

CALENDAR of SAINTS

Saint George - April 23

Little is known about George, killed for his faith at Lydda, in Palestine, at the beginning of the fourth century. It seems that he was a soldier in the Roman army, was quite involved in the organization of a Christian community at Urmiah (modern Iran), and visited Britain on an imperial expedition. During the reign of Edward III (14th century), he was made patron of the kingdom. George is also patron of several Mediterranean countries, as well as several European countries and cities, and the Boy Scouts. In the Middle East, he is linked with the prophet Elias, under the name El Khadar (the living).

Until modern times George played an important role in popular folklore: 12th century literature hails him as the dragon slayer! During the Middle Ages, he was a popular patron of the knights, soldiers and crusaders, who adopted "St. George's Arms," a red cross on a white background. The red cross appears on the modern Union Jack. The date of his festival is connected with the arrival of spring.

Saint Adalbert - April 23

Born in Bohemia (Czech Republic) around 956, Adalbert was consecrated bishop of Prague in 983. The Task proved too onerous because of fierce political opposition, and he withdrew to a Benedictine abbey in Rome. He engaged in several very successful preaching missions to Poland, Prussia, Hungary and Russia. Dubbed the apostle of the Slavs, he was martyr near Gdansk on this date in 997.

Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen - April 24

Mark Roy was born in Sigmaringen, Swabia (Germany) in 1578. Known as the "lawyer of the poor" he gave up practicing law to enter the Capuchins in Freiburg, Switzerland, in 1612; he accepted the name Fidelis of Sigmaringen. A dynamic preacher, he was appointed by the Congregation for the Propagation of Faith to preach to the Calvinists in Switzerland. He met with much resistance and was assaulted and slain in 1622. He is a patron of lawyers.

Saint Mark - April 25

John Mark is the author of the earliest and shortest Gospel. All our knowledge of Mark is gleaned from Scripture. He was a member of the first Christian community in Jerusalem. His mother, Mary, owned a house in Jerusalem, which Christians used as a place of a prayer during Peter's imprisonment under Herod Agrippa (see Acts 12:12).

When Paul and Barnabas returned from their visit to Jerusalem; they took Mark back with them to Antioch in Syria. Later they brought him along as their assistant

on a missionary journey. After this journey, Mark returned to Jerusalem. In Christian art Mark is often depicted with a winged lion. Legends speak of Mark as Bishop of Alexandria where he was killed in the streets of the city. The celebration of his feast on April 25th was introduced in the 9th century. He is a patron of notaries, of Egypt and Venice.

Our Lady of Good Counsel - April 26

In return for financial assistance in renovating the church of Saint Mary Major in Rome, Pope Sixtus III granted land to the people of Genazzano, Italy. Eventually, a church consecrated to Our Lady of Good Counsel was built on this land. It was to this church that an Albanian icon mysteriously arrived in April 1467. The image depicts Mary and the Christ Child in the style of 'The Mother of Tenderness.' The painting appears to float about 2.5 cm from the wall. Numerous healings and miracles have been attributed to the intervention of Our Lady of Good Counsel. She is the patron of many women's groups, including the Catholic Women's League of Canada and the Christian Mothers of America.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

You are invited to the Knights of Columbus

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

NOTRE DAME PARISH HALL

10:00 AM. - 12:00 PM



Notre Dame Church

269 Jemima Street, Selkirk, MB, R1A 1W9

Phone: (204) 482.3422 Fax: (204) 482.7514

Email:

notredameromancatholicchurch@gmail.com

St. Anne's Church

500 Edith St. Petersfield, MB Phone: 204 738 2742

Served from Notre Dame, Selkirk

Pastor: Fr. Gerald Langevin

Secretary: Fiona Lawson

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Church Website: www.ndparish.ca

Bulletin announcements: due 1 week in advance

DEVOTIONS at Notre Dame, Selkirk:

1st Friday – Holy Hour

Fridays – Devotion to St. Joseph

CONFESSIONS: by appointment

Marriages: Call at least 6 months in advance

Baptisms: By appointment 6 weeks in advance

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024

World Day of Prayer

For Vocations



Acts 4:7-12

1 John 3:1-2

John 10:11-18

Responsorial Psalm (118) The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God. (1 Jn 3.1)

Have you ever deeply pondered on the fact that you are a child of God? If we allow it, that mystery can ignite a mystical journey from this moment forward.

Letting the reality of our true identity settle into our hearts is a magnificent grace - one that can free and empower us. It can remind us that God doesn't make junk – and that, as his children, we are precious.

Nestling into the relationship as a child of his, we'll be called to snuggle up to him, listen to him, praise him, thank him, take refuge in him, rejoice in him, run to him for help. And yes, take commands from him. Jesus knows us and we know him.

