



Notre Dame Church

269 Jemima Street
Selkirk, Manitoba, R1A 1W9
Phone: (204) 482.3422 Fax: (204) 482.7514



Pastor: Fr. Stan Gacek
Secretary: Fiona Lawson

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Church Website: www.ndparish.ca

Bulletin announcements: due 1 week in advance

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 pm & Sunday 10:30 am

Please check the bulletin for Weekday Masses.

DEVOTIONS:

Thursday - Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

1st Friday – Sacred Heart of Jesus, Divine Mercy, Holy Hour

Other Fridays – Devotion to St. Joseph

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Confessions: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 pm

Marriages: Call at least 6 months in advance

Baptisms: By appointment 6 weeks in advance

Emergency Sacramental Ministry: 204.787.2071 (Winnipeg only)

PERSONAL CARE HOMES & S.M.H.C. MASSES

Red River – 2:00 pm, 1st Wednesday of the month

Tudor – 10:00 am, 3rd Tuesday of the month

S.M.H.C. – 5:30 pm, 2nd Thursday of the month

1:45 pm, 3rd Sunday of the month

Betel – 2:00 pm, 3rd Thursday of the month

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

Fr. Stan (P), Chris Furgale (Chairperson), Leo Fraser,
Fiona Lawson, Linda Parker,
Darren Reiter

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL (PFC)

Fr. Stan, Lee Pearson, Joe Nordin, David Borgfjord

“A parish pastoral council is a consultative body engaged in common pastoral visioning and planning, and in the fostering of pastoral action in the threefold ministry of the church:

- 1. its teaching ministry, 2. its prayer and worship,*
- 3. its shepherding ministry.*

This threefold ministry responds to the threefold mission of Christ: to teach, to sanctify and to serve.”

(Confer: Norms for Parish Pastoral Councils, Archdiocese of Winnipeg, March 2005)

Parish Organizations & Committees are posted
on the Parish Bulletin Board.

12th Sunday in Ordinary time

June 25, 2017



Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

1 Corinthians 10: 16-17

John 6: 51-59

Responsorial Psalm (147)

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

We have all faced times when we have found it difficult to share our faith with others. We may be afraid of being criticized, teased or even losing our job. It is difficult to face these pressures and fears alone. The courage to face them comes only from trust in God's loving care.

In today's gospel, Jesus sends his disciples on a mission to proclaim his message publicly. He warns them that they will face opposition in the form of difficulties, persecution and humiliation, but tells them

not to be afraid. He asks them and us to trust in God's faithful care and attention. God watches over the sparrow, the cheapest life sold at the market. He has also counted the hairs of our head, knowing whether they are many or few. If he cares for even the smallest creatures in nature and the smallest details of our lives, he will certainly not abandon anyone who follows the way of Christ. He will give us the strength and courage to defend our faith in Christ.

Jesus is present to us in a special way in this eucharistic celebration. Let us ask him today for the strength and courage to give witness to our faith by our actions, our words and our choices; by the way we live our lives.

Nada Mazzei, Toronto, ON

Psalm 69

The psalmist sings of the faithful servant who bears insult and injury. The Lord hears the cries of the poor and does not ignore their trials.

STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel, Jesus describes the worth of all human beings in the eyes of God who sees *all* things. May our stewardship of God's many gifts be such that we are seen as good and faithful stewards in the eyes of our Father in heaven.

Congratulations

Congratulations to this year's recipient of the CWL Bursary Awards, Tyler Gerein.

Best Wishes to all graduates!

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS 2017

“How marvelous it would be if, at the end of the day each of us could say: today I have performed an act of charity towards others”

Pope Francis

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
With these inspiring words from our Holy Father, we launch the 2017 “Sharing God's Gifts” Appeal. Pope Francis implores us to view our faith as something that is dynamic, growing, and ever in pursuit of truth. As we live out this faith, both as an Archdiocesan family and as individuals, it becomes apparent that in “putting on Christ” we have assumed a responsibility of missionary discipleship. Christ teaches us that our mission is an earthly one, and our role is to ensure that we share our blessings with others.

St. Paul encourages us to “*be Rich in good works*” by being generous with our time, treasure, and talent. Take pride in the knowledge that your donation to “Sharing God's Gifts” can make a profound difference in furthering our Lord's message of enduring love to all.

God Bless,

Archbishop Richard Gagnon

Sharing God's Gifts is a wonderful opportunity for our parish to work together in the spirit of stewardship, toward a goal or project that will benefit our parish and sustain the legacy of Notre Dame Parish. The Archdiocese in turn, can continue its important work on priorities such as Home Missions, catechetical Programs, Lay Formation, support of seminarians, social justice initiatives, just to name a few. We all play an important role in the success of this important annual endeavor and are very grateful for your support.

