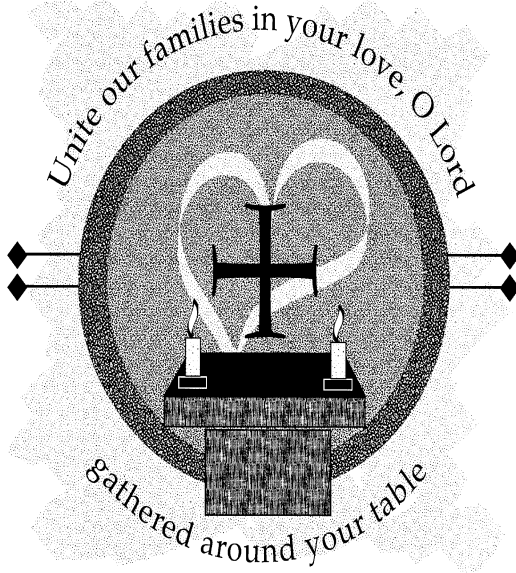


The Pathway To God



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It is in the cradle of a family where a child learns the meaning of love. He or she experiences in a physical and emotional way the feeling of being loved, protected, cared for, treasured. This is the first step that the child takes in his or her discovery of God, because God is love. The love of the father and mother prepares the child to meet the God of love. In the gentle voice and tender touch of the parents, the child is touched by God. Every time you smile at your child, hold them in your arms, feed them, change their diapers or put fresh, clean clothes on them, comb their hair or wash their face - every time you show them your care and tenderness, you are teaching them about the caring and tender God. The way you interact with one another in your family will be the model you set for all human relationships. As you show respect, forgiveness, kindness, gentleness and encouragement to one another, you will be fulfilling your role as a teacher of what it means to be human. What a great calling every parent has! You are the first teachers of your children in the ways of faith and love. Every parent has the beautiful and awesome responsibility of setting their children on the pathway to the experience and knowledge of God.

But as your children grow in their experience of being loved, you then need to help them come to know what it means to love others. They will observe how you interact with other people. What you say to your children about love is important, but what you do with your love is even more important. If you as a family cultivate a spirit of welcome towards others, your children will come to know that it is a good thing to open your home and your heart to others. Peace, Fr. John Vella (December 30th, 2007)

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Mon.	Dec. 31	7:30 pm	Rev. David McCloud	Carol & Carl Hartman
Tues.	Jan. 01	10:30 am	RIP Marcel Begyn	Louise & Family
Wed.	Jan. 02	9:00 am	RIP Suzanne Cancade	Lawrence & Noreen Dubois
		9:00 am	RIP Maurice Chicoine	Last Will
Thurs.	Jan. 03	9:00 am	RIP Claire Boschman	Dora & Family
		Fairview Home	10:30 am	Irene Nuytten
Fri.	Jan. 04	9:00 am	Catholic Education	Karen
		12:15 pm	RIP John Druwe	Bruce, Jackie & Brendan Miles
		5:00 pm	For all Parishioners	Ron & Jeannette Ediger
Sat.	Jan. 05	10:00 am	Paul Solon	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Raju
		7:30 pm	RIP Rev. Gerard De Ruyck	Mary De Roo & Family
		12:30 pm	RIP Tom Slobogian	Joyce & Family
Sun.	Jan. 06	9:00 am	RIP Tom Slobogian	Leo & Laura Vodon
		10:30 am	RIP Peg McMillan	Ray B.
		12:30 pm	Sally Scaletta	
Rivers	Jan. 06	11:00 am	For All Parishioners	
	Jan. 13	11:00 am	For All Parishioners	

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Ann Babiak, Marguerite Bicknell, Jeanne Boutilier, Margaret Buckmire, Irene Copet, David Deis, Ann Delgaty, Noah Dheilly, Jared Dryden, Justin Enns, Mervin Fleury, Nora Fleury, Mary Gaab, Megan Gardham, Marcelle Granger-Gentes, Kay Gray, Pauline Hayde, Patricia Kallusky, Brett Lawrence, Tess McLaren, Kathleen MacDougall, Derek Manshanden, Alisa Moran, Joan Napper, Moses Peech, Tony Petrucci, Hazel Philipott, Minnie Plaseski, Vanessa Sanko, Rena Schwalm, Monica Seitz, Coralie Serle, Gary Sproule, Jean Tarnowski, Doreen Thompson, Rosa Weiss, and all our shut-ins.

Brandon Area League for Life Annual Dinner will be held on January 20, 2008 in St. Augustine's Square at 5:00 pm. A roast beef dinner will be served. Guest Speaker will be Dr. Larry Rados. Tickets: \$10.00. Tickets are available at the Parish Office, Wing & A Prayer, Gerry Kennedy, Karen Fitzpatrick, Christopher Dubois, Jackie Miles or Wendy McComb.

CWL: Annual General Meeting Jan. 8, 2008, Mass at 7:00 pm, meeting to follow (installation of new executive to take place during Mass).

