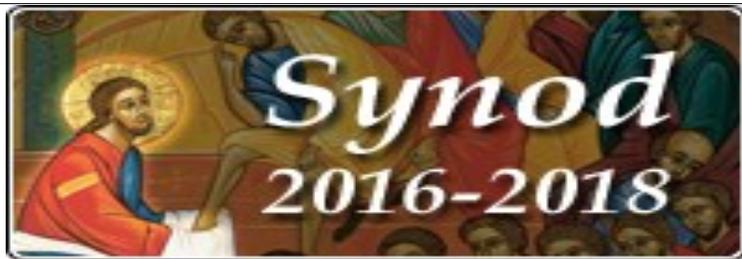


2nd Sunday in Lent
 March 11th & 12th, 2017

"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 March 4 & 5	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 3,681.50	\$ 3,465.00	+ \$ 216.50	- \$ 3,735.50

February Sharing God's Gifts - \$ 1,325.80

MARCH

13	Confirmation Class	7:00 pm
14	Lions Prairie Manor Mass	2:00 pm
14	Hospitality Workshop	7:00 pm
16	Ministry of Hope	7:00 pm
17	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
18	Liturgy Workshop	9:00 am
18	Hospitality Workshop	1:00 pm
19	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
20	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
21	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
23	Knights of Columbus Social Evening	7:30 pm
24	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
29	MDC Mass	10:00 am

BUILDING TOGETHER BUILDING FUND COLLECTION - will be the second collection on Sunday, **March 19th.**



LITURGY WORKSHOP - I will be offering the workshop on Liturgy on **Saturday, March 18th at 9:00 am.** We will conclude before noon. Due to my increase activities with the commission these next couple of months I will offer one and not two workshops. The workshop will not be "bookish", but will honor the experience of the participants. While there will be some handouts and helpful information on the Liturgy, the importance of our learning from each other will be key. Please come, and be prepared to have some fun!

Thank You! WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - a huge thank you to everyone one who came out for the service. There were about 125 in attendance. Special thanks to everyone who helped and brought food.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - the stations of the



cross is a popular devotion used by individuals or groups who wish through prayer and reflection to follow Jesus Christ on His way to Calvary. It is one of the most important devotions honoring the passion of Jesus. What matters most in the stations of the cross is to follow Jesus Christ in his passion and to see ourselves mirrored in him. To face life's dark side in ourselves and in our world, we need images of hope, and Jesus offers images of hope in his passion. Each Friday evening of Lent, there will be adoration of the **Blessed Sacrament starting at 6:00 pm, and Benediction at 6:45 pm.** Stations of the Cross will be led by various individuals of our parish, beginning at **7:00 pm.**

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES - for the Central Deanery are listed below. Our evening for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is **April 6th at 7:00 pm.** There will be four or five priests joining me that evening.

Lenten Penitential Services

- March 22nd - St. John XXIII Parish 10:00 am
- March 23rd - St Patrick's Church 7:00 pm
- March 29th - St. Anthony's Hungarian 7:00 pm
- March 30th - St. Paul the Apostle Parish 7:00 pm
- March 31st - St Edward's Church 7:00 pm
- April 4th - St Charles School 10:30 am
- April 4th - St Edwards School 9:30 am
- April 4th - St Eustache Church 7:00 pm
- April 4th - Our Lady of Lourdes 7:00 pm
- April 5th - St Charles Parish 7:00 pm

April 6th - Good Shepherd Parish, Portage 7:00 pm

HOSPITALITY WORKSHOP - there will be a workshop for **hospitality** (greeters, ushers-collection and gift bearers) on **Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00 pm or Saturday, March 18th at 1:00 pm.** If you are involved or would like to become involved with this ministry please come and join us, on one of the dates provided. If you have any questions please contact Terry Giercke at 204-857-3358.

PRAIRIE WELCOME HOUSE - is currently in need of a few supplies. Specifically, we need **toilet tissue, napkins/serviettes, and drink crystals/iced tea.** These items can be placed in the container-marked welcome house, on the way to the hall. We appreciate the ongoing support of all who help keep our cupboards well stocked to serve those who come to visit. Thank you.

