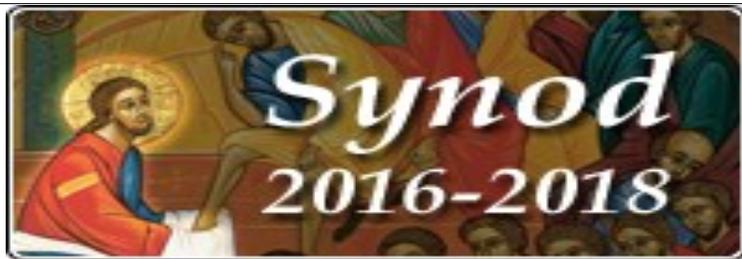


3rd Sunday of Easter - April 29th & 30th, 2017

"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14



You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

Collection April 22 & 23	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 4,270.70	\$ 3,465.00	+ \$ 805.70	- \$ 1,203.75

March Sharing God's Gifts - \$ 1,937.00

MAY

4	Douglas Campbell Lodge Service	2:00 pm
7	Children's Liturgy	during Mass
9	Lions Prairie Manor Service	2:00 pm
9	Catholic Women's League Meeting	7:00 pm
11	Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:30 pm
14	Happy Mothers Day	
18	Ministry Of Hope	7:00 pm

FATHER GERALD will be away for the Annual Clergy Retreat from May 1st - 5th. Holidays from May 8th - 12th.

 We Joyfully Welcomed Into The Family Of God **Casey Reynolds, Finley & Grace Sutcliffe**, who were baptized in our parish community on Sunday, April 16th, and **Fate Canal & Declan Beaulieu** who were baptized on April 22nd. May God grant them, their parents, family and godparents many blessings!

"Think of the love that God has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's own children; and that is what we are." —1 John 3:1

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS - Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Raymond James Spence Jr. who passed away on April 21st. Please remember him in your prayers. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

 **EKLEKTIK SPRING CONCERT** - Friday, **May 5th**, at Good Shepherd Church at 8:00 p.m. Tickets (\$10.00) are available from the following choir members: Rosa Rawlings, Linda Szumilak, and Pauline and John Chudzik. Please consider attending this special presentation.

CHURCH EXTENSION - Having spoken recently to Harold Funk, the architect, a more detailed plan for the building expansion is underway. As the plan is completed by Harold, and a calendar for the beginning of the building project is established, this information will be provided to the parish. I met with Harold's assistant the middle of last month in anticipation of the detailed plan. In the future, I am hopeful that more information will be offered to the parish on a regular basis. Thank you for your interest and concern about this important project for our parish. Fr. Gerald

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION - In today's first reading, the four activities of the earliest church are introduced to us as priorities of the church: devotion to the teachings of the apostles, communal fellowship, the Eucharist and prayer. The early members of the church saw themselves as devoted stewards of these activities. These were not options. They were the fruits of a genuine conversion to a life in Christ. Sharing in the Eucharist was the most intimate expression of fellowship, while the most common expression of fellowship in the New Testament was that of sharing financial resources, giving. It was not a perfect community, but one that gave evidence of God's active presence in its midst. This early community offers us an excellent example of how to better exercise stewardship in our own parish families.

HOSPITAL VISITS - In addition to the masses and prayer services we offer at the Church, I am grateful for the occasions to come to pray with parishioners at the hospital and offer them the Sacrament of the Sick. I am also thankful to our communion ministers who offer their services to visit both at the hospitals and at the care homes, or assisted living facilities here in Portage. They are good to let me know if someone has requested a visit. The staff at the hospital and the care homes are also very good to give us a call if you ask them or have a family member, with your permission, request a visit. In addition, with permission, I stay in contact with my brother priests when I have visited their parishioners to make sure that they are aware that I have seen them and if they require their presence. The list at the hospital may not always acknowledge your presence at the hospital. Privacy and Confidentiality are always of utmost importance. The PHIA (Personal Health Information Act) is always to be followed. If I have not been to visit you, the quickest way is to have someone contact the parish office.

JAZZ CONCERT - Portage Collegiate Institute choir concert will be held at Good Shepherd Parish on **Monday May 16th** at 7:00 pm. There will be a silver collection at the door. Please come and join us.

"From the Eucharist, this sacrament of love, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." (Pope Francis)

FROM FATHER GERALD - We welcome Archbishop Gagnon among us this weekend. In the Archbishop's pastoral letter, *Disciples: Established, Anointed, and Sent in Christ*, he invites us to consider our mission. We are called to participate in the threefold ministry of Jesus as Priests, Prophets, and Kings. Our first invitation to this role was given to us at our Baptism when we were anointed with the Sacred Chrism. Today we pray in Thanksgiving for our Confirmands as they are anointed once again to complete their initiation in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Let us pray for our Confirmands and their families as they receive this special gift. As we celebrate this Easter Day, we are grateful for this time to consider our call to serve our Lord and proclaim the Good News! Peace and Blessings.