You see, Jesus is the Good Shepherd and not a hired hand. We've heard the story of the Good Shepherd hundreds of times. What does it mean? When Jesus sees evil or hard times befalling us, he does not run away. He is there with us in battle. A hired hand may run away because a hired hand might not care. Jesus the Son of God cares deeply. In fact, Jesus loves us! Will we lay down our lives for him?

Dorothy Pilarski, Mississauga, ON

Dear Parishioners

This weekend on Sunday morning at Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church in Selkirk those in attendance will witness the "laying on of hands" as the Archbishop prays for the Confirmands that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit may come upon them. Then we will hear the words spoken by His Grace, Most Rev. Richard Gagnon, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit" as he anoints the 10 Confirmands with the Sacred Chrism. Upon offering the Sacred Chrism to each candidate, he offers them the words spoken to Jesus to his apostles, "Peace be with you". Do you remember your Confirmation? Do you have to jog your memory to recall that important day? As I look back on that moment in my life, I remembered that my Confirmation took place on the same day as our Confirmands. In my case, it took place on April 21st, 1980, 44 years ago. Along with my classmates at St. John Brebeuf Church, we were privileged to be confirmed by His Eminence, George Cardinal Flahiff, who was Archbishop of Winnipeg at the time. As we welcome Archbishop Gagnon with us this weekend, let us pray for our Diocesan Shepherd and give thanks for his faithful service in the past 10 years as our Archbishop. And let us pray in thanksgiving for our Confirmands as they are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit this weekend. As they gather with their family and friends this weekend, may they be enriched with God's blessings as they journey forward in faith each day onward. Peace and Blessings, Fr. Gerald

An Easter Prayer

O God of Easter glory, gather your baptized people around the teachings of the apostles, devoted to the life we share in the Church, devoted to the breaking of the bread. Make us so embrace the name of Christ that we glorify you in the world and bear witness to your Word made known to us by Jesus, our Passover and our peace. Amen.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

On the fourth Sunday of Easter, Christians are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and pray for vocations. Christ the Good Shepherd continues to lead his people through his Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and calls many to follow him in this way. Priestly, diaconal, and religious vocations should be a constant concern in the hearts of God's people throughout the year.

The whole Christian community shares the responsibility for fostering vocations. The first step is to live in a full Christian manner. Families with a lively

spirit of faith, love and reverence contribute greatly to this work. Spiritually active parishes, where people take full part, help to promote vocations.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 20

5:00pm – RIP Ted Wozny, req. by Knights of Columbus

Note time change

**7:30pm (Petersfield) – for all parishioners

Sunday, April 21 - Confirmation

10:30am – for our newly confirmed

Monday, April 22

Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10;

Tuesday, April 23

St. George, St. Adalbert

Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday, April 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

Acts 12:24-13:5; Jn 12:44-50

7:00pm – RIP Daren Reiter, req. by Angela & Mel Zalevich

Thursday, April 25

St. Mark, Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5-14; Mk 16:15-20

9:30am (KC) – RIP Ron, Ernie, Tom Malis, req. by Liz Omeniuk

2:30pm (SMHC) – Mass

Friday, April 26

Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

10:00am – Mass

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 27

5:00pm – RIP Daren Reiter, req. by Wally & Aggy Budy

Sunday, April 28

9:00am (Petersfield) – for all parishioners

10:30am – RIP Anne Malis, req. by Liz Omeniuk

Please Pray For the Sick

Let us remember our friends and relatives who are sick or in the hospital including: Jean Ancheta, Milagros Berena, Aggy Budy, Howard Clark, Phyllis Gomes, Marlene Sahulka, and Lorraine Smith.



Parish & Parishioners' Activities

1. **Confirmation:** April 21, 10:30am
2. **1st Communion classes:** Sat. April 27, 9:30am
3. **Bible Study:** Tuesday 6:30pm St. Anne's; call Deacon Phil for details 204-642-8901
4. **Knights of Columbus Breakfast:** April 28th
5. **Movie Night:** May 4
6. **1st Communion:** May 26, 10:30am

Sacrament of Confirmation – April 21

Please pray for the candidates, their sponsors and families as they prepare to be confirmed in faith: Tiana Borges, Sebastian Cychowski, Claire Cyrenne, Juliet Cyrenne, Zurielle Dignadice, Danielle Famoso, William Hordyski, Hazel Jonker, Angelica Shane Rosarda, and Arianna Sadowski.

“Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.”

