



Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church

3390 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3K 0Z3

Telephone: 204-832-7175 • Fax: 204-885-2447

Email: office@johnxxiii.ca • Website: www.johnxxiii.ca

Office Hours: As announced in schedule

SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY LITURGIES (MASSES)

Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

Check the bulletin or website for the current schedule

COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

Contact the parish office for assistance

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Friday 3:15 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.

and/or as announced or by appointment

PARISH BULLETIN

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – March 24, 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – March 31, 2019

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Robert Polz

204-832-7335 rpolz.johnxxiii@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

204-832-7206 sharon@johnxxiii.ca

Ministry Coordinator/Office Volunteer: Lynda Hunt

204-832-7175 lynda@johnxxiii.ca

Trustee: Loris Vendramelli

204-888-8200 loris@mymts.net

Trustee: William Gould

204-990-3011 william.d.gould@gmail.com

Parish Stewardship Committee

Facilitator: Loris Vendramelli

204-888-8200 loris@mymts.net

Administrative Assistant: Joanna Mason

204-832-7175 joanna@johnxxiii.ca

Head Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

Music Ministry: Donna Vendramelli

204-888-8200 d_vendramelli@mymts.net

Building and Maintenance Chair: Claude Precourt

204-898-1893 cfp3899@gmail.com

Fundraising and Development Committee

204-832-7175 call if interested in serving

Parish Visioning and Strategic Planning Committee

Facilitator: Laurette Burch

204-885-6988 burchd@mymts.net

FAITH FORMATION: Catechism sessions for children (K to Grade 8) are held on Sunday mornings, September through May, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Periodically other programs, workshops, and/or study sessions are offered for adults. Contact our Pastoral Assistant (Sharon) for further information and/or to register.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION (BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, EUCHARIST): Contact the parish office for further information.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Contact the Pastor (Fr. Robert).

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Arrangements for preparation and celebration should be made at least six months in advance.

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN FUNERALS: Contact the parish office before finalizing arrangements with funeral directors.

CONFERENCE ON YOUNG PEOPLE, THE FAITH, AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

Be a part of this one of a kind opportunity to hear first-hand about the results of the recent Synod of Bishops in Rome! This day-long conference will offer times of reflection, prayer, and small group discussions. Participants will be encouraged to network and discern together where God is calling local initiatives to grow and continue to serve young people. **THIS EXCITING CONFERENCE IS OPEN TO EVERYONE!** Investment is \$30 per participant (\$40 at door) includes lunch, snacks, and all conference fees and materials. The conference will take place on **Saturday, March 30, 2019 at Saint John XXIII Church** in Winnipeg. **Register online today at EVENTS.CATHOLICWAY.NET or by phone 204-347-5396.** For more information, you may contact Kevin Prada, kevin@catholicway.net or go to the website www.catholicway.net Presented by the Catholic School of Evangelization and sponsored by the Archdiocese of Winnipeg and the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface.

A LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF WINNIPEG concerning the conference on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment to be held on March 30, 2019 here at Saint John XXIII Parish was published in the previous parish bulletin. Please check your copy of the previous parish bulletin and/or go the information posted on the parish website.

LECTIO DIVINA: As part of the implementation of Global Initiative #3 of our Archdiocesan Synod "We encourage all the baptized to acquire familiarity with Sacred Scripture", we are invited to connect with family and friends in a very special way using *Lectio Divina* or "Breaking open the Word." This ancient method of praying with sacred texts dates to the fourth century. The four simple steps of *Lectio Divina* are reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation. During Lent here at Saint John XXIII Parish, we will hold a *Lectio Divina* small group session following Mass on Wednesday evenings in the Guadalupe Room. We will listen together and reflect on the Gospel passage for the following Sunday. All those interested are welcome to participate.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST West 3 Chapter invites you to a spiritual journey through the Christian Life Program (CLP). Sessions are held on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. in the parish hall here at St. John XXIII Church. Sessions are open to all adults (married, single, widowed, separated or divorced). For more information, please contact Peter & Tina at 204-232-9820 or Dan & Shiela at 204-720-8503. Registration is free. Child minding is available for those who have children.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: All members are invited to the meeting of St. James Assiniboia Council of the CWL to be held on **March 25th** at St Paul the Apostle Parish at 7:00 p.m. Leslie Dryburgh, Clinical Nurse Specialist in Geriatrics, will be the guest speaker on the topic of mental health and healthy aging.