Living the Eucharist

Attaining holiness is a project of integration, integrating our internal spirit and our external world of activity and relationships. This is the task, the destiny, to which we are all called by God. In Etty [Hillesum]'s gradual growth we come to understand that we are not in total control of life's circumstances, our personal history or the events of human history. We do have the power to shape our responses to these things, however, and by our choices we can have an effect on ourselves, on our world and on ours. Empowered by grace, we can take charge of our destiny, a destiny that is not haphazard, but has been giving to us by God to come to fruition in our life's journey.

As we will see from Etty's diaries, there is an unfolding divine plan for our life that does not happen overnight. God has infinite patience and never deserts us if we have the willingness and courage and dare to enter into our weakness without fear of condemnation. The illumination of the Holy Spirit is not for condemnation, but for growth and freedom.

We run away from ourselves all too often... such an awful lot is left stuck in people as so much undigested raw material, simply because they think their raw material is not worth digesting. And they allow themselves to be misled by versatility and diversity and by what to their eyes are the more precious and more important gifts and possibilities of others. (Etty, 398)

When we do not digest the raw material that has formed us, it obscures and impacts how we see ourselves: God cannot work the wonderful transform he wants for us. Facing what lies within and letting go enables us to focus on what is most essential and true.

I have to make myself let it all go, must have the courage to be alone with my weakness, to be that small bundle of exhausted and very inspired humanity I happen to be at that moment. (Etty, 378)0 [...]

The work of the Holy Spirit within begins with uncovering what needs healing. The light of the Spirit reveals gradually the fragile, broken areas within us. This work is a positive movement toward wholeness we need to learn to love ourselves as God loves us, and as we learn to love ourselves we are made free to love others. We need to truly understand that being lovable is not achieved by being flawless or perfect. We are loveable simply because we are.

We don't always recognize the symptoms – the sense of our poverty and inadequacies – as the begin work of the Holy Spirit or something positive toward our growth in holiness. The starting point of a deeper awareness often begins with a sense of human fragility. We need to understand our heart by attentive listening to our thoughts and putting them into perspective.

I belie that this, too, is part of the process of growing awareness: to understand ones state of various states of mind to keep a grip on them and to put them into perspective instead of making them for absolutes. (Etty, 374) [...]

The ability and courage to get in touch with our real feelings is the foundation of the journey to the truth of who we are. Etty understood what her task was and radically embraced it.

The main difficulty, I think, is the sense of shame. So many inhibitions, so much fear of letting go, of allowing things to pour out of me, and yet this is what I must do if I am to ever give my life a reasonable and satisfactory purpose. (Etty, 4)

She senses there is something more within her: "deep inside me something is still locked away. (Etty, 4) Etty speaks of something we have all resonated with at some period in our life. She is seeking freedom: ... deep down something like a tightly ball of twine binds me relentlessly, at times I am nothing more than a miserable, frightened creature with which I can express myself. (Etty, 4) [...]

She writes of the relentless inner discernment necessary for true self-knowledge:

And we have to take everything that comes: the bad with the good, which does not mean we cannot devote our life to curing the bad. But we must know what motivates inspire our struggle and we must begin with ourselves, everyday anew. (Etty 463)

We are all sinners, no matter how far we progress. Even the giant saint were aware of their sinfulness and imperfection. The closer we come to God, the more this awareness intensified, but it does not produce despair at our deficiencies – rather, grateful humility at God's great and merciful love.

Development & Peace

Famine Relief Fund—Donate by June 30, 2017 to double your impact.

Nearly 20 million people are currently at risk of death, according to the United Nations. On May 29, the Government of Canada launched a Famine Relief Fund that will see every dollar donated for international aid between March 17 and June 30 doubled.

Please send your donations to:

Development and Peace

1425 René-Lévesque Blvd West, 3rd Floor
Montréal, Québec Canada, H3G 1T7

Or online at www.devp.org

THANK YOU FROM THE KNIGHTS

Knights of Columbus Selkirk Council 6150 would like to extend our gratitude for all the support parishioners have provided over the past year by supporting our breakfasts and buying ICCD & Grey Cup tickets. It is appreciated; this support has enabled us to continue with our charitable works like:

