

# THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GOOD SHEPHERD & ST. AMBROISE

## Parish Office

1125 Saskatchewan Ave. E.

Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3Y8

Phone: (204) 857-5172

Email: shepherd@mymts.net

**www.goodshepherdparish.ca**

Bernadette Le Lievre - Parish Secretary

## Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm

**October 4th & 5th, 2025 -  
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**October 11th & 12th, 2025 -  
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Our faith has the ability to bring about the seemingly impossible. Our Christian faith can fluctuate – like the pulse and throb of a heartbeat. We can sometimes be stronger or weaker in our faith, depending on the season of life and the experiences we go through. As with anything good in life, a strong faith requires a consistent effort and spiritual discipline. We cannot get close enough to hear God's heartbeat if we are not immersing ourselves regularly in prayer, the sacraments, God's Word and living a life worthy of the gospel. St. John Chrysostom (whose feast is September 13) famously said: "You... must surrender everything but your faith: money, body, even life itself. For faith is the head and the root; keep that, and though you lose all else, you will get it back in abundance."

The tragic happenings that are part of our daily lives call us to share in suffering, but prompt us to question the ways of God. God so often seems to be silent and we are left dumbfounded. The challenge is to remain faithful to God and religious values especially at moments when they do not make sense. Whatever the evils of the world the person of faith will always emerge victorious because he is in communion with God.

Jesus emphasizes the explosive power of the smallest possible amount of faith and uses the image of the tiny mustard seed uprooting a mulberry tree to express it. A faith that is deep-rooted can achieve the impossible, because life takes on a new significance when the power of God is at our disposal.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Every Weekend, 45 minutes prior to mass or by appointment.

## **Sacrament of Baptism**

Please contact the parish office to arrange baptismal classes, preparation and to set a date.

## **Sacrament - Anointing of the Sick**

1st Wednesday of the Month during mass

For home or hospital visit - Please contact the parish office (during office hours)

Outside of office hours - call pastor directly on cell phone or at the rectory.

## **Sacrament of Marriage**

Engaged couples will contact the parish office at least 6 months before they wish to be married.

## **Pastor - Rev. Roy George Vazhaplankudiyil**

Cell Phone: 1 (204) 218-9372

Rectory: (204) 857-8490

**Deacon - Reverend Rick Ryzner**

**Catechism Coordinator - Monique Lubkiwski**  
(204) 856-1176

**Parish Council Chair - Monique Lubkiwski**

**Finance Council Chair - Irene Souque Hewitt**

## **CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **Good Shepherd Church**

Wednesday 10:00 am

(1st Wednesday of the month  
- Anointing of the Sick)

Thursday (followed by the Rosary) 10:00 am

Friday 10:00 am

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

### **St.Ambroise Parish**

1st Sunday of the Month 1:00 pm

### **Lions Prairie Manor**

1st Thursday of the Month 10:30 am

### **Douglas Campbell Lodge**

1st Friday of the Month 10:30 am

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP

All are welcome after mass for coffee and fellowship in the parish hall. Please join us!

### PRIEST STUDY DAYS

Father will be away from Tuesday, October 7th to Friday, October 10th. The office is open.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **OCTOBER**

5	Spanish Mass	5:00 pm
7-10	Priest Study Days - Father Away	
7	Catechism Classes	5:00 pm - 7:45 pm
8	Catechism Classes	5:30 pm - 8:00 pm
8	"Know Your Faith"	Cancelled
9	Spanish Mass	6:00 pm
11	East Indian Mass	4:00 pm
13	Thanksgiving Day	
14	Catechism Classes	5:00 pm - 7:45 pm
15	Catechism Classes	5:30 pm - 8:00 pm
15	"Know Your Faith"	7:00 pm
16	Confirmation Class	7:00 pm
19	Parish Potluck	After Mass

### THANKSGIVING PRAYER

"Heavenly Father, on this day of thanksgiving, we lift our hearts to You in gratitude for all the countless blessings You have showered upon us this year, 2025. Thank You for Your unwavering faithfulness, Your constant presence, and Your abundant love in our lives.

We are thankful for the gift of family and friends, for the warmth of fellowship, and for the many moments of joy and connection we have shared. Thank You for good health, for a comfortable home, and for the beauty of the world You have created.

We acknowledge Your grace in the times of challenge, trusting in Your wisdom and love even when we don't understand. Thank You for answering our prayers, for providing for our needs, and for the miracles we have witnessed.

As we look to the future, we ask for continued blessings and strength. May we always remember to give thanks for every perfect gift, and may our lives reflect Your goodness and glory to those around us. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen."

## CATECHISM

### Catechism Registration

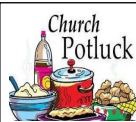
Please register for this year's catechism program as soon as possible. Classes have started on [Tuesday](#) and [Wednesday](#) evenings. Please complete a registration form, that can be found at the back of the church. Please call Monique at 204-856-1176 if you have any questions.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes will begin on Thursday, October 16th at 7:00pm. Please use the sign up sheets in the gathering area, if you wish to have your child confirmed in 2026.

### "KNOW YOUR FAITH" - Study Group

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in October & November. Father Roy will be leading a weekly study group focusing on different topics each week including: the Mass, the Sacraments, the Gospel, the books of the bible and any other questions you may have wondered or forgotten since taking catechism as a child. Please join us.