The Rite of Confirmation

Confirmation is typically administered by a bishop although priests can also give this sacrament in certain circumstances, especially to adults entering the Church. The rite of Confirmation, which often takes place during Mass, begins when the bishop extends his hands over the confirmands and prays, 'All powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit You freed Your sons and daughters from sin and gave them new life. Send Your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in Your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.' Each confirmand then comes forward individually to receive the sacrament from the bishop. The confirmand is accompanied by his or her **sponsor**, an adult Catholic who serves as a mentor and provides an example of a faith-filled life. As the sponsor places his or her hand on the confirmand's shoulder, the bishop first anoints the confirmand on the forehead with **chrism** (holy oil that has been blessed by the bishop). Then he lays his hands on the confirmand. Finally, calling the confirmand by his or her name, the bishop says, '**Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.**' This is the essential rite of the sacrament.



CONFIRMANDS

Megan Belinski	Carter Lupkowski
Stephen Yacucha	Maria Alinsod
Tunika Appah	Joshua Gurke
Randi Verwey	Bradley Miles
Sasha McLeod-Mathieu	Kalie Miles
Eric Schaan	Ryan Botterill
Jennifer Rangel	Ainsley Chappelaz
Aleisha Caners	Sophie Chappelaz

*May the Holy Spirit dwell in your heart
always and keep you strong in the faith.*

CONFIRMATION PRAYER

Spirit of God, grant me:
The gift of **wisdom**
To see the world through your eyes,
The gift of **counsel**
To make difficult decisions,
The gifts of **knowledge** and **understanding**
To use my mind to know you and to love you,
The gift of **fortitude**
To have the courage to live in the faith
Despite the difficulties and disappointments,
The gift of **piety**
To be able to express my special love
And commitment to you,
And the right kind of awesome **fear**
That makes me pause to wonder and revere
God's Love. Amen.

3rd Sunday of Easter - April 29th & 30th, 2017

"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14

3rd Sunday Easter Saturday, April 29th Sunday, April 30th	7:00 pm 11:00 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	All Souls in Purgatory by Jacklin Jackson For all Confirmands
Thursday, May 4th	2:00 pm	Douglas Campbell Lodge	Celebration of the Word with Communion
Saturday, May 6th	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	Special Intentions by Jacklin Jackson
4th Sunday Easter Saturday, May 6th World Day of Prayer for Vocations Sunday, May 7th	7:00 pm 11:00 am 1:00 pm	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd St. Ambrose	Deceased Members of the Fraser Family by Dave & Rosemary Barney Birthday of Olga Lupkowski by the Lupkowski Family †Leo Ducharme & †George Eck by Anita Ducharme & Family



The rosary is recited before every Saturday evening mass starting at 6:20



<p><i>Friendly Reminders</i> <u>Saturday, May 6th</u></p> <p>Greeters - Zennia Semchyshyn, Madeline Provo Ushers - John & Doris Nichol Raymond Smith, Paul Seguin Gift Bearers - Lionel & Armande Bernardin Lectors - Rosemary & Dave Barney Eucharist Ministers - Bernadette Gnanapragasam, Linda Leafloor, Jane Hebert, Rachael Murray, Lillian Huberdeau</p>	<p><i>Friendly Reminders</i> <u>Sunday, May 7th</u></p> <p>Greeters - Alvin & Antonia Rossnegal Ushers - Armand Tanguay, Dawson Lernowicz Candida Cruz Martinez-de Gonzalez & Francisco Gonzalez-Cortez Gift Bearers - van der Zweep Family Lectors - John Chudzik, Ruth Deegan Eucharist Ministers - Gary & Dawn Lernowicz, Margaret Whiteley, Karen McLeod, Rose Marie Neault, Sylvia & Guy Gauthier</p>
---	--

OPERATION FOCUS - Feed Other Countries - the **GOAL** is a to reduce hunger and its consequences among hunger affected individuals, household, and communities in developing countries. In 2016 our project raised \$ 126,000.00 for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. After the matching contribution from the Government of Canada at 4:1 the total money raised for aid was \$ 630,000.00. For 2017 we have rented 235 acres of land in the Portage la Prairie, Oakville and Macgregor areas to grow canola, cereals and soybeans. After harvest all net proceeds will be donated to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. A donation cheque is to be made out to FOCUS. Note all donations over \$20.00 will receive an income tax receipt for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, in early 2018. There is more information at the back of the church, or to learn more about FOCUS Foodgrains Bank Grow Project please contact Gerald Loeppky at ggloepp@mymts.net or Tony Peters at atperets@live.ca.

PRAIRIE PROLIFE OF PORTAGE - and in support of Life's Vision Mb Inc. and its affiliated groups present their annual Respect Life Week, May 14th -May 21st. This coincides with the Diocesan National Week for Life and Family. Please note and participate in upcoming events as advertised throughout Manitoba. We will have our annual proclamation by our Mayor proclaiming May 14th to May 21st as Respect Life week. On Mothers day we will be delivering flowers to all senior establishments, to especially remember, the forgotten moms. A Mothers day ad will be placed in our local paper A display will be at our local library for the week Speaking engagements as requested Attending the March for Life in Winnipeg May 11th. For info check prairieprolife.com www.lifesvision.ca www.archwinnipeg.ca The Spring magazine is at the back of the church. Submitted by Rachael Murray - President



ROSE FOR LIFE - Knights of Columbus will be pinning symbolic roses on Saturday May 13th and Sunday, May 14th. They are asking all to wear these to show your support, for Prairie Pro Life. They are asking for donations for this cause and would like to mention that the cost to purchase each rose is \$1.00. Thank you.

"From the Eucharist, this sacrament of love, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." (Pope Francis)