



## Of Chocolate and Other Cravings

Are you a chocoholic? Studies say that "Chocolate is the most commonly craved food in North America," and each person consumes about 11 pounds each year. If you can understand that kind of craving, you will also understand God sending out prophets and eventually God's own Son to call people's attention to what is really worth craving. Jesus came to show us the truth of how God is: "...a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in graciousness, relenting from evil." (Jon.4:2) But we don't seem to get it. In the gospel today, Jesus is again begging us to "Repent, and believe the good news" about how God really is, because the fullness of what God wants for us--the kingdom of God--is close at hand, if we would just recognize it. But if God's love is really good news, why does Jesus have to beg us to believe it? Because there is still evil in the world, so we need help to recognize what is best for us. This is the way God's love works: when someone recognizes their faults and wrongdoing, when they sincerely ask for pardon, God's mercy is there before they can get the words out. God has a constant craving for us to leave our hurt feelings and anger behind, and come home to be fed lavishly at the table of love and forgiveness. In our confusion, some of us try to find a deeper fulfillment by mistakenly leaving our marriage, or our church. Mostly, we forget that God has a deep craving for our wholeness and holiness. Jesus says this simply, "The time has come: Repent—that means, turn around, come toward me—and believe the Good News, that God loves you and wants you back." *Go in peace, to love and serve our God!*

### MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues. Jan. 27	9:00 am	RIP David Serle	Columbian Club & Apartment Program
	9:00 am	Kevin & Family	
		Amber & Family	Roberta Graham
Wed. Jan. 28	7:30 am	Ginger & Hirou	Delannoy Family
	9:00 am	RIP Don McDonald	Sr. Anne & Carol
Thurs. Jan. 29	9:00 am	RIP Helen Vooch	Dora Boschman
Fairview Home	10:30 am	RIP Doreen Wood	Joan Britton
Fri. Jan. 30	9:00 am	RIP Ignazio Scaletta	Angela Porko & Family
	12:15 pm	RIP Karen Bass	Walter & Stella Sturko
Sat. Jan. 31	10:00 am	Special Intention	Rick & Patti Anderson
	7:30 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph
Sun. Feb. 01	9:00 am	RIP Helen Vooch	Joey Gilarski
	10:30 am	RIP Jessie Sebastian	Rosaria & Barbara
	12:30 pm	Jocelyn & Net Team	Lynn, Dan & Mark
Souris:	Feb. 01 11:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph
	Feb. 08 11:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. Joseph

**Knights of Columbus St. Valentine's Supper and Dance**, on Saturday, February 14, 2009 in St. Augustine's Square. Live Band The Reflections. Cocktails at 6:15 pm, Supper at 7:00 p.m. Silent Auction. Tickets \$25.00 per person. **Tickets available at Parish Office.**

**Brandon Area League for Life Annual Dinner** on Sunday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Augustine Church Square, Guest Speaker Mary Ann Kuharski Author and Director of ProLife across America "The Billboard People". Roast Beef dinner \$12.50. Tickets available at Parish Office, Wing & A Prayer.

#### Welcome to Our Christian Community:

Rachel Marie Markmann, Cole Wayne Vandenberghe, Rusty James Dillon Wood

**ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH GATHERING** on Friday, January 30, 7-9 pm. Come out for an evening of prayer and community with other youth and young adults. At this gathering we will do Taize Prayer, which will be followed by a social. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### Catechism of the Catholic Church

**144-165: "I believe" - the obedience of faith and the characteristics of faith**

Mon. **St. Timothy & St. Titus**  
(2 Timothy 1.1-8)  
(Luke 10.1-9)

Tues. **St. Angela Merici**  
(Hebrews 10.1-10)  
(Mark 3.31-35)

Wed. **St. Thomas Aquinas**  
(Hebrews 10.11-18)  
(Mark 4.1-20)

Thurs. (Hebrews 10>19-25)  
(Mark 4.21-25)

Fri. (Hebrews 10.32-39)  
(Mark 4.26-34)

Sat. **St. John Bosco**  
(Hebrews 11.1-2, 8-19)  
(Mark 4.35-41)

Sun. **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Deuteronomy 18.15-20)  
(1 Corinthians 7.32-35)  
(Mark 1.21-28)

#### CWL News:

**Executive Meeting** will be held Tuesday, January 27th at 7:00 pm at the home of Rose Hercun.

**General Meeting** will be held Tuesday, February 3rd. Mass at 7 pm with meeting to follow. Guest Speaker Linda Chegwin.

**CWL brunch** will be held after 10:30 am mass on Sunday, February 8 at Gulliver's Grill, 1630 Park Avenue. All CWL members welcome as well as any interested women from the parish.