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

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HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH

A BALANCING ACT - Over the course of the next 3 weeks I will be spending quite a bit of time with my father while his wife is away. Due to this commitment, the mass schedule for weekday masses will be limited. **Next weekend, Fr. Peter Nemcek will be here for masses on the 18th and 19th of March.** Fr. Peter is the parochial vicar at Our Lady of Victory Parish, and is the Diocesan Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Winnipeg. I will hope to be present here and there for evening activities like the Mission as well as lead next weeks Liturgy Workshop. I am hopeful I will manage to get through these upcoming busy days.

"40 CANS FOR LENT" - **Knights of Columbus** - are sponsoring "**40 Cans for Lent**". Hunger knows no season and every day many people go hungry. The goal of this program is for each Council member and each Parishioner to contribute **1 non-perishable food item** per day during the 40 days of Lent in order to help keep our local food pantries well stocked all year round. The items 'can' be dropped off in the baskets in the gathering area. Some items could be used at Prairie Welcome House, and the bulk delivered to Salvation Army and/or the soup kitchen. Thank you for your generosity. Last years total collection was 880. **Collection to Date - 75**



PARISH LENTEN MISSION/RETREAT - Priest, Prophet, and King - Deacon Gilles Urqhart has agreed to lead us in a Lenten Mission. Gilles is a deacon at Holy Cross Parish in the Archdiocese of St. Boniface and owner of Stephanchew Church Goods in Winnipeg. When I met with Gilles recently he told me that he was offering a mission on the topic of Priest, Prophet, and King. Given the theme of the Diocesan Synod on Discipleship, I thought it would be very important that we have a deeper look at these themes. The words themselves lay out a mission for us that we first receive in Baptism. So often the notion of these roles can be overlooked or lost in our lives. How can we put them into practice? What are the nuts and bolts of expressing ourselves through these themes? One thing I can promise you is that you will not be bored at these evening talks! Gilles is a very engaging speaker, passionate about his faith and his love of the Church. The Mission/Retreat will begin with Evening Prayer on **Sunday, March 19th - Tuesday, March 21st**. Similar to the sessions when Fr. Sam Argenziano joined us last year, the prayer and talk will be about an hour in length followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. **The Sunday, Monday and Tuesday gatherings will all begin at 7:00 pm.**

E.P.I.C. RETREAT - Every Person's Identity is in Christ - My name is Ginette Gauthier. I'm the youth minister coordinator for Blessed Sacrament of Elie (west of Winnipeg). We are bringing on **March 26th** a young dynamic group of adults, PureWitness, from Saskatoon, SK to evangelize our faith to our youths. And we are inviting the parishes of our surroundings to this retreat. In the morning 9am -12pm, there will be a retreat for the confirmation candidates and what a great way for our youths to be among each other in this journey of faith. Lunch will be provided to everyone. Following, will be a retreat open to all youth ages 10 yrs and up (1pm - 4pm) followed by a youth mass and finishing with a delicious supper (6:00pm) offered by our parish community. All of this is free (donations will be accepted)!!!! If you have any questions, you can contact me at 204-470-5191 or email gauthierg60@gmail.com

Registration forms are at the back of the church. Registration deadline is March 20th. Also poster in kios

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION - In today's second reading, Timothy is issued a strong directive: "Bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God." For the early Christians this could mean torture and execution. For most Christians today enduring hardship for the gospel might include accepting ridicule or mockery, or the suggestion that we lack sophistication. Nevertheless, in his letters, Saint Paul is adamant that we should not be ashamed of being followers of Christ. Good stewards are not ashamed of their allegiance to Christ. They do not hide their faith. Reflect on this question: Are you willing to speak about following Christ Jesus no matter who your listeners happen to be?

