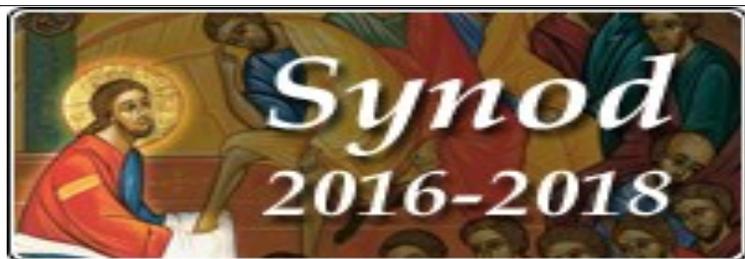


"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14



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 11 & 12	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 2,595.05	\$ 3,465.00	- \$ 869.95	- \$ 4,605.45

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

MARCH

19	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
20	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
21	Lenten/Mission	7:00 pm
24	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
29	MDC Mass	10:00 am

A BALANCING ACT - Over the course of the next couple of 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. **This weekend, Fr. Peter Nemcek will be here for masses on the 18th and 19th.** 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

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

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.

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**

"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 - 160**



Happy 10th Anniversary - Prairie Welcome House



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

3rd Sunday in Lent
March 18th & 19th, 2017

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

HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH

PARISH LENTEN MISSION/RETREAT - Priest, Prophet, and King - Deacon Gilles Urquhart 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.**

A short bio of Deacon Gilles Urquhart: I was born in Kapuskasing, Ontario and lived in Winnipeg since I was 4 years old. I grew up in St. Norbert and graduated High School there. Later on I went to the University of Manitoba to get my BA. In the year 2000 I bought Stephanchew Church Goods and have been the owner since then. I have been a deacon since 2008 and currently serve at Holy Cross Parish when I am involved in ministry, especially in the RCIA program.



STEWARDSHIP SAINT FOR MARCH - SAINT JOSEPH

Next to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph is the most honored saint in the Catholic Church for being the foster father of Jesus and the husband of Mary. Joseph's life is depicted in the gospels, particularly in Matthew and Luke. He was born in Bethlehem and is described as being a descendant of King David. Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but was pregnant with the Christ child before Joseph took her into his home. According to Jewish law at the time, Mary could have been stoned to death if she was believed to have been unfaithful to her betrothed. An

angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Mary into his home, that the child was conceived through the Holy Spirit, and that his name would be Jesus. After Jesus' birth at Bethlehem, in yet another dream, Joseph was told to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt and remain there until Herod's slaughter of newborns had come to an end with Herod's own death. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus returned to the region of Galilee and settled in Nazareth where Joseph taught his craft of carpentry to Jesus. Joseph is last mentioned in the gospels when, on their pilgrimage to Jerusalem, he and Mary frantically searched for the lost Jesus in Jerusalem, and found him in the Temple (Luke 2:42-52). Saint Joseph was declared patron saint and protector of the universal Church by Pope Pius IX at the close of the First Vatican Council in 1870. He is also considered a spiritual model for families and Christian teaching frequently stresses his patience, persistence, and hard work as admirable qualities Christians should reflect upon and embrace. He is the patron saint of fathers, foster fathers, husbands, the unborn, working people in general and social justice. Saint Joseph is the patron saint of several countries including Canada, China, Korea, Mexico and Peru. Many cities, towns, and other locations are named after Saint Joseph as well; and it has been noted that the Spanish form of Saint Joseph, San Jose, is the most common place name in the world. **His traditional feast day is March 19.**

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION - Jesus' longest-recorded conversation with anyone is the one he has with the Samaritan woman at the well. She discovers she can be honest with Jesus and goes and tells others about him. She gives witness. She's not the most certain, thorough or even convincing witness. But her witness is enough. It is inviting, humble, non-judgmental and sincere. What is the quality of our witness? How do our words and actions give daily testimony on behalf of Christ? During this season of Lent, how might we do a better job at proclaiming the risen Lord in word and deed?

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3rd Sunday in Lent
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"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14

3rd Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 18th Sunday, March 19th	7:00 pm 11:00 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	✠Jean Sareault by the Cloutier Family Health of Justin Semchyshyn by Margaret & Audrey Peech
4th Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 25th Sunday, March 26th	7:00 pm 11:00 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	Special Intentions for the Smith Family by Loreen ✠Paul & ✠Trudi Muller by the Catholic Women's League

Friendly Reminders

Saturday, March 25th

Greeters - Mary Bolton, Pauline Puff
Ushers - Bill & Florence Zettler
Cecile Scott, Bernadette Gnanaprasgasm
Gift Bearers - Karl & Jo-ann Voeselek
Lectors - Helena Kot, Terry Giercke
Eucharist Ministers - Deepthy George, Denise Payment,
Luc & Donna Gamache, Donna-Lynn Barnett

Friendly Reminders

Sunday, March 26th

Greeters - Joan Dufresne, Hazel Desjardin
Ushers - Francisco Gonzalez-Cortez, Candida
Martinez-de Gonzalez, Jo Laurans, Brenda Franke
Gift Bearers - Lubkiwski Family
Lectors - Ruth Mulligan, Kerry McGowan
Eucharist Ministers - Sylvia Gauthier, Arthur Rey,
Kerry McGowan, Suzanne Borisenko, Elaine Harder,
Neenu Shibu, Gary van der Zweep

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**



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.

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