**THE WEEK AHEAD.....**

Mon.	26	Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm
	26	Confirmation	7:00 pm
Tues.	27	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	27	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
Wed.	28	Quest for Christ	4:30 pm
	28	RCIA	7:00 pm
	28	Youth Fun Night	7:00 pm
	28	K of C Executive Meeting	7:30 pm
Thurs.	29	Bible Study	1:15 pm
	29	Finance Meeting	5:00 pm
	29	Quest for Christ	6:30 pm
	29	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting	7:00 pm
	29	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Fri.	30	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	30	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	30	Benediction	5:00 pm
	30	Archdiocesan Youth Gathering	7:00 pm
Sat.	31	Youth Information Night	6:00 pm
Sun.	01	K of C Pancake Breakfast after 9:00 & 10:30 Mass	

**FINANCES:                      RECEIPTS:**

Collection for the Weekend for Sunday January 18, 2009  
 Offertory Collection (Brandon)\$7250.10  
 School Fund Collection                      \$    5.00  
 Restoration Collection Jan. 18, 2009 - \$ 6947.25

**Stewardship Reflection of the Week**

**Stewardship & the 4 Ships**

**Leadership:** Who is our leader? Jesus is! He gives us the perfect example of stewardship to follow.

**Relationship:** How are you developing your relationship with Jesus? Being a good steward of your time and spending time in prayer is the best way to develop your relationship with Him.

**Discipleship:** *"Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me".* (Mark 8:34) What does it mean to deny yourself? It means to live a Christ-centered life rather than a self-centered life!

**Stewardship:** To *receive* God's gifts gratefully, to *cultivate* and develop those gifts, to *share* them in gratitude with others, and to *return* them with increase to the Lord. This is the cycle of Christian Stewardship – **Receive – Cultivate – Share – Return.**

**Vigil Lamp**

The light burns in memory of  
 Lewandoski Family

**Brandon Area League For Life Information Alert**

In China, sex selective abortions have resulted in such a huge discrepancy between the number of male and female children being born that it is estimated China will be home to 30 million more men of marriageable age than women by 2020.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/PEK256138.htm>

**Created and Redeemed**

*(The Universal Message of John Paul II's Theology of the Body)*

**St. Augustine's Adult Faith Program**

**February 12 to April 02 in AI's Hall (every Thursday)**

Drawing on Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body, author and video host Christopher West shares God's original plan for marriage and sexuality and how an understanding of this plan gives profound meaning to all our lives - married, single and consecrated celibates. The Theology of the Body has been called "one of the boldest reconfigurations of Catholic theology in centuries," according to the pope's biographer, George Weigel. It addresses some of the most fundamental and important questions of human existence, including:

- \*Why were we created male and female?
- \*Where do we come from and why?
- \*What is the meaning of life? How do we experience it?
- \*Why is there evil in the world and how do we overcome it?

**PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE - PHONE THE OFFICE AT 727-4728. Booklets cost \$15.00.**

Topics:

1. Theology of the Body: An Education in Being Human
2. Created as Male & Female: God's Original Plan
3. Redeemed as Male & Female: Christ Restores God's Plan
4. The Heavenly Marriage & the Joy of Christian Celibacy
5. The Two Become "One Flesh": Living the "Great Mystery" of Marriage
6. Authentic Chastity: From Legalism to Liberty
7. Theology in the Bedroom: Love, Sex & Fertility
8. "Put out into the Deep": The New Evangelization

**Bereavement Support Group - Time Correction**

St Augustine's Parish is going to present an eight week program for the bereaved of the parish. These sessions are for anyone suffering the loss of a loved one, whether spouse, child, parent, relative or friend. The program will begin on Thursday afternoon, February 5 to March 26, from 1:30 - 3:00 in the Knights of Columbus Room and lasts approximately 1 1/2 hours. Facilitators are Carol MacKenzie and Sharon Monaghan. Please call the parish office to register.

**Former RCIA** participants are invited to "Revisit The Journey" in an 8 session Faith Enrichment Gathering Tuesday evenings 7-9 p.m. starting Feb. 3, 2009 in Room 108. For information or to register call Sharon 726-0408 (evening).

**Memo from Archbishop Weisgerber:**

Feb. 1-8, 2009 will be observed in Manitoba as Respect for Life Week. This long standing tradition is an important contribution to the life of our Church and our wider community. We very much need to keep the issue of sacredness of life before the eyes of our parishioners and the eyes and heart of our society. This week is an opportunity for us to witness to this important reality. The theme of this year's week will be: "My Life is in Your Hands".

Come to the **Cana Wedding Family Social** on Sunday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Renew your wedding vows, potluck supper and family dance will follow. Tickets are available at "Wing and a Prayer", Parish Office or after Mass. All are invited, young, old, married or single.

**League for Life** will hold membership drive will take place the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

**Immaculate Conception Parish in Rivers** recently was attached as a mission to Sacred Heart Church in Virden. They will have Sunday Mass once a month and lay led services the other three Sundays.



**VOCATION VIEW:** Even a great person like Jonah turned away, at first, from what God called him to do. It is never too late to hear the Lord say, 'Come, follow Me.'