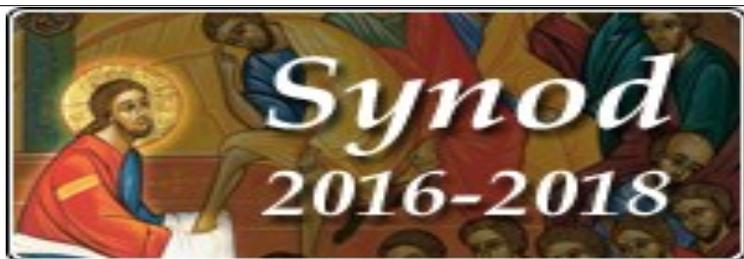


4th Sunday of Easter - May 6th & 7th, 2017
 "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14



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 29 & 30	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 3,815.80	\$ 3,465.00	+ \$ 350.80	- \$ 852.95

May Sharing God's Gifts - \$ 1,645.25

MAY		
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	
15	Jazz Concert	7:00 pm
17	Synod Session	7:00 pm
18	Ministry Of Hope	7:00 pm
24	Synod Session	7:00 pm

FATHER GERALD - will be away on holidays from May 8th - 12th.

JAZZ CONCERT - Portage Collegiate Institute choir concert will be held at Good Shepherd Parish on **Monday May 15th** at 7:00 pm. There will be a silver collection at the door. Please come and join us.

PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY Do you see people in our Parish and wonder what their names are. We are looking into producing a pictorial directory in the fall. We are looking for volunteers to help with this project, if you are interested please contact the office. More information to follow in the next couple of weeks.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS - Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Ryan Popko who passed away on April 29th. Please remember him in your prayers. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

Friends are the sunshine of life.

SCHOLARSHIP - A \$500.00 dollar scholarship for continuing education is being made available by the Catholic Women's League to a Catholic Student from Good Shepherd Parish (including St Ambrose) graduating from Grade 12 this year. The criteria will not be based solely on marks, it will also consider volunteerism in and out of the Parish and other criteria. If you would like an application and full criteria please call either Bernadette at 239-6696, Irene at 857-5015, or Joan 857-8092. Applications should be submitted by not later than **May 30th** to Catholic Women's League 114 Countess Ave. Portage la Prairie, Manitoba R1N - 0T2.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION - Saint Peter plays a prominent leadership role in the first two readings, urging his listeners to be baptized and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit; and encouraging them to follow in the footsteps of Christ. We have just renewed our baptismal promises at Easter and the Holy Spirit dwells in us in a special way. Are we good stewards of those baptismal vows? Have we renewed our commitment to follow in Jesus' footsteps? Have we opened our hearts to discern the will of God in our lives? Take some time to reflect on the importance of our baptismal renewal and our lives as disciples of the Lord.



May is here and we have some space in our raised garden for a few novice or experience gardeners. Let Joe, Michel or our parish office know if you are interested in some garden space in our Good Shepherd raised beds.

GRANDMOTHERS GIVING - perennial plant & hanging basket sale on Saturday, May 13th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in the PCRC parking lot - 56 Royal Road N.

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.

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ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG SYNOD COMMISSIONS - There have been 9 White Papers prepared for discussion in preparation for the next Phase of the Synod. The Nine commissions are: New Evangelization and Mission; Catechetics and Faith Formation; First Nations; Youth and Young Adults; Marriage and Family Life; Sacramental Preparation, Prayer, and Devotional Life; Vocations and Leadership; Church Governance; Social Outreach. The White Papers will be available to review on the Archdiocesan website. Everyone is encouraged to read them and offer feedback. In addition, I would like to suggest two opportunities for parish/group feedback. One is for the Commission on the New Evangelization and Mission, and the second for Social Outreach. In the coming weeks, we will offer two sessions on a weeknight. I am leaning towards two consecutive Wednesday evenings, one for each commission. The tentative dates for these meetings will be **May 17th and 24th**, 2017. Both sessions will take place in the Church Hall at **7:00 pm**. In addition to the "listening" sessions that were offered throughout the Archdiocese last fall, these upcoming sessions and your individual feedback are encouraged. Too often, voices go unheard when we don't take the opportunity to offer our thoughts and concerns about the teachings of our faith journey. I hope many will respond to these upcoming events. All are welcome!