Stewardship

Today's reading from Acts is a classic stewardship reading. None of the Apostles claimed that their possessions were their own. The truth is we don't own anything, it all belongs to God. Good stewards share everything they have. Sharing is a response of both the head and the heart. In believing that everything we possess is a gift from God, we make a conscious decision to share it. Thus, our grateful hearts lead us to joyful generosity, not out of obligation or duty, but out of gratitude to God and love for one another.

Psalms 118

This particular selection highlights the “stone” testimony quoted in Peter's apologia (or defence) in the first reading (Acts 4).

This psalm was originally used at the annual enthronement festival. As the king entered the temple in triumph and mounted the steps of the throne, “it was as if a new and highly decorative coping stone has been added to the cornice, which builders has failed to beautify completely.” The exaltation of Jesus is the fulfilment of the enthronement festival. He is the new coping stone.

CWL

Mental Health Week 2024 is May 6-12.

We will begin with mass at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1. Following our meeting, we will host a guest speaker from Mental Health. Mental Health

week encourages Canadians to learn and talk with others about mental health issues.

Thank you to Joan Durant of St. Anne's parish, who assisted us with a fun “tile painting” activity following our meeting on April 10. Each participant created their own unique piece to take home.

Invitation – All ladies of the parish are invited to our CWL windup coming up on Wednesday, June 5. This is a great opportunity for you to meet others and have some fun social time!! Further information to follow.

Scripture Insights

The Gospel for today is a portion of the longer and very familiar discourse on the Good Shepherd. Most people reading this passage have had no experience with tending sheep, but it is important to keep in mind that this discourse is about relationship. The Jewish community would have been familiar with the images of the shepherd and the hired hand. The hired hand to whom Jesus refers is an individual (or individuals) who have had no relationship with the sheep he is paid to tend. The shepherd, on the other hand, is the one who knows and tends to the sheep with tender care. When Jesus says, “I am the Good Shepherd,” he is not only identifying himself as the one with whom he and his sheep have a mutual relationship, but also saying that he and the Father have a mutual relationship. While using the familiar shepherd imagery of the Old Testament, Jesus expands the image of the shepherd to include “other sheep that do not belong to this fold.” Jesus will lay down his life for many, not for an elite few. *Sourcebook 2024*

Living the Eucharist

GOOD SHEPHERD / VOCATION SUNDAY

The topic of presbyteral succession is a hot topic in our churches in Canada and in most Western countries. Although generous young people are still considering placing themselves at the service of the gospel of Christ in the Church which he continues to gather, we are observing a decline in the number of those responding to this call. There are several reasons for this, linked to the social and cultural context, as well as to the current situation of the church and certain negative perceptions, which explain this weakening attraction for service in the Church as a shepherd follows Christ.

This context should not discourage but rather stimulate us to seek ways of continuing to proclaim the gospel in our highly individualistic culture, characterized by the digital environment and the quest

for personal happiness. We are all obviously called to renew our efforts to promote and support our vocations to the priestly ministry, because the mission entrusted to the Church by Christ demands it again and again. Of course, we are all convinced that the mission of proclaiming the gospel to the world, so that every person may be touched by God's life-transforming love, rests on all the baptized confirmed in the Spirit. But this multitude of witnesses on the move knows that it needs to be accompanied by pastors and apostles who support the mission of all by dedicating themselves totally to it.

This Good Shepherd Sunday is a strong call to accompany and encourage active pastors, especially newly ordained ministers and seminarians, so that their hearts remain burning with love for Christ who came to serve, and so that they continue to walk with the People of God.

The challenge of calling and welcoming new pastors, who are required for the mission of evangelization in order to reach out to those to whom the Church is sent, takes on special urgency today. All baptized people are called to witness to the gospel in their family, professional and social lives, and to live fully in contemporary society. At the same time, this baptismal call must also convince them to pray and act so that the Lord may raise them up from among them new labourers for the harvest, in particular to exercise daily the presbyteral ministry that extends the pastoral charity of Christ, lived in the manner of the Apostles, throughout history.

It's up to all those who take their Baptism and Confirmation seriously to consider the call to commit themselves to the service of evangelization full-time, through the gift of themselves to Christ and his Church. The prevailing culture of our societies, strongly secularized and characterized by an absolute search for freedom and a loss of confidence in institutions and moral authorities, works against the attraction of becoming a priest and a representative or spokesperson for a religious institution. These obstacles must not stop us from calling, in the name of the Lord, new attentive shepherds and other dedicated workers to the Father's vineyard.

We must nurture the living hope that a renewal of vocations to the priestly ministry is possible, because the mission of proclaiming the gospel today demands it, to give the People of God the servants of the Word we need in order to pursue our mission.

The Most Reverend Marc Pelchat
Auxiliary Bishop of Quebec City,
CCCB Liaison with French-language seminaries