

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GOOD SHEPHERD & ST. AMBROISE

May 9th & 10th, 2026 - 6th Sunday of Easter
May 16th & 17th - Ascension of the Lord

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 10:00 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. 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

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.

Bidding farewell to a loved one is not easy, and is something we never fully grow accustomed to doing. The Ascension marks the end of Christ's earthly mission and his glorious return to the Father. He had achieved the work he was sent to do. While the trumpets were sounding in heaven to greet the arrival of the ascending Lord, the apostles must have been experiencing a deep sadness in their hearts at his departure. However, his final words, 'I am with you always. Go make disciples of all nations,' while full of comfort were urgent in meaning. Not only was Jesus not abandoning them nor depriving them of his presence but he was entrusting them with the mission of making the love of God the Father known, through joyful and selfless lives in the service of others. In Jesus' absence the disciples are not to remain inactive but to move into the future with courage. They have a vital and essential role to play in announcing the salvation Christ has won on Calvary, by transforming death into the dawn of a new life. Jesus will not longer be present in a human body but his place will be taken by the Holy Spirit who will be their guide and strength as they journey through life.

If we ponder within our hearts the meaning of this great feast we may come to grasp something of the confidence which God has in us because the Ascension focuses on what we must do to be with Christ forever. Where he has gone we hope to follow. Like the apostles, we are at the start of the stage and our call is also to service. We are to continue the work of those who have gone before us and help us build up Christ's kingdom. In a world full of homeless and jobless people we turn sorrow into happiness by being his comforting word and his every smile. Our lives may be the only book of the gospel open for people to read. What we are, speaks more loudly than either what we say or what we do. He is counting on us. Our prayer is that he will renew within us the work of the Spirit so that we may know what is true and have the strength to do what is right.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

Sun 10	Mother's Day	
Tues 12	Catechism	5:00 - 7:45 pm
Wed 13	Catechism	5:30 - 8:00 pm
Wed 13	Faith Enrichment Course	Cancelled
Thurs 14	Confirmation Class	7:00 pm
Tues 19	Final Catechism Class	5:00 - 7:45 pm
Wed 20	Final Catechism Class	5:30 - 8:00 pm
Wed 20	Faith Enrichment Course	Cancelled
Thurs 21	Confirmation Class	7:00 pm

Mother your arms were always open when I needed a hug. Your heart understood when I needed a friend. Your gentle eyes were stern when I needed a lesson. Your strength and love has guided me and gave me wings to fly.



FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

First Holy Communion - A date has been set for **Sunday, June 7th during 10:30am mass**. A reception to follow in the parish hall honoring our first communicants.

Confirmation will be celebrated on **Sunday, June 14th** during 10:30am mass with The Most Reverend Archbishop Murray Chatlain. Reception to follow in the parish hall honoring the newly confirmed and Archbishop Murray. Please mark your calendars.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

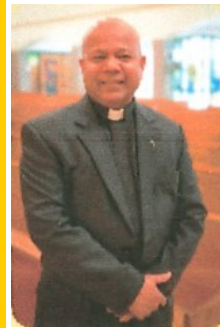
Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of **Therese Lavallee & Lillian Lamirande**. Please remember them in your prayers. May they rest in the peace of Christ.



PARISH GARDEN BEDS

A few Garden beds are available for use by parishioners this summer at no cost. Please call Bernadette at the office at 204-857-5172 for more information.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



You are cordially invited to celebrate: **Father Michael Raj Savarimuthu**

To purchase tickets please see the poster in the gathering area.

Celebrating
Fr. Michael's 25th Priestly Anniversary

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Centro Caboto
1055 Wilkes Ave.
5:30 p.m. Mass Celebration
Dinner at 6:30

5 course Italian Meal - provided by Sorrento's at the Caboto
\$75.00 Adults, Children under 12 special dinner \$30.00

Cash Bar

COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!!

The Roof Repair Building Committee is pleased to announce that our building project has started. For approximately 3-4 weeks during this time there will be **NO ACCESS** to some parts of our building including the **Cry Room, Sacristy, Confessional, the washroom beside the Sacristy and the storage room**. The hall and kitchen will still be available for limited events such as funerals and coffee parties.