**POTLUCK - Sunday, October 19th**  
after 10:30 am Mass. Please come and join us. Everyone is welcome.

**Please bring your favorite potluck dish item or a desert, (enough for your family plus one more).**



### FAMILY HALLOWEEN DANCE

**Friday, October 24th from 7:00 - 10:00 pm**

at Good Shepherd Parish Hall.

Admission is \$5.00 per person & preschoolers \$ 3.00. There will be a rainbow auction and lunch will be served. Bring a friend and come and join us and remember to wear a costume. Children must be accompanied by parents.

Happy  
Thanksgiving

## FINANCIALS

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

September 20th & 21st	\$1,938.30
September 27th & 28th	\$1,722.75
October 1st Auto Debit	\$3,385.00

### Sharing God's Gifts

Annual Target Amount	Amount collected to September 30th	Year to Date + / -
\$ 22,021.00	\$9,224.00	- \$ 12,797.00

### CHILDREN'S COLLECTION - CHALICE



Month of September	\$470.00
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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### JUNIOR PRAIRIE VOX CHOIR



Offering children grade 5 to grade 8 the opportunity to explore their vocal talent in a supportive and fun environment!

Practices are at Prairie Vineyard Church on Tuesdays from 4:45pm to 5:45pm every week. The cost is \$25.00 for the year. There is a special Christmas Concert featuring both Junior and the Adult Prairie Vox Choir on Tuesday, December 9th at Good Shepherd Parish. For more information or to ask questions, please email: [prairievox@gmail.com](mailto:prairievox@gmail.com).



### SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK

Every Saturday & Sunday Mass during the month we will collect one specific food item. For the Month of **October** we are collecting : **Canned Fruit & Boxed Puddings**



Total Food Items collected to date: 678

Thank-you for your generosity!



### Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child demonstrates God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and together with the local church worldwide, shares the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Shoe boxes are now available to be picked up and filled. If you are interested in filling one or two, please take them home and bring them back to the church. Collection date is the middle of November so we need them back by [Sunday November 16th](#) at the latest. Also, a small contribution of \$12.00 also helps the shipping cost to get these to children in need around the world.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.



### CANADIAN LIONS CLUB EYE GLASSES RECYCLING PROGRAM

They collect new and used reading, single vision, bifocal, children, safety, swim goggles with prescription lenses and both prescription and non-prescription Sunglasses (clip-ons and glasses). Glasses may consist of glasses in frames, frames only, or uncut lenses. They also now collect broken glasses and loose lenses. They are also collecting **hearing aids** (place in plastic bag). There is be a box in the gathering area for you to put these items in.

### PRAIRIE PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTRE - LAYETTE DONATIONS

The "baby bundles" are a great support and encouragement to new moms as they include many new items a mother would need for her newborn, such as clothing, diapers, wipes, baby wash, small toys, bottles and soothers, towels and wash cloths, blankets, etc. For many who struggle to financially support a little one, these layettes supply them with roughly \$400 worth of essentials. Please see the full list of Layette Needs in the Gathering Area

## MASS INTENTIONS

Please place donation of \$10.00/Mass Intention in the offertory collection basket clearly marked “**Mass Intention**”

<b>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Saturday, October 4th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	Happy Birthday Fe Lizen by the Family
	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	†Bill Zettler by Florence Zettler & Family
	1:00 pm	St. Ambrose	†Mel St. Goddard by the Family
<b>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Saturday, October 11th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	†Marina Lesage by Sharon & Vince Zettler & Family
	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	†Frank & †Sophie Ryzner by the Family
Sunday, October 12th			
Wednesday, October 15th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	Deceased members of the White & Barney Families by Dave & Rosemary Barney
Thursday, October 16th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	Deceased members of the Partridge & DeRuyck Families
Friday, October 17th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Georgina Woychyshyn by your coffee friends
<b>29th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Saturday, October 18th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	†Bill Zettler by Sharon & Vince Zettler & Family
	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	Happy Birthday John Mathew by the Family
Sunday, October 19th			



“I would like to emphasize the beauty of a simple contemplative prayer, accessible to all, great and small, the educated and those with little education. It is the prayer of the Holy Rosary. In the Rosary we turn to the Virgin Mary so that she may guide us to an ever closer union with her Son Jesus to bring us into conformity with him, to have his sentiments and to behave like him. Indeed, in the Rosary

while we repeat the Hail Mary we meditate on the Mysteries, on the events of Christ’s life, so as to know and love him ever better. The Rosary is an effective means for opening ourselves to God, for it helps us to overcome egotism and to bring peace to hearts, in the family, in society and in the world.” – *Pope Francis*

**PRAY THE ROSARY** - Every Thursday morning following the 10:00 am mass we gather in the gathering area to pray as a community. Hope you will join us.



### **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

October 5, 2025 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time “*For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and selfcontrol.*” 2 TIMOTHY 1:7

Many of us compartmentalize our Faith, we bring it out only when we attend Mass or when we attend a parish event. Being a good steward requires discipline and striving to put God first in everything - all the time. The next time you are at a neighborhood party or at work or out shopping, would your words and actions signal to others that you are a good and faithful servant of our Lord?