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER FOR MARCH - Thank you for this new day, and another opportunity to give the traditions of Lent genuine meaning in my life. Help me to be a good steward of this day; to use it wisely to reflect on my words and deeds, review my habits, and correct my faults. Inspire me to live as Jesus did, to embrace his cross, and live the great paschal mystery in a way that gives hope to others. Be merciful to me this day. Forgive me my failings and weaknesses. Cultivate in me a humble and repentant heart. Prepare me for the renewal of my baptismal vows, today and throughout the season of Lent; so that at Easter I may truly rejoice in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen

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

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2nd Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 11th Sunday, March 12th	7:00 pm 11:00 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	✠Jean Sareault by the Cloutier Family Health of Justin Semchyshyn by Margaret & Audrey Peech
Tuesday, March 14th	2:00 pm	Lions Prairie Manor	✠Joseph Kohut by Mary & Family
Wednesday, March 15th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	✠Steve & ✠Nick Zedan by the Family
3rd Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 18th Sunday, March 19th	7:00 pm 11:00 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	Health of Giselle Wegleitner by Friends Thanksgiving to St. Joseph by Jacklin Jackson

Friendly Reminders

Saturday, March 18th

Greeters - Irma Gobert, Zennia Semchyshyn
Ushers - Bob Dionne, Karl Voesenek
 Ron & Shirley O'Neil
Gift Bearers - Fern & Donna Gervais
Lectors - Rick Ryzner, Donna-Lynn Barnett
Eucharist Ministers - Jim Ross, Helena Kot, Jewly Baby,
 John & Doris Nichol

Friendly Reminders

Sunday, March 19th

Greeters - Dave & Lorraine Samolesky
Ushers - Bill & Elaine Vint,
 Michelle Lalancette, Sinto Sebastian
Gift Bearers - Garcia Family
Lectors - Marie Hinagpis, Margaret Whiteley
Eucharist Ministers - Karen McLeod, Garth Bullock,
 Mickey Cuthbert, Rose Marie Neault, Pauline Calder,
 Sinto Sebastian, Lidia Garciade Garcia

TO ALL PARISHIONERS - The year of 2017 is well under way. However, at Prairie Welcome House, we find ourselves still reflecting on the year 2016 with some amazing memories coming to our minds:

- Over **3,600** guests came through the doors of PWH
- Over **2,200** hours volunteered (wow!)
- Over 3,800 cups of coffee, 500 cups of tea, 700 cups of juice and 5,000 cookies consumed
- 1500 card games played (and some very memorable ones)
- 25 puzzles completed with lots of helping hands

We never had to shut down our regular operating hours due to the lack of volunteers which is a testament to the support PWH receives from our community. The generosity of our parishioners has helped covered over 95% of the cost of beverages and tasty pastries. The support of our parish also helped PWH meet its financial obligations this past year.

If you were to ask our guests what their highlights for 2016 may be, you may hear them say:

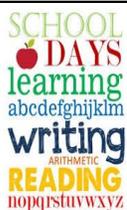
- safe, friendly place to stop for a coffee and play cards
- Christmas party with 49 gifts distributed, the music and the food.
- Barbecue with an attendance of 52
- Community Garden , 9 PWH guests gardening, many for the first time

What is in the work for 2017?

- Four Craft nights for the year
- Possible Community Gardens at the Red River College
- To be open 2 hours in the afternoon every Friday



In conclusion, Prairie Welcome House would like to extend a big thank you for helping support this important part of our community. No one who gets involved with Prairie Welcome House can deny the gratifying feeling of giving of oneself. Thank you and we look forward to your continued support in 2017. **Michel Touchette & Joe Wermie**



Ever thought of sharing the gift of learning with someone facing challenges? **Portage Learning and Literacy Centre** is looking for volunteers to work one on one in a classroom setting with students who struggle with reading and writing and with mathematics. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Laurie at 204-857-6304 or fill out a volunteer application form at our website, www.pllc.ca. Community Clothes Cupboard is looking for donations of gently used clothing suitable for work attire. Donations may be dropped off at Portage Learning and Literacy Centre, 110 Saskatchewan Avenue West, Monday to Friday, 8:30-4:30.

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