



Roots And Wings

We are getting so close to Christmas! You know the advertising will only get more intense this week. Of course, the kids are hoping this might generate more last-minute shopping trips. Well, take heart, parents. Remember, "There are only two things that a parent needs to give their children: one is roots—the other is wings." No mention of extra Christmas gifts! Roots not only anchor a tree to the earth, but nourish the whole tree by drawing up water and food from the soil. Baby birds need strong wings, because the parents' job is to push the little ones out. Their wings will carry them far above earth, toward new horizons. Pope Benedict XVI says Christians experience a similar "dual impulse of the spirit" during Advent. On one hand, we're on our knees, anchored at the crib with the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. But at the same time, we're lifting our eyes above the manger, toward the long-awaited fulfillment of our faith. As the Lord Jesus is born, we are already longing for his future return in glory. Those are our wings! In the meantime, we rely on one truth: that God says, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you...." (Jer. 1:5) *That* intimacy is the first moment of our story! That is how God gives ultimate reality and meaning to our existence—by grounding every moment of our lives in God's own Compassion. This Advent, ponder the Pope's words, "Every child born is a sign of trust in God and humanity, and a confirmation...of the hope in a future open to God's eternity...." Remember that THIS is the hope that is "indelibly engraved" on our hearts because *we are created for eternal life. Go in peace to love and serve our God!* Fourth Sunday of Advent Dec. 20, 2009

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Dec. 22	9:00 am	RIP Ignazio Scaletta	Sally & Family
	9:00 am	Vivian Ferenc	Geoff & Lorraine Kindle
	9:00 am	RIP Sr. Grace	Deacon John & Carol
Wed. Dec. 23	7:30 am	RIP Tony & Annita Fazio	Maria & Family
	7:30 am	RIP Bud Smith	Lucy & Family
	9:00 am	Edith Szturm	Frank & Family
Thurs. Dec. 24	9:00 am	Father Barry Schoonbaert	Terry & Pam
	4:00 pm	RIP Alex Suski	Eileen & Family
	6:00 pm	RIP Pat & Lee Golding	Golding Family
Fri. Dec. 25	8:00 pm	RIP Rachelle Gagne	Kiazuk Family
	12:00 am	Lea Badiou	Kehler Family
	10:30 am	Ursuline Sisters of Prelate	Rebecca
Sat. Dec. 26	10:30 am	RIP Wilma Kichak	Henry & Marlene Matskiw
	10:00 am	Linda Seitz	CWL Prayer Partner
	7:30 pm	RIP Matthew Skura	Skura Family
Sun. Dec. 27	7:30 pm	RIP Wilma Kichak	Bill & Family
	9:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. James
	10:30 am	RIP Ethel Sharein	Geoff & Lorraine Kindle
	10:30 am	RIP Mike Panchuk	Elsie, Pam, Terry & Family
	12:30 pm	Rick & Jocelyn Kehler	Dora

Catechism of the Catholic Church 721-726: Rejoice! You are full of grace

Mon.	St. Peter Canisius (Zephaniah 3.14-18) (Luke 1.39-45)
Tues.	(1 Samuel 1.24-28) (Luke 1.46-56)
Wed.	St. John of Kanty (Malachi 3.1-4; 4.5-6) (Luke 1.57-66)
Thurs.	(2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8-12, 16) (Luke 1.67-79)
Fri.	Christmas (Isaiah 52.7-10) (Hebrews 1.1-6) (John 1.1-18)
Sat.	St. Stephen (Acts 6.8-10; 7.54-59) (Matthew 10.17-22)
Sun.	Holy Family (1 Samuel 1.20-22, 24-28) (1 John 3.1-2, 21-24) (Luke 2.41-52)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Noreen Bicknell, Jean Boutellier, Christine Clausen, 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, Elsie Panchuk, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Emily Potvin, Linda Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Irene Toma, Ashely Kostecki Truax, Marian Vorspel, Rosa Weiss, Debbie Williams and all our shut-ins.

CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPT UPDATE: As per Revenue Canada information please be informed that donations received after DECEMBER 31, 2008 CANNOT be added to the year 2008 receipts. Therefore it is advisable to make sure your 2008 donations are given in the current year. This information was received from Revenue Canada.

Prayer for Christian Unity Service on January 24, 2010, 7 p.m. 1st Presbyterian Church.

