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Wise Indeed

The poet Henry van Dyke wrote a lovely story about "The Other Wise Man"—Artaban, who saw the star in the sky and left late to see the baby King. He sold everything to buy 3 jewels as his gift, then set out on his journey. But soon he found an old man dying in the road. Now what? Should he delay his life's dream of following the star to minister to this dying stranger? He fed and bandaged the man, and received a blessing in return. He rushed to Bethlehem. A young mother with a baby told him that three Wise Men had already been there with gifts for a new baby somewhere in the hills. Suddenly screams were heard outside, "Herod's soldiers! They are killing our babies!" Artaban quickly gave his second jewel as a bribe for the soldiers. Artaban then continued seeking the new King for 33 years...helping the sick, living among the poor, always praying he would someday find his King. At the end of his life, old and tired, he came to Jerusalem one last time. It was Passover, and crowds were streaming toward Golgotha where they said a man called Jesus of Nazareth was being crucified. "I may yet find my King, and offer my pearl for his ransom before he dies." But suddenly soldiers dragged a young girl by. She broke away and threw herself at Artaban's feet. "Save me! I am to be sold as a slave for my father's debts!" Artaban took the pearl and laid it in her hand—his last treasure. Just then, a heavy tile blew from a roof and struck him. As the girl bent over him, he was speaking to someone she did not see: "No, my Lord—When did I see you hungry, and fed you? Or a stranger, and took you in?" A look of wonderful joy was on Artaban's face as he heard his King say, "As much as you have done all this to the least of my children, you have done it to me." Artaban breathed one last quiet breath. A calm radiance lit his face. His gifts had been accepted. The Other Wise Man had found the King. Epiphany January 3, 2010

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Tues.	Jan. 05	9:00 am	RIP Bill Simes	Lawrence & Noreen Dubois
		7:00 pm	CWL Members	CWL
Wed.	Jan. 06	7:30 am	RIP Ann Caven	Pat O'Sullivan
		9:00 am	Katherine Blackmon	Linda Delannoy
Thurs.	Jan. 07	9:00am	RIP Sophie Kuss	Maxine Wenger
Fairview Home		10:30 am	Felicien & Eveline Boulet	Issigonis Family
Fri.	Jan. 08	9:00 am	Respect & Protection of Human Life	League for Life
		12:15 pm	RIP Eadhbard O'Brien-Moran	Pam Stacy & Family
Sat.	Jan. 09	10:00 am	Special Intention	Legion of Mary
		7:30 pm	RIP Wilma Kichak Katie	Bill & Family Smith Family
Sun.	Jan. 10	9:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. Dominic & Fr. James
		10:30 am	Dennis Loeppky	Maxine Wenger
		12:30 pm	RIP David Mayor	Mom & Dad

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, 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.

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.

Epiphany

Catechism of the Catholic Church

512-519: The mysteries of Jesus and our communion in these mysteries

Mon. (1 John 3.22-4.6)
(Matthew 4.12-17, 23-25)

Tues. (1 John 4.7-10)
(Mark 6.34-44)

Wed. **Blessed André Bessette**
(1 John 4.11-18)
(Mark 6.45-52)

Thurs. **St. Raymond of Penafort**
(1 John 4.19-5.4)
(Luke 4.14-22)

Fri. (1 John 5.5-13)
(Luke 5.12-16)

Sat. (1 John 5.14-21)
(John 3.22-30)

Sun. **Baptism of the Lord**
(Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11)
(Titus 2.11-14; 3.4-7)
(Luke 3.15-16, 21-22)



VOCATION VIEW: Many adults never grow up. They continue to traipse across the earth looking for a shining star. Tell them who lights up your life, O Christian.

THE WEEK AHEAD.....

