January 28, 2010, 7:00 pm at 605 Renfrew Street. For more information, please contact Mrs. Laura Carreiro, Principal: 489-2115 Ext. 242, email: carreiro@sjbcommunity.ca, or visit the school's website, www.sjbcommunity.ca/school.

There will be no rummage sale until February; therefore, due to lack of storage space, please do not bring any rummage to the Centre until further notice. Thank you for your cooperation.