Illuminate at Saint John XXIII Parish
Friday, March 29, 2019

Starting with Stations of the Cross
at 7:00 p.m.

followed by Eucharistic Adoration,
Sacrament of Reconciliation
and Fellowship

What is Illuminate? Illuminate is a ministry centered on adoration of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. We invite people of all ages from across Manitoba to worship Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and come together as one Catholic Church. Illuminate was started by a group of young adults in 2013, and has been to over thirty parishes in Winnipeg, St. Boniface, and the surrounding area since then. The goals of this ministry are twofold. First, Illuminate desires to encourage people from all walks of life to enter into a real and intimate relationship with Jesus through adoration and worship, and by partaking in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Second, we envision that as a fruit of the willingness of parishes in both the Winnipeg and St. Boniface archdioceses to host Illuminate, a strong community of Catholic believers will become united and grow throughout the province. Feel free to contact us via email illuminatemb@gmail.com or go to our website www.illuminatemb.com

"Glory, praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!"

SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 24 – APRIL 7, 2019

N.B.: As circumstances suggest, the schedule below may be subject to change.

Sunday, March 24	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
1:30 pm Saturday	Knights of Columbus Recruitment Training Session (in room 12) – K of C recruitment drive will be held before and after Saturday 5:00 pm Mass
5:00 pm Saturday	MASS – Ferdinand Reesink+, requested by François Reesink No catechism classes Sunday morning – Spring Break
9:00 am	MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
11:45 am	MASS – Renzo Poelen+, requested by Poelen/Kolomic family
1:00 pm	CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM Session 3 – Couples for Christ (in the parish hall)
Monday, March 25	SOLEMNITY: THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD Parish office closed Monday
Tuesday, March 26	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – Albin Joseph Polz+, requested by Zonia Patson
10:00 am – 12:00 noon	Office open in the morning
10:00 am	Al-Anon Meeting (in room 12)
6:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Charles Church
Wednesday, March 27	FERIAL
10:00 am	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION at Saint John XXIII Church
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
5:00 pm	Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank (in room 12)
6:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary’s Cathedral
6:45 pm	Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
7:00 pm	MASS – Wade Weimer+, requested by Lorne and Eileen Kloepper
7:30 pm	LECTIO DIVINA or “ Breaking Open the Word ” (ALL WELCOME – in the Guadalupe Room)
Thursday, March 28	FERIAL
	Parish office closed Thursday
6:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Edward the Confessor Church
7:00 pm	MASS – Albin Joseph Polz+ (40 th day), requested by Joan Lewandosky and Henry Kuzia
Friday, March 29	FERIAL
9:00 am	Recitation of the Rosary
9:15 am	MASS – Wade Weimer+, requested by Nina Turner and Henrietta Zhanel
10:00 am – 4:00 pm	Office open
3:00 pm	Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel)
7:00 pm	ILLUMINATE at Saint John XXIII Church
7:00 pm	WAY OF THE CROSS
7:30 pm approx.	Eucharistic Adoration, Sacrament of Reconciliation and Fellowship
Saturday, March 30	FERIAL
9:30 am – 6:00 pm	GATHERING re Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment – in the parish hall and other rooms downstairs as circumstances require
5:00 pm	MASS presided by Archbishop Richard Gagnon with other Bishops & Priests concelebrating – Special intention for the young people of the Church
Sunday, March 31	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – “LAETARE SUNDAY”
9:00 am	MASS – Raymond Strachan+, requested by Jerome and Margaret Strachan
10:15 am	CATECHISM CLASSES (begin in the parish hall)
11:45 am	MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
1:00 pm	CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM Session 4 – Couples for Christ (in the parish hall)