Christian Stewards: People of the Resurrection - For those immersed in the secular world, Easter is long over. The pastel bunnies, the chocolate eggs, the color-splashed jelly beans which appeared in the marketplace so temptingly just as Christians were beginning the fasting of Lent, have long been swept from the store shelves to be replaced in anticipation of the next marketable holiday. For the Christian steward, how backward this all seems. Yes, we believe that the Paschal mystery and the life-changing events of Easter are not over. They are not an end but a triumphal beginning, and they have altered us in a quite radical way. The mystery and miracle of Easter challenge us to live as different people, as people of the Resurrection. What does this mean? For those new Catholics who participated in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), a period of mystagogy helps to understand this mystery. Indeed, this ancient Greek word actually means "to lead through the mysteries." During mystagogia, many parishes introduce their new members to service in a quite practical way. Here are the ministries of the parish; here are the charities we support; here are the needs of our community and our congregation. How do you choose to live out your faith in the Resurrection in a quite tangible and real way? How do your gifts fit into our needs? Essentially, however, this is a question that the Easter season calls forth in all Christian stewards not just our newest members. We have lived through Lent and the Paschal mysteries, all the while trying to deepen a relationship with the person of Christ. It's as simple, yet as amazing and complex as that. The deeper the relationship grows, the more we become rooted in it, the more this relationship with Christ comes to dominate our lives. We no longer compartmentalize Jesus, we hold him at our center. And the mysteries lead us to the fundamental question at the heart of all Christian stewardship, the question that Easter compels us to ask: How do I steward my resources – my time, my money, my abilities and gifts, my very life – so that they are in service to the Kingdom of God? It's not a part-time question. It's not a seasonal question that's swept off the shelf periodically. It's the basic question which the Easter season demands of us: Jesus, how do you want me to serve you?

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - will be observed on Sunday, May 7th, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the *ordained ministries* (priesthood and diaconate), to the *Religious life* in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to *societies of apostolic life*, to *secular institutes* in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of *mission "ad gentes"*. 2017 marks the **54th Anniversary** of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

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

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4th Sunday Easter Saturday, May 6th World Day of Prayer for Vocations Sunday, May 7th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	Deceased Members of the Fraser Family by Dave & Rosemary Barney
	11:00 am	Good Shepherd	Birthday of Olga Lupkowski by the Lupkowski Family †Leo Ducharme & †George Eck by Anita Ducharme & Family
Tuesday, May 9th	2:00 pm	Lions Manor	Celebration of the Word with Communion
5th Sunday Easter Saturday, May 13th Sunday, May 14th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	†Juanita Garcia Rodriguez by the Family
	11:00 am	Good Shepherd	For All Mothers of our Parish Community
	1:00 pm	St. Ambroise	For All Mothers of our Parish Community



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



Friendly Reminders

Saturday, May 13th

- Greeters** - Ron & Shirley O'Neil
- Ushers** - Karl Voesenek, Zennia Semchyshyn
Bill & Florence Zettler
- Gift Bearers** - Ron & Shirley O'Neil
- Lectors** - Dana & Denise Payment
- Eucharist Ministers** - Anita Kowerchuk, Tara Ryzner, Jim Ross, Jo-ann Voesenek, Donna Rey

Friendly Reminders

Sunday, May 14th

- Greeters** - Kristi McLeod, Pauline Calder
- Ushers** - Terry Giercke, Karen McLeod
Sharon Murkin, Bernadette Le Lievre
- Gift Bearers** - Kristi McLeod, Pauline Calder
- Lectors** - Emma Gobin, Sylvia Gauthier
- Eucharist Ministers** - Kerry McGowan, Arthur Rey, Suzanne Borisenko, Elaine Harder, Neenu Shibu, Stan Lambert, Gary van der Zweep

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 ggloep@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. 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

The National Catholic Broadcasting Council (NCBC) - is hosting a Week of Prayer for Vocations from May 6th - 13th. Each Mass during that week will focus on the call to religious life. You can join the Vocations Prayer Circle by visiting the NCBC website at www.dailytvmass.com, by e-mail at info@ncbc.ca, or call toll-free at 1-888-383-6277 to have your name added to the Circle

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