4th Sunday of Advent

VOCATION VIEW: Can you honestly pray: "I have come to do your will, O God"? Blessed are you who trusts that the Lord's words to you will be fulfilled.



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.	21	Charismatic Prayer Group(Life in the Spirit Seminar)	7:00 pm
Tues.	22	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	22	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
Wed.	23	RCIA	7:00 pm
	23	K of C Executive Mtg.	7:00 pm
Thurs.	24	Christmas Eve Masses at 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm and 12 midnight	
Fri.	25	Merry Christmas	
	25	Office Closed	
Sun.	27	Youth Band Practice	4:00-6:00 pm
	27	St. Augustine's Community Choir Practice	7:00-8:00 pm

FINANCES:

RECEIPTS:

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Dec. 13, 2009	
Offertory Collection (Brandon)	\$7262.50
School Fund Collection	\$ 20.00
Restoration Collection Dec. 13, 2009 -	\$ 3685.00

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

Mike Panchuk

week of Dec. 21, 2009

Stewardship Reflection

Gratitude, Generosity & Trust... these have been the focus of our stewardship reflections the first three Sundays of Advent. Having these in our hearts we are more ready as we await Christ's coming. This coming week will be a week filled with joyful anticipation. Good stewards live in anticipation of fulfilling, doing, and sharing in the Master's work. Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg, www.archwinnipeg.ca

Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a **Coloring Contest** for Children please check all bulletin boards for details and entry deadline.

Parish Face to Face Retreat with Ken Yasinski & Roadside Cry
at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Russell, Manitoba Date: Saturday, January 16th and Sunday, January 17th, 2010 . For ages 5 and up! Registration forms available - one for families or one for individuals, Fee is \$25/person or \$60/family . Contact person: Glenda Stasiuk @ 204-773-2652

A special **thank you** to the Knights of Columbus for the Children's Christmas Party.

From Father Dominic's Desk:

As I pen this Christmas message the date is Dec. 14, the day when the church remembers the Carmelite St. John of the Cross. It is a memorable day for Fr. Michel Nault and myself because we were ordained to the transitional diaconate on this date. Since that time the music of Advent and Christmas frequently takes me back to that very special day. In a variety of tones, each piece of music tells the story of a most amazing and extraordinary birth. Beautiful voices, one after the other with varying combinations, urge me to relive the birth and review its purpose; the birth of our Saviour, the Son of the Most High. It is this birth which gives reason to my ministry as a priest. If we carefully listen to these ancient hymns, we will notice that they do not speak of domination, negativity or destruction, rather they joyfully proclaim peace, love, understanding and equality. Indeed, the message of Christmas provokes us to build up and not to tear down. We each have the power to change the circle of the world where we live. You and I can cultivate peace, minister to the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the needy, house the homeless and promote equality. Emmanuel, God is with us, when we make room for him in the stable of our hearts.

To each and everyone, my prayer is that you may have a blessed and holy Christmas. May the presence of Emmanuel be with you throughout the new year of 2010. May we all grow in faith, hope and love. *Fr. Dominic*

Confessions at Souris will take place following Sunday mass this weekend.

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.

New Apostolic Nuncio On Dec. 10 the Holy Father announced that Canada has a new Apostolic Nuncio. His name is Archbishop Pedro Lopez Quintana. The new Nuncio was formerly the nuncio to India and Nepal since 2003. He was born in Barbastro, Spain on 27 July 1953, was ordained a priest on June 15, 1980, and ordained bishop on Jan. 6, 2003. He entered the diplomatic service of the Holy See in 1984. He holds a doctorate in Canon Law, speaks Spanish, Italian, French, English and Portugese. He replaces Archbishop Ventura who was made Apostolic Nuncio to France.

New Security System: In the bulletin dated November 8, 2009, I alerted parishioners that we would soon be installing a new security system. Well, that is now complete to the tune of approximately \$20,000. I asked Allen Leigh Security to not make the final switch until after Christmas. I had visions of alarms going off and doors locking during the Christmas eve masses. On Christmas eve there are always sufficient unprecedented incidents that occur without setting ourselves up for more. Anyway, things are going to be a lot more "secure" around the parish centre. It would seem that the time has arrived that we know who may be coming and leaving the church premises. The east and west entrances now have security cameras as well as voice speakers for those outside to make contact with the secretary in the reception office. We may all have a lot to get accustomed to!