Monday, April 1	FERIAL <i>Parish office closed Monday</i> 7:00 pm MASS – Albin Joseph Polz+, requested by Paul Swart family 7:30 pm Knights of Columbus General Meeting (in parish hall) 7:30 pm CWL Executive Meeting (in room 10)
Tuesday, April 2	FERIAL 9:00 am Recitation of the Rosary 9:15 am MASS – David Madden+, requested by Minerva family 10:00 am – 12:00 noon Office open in the morning 10:00 am Al-Anon Meeting (in room 12)
Wednesday, April 3	FERIAL 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Office open 10:30 am MASS at Golden West Centennial Lodge, 811 School Road – Albin Joseph Polz+, requested by Joan Lewandosky and Henry Kuzia 1:00 pm Knitting Group Gathering (in room 10) 6:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Paul the Apostle Church 6:45 pm Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions 7:00 pm LITURGY OF THE WORD with Holy Communion at Saint John XXIII Church 7:30 pm LECTIO DIVINA or “Breaking Open the Word” (ALL WELCOME – in the Guadalupe Room)
Thursday, April 4	FERIAL <i>Parish office closed Thursday</i> 7:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. François Xavier Church, St. François Xavier
Friday, April 5	FERIAL 9:00 am Recitation of the Rosary 9:15 am MASS – Albin Joseph Polz+, requested by Ray and Alice Fleury 9:45 am Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Office open 3:00 pm Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel) 7:00 pm WAY OF THE CROSS (ALL WELCOME – leadership by the Catholic Women’s League)
Saturday, April 6	FERIAL 4:00 pm LIVING ROSARY – all are welcome to participate (Sponsored by CFC Gift of Life Ministry) 5:00 pm MASS – Alicia Ymas+, requested by Minerva family 6:00 pm CFC West 3 Chapter Prayer Assembly (in the parish hall)
Sunday, April 7	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – “SOLIDARITY SUNDAY” – D & P SHARE LENT COLLECTION 9:00 am MASS – Wade Weimer+, requested by José Barrera 10:15 am CATECHISM CLASSES (begin in the parish hall) 10:15 am Sacramental Preparation Session for First Eucharist (in room 12) 11:45 am MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners 1:00 pm CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM Session 5 – Couples for Christ (in the parish hall) 1:15 pm – 3:00 pm Confirmation Preparation Session (in room 12)

KINDERGARTEN – Limited spaces still available: Have you registered your child for Kindergarten yet? **St. Charles Catholic School, 331 St. Charles Street**, is a K-8 school, offering full day, every day Kindergarten, Before and After School Care program – no waiting list to register for our BASC program, violin enrichment, K-8 French, arts and drama, as well as a Learn to Skate program. For more information, please visit our website at www.stccs.ca or call 204-837-1520 or contact us by email at sec@stccs.ca ***Quality Education that is Intellectually Challenging and Faith Filled***

PRAY FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING AND COMFORT:
Max Armstrong, Darrell Aucoin, Bill Camier, René Defries, Lynda Dodd, John Foucart, Darryn Hellofs, Rosario Jequinto, Tracy Kingsland, Amanda Klaasen, Joanna Mason, Deb McEnturff, Cynthia Patterson, Zonia Patson, Shirley Payment, James Polz, Owen Robertson, Janice Skene and Helen Yankoski.

Central Winnipeg Deanery
SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Lent 2019



TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH 6:30 p.m.	St. Charles Church, 320 St. Charles Street, Winnipeg
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	SAINT JOHN XXIII CHURCH, 3390 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg St. Mary's Cathedral, 353 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg
THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH 6:30 p.m.	St. Edward the Confessor Church, 836 Arlington Street, Winnipeg
FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH 7:00 p.m.	"ILLUMINATE" at SAINT JOHN XXIII CHURCH, 3390 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg <i>Way of the Cross at 7:00 p.m., Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions at 7:30 p.m. approx.</i>
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3RD 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	St. Paul the Apostle Church, 2400 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 95 MacDonald Avenue, Winnipeg
THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH 7:00 p.m.	St. François Xavier Church, 1053 Highway 26, St. François Xavier
TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	St. Charles Catholic School (at St. Charles Church), 331 St. Charles Street, Winnipeg Good Shepherd Church, 1125 Saskatchewan Avenue East, Portage la Prairie St. Anthony of Padua Church (Hungarian), 365 Burnell Street, Winnipeg
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH 6:30 p.m.	St. Patrick's Church, 172 Worth Street, Winnipeg
THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH 7:00 p.m.	St. Eustache Church, 57 Main Street, St. Eustache

***"There are many kinds of alms the giving of which helps us to obtain pardon for our sins; but none is greater than that by which we forgive from our heart a sin that someone has committed against us."** — Saint Augustine of Hippo*

HOLY NAMES HOUSE OF PEACE ANNUAL RAFFLE IS HERE AGAIN! Tickets will be sold before and after all Sunday Masses **April 6/7 weekend** or you may call Barb Macdonell 204-888-8384 to arrange to purchase tickets. **Tickets are \$10:00 each or 3 for \$25.00.** Thank you for your continued support of the House of Peace.

1st PRIZE	Travel Gift Certificate to a maximum of \$3500.00 or \$3000.00 cash
2nd PRIZE	65" Sony Bravia KD-65X 750 F Smart AK HDR TV or \$1000.00 cash
3rd PRIZE	Canon PowerShot 69X Mark II Digital Camera or \$600.00 cash
4th PRIZE	Apple iPad 9.7" Multi-Touch Retina Display, or \$500.00 cash
5th PRIZE	Dinner for Four at Inferno's Bistro (retail value: \$250.00)
DRAW DATE:	June 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at 211 Edmonton Street, Winnipeg



SHARE LENT 2019: For this year's Share Lent, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada encourages us to reach out to forcibly displaced persons and to share their journey. How? (1) **Donate online at devp.org/give or give during the SOLIDARITY SUNDAY COLLECTION on the FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, APRIL 7, 2019.** The funds collected are used to support over 162 projects in 37 countries around the world! (2) Take part or organize a solidarity walk in solidarity with forcibly displaced persons: devp.org/walk (3) Read the Development and Peace Share Lent materials as a way to encounter children, women and men who have been forcibly displaced and to learn how their partners are making a difference. **www.devp.org**



PUBLIC WAY OF THE CROSS hosted outside Winnipeg for the first time in 32-year history: The Annual Public Way of the Cross is being hosted by Good Shepherd Parish in Portage la Prairie on **Good Friday morning, April 19, 2019**. All are invited to gather at 10:00 am. The theme this year is ***“Walking Together in God’s Embrace”***. Our scripture passage is ***“for all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God”*** (Roman 8.14). “This year’s Way of the Cross marks the first time that the procession will take place outside the City of Winnipeg,” said Father Gerald Langevin, Pastor of Good Shepherd Parish. “We are grateful to Archbishop Gagnon for this opportunity to host and hopeful that many will join us from across the Archdiocese.” For further information, you may call 204-857-5172 or email shepherd@mymts.net

TABERNACLE LAMP OFFERING

Week of March 24 – 30, 2019

Week of March 31 – April 3, 2019

Special intention for the young people of the Church

In thanksgiving 4th Birthday (April 3) of Mateo Alonzo Ramirez,
requested by his parents



If you wish to have the Tabernacle Lamp in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of Saint John XXIII Church burn in memory of a loved one, to honour a special occasion, or for a particular intention, you may make arrangements through the Parish Office. The offering to cover one week (from Sunday through Saturday) is \$25.00. As circumstances permit, notice of your prayer intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

LECTIO DIVINA – Wednesdays of Lent at 7:30 p.m. in the Guadalupe Room
WAY OF THE CROSS DEVOTION – Fridays of Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the main worship space

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3.1-8a, 13-15

Moses, you will tell the children of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.

Psalms 103.1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8+11

The Lord is merciful and gracious.