FINANCIALS

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

April 25th & 26th	\$ 1,369.83
May 1st Auto Debit	\$ 3,485.00
May 2nd & 3rd	\$ 2,825.00

Sharing God's Gifts

Annual Target Amount	Amount collected to May 3rd	Year to Date + / -
\$22,419.00	\$ 4,569.00	- \$ 17,850.00

CHILDREN'S COLLECTION - CHALICE

	Year-to-date	\$ 2,044.50
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FINDING SOLACE IN FAITH

An End of Life Resource by the Manitoba Catholic Bishops

How do we navigate end-of-life decisions with faith, compassion & clarity? This free pastoral resource will help guide individuals and families through these important moments, including:

- Advance Health Care Directives
- Palliative & Hospice Care
- Medical Assistance in Dying
- Human dignity & spiritual preparation

Please visit: <https://cham.mb.ca/media/Finding-Solace-in-Faith-Booklet.pdf>

FROM THE VATICAN

Collection for the Pope's Pastoral Works

On **Sunday, May 17** Catholics across Canada are invited to give to the Pope's Pastoral Works, formerly known as Papal Charities. With the funds raised by this collection, the Pope can provide, on behalf of all Catholics, for various emergency relief efforts around the world. Envelopes are in the gathering area. Thank-you for your generosity.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE



Personnel Appointments

(effective August 1st, 2026)

Reverend Darrin J.G. Gurr becomes Episcopal Vicar for Stewardship and Mission to be styled the Director for our new office of Stewardship and Mission. Fr. Darrin will also serve, as the Director of our Annual Appeal.

Reverend Barry D. Schoonbaert will be leaving St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Wpg; his new appointment will be announced shortly.

Reverend Michel J. Nault becomes Rector of St. Mary's Cathedral. Fr. Michel will continue his ministry with the Church of the Deaf.

Reverend Gerald R. Langevin becomes Pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Wpg and also serve as R.C. Chaplain at Deer Lodge Centre.

Reverend Philip Malayil becomes Pastor of St. Nicholas Tavelich Parish in Wpg and will also assist with Sacramental Ministry at St. Edward the Confessor Parish in Wpg and at the Health Sciences Centre.

Reverend Nepolian Suvakin, HGN becomes Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Fisher Branch, Holy Cross Parish in Ashern and St. Philip Neri Parish in Arborg.

Reverend Geoffrey Angeles becomes Pastor of St. Gianna's Parish in Wpg.

Reverend Peter R. Nemcek becomes Pastor of Notre Dame Parish in Selkirk and St. Anne's Parish in Petersfield. Fr. Peter will continue as the Director of Vocations.





Reverend Samuel Akanmadomenoukon becomes Pastor of Parishes in Ste-Rose-du-Lac, Laurier, Toutes-Aides, Crane River, Ebb & Flow, Meadow Portage, Rorketon, Skownan and Waterhen. Reverend Christopher Dubois will offer some assistance, especially on the weekends.

Reverend Oliver Omega becomes Pastor of St. Hedwig's Parish in Brandon, St-Felix-de-Valois Parish in Dunrea, St. James' Parish in Baldur and Immaculate Conception Parish in Rivers.

Reverend James Ahaneku becomes Parochial Vicar pro tem of St. Mary's Cathedral. Additional moves will be announced as soon as possible. We are anticipating the arrival of three priests from India and one from Benin.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

6th Sunday of Easter Saturday, May 9th	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	 Happy Birthday Wishes for Neethu Jose by The Family
Sunday, May 10th	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	 For All Mothers
Wednesday, May 13th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	No Mass
Thursday, May 14th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	Rosary
Friday, May 15th	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	No Mass
Ascension of the Lord Saturday, May 16th	7:30 pm	Good Shepherd	✠Father Stan Fontaine by Marlene Wollbaum & Family
Sunday, May 17th	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	✠Louis & ✠Julia, ✠Janet & ✠George, ✠Philip Kelemen by the Kelemen Family
Thursday, May 21st	10:00 am	Good Shepherd	Rosary
Pentecost Sunday Saturday, May 23rd	7:00 pm	Good Shepherd	✠Bob Calder by Pauline & Family
Sunday, May 24th	10:30 am	Good Shepherd	 Happy Birthday John A. Xavier &  Happy Anniversary John A. Xavier & Roseline John by your Family

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION



6th Sunday of Easter - May 10th
Philip understood very well Jesus' words: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." We learn of Philip's devotion to prayer, evangelizing and healing in the region of Samaria; made up of communities that would not be very receptive to the followers of Jesus. Philip is a model steward, living his discipleship day by day in the Lord without being obstructed by feelings of what cost his actions might entail. Good stewards summon the courage to proclaim the Lord and to serve Him by ministering to others. As an Easter people, eager to rejoice in the Lord, it is important to reflect on how we are living out our own commitment to discipleship.

Catholic School of  École catholique d'évangélisation

- 2026 Summer Camp Registration
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!
- Staff & Volunteer Opportunities
They are currently hiring for the following positions for their Summer Camps: Camp Coordinator, Staff Counsellor, Head Cook, Lifeguard, Assistant Cook, Maintenance. The CSE is also currently seeking an Executive Director!
Please visit their website at <https://www.catholicway.net> for further details.

Let us be rooted and grounded in charity so that we may comprehend what is the length of eternity, the breadth of liberality, the height of majesty and the depth of discerning wisdom. - St. Bonaventure