



God is Still Hoping

Have you ever heard anyone say: "Please be patient—God isn't finished with me yet!" "God isn't finished with us." Doesn't that feel like a hopeful thought to celebrate the first Sunday of preparation for Jesus' birth, his beginning as a little child? And have you ever heard, "The journey is as important as the destination." In this life, God is leading us on a journey, really more of an adventure, where we have to trust constantly, since we never see the road ahead. So the Psalmist cries out, "Teach me your paths, God. Let me know your ways!" All our lives, we're in the process of God bringing us to a destination. Along the way, we're being asked to prepare for something we can't entirely envision. We will make mistakes at times during this trip—but, as Scarlett O'Hara might say, "Tomorrow is another day" to renew our best intentions and try again. The main thing is that we pick ourselves up and try again. All of our efforts should go in one direction—as St. Paul says, "Make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants...." But what kind of life *are* we meant to live? Jesus says, seek "the life that God wants." He warns us "Watch out!" that we don't get worn out and weighed down by an unspiritual rut of chronic over-work, no rest, and a frantic life. When our hearts become insensitive, we are not living the life God hopes for us. Life's meaning begins to fall apart, and there is only One who can put broken hearts and broken lives together for us. As we say at Mass, "We wait in hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ!" Go in peace to love and serve our God! First Sunday of Advent Nov. 29, 2009

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec. 08	9:00 am	RIP Jack Stacy	Sean & Jean Kavanagh
	9:00 am	Christopher Dubois	Bruce, Jackie & Brendan
	9:00 pm	RIP Joe Boschman	Dora & Family
Wed. Dec. 09	7:30 am	RIP Judy Delbridge	Plante Family
	9:00 am	RIP Anthony Fillion	Fillion Family
	9:00 am	RIP Jean Sicotte	Rudy & Rosemarie Bidinosti
Thurs. Dec. 10 Fairview Home	9:00 am	RIP Anne Safain	Kindle Family
	10:30 am	RIP Mary Gfellner	Carol
	10:30 am	RIP Wilma Kichak	Helen Lepine
Fri. Dec. 11	9:00 am	Rick & Jocelyn Kehler	Ken, Karen & Steven
	12:15 pm	Pam Stacy & Family	Emily Jaffray
	12:15 pm	Special Intention	Joan
Sat. Dec. 12	10:00 am	RIP Dorothy Patten	Ella Olson & Family
	10:00 am	Thanksgiving & Reconciliation	Philippine Community
	7:30 pm	RIP Evelyn Somerville	Greg & Yvonne Skura
Sun. Dec. 13	7:30 pm	Jean Gehrling	Joan Britton
	9:00 am	RIP Jim MacKay	Gayle & Family
	9:00 am	John & Jen Houlihan & Family	Barry & Carolyn Gurr
	10:30 am	RIP Ralph Jaffray	Emily & Family
	10:30 am	RIP Wilma Kichak	Bill & Family
	12:30 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. James

2nd Sunday of Advent

Catechism of the Catholic Church

717-720: John: Precursor, prophet, baptizer

Mon.	St. Ambrose (Isaiah 35.1-10) (Luke 5:17-26)
Tues.	Immaculate Conception of Mary (Genesis 3.9-15, 20) (Ephesians 1.3-6, 11-12) (Luke 1.26-38)
Wed.	St. Juan Diego (Isaiah 40.25-31) (Matthew 11.28-30)
Thurs.	(Isaiah 41.13-20) (Matthew 11.11-15)
Fri.	St. Damasus I (Isaiah 48.17-19) (Matthew 11.16-19)
Sat.	Our lady of Guadalupe (Zechariah 2.10-13) (Luke 1.39-47)
Sun.	3rd Sunday of Advent (Zephaniah 3.14-18) (Philippians 4.4-7) (Luke 3.10-18)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Noreen Bicknell, Jean Boutellier, Irene Copet, Jules Declercq, Ann Delgaty, Diane Dougall, Ron Ediger, Justin Enns, Rosaline Fedorkie, Mervin Fleury, Nora Fleury, Megan Gardham, Matthew Hrankowski, Brett Lawrence, Tess McLaren, Kathleen MacDougall, Paul Malabar, Alisa Moran, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Emily Potvin, Linda Seitz, Monica Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Irene Toma, Ashely Kostecku Truax, Marian Vorspel, Rosa Weiss, Debbie Williams and all our shut-ins.

MIDNIGHT MASS: If you would like to sing in the choir for midnight Mass at Christmas you are invited to attend choir practice on Thursday at 7:00 pm in the church.



VOCATION VIEW: Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord, to clear Him a straight path? Good, I prayed you would.