Holy Family

Catechism of the Catholic Church
530: The flight into Egypt
2196-2233: The fourth commandment

Mon.	St. Sylvester I (1 John 2:18-21) (John 1:1-18)
Tues.	Mary Mother of God (Numbers 6:22-27) (Galatians 4:4-7) (Luke 2:16-21)
Wed.	Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen (1 John 2:22-28) (John 1:19-28)
Thurs.	Holy Name of Jesus (1 John 2:29; 3:1-6) (John 1:29-34)
Fri.	(1 John 3:7-10) (John 1:35-42)
Sat.	(1 John 3:11-21) (John 1:43-51)
Sun.	Epiphany (Isaiah 60:1-6) (Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6) (Matthew 2:1-12)

New Year's Mass Times:

New Year's Eve 7:30 p.m.
New Year's Day 10:30 a.m.

VOCATION VIEW: Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him saying: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not."



THE WEEK AHEAD.....

Mon.	31	NO Charismatic Prayer Group	
Tues.	01	Office Closed	
Wed.	02	RCIA	7:00 pm
Thurs.	03	NO Quest for Christ	
	03	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Fri.	04	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	04	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	04	Benediction	5:00 pm
Sun.	06	K of C Pancake Breakfast after 9:00 & 10:30 Masses	
	06	Spanish Community of St. Augustine's	1:00 pm

FINANCES: RECEIPTS:

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Dec. 16 2007	
Offertory Collection (Brandon)	\$10,277.43
School Fund Collection	\$ 40.00
Rivers Collection	\$ 398.00

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 REQUIRES ENVELOPE
 MOVING OUT OF PARISH CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Stewardship Reflection of the Week

Return... The Christian steward receives God's gifts gratefully, cultivates and cherishes them, shares them in justice and love with one another and returns them with increase to the Lord! Returning our gifts with increase is the ultimate goal of the Christian steward. How is this done? It can't be done when we hoard what we have received, buying into our culture that tries to convince us that we do not have enough. When we are grateful for all that we have received, when we cultivate and cherish our gifts, and when we share them, then we can honestly say we have returned them with increase. For it is in this cycle of Christian stewardship - Receive - Cultivate - Share - Return that we are empowered to do our share in making this a better world. When we return to the Lord a generous and proportionate share of what we have been given we create room to receive again, and so the cycle of stewardship continues.

Vigil Lamp

The light burns in memory of
Mike Panchuk

Knights of Columbus: Free Throw Championship for Boys and Girls ages 10-14 on Saturday, January 13, 2008 at St. Augustine's Gym. Call Nolan Adam at 745-8933 for more information & registration forms are available at the church office.

PLEASE REMEMBER: Use **NEW** current year (2008) donation envelopes only in 2008, as your old number could be assigned to someone else. Envelopes are in the East vestibule.

Family Face to Face Retreat Coming Up at St. Joseph the Worker in Russell on Saturday, January 19th and Sunday, January 20th, 2008! Registration forms available in the office.

New Years Greeting:

With the arrival of the New Year we are reminded of the passage of time. When I was a child I always thought that time passed so slowly. Older people would remark about how "time was endowed with wings" and about how they did not know where the time went. Now that I am older and especially since becoming pastor of St. Augustine's, I find that the years seem short and fleeting. Apparently a Sister who was a teacher, had the unique manner of randomly writing things on the chalk board. One day she wrote the number 25,550. Finally one of her students asked what the number signified. Sister explained that the number represented the number of days in the life of a person who would live to the age of 70. Sister was trying to emphasize the brevity of life. In the Letter of James 4:14, we read that life "is like a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes." How important is it that we honor God in all the moments of our lives and that we serve others and especially that we tell others the Good News. Like Ps. 90:12 tells us "Lord, teach us to number our days, so that we use them wisely." As we slip into the New Year of 2008, I want to wish each parishioner of St. Augustine's a blessed, a health filled and a Happy New Year. May each day of 2008 count for Jesus and the Kingdom. *Fr. Dominic*

Dear Friends,

The New Year is a time to look forward to the challenges and good opportunities that lie ahead of us. I wish you great success in your various endeavours. In looking forward to 2008, I wish you and your families a healthy and prosperous New Year. *Fr. Raju*

Knights of Columbus - St. Valentine's Supper and Dance on Saturday, January 26, 2008 in St. Augustine's Square. There will be a live band "The Reflections." Supper is at 7:00 pm, tickets are \$22.50 and are available at the Parish Office.

Thank you: Sr. Marlene wishes to thank all the generous parishioners and Filipino community who contributed for her trip to and from Edmonton including incoming Sister Maybelle's transportation. Merry Christmas.

CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPT UPDATE: As per Revenue Canada information please be informed that donations received after DECEMBER 31, 2007 CANNOT be added to the year 2007 receipts. Therefore it is advisable to make sure your 2007 donations are given in the current year. This information was received from Revenue Canada.

Faith Sharing Questions:

Question for Children: When is it the hardest for you to obey your parents?

Pregunta para los niños: ¿Cuándo es más difícil obedecer a tus padres?

Question for Youth: Joseph listens to the angels in his dreams to care for and protect his family. What does your family do together to support each other and to help each other to become more holy?

Pregunta para los jóvenes: En los Colosenses, San Pablo expone una forma de vida para los seguidores de Cristo. Al leer esta lista, ¿para ti cuál es la más difícil de seguir? ¿Cuál es la más fácil?

Question for Adults: We are invited to let the word of Christ dwell within us and direct our daily lives. Which one of the life-style suggestions in this reading speaks most loudly to you?

Pregunta para los adultos: Estamos invitados a que la palabra de Cristo habite entre nosotros y directamente en nuestras vidas diarias. ¿Cuál de las sugerencias de estilo de vida en esta lectura le habla más fuerte?