1 Corinthians 10.1-6, 10-12

Our ancestor’s experience in the desert under Moses
is recorded to instruct us.

Luke 13.1-9

Unless you turn back to God, you will perish as they did.



THE PERSPECTIVE OF JUSTICE

The Prime Sin

Moses encountered on Mount Sinai the one God, the God of his ancestors, the God whose name is I am. A covenant was to be made with the people of Israel, one based on their recognition of Yhwh as the one God. The Israelites would stray from that covenant from time to time, turning away from the one God and worshipping false gods. Their prophets would repeatedly call them back to the covenant worship of the one God.

We, too, turn away from the one God to worship false gods. We make an idol of money, worshipping at the altar of the almighty dollar. We make an idol of power, worshipping at the altar of political domination and economic oppression. We make an idol of pleasure, worshipping at the altar of sex and luxurious comfort. Our prophets call us back to the one God, but we ignore or kill them.

Lent is a season to turn away from our false idols and call on the merciful and gracious Lord, who is “slow to anger and abounding in kindness.” We are called in Lent “to prayer, fasting and works of mercy” because, as Jesus tells us in the Gospel, “you will all come to the same end unless you begin to reform.”

We are called to abandon our false gods of money, power and pleasure and return to the one God, “who secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed.”

– Gerald Darring

The prime sin in so much of the biblical tradition is idolatry: service of the creature rather than of the creator, and the attempt to overturn creation by making God in human likeness. The Bible castigates not only the worship of idols, but also manifestations of idolatry, such as the quest for unrestrained power and the desire for great wealth.

– U.S. Bishops, Economic Justice for All, 1986: 33

Sunday, March 31, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Joshua 5.9a, 10-12

Having entered the promised land,
the people of God celebrated the Passover.

Psalms 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

2 Corinthians 5.17-21

Through Christ, God was reconciling us to himself.

Luke 15.1-3, 11-32

This brother of yours was dead, and has come to life.



THE PERSPECTIVE OF JUSTICE

Metanoia

We are prodigal children. We have in many ways squandered our Father's inheritance. Provided with a wonderful garden to live in, we poison its air, we pollute its water, we erode its topsoil. Provided with a wonderful family with whom to share our lives, we condemn many of our family members to survival-level existence, we refuse to associate with many of them, and we contribute to the death of many of them.

Lent is a time to 'pass over,' to pass from the world of injustice we have created over to a world of reconciliation. It is a time to "turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, death to eternal life." We know that such a turn can take place because we have a Father who sees us while we are still a long way off, who catches sight of us and is deeply moved, who will run out to meet us, throw his arms around our necks and kiss us. We know that such a turn can take place because Jesus Christ brought mankind the gift of reconciliation by the suffering and death he endured.

The message of Lent, therefore, is clear: "We implore you, in Christ's name: be reconciled to God." The first step, of course, is to do what the younger son did: "I will break away and return to my father, and say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against you.'" Such a confession will enable us to "hasten toward Easter with the eagerness of faith and love," and it will make possible the rejoicing which today's liturgy foretells and encourages.

– Gerald Darring

This kingdom and this salvation ... are available to every human being as grace and mercy, and yet at the same time each individual must gain them. ... through toil and suffering, through a life lived according to the gospel, through abnegation and the cross, through the spirit of the beatitudes. But above all each individual gains them through a total interior renewal which the gospel calls metanoia; it is a radical conversion, a profound change of mind and heart.

– Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 10, 2075

The above reflections were written by Gerald Darring

Now published in book form, *To Love and Serve: Lectionary Based Meditations*, by Gerald Darring.

This entire three year cycle is available at Amazon.com

THE WORD AMONG US *Daily Meditations for Catholics*

Copies of the Lent 2019 issue are available at the counter in the parish office. Price \$5.00 each.

Canadian Edition with CCCB approved Mass readings.

