

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GOOD SHEPHERD & ST. AMBROISE

March 14th & 15th, 2026 - 4th Sunday of Lent

March 21st & 22nd, 2026 - 5th Sunday of Lent

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

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 10:30 am

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

Thursday (followed by the Rosary) 10:30 am

Friday 10:30 am

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

St. Ambrose 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

This weeks gospel is for all time and every day. At a deeper level it reminds us that we were all born blind and were groping in spiritual darkness until at baptism we began our journey of faith in the likeness of Christ. The life we receive at baptism gives us the power to bring Christ to everything we do and to every person we meet. Light is a symbol of life with Christ and darkness is the religious image for sinfulness, shameful deeds and unbelief. Each of us is meant to be a beacon of light showing others how to live and giving direction to their lives by our good example. It is an opportune time to reflect on how we are living out our baptismal commitment and to see if Christ really counts and influences our behavior. If we are courteous and friendly in our dealings with our neighbors we can be certain that the life of Christ is being reflected through us. Families who are not on speaking terms because of past differences should remember that they have closed out the light of God's love from one another. In its place they have substituted jealousy and are unable to see anything good in one another.

Christ is asking us to look at our blind-spots because coming from darkness into light is not an easy journey. It takes time and requires patience because of the many pitfalls on the road. In spite of our best resolutions the light of Christ is inclined to grow dim within us. Jesus knows our weaknesses and is willing to help us provided we come to him for healing. Having been called to walk as children of the light we must keep praying: 'Lord, that I may see'.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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 Baptism

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

Sacrament of Marriage

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE



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



ELECTRONIC BULLETINS - If

any parishioner wishes to have the bulletin in electronic form, ie. emailed to them, please send an email to the office at shepherd@mymts.net and we will add you to the list.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

Tues	17	Catechism Classes	5:00 - 7:45 pm
Wed	18	Catechism Classes	5:30 - 8:00 pm
Fri	20	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
Fri	20	Meeting for Sedar Meal	7:30 pm
Tues	24	Catechism Classes	5:00 - 7:45 pm
Wed	25	Catechism Classes	5:30 - 8:00 pm
Fri	27	Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
Sun	29	Sedar Meal	6:00 pm

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

EASTER MASSES

April 12th - Palm Saturday	7:30 pm
April 13th - Palm Sunday	10:30 am
April 17th - Holy Thursday	
Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm
April 18th - Good Friday	
Passion of the Lord	3:00 pm
April 19th - Easter Vigil	
Resurrection of Our Lord	7:30 pm
April 20th - Easter Sunday	10:30 am

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper

If you are **18 years of age or older** and interested in participating in the celebration by having your feet washed, please write your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of **Deborah Lane**. Please remember her in your prayers. May she rest in the peace of Christ.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Each Friday evening of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be led by various individuals of our parish, beginning at **7:00 pm**. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this special Lenten devotion.



FLOWERS FOR EASTER

If you would like to make a donation towards this year's Easter Flowers please use a Visitor's Envelope and mark it "**Easter Flowers**". All donations are greatly appreciated. Donations will be added to your tax receipt at the end of the year.

ST.AMBROISE CHURCH

EASTER MASSES

April 13th - Palm Sunday	1:00 pm
April 20th - Easter Sunday	1:00 pm

CHRISTIAN SEDER MEAL

Palm Sunday, March 29th - 6pm Parish Hall

If interested, please sign your name on the table sheets in the gathering area. A maximum 8 people to a table. Decorate your table as you wish and sit with family and friends. If you do not have anyone else to share a table with, those details will be looked after at the meeting. Attending the meeting is crucial for receiving meal scripts and a list of essential food items needed for the supper and prayers.