Donation Envelopes 2010

This year we have reassigned the envelope numbers for our collection envelopes. Therefore, you should not use any old envelopes that you have from previous years after December 31, 2009. If you should use old envelopes your collection could possibly be recorded in someone else's account which would make them very happy.

THE WEEK AHEAD.....

Mon.	07	Canterbury Senior Social Club	2:00 pm
	07	Charismatic Prayer Group(Life in the Spirit Seminar)	7:00 pm
Tues.	08	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	08	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
	08	Confirmation Class	7:00 pm
Wed.	09	Weekly Catechism	4:00 pm
	09	RCIA	7:00 pm
	09	K of C Meeting	7:00 pm
Thurs.	10	Serra Mtg.	11:30 am
	10	Weekly Catechism	6:30 pm
	10	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
	10	Catechists Meeting	7:00 pm
Fri.	11	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	11	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	11	Benediction	5:00 pm
Sun.	13	Youth Band Practice	4:00-6:00 pm
	13	St. Augustine's Community Choir Practice	7:00-8:00 pm

FINANCES: RECEIPTS:
Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Nov. 29, 2009

Offertory Collection (Brandon)	\$7363.64
School Fund Collection	\$ 320.00
Restoration Collection Nov. 29, 2009 -	\$3273.33

NEW TO OUR PARISH? CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?
 PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND PLACE IT IN THE SUNDAY
 COLLECTION BASKET

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 POSTAL CODE: _____ PHONE: _____
 NEW PARISHIONER REQUESTS ENVELOPE
 MOVING OUT OF PARISH CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Vigil Lamp
 The light burns in memory of
Phyllis Paskewitz
 week of Dec. 7, 2009

Stewardship Reflection

Generosity...authentic generosity is born out of an attitude of gratitude. How generous are you with your time? Advent is a time of preparation. A generous portion of our time given to prayer and to the service of others is a good way to make Christ's presence among us known. Stewardship is living generously. **Thank you** for your generosity this past year. Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

Lectors who want to proclaim the word at Christmas and New Year's masses please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the cork board outside the sacristy.

From Father Dominic's Desk:

Some Advent & Christmas Dates & Times:

Advent Confessions will take place at St. Augustine's on Wednesday, December 16. As usual, there will be three separate times: 1pm, 4pm, & 7pm.

Confessions at 1pm are primarily for the students and teachers of St. Augustine's School. Added to these, we invite any seniors who may feel safer attending in the day light. Also, anyone else who may not be able to attend with the rest of the parish in the evening.

Confessions at 4pm are for the children who attend public school and their parents who may wish to attend.

Confessions at 7pm are for the parish at large.

All the priests from the Westman deanery will be here to listen to your confessions.

Confessions at Souris will take place following Sunday mass on December 13 & 20.

Christmas Masses at St. Augustine's are on Thursday, Dec. 24 at 4pm, 6pm, 8pm and 12 midnight. Mass on Christmas Day, Dec. 25 will be at 10:30 am.

Christmas Mass in Souris will be on December 24 at 8pm.

Mary, Mother of God is a holy day of obligation in Canada. Masses at St. Augustine's will be on Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 pm. Mass on January 1, 2010 will be at 10:30 am.

In Souris, mass will be on January 1, 2010 at 11 am.

Thank You to those who assisted at Vespers last Monday when Archbishop Weisgerber was here, especially Beverly Hicks for reading, Carol MacKenzie for leading us in the intercessions, Scott Hayward for responding to the Archbishop's last minute request for a server and to Marie Adamo and team for preparing the lunch. I thought that the evening was a great way to mark the Year For The Priest.

Thank You Barb Hamm After many years of dedicated service Barb has decided to step aside from directing the 10:30 choir. Barb told me that she originally consented to this position on a temporary basis. However, the temporary became permanent. Barb will continue to join the choir when they sing for funerals. **Thank you** Barb for the many years of dedicated service which you provided for the parish through leading the 10:30 choir. You were always very dependable.

Homebaked and homemade goodies, fresh coffee, tea and juice with games& icebreakers awaits you during our **Advent Family Get Together** on the 4th Sunday of Advent, December 20th, starting at 1:30 p.m. A special Advent prayer service will be led by the families. Everyone is welcome to join us.

A guide for this season Advent Family Prayers: Consider gathering as a family to prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. A downloadable guide for families is available on our parish website - just go to youth ministry and click ADVENT FAMILY PROGRAM.

Bereavement Support Group, beginning on Thursday, February 25, 2010, running for eight weeks, with the exception of Holy Week. For more information, call the parish office and leave your name and phone number.