IN MANITOBA, THE NATIONAL WEEK FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY TRI-DIOCESAN COMMITTEE promotes several events and actively works to enrich faith and community throughout the National week in May, but also extends the celebration to both before and following the National week (May 12-19, 2019). The theme for 2019 is: "Listening to the Gospel as a Family". The tri-diocesan committee seeks to offer events, activities and initiatives that promote the strengthening of families, the unity of the Church community and takes on the challenges that families face in our world today, especially with regard to the unborn, children and the elderly. This year's focus will be on "renewing the family bond" and will have two main elements – "Receiving the Gospel" and "Sharing the Gospel". **To help with this work, the committee has launched a new website: lifeandthefamily.com** It will serve as a "hub" for the NWLF in southern Manitoba, involving the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, Archdiocese of St. Boniface, and Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg.

For news and events in and around the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, please see information posted on bulletin boards at the north and south entrances of the church and/or go to the website: www.archwinnipeg.ca

PARISH COLLECTIONS

deposited January 2019

PAD (Pre-authorized debit)	\$ 8,065.00
Regular Envelopes	10,564.50
Other Identified	2,300.00
Loose Collection	1,547.30
Initial Offering	785.00
OMPH Devotions	35.00
In Memoriam (<i>re M. Armstrong</i>)	250.00
Building Repairs	500.00
Shrines, Vigil Lights	<u>575.10</u>
TOTAL	\$ 24,621.90

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

deposited January 2019

Chalice (adopted child)	\$ <u>74.75</u>
TOTAL	\$ 74.75

PARISH COLLECTIONS

deposited February 2019

PAD (Pre-authorized debit)	\$ 8,030.00
Regular Envelopes	8,940.00
Other Identified	1,075.00
Loose Collection	918.35
Initial Offering	25.00
OMPH Devotions	35.00
In Memoriam (<i>re A. J. Polz</i>)	100.00
Shrines, Vigil Lights	<u>341.20</u>
TOTAL	\$ 19,464.55

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

deposited February 2019

Chalice (adopted child)	\$ <u>44.20</u>
TOTAL	\$ 44.20

MARCH 2019

deposited as of March 18, 2019

In Memoriam	\$ <u>3,675.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3,675.00

OFFERING ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2019 ARE READY for regular parishioners of Saint John XXIII to pick-up in the parish office following Masses on the weekend or on weekdays.

IN 2019, PLEASE USE 2019 ENVELOPES ONLY

Parishioners are encouraged to register for pre-authorized debit. Visitors may use "My Offering" envelopes available in the pamphlet rack at the church entrance. **New parishioners are encouraged to contact the parish office to register for pre-authorized debit or regular offering envelopes.**

New Testament Principle of Tithing

What is the principle of tithing in the New Testament?

It would be silly to think God "needs" our tithe.

It is "we" who need to tithe. Our Lord spoke little about the "practice" of tithing in the Gospels, but He had much to say about the spirit of giving which formed the basis of the Old Testament system of tithing. Jesus had much to say about the stewardship of our gifts, especially money. Jesus saw the grateful sharing of our gifts as the means of joy, inspiring Saint Paul to write, *"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9.7).

With only a small collection of passages about tithing in the New Testament, Jesus in fact called his followers to a standard of giving going far beyond the tithe. He called us to give up everything and follow Him, not just 10%. Hence the supreme model of giving in the New Testament was not based on a 10% tithe, but on a one hundred-percent commitment of personal resources. Jesus is the example of this 100% giving.

"For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8.9; see also Philippians 2.5-8).

Perhaps this is why our Lord praised the widow in Jerusalem for placing two small copper coins into the Temple treasury (Luke 21.4), and why early Christians sold ALL they had and gave it to the Church (Acts 4.34-35).

Finally, the principle of the New Testament of giving is the principle of wise stewardship and concern for the needs of others. Saint Paul praises the Philippian believers for recognizing and receiving his apostolic ministry, and willingness to share in love of God and neighbor.

"When I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once" (Philippians 4.15-16).

A few verses later, he calls their financial gifts *"a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God"* (Philippians 4.18). This beautiful imagery confirms the Mosaic understanding of tithing and giving as an act of worship.