Mon.	04	Canterbury Senior Social Club	2:00 pm
	04	Charismatic Prayer Group(Life in the Spirit Seminar)	7:00 pm
Tues.	05	St. Vincent de Paul	9:30 am
	05	Legion of Mary	4:30 pm
	05	CWL Mass & meeting	7:00 pm
	05	Confirmation Class at School	7:00 pm
Wed.	06	Catechism Class	4:00 pm
	06	RCIA	7:00 pm
Thurs.	07	Catechism Class	6:30 pm
	07	League for Life	7:00 pm
	07	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Fri.	08	Mass followed by Adoration	12:15 pm
	08	Confession	4:00-4:45 pm
	08	Benediction	5:00 pm
Sun.	10	Youth Band Practice	4:00-6:00 pm
	10	St. Augustine's Community Choir Practice	7:00-8:00 pm

FINANCES:	RECEIPTS:
Collection for the Weekend for Sunday Dec. 20, 2009	
Offertory Collection (Brandon)	\$ 10,634.10
School Fund Collection	\$ 5.00
Restoration Collection Dec. 20, 2009 -	\$ 2,685.00

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
Lewis & Aquin Families
week of Jan. 4, 2010

Stewardship Reflection

The word *epiphany* is secularly defined as, 'a sudden intuitive perception or insight into the reality [truth] or essential meaning of something'. Stewardship often becomes a way of life in an epiphany – a flash of insight that changes the way in which we view the purpose and meaning of our lives. Christ is the way, the *truth* and the light. The stewardship way of life means swimming against the tide of over-consumerism, rampant materialism, and selfish individualism, but we do so with the truth at our side.

Amen. Stewardship Office, The Archdiocese of Winnipeg,
www.archwinnipeg.ca

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.

From Father Dominic's Desk:

Court Case-Forgiveness-Onward:

Now that the court case of the 22nd of December 2009 has taken place, has been published in the Brandon Sun on Dec. 23 and reported on the national news, I am free to make a few comments.

First of all, as Christians we are to forgive one another, no matter how grave the offence. (Ephesians 4:32) We do this in order that the offender may be completely free to seek mercy for his/her soul from the One who will come "to judge the living and the dead." (Nicene Creed)

Second, we extend forgiveness for our own spiritual, psychological and emotional well being. When we forgive we break any diabolical control that the offender may exert over us. Forgiveness allows us to move beyond the situation which has wounded us. Forgiveness enables us to pray the Our Father with sincerity and truth "*forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*" We extend forgiveness, even in a situation such as the present, where the offender has not, and may never, ask for forgiveness. Forgiveness should not be confused with reconciliation or the restoring of a relationship. Reconciliation requires a renewal of trust, and sometimes that is not possible. Forgiveness may open the door to reconciliation, and in some ways is a prerequisite for reconciliation, but a victim may forgive an offender without reconciliation taking place. (Forgiveness Is A Choice by Robert D. Enright; American Psychological Association)

This being said, no one should feel compelled by someone else to forgive before the time when they are prepared to do so. Further damage can be done by those who insist that "unless a person forgives immediately, they are not a Christian". This sort of duress is a form of bullying. Different people require various time frames to arrive at forgiveness.

These past seven months have been extremely difficult for me as pastor. The thievery issue has been very divisive for the parish community. I have spent hundreds of hours listening to parishioners express their anger, hurt, shame, disappointment and answering their questions.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to those who recognized and responded to the staff, parishioners of St. Augustine's and myself as the victims of this sad saga in the history of our parish. Your words and gestures of support were reassuring and affirming. There is a tendency in our present day society to canonize the sinner and to hold in contempt those who seek to live virtuous lives. There is a proclivity to call black--white and to label immorality as virtuous. In my simple catechism, the ten commandments, yes even the 7th commandment pertains to church leaders as much as it does to the laity.

This unfortunate situation which resulted in a court case taking place a few days prior Christmas, ironically occurred during the Year For The Priest proclaimed by His Holiness Pope Benedict. Several of St. Augustine's parishioners joined me in travelling to Virden on June 19, 2009 to help the parishioners of Sacred Heart and their pastor at the time, Raju Madanu, to celebrate their feast day and to usher in the Year For The Priest which began on that day. This theme continues until June 11, 2010. Let us pray that the second half of the year will be more rewarding for all the priests of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg than the first half was for some of us.

Prior to that day, it is my intention to have a mass for healing for any parishioners of St. Augustine's who may have been deeply affected by the events of the last several months. Hopefully a mass for healing will help everyone to bring closure to this sad chapter in the annals of our parish history.

Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors: will be meeting at St. Augustine School @ 7:00 pm Tuesday, January 5, 2010.