- Distributing candy from our parade float - Donate cash to the Red River Churches Refugee Team as seed money for other fundraisers - Help a local family in their quest for medical therapy & hardware to enhance the vision of their two sons - Funds toward keeping the CKJS 810 AM radio's Marian Hour running, a daily rosary program that has been aired for the past 40 years - Support of the Manitoba Catholic Foundation - Our annual donation to support the works of the ESK-OMI Northern Missions Inc. - Prizes for the Keep Christ in Christmas Colouring Contest - Prizes for the Drug Abuse/Awareness poster contest at Ecole Selkirk Jr High School - Our Mother's Day special - ladies free breakfast - Our continued support of both volunteers and funding for the St. Frances Place Homeless Shelter and Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen - Our 11th year of providing a \$500 Catholic Bursary and a \$1,000 Community Bursary to worthy Grade 12 graduates seeking post-secondary education - Our continued support of the Catechism programs at Notre Dame, St. Margaret's, Blessed Virgin Mary & Holy Eucharist.

Saint Irenaeus - June 28 Irenaeus was born in Asia Minor, probably between 130 and 135 and went to Lyons as a missionary priest sometime before 177. While he was away in Rome, the persecution against the Church of Lyons mounted and many suffered martyrdom. Later, Irenaeus returned and by 199 he was Bishop of Lyons. Through his writings, we know that he was a disciple of Saint Polycarp, who himself was a disciple of Saint John the Evangelist; thus Irenaeus was in the direct line of the disciples. His writings in refuting heresies helped lay the foundations of Christian theology. Perhaps the most important contribution was his assertion that creation is not sinful by nature, but rather distorted by sin. As God created us, so God redeemed us: our fallen human nature could only be saved by Christ assuming it in the Incarnation.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul – June 29 These two apostles, both martyred in Rome according to early tradition, have been honoured from earliest days. **Peter**, a Galilean, was a married fisherman, chosen by Jesus to be his disciple. After Simon confessed that Jesus was the Christ, Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter (*Petros*) and told him that it was on this rock (Petra) that he would build his church. After the Ascension, Acts records that Peter was indeed the "chief

of the Apostles" and, from the middle of the 3rd century onward, documents show that Bishops of Rome were recognized as the successors of Peter.

Paul was born in Tarsus, a Roman citizen raised and educated as a Pharisee. His experience of the risen Christ resulted in his conversion from a zealous persecutor of Christians to an Apostle. After about three years in seclusion, he went to Jerusalem and, through the intervention of Barnabas, came to be trusted and accepted in the Christian community. In the Acts of the Apostles his friend Luke describes Paul's missionary journeys between the years 45 – 57, his return to Jerusalem, his subsequent arrest and his appeal to Caesar (his right as a Roman citizen). Here history ends but tradition tells us that Paul was martyred for the faith about the year 66.

Paul called himself the "Apostle of the gentiles" and it was he, trained in Jewish theology by the famous Rabbi Gamaliel, who was able to interpret Christianity in the light of Judaism and to explain the gospel he had received in terms that appealed to the minds and hearts of the Gentile world. His own writings showed the extent of his zeal and his concern for those who were touched by his teaching, and his numerous friends are witness to the uncompromising and faith love he bore them.

First Martyrs of the Church of Rome – June 30

This day is dedicated to the Christians who were martyred under the Emperor Nero. In the year 64, a great fire broke out in Rome and when suspicion fell on Nero himself, he accused the Christians of having set the fire. The historian Tacitus wrote that while no one believed this, nevertheless, countless Christians were seized, mocked and put to death in various and unspeakable ways. Their martyrdom preceded that of Saints Peter and Paul, and to this day they are honoured in the Piazza of the Protomartyrs in Vatican City.

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, June 24

5:00pm – in thanksgiving, req. by Lawson family

Sunday, June 25

9:00am – (Petersfield) for all parishioners
10:30am RIP Wayne Mercer, by Bertha & family

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 1

5:00pm – in thanksgiving, req. by Hilaria Bautista

Sunday, July 2

9:00am – (Petersfield) for all parishioners
10:30am RIP Sophie Bosak, by Joe Bosak

Readers/Altar Servers

June 24th - 5:00pm: Aggy / Lillian; Hope, Paul, Chantal

June 25th - 10:30am: Tom / Pat; Hunter, Abby, Rylan

July 1st - 5:00pm: Fiona; n/a

July 2nd - 10:30am: Serena / Wendy; n/a

Please Pray For the Sick

Let us remember our friends and relatives who are sick or in the hospital including: Bernice Bekavac, Milagros Berena, Bill Camiere, Dolly Felix, Vicky Hewan, Darrell Kancylarski, Verna Matt, Kathy Morris, Darrell Penner, Owen Remple, Joe Schilling and Robert Wallis.