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH

MEETING WILL BE ON

FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH AT 7:30PM
IN THE PARISH HALL

FINANCIALS

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

February 28th & March 1st	\$2,650.25
March 1st Auto Debit	\$3,410.00
March 7th & 8th	\$2,318.80

Sharing God's Gifts

Annual Target Amount	Amount collected to March 8th	Year to Date + / -
\$22,419.00	\$2,465.00	- \$ 19,954.00

CHILDREN'S COLLECTION - CHALICE



Year-to-date

\$1,050.10

SHARE LENT COLLECTION



Sunday, March
22nd



Lent is a season of repentance, reflection, and repair. It is when our Church encourages us to help transform our world by giving generously to Development and Peace — Caritas Canada. It was created by our bishops as the official international development and solidarity organization of the Canadian Catholic Church. It supports vital sustainable development and humanitarian aid projects that serve some of our most vulnerable and marginalized sisters and brothers in dozens of countries across the Global South.

Your Lenten gift will make real difference in our mission of addressing the root causes of poverty and help build a more just and compassionate world. Above all, it will uphold the dignity of the very sorts of people whom Christ came to save. Please use the special Share Lent Offering envelope and make any cheques payable to the Good Shepherd Parish. Alternatively, you can donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for your solidarity!

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE



CHRISM MASS - March 31st at 7:00pm at St. Mary's Cathedral

All Parishioners are invited to attend the Chrism Mass. During this mass the Bishop consecrates the Sacred Chrism (used for Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders) and blesses the Oil of Catechumens (for Baptism) and the Oil of the Sick (for anointing the seriously ill). Priests from across the diocese gather with the bishop to renew their ordination promises, demonstrating unity. It marks the unity of the Church and the role of the bishop as a shepherd, with the oils symbolizing the Holy Spirit's presence in the sacraments. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

PUBLIC WAY OF THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY - April 3rd

All are welcome to participate in the 37th annual Public Way of the Cross, hosted by St. Edward the Confessor Parish on Good Friday, April 3rd beginning at 9:00 am with opening prayers by Archbishop Murray Chatlain. Light refreshments and fellowship in the church hall to follow.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

March 14th & 15th - Saint Paul gives us a wakeup call. As stewards of the light of Christ, we are to reflect that light with the help of the Holy Spirit. If Christ's work has transformed and illuminated our lives, there should be a change. The light of Christ's active presence should be at work in us. And as the light shines within us, we take on the properties of that light and we shine too. We are used by God to shine the light of Christ in the lives of others. A challenging Lenten reflection: Is the light of Christ shining in our hearts? Is the light of Christ reflecting out from us to others?

MASS INTENTIONS

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

4th Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 14th Sunday, March 15th	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	†Olive Lavalee by Family †Louis, †Julia, †Janet, †George & †Philip Kelemen by the Kelemen Family
Wednesday, March 18th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Ralph Lamirande by Family
Thursday, March 19th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Sid Gould by Guy & Sylvia Gauthier
Friday, March 20th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Irene St.Goddard by Family
4th Sunday of Lent Saturday, March 21st Sunday, March 22nd	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	†Andy Wollbaum by Marlene Wollbaum & Family Deceased members of the Ridder Family
Wednesday, March 25th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	For the speedy recovery of Family members by Cherry Esperancilla & Family
Thursday, March 26th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	Birthday wishes for Kevin & Bernadette LeLievre by the Family
Friday, March 27th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Debbie Lane by Mona Harper
Palm Sunday Saturday, March 28th Sunday, March 29th	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	For all Parishoners For all Parishoners

COMMUNITY EVENTS



SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK

For the month of **March** we are
collecting:

Canned Vegetables



**Total canned fruit and fruit
juices collected in February**

- 93 items

Thank-you for your generosity!



Catholic School of Evangelization

Saint Malo Catholic Summer Camp Registration is OPEN - Early Bird Pricing is on until May 15th. Please check their website at: <https://www.catholicway.net/camps> Or scan this QR code with your phone to check out the details!



Camp is the perfect way for you to experience new activities, grow in character, build lasting friendships, and most importantly, have fun!

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH 2026:



For disarmament and peace - Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

All the goods of this world cannot content the heart of the human person, who has been created to love God, and can find no peace outside of God. - St. Alphonsus Liguori