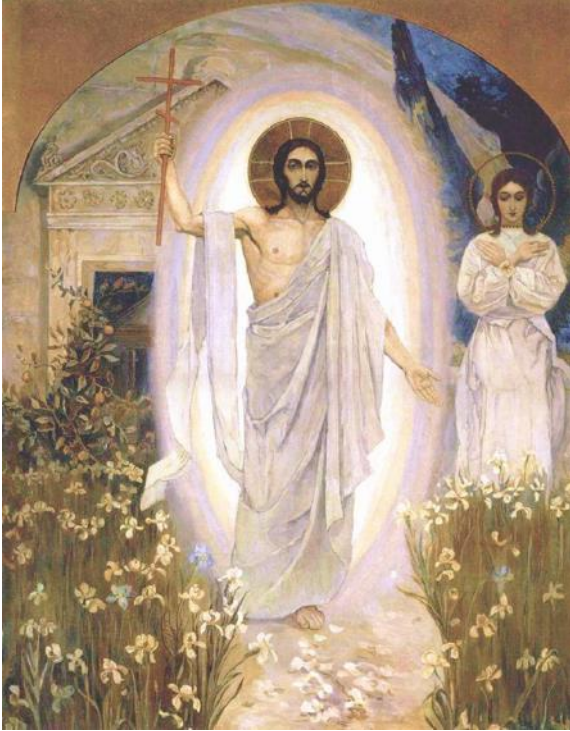


PARISH BULLETIN

SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – April 9, 2023 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) – April 16, 2023

The schedule published herein continues to the weekend of April 23, 2023



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: On designated afternoons 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
and at other times for pre-arranged appointments

SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY LITURGIES (MASSES)

Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

As announced in the schedule in this bulletin.

ASSISTANCE TO THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

For emergencies, you may contact the parish office

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

As circumstances permit, on Friday afternoons or by appointment.

Please continue to follow the rules of good hygiene including hand washing/sanitizing and cough etiquette.
For the safety and comfort of all, please self-screen before coming to church. **Stay home if you are sick.**
Individuals may continue to use face masks based on their preference, personal risk, or other reasons.

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

Trustee: Loris Vendramelli

204-888-8200 lvendro8@gmail.com

Trustee: William Gould

204-832-7175 william.d.gould@gmail.com

Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

Music Ministry: Donna Vendramelli

204-888-8200 d_vendramelli@mymts.net

Building and Maintenance Chair: Brad McKay

204-795-6788 br.mckay@outlook.com

Parish Pastoral Council Facilitator: Laurette Burch

204-885-6988 burchd@mymts.net

FAITH FORMATION:

Contact our Pastoral Assistant (Sharon) for further information concerning catechism materials for lessons to take place in the home setting and/or at church on Sunday mornings as circumstances permit.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION (BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, EUCHARIST): Contact our Pastoral Assistant 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.

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 9 – 23, 2023

As circumstances suggest, the schedule published here may be subject to change.

Sunday, April 9 8:30 pm Saturday 9:00 am 11:45 am	SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL AND FIRST MASS OF EASTER <i>Blessing of Easter Food Baskets will follow the vigil in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Room</i> EASTER SUNDAY MASS – Antoine and Leanne Préfontaine+, req. by Gaudry-Braun family EASTER SUNDAY MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
Monday, April 10	SOLEMNITY: MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER Mass (offered in private) – Jacques Préfontaine+, requested by Gaudry-Braun family
Tuesday, April 11 12:00 pm 12:10 pm 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	SOLEMNITY: TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER Praying of the “Regina Caeli” MASS – Raquel Albalos+ (1 st anniversary), requested by Blaquera family Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance Knitting Group (downstairs in room 8)
Wednesday, April 12 6:45 pm 7:00 pm	SOLEMNITY: WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS MASS – Ben Esteban Sr., requested by Virgil Maduro
Thursday, April 13 2:00 pm 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	SOLEMNITY: THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER Mass (offered in private) – Flor Villa+, requested by Blaquera family Fr. Robert and Sharon are scheduled to attend a Synod Implementation Cabinet meeting Confirmation candidate families to pick up ingredients for casserole preparation
Friday, April 14 12:00 pm 12:10 pm 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm 3:00 pm	SOLEMNITY: FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER Praying of the “Regina Caeli” MASS – Intentions of José Barrera (birthday April 12 th), requested by a parishioner Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday, April 15 3:45 pm 4:00 pm	SOLEMNITY: SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER RECITATION OF THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY on the Vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday MASS for Sunday – Billy Joe & Joselito Baldo+, requested by Pauline Arquillano
Sunday, April 16 9:00 am 9:00 am – 10:00 am 10:15 am 11:45 am 1:30 pm	SOLEMNITY OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – “SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY” MASS (livestreamed) – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners Confirmation candidate families to bring to church cooked casseroles in time for pick up and delivery to Immaculate Conception Drop-in Centre Sacramental Preparation Session for First Eucharist (parish hall) MASS – Edwin Sigue+, requested by Joy Van Lieshout CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM – Jarette Mithian Remolacio
Monday, April 17	MEMORIAL: SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA, Virgin, Protectress of Canada Mass (offered in private) – <i>Special intention for Truth and Reconciliation</i>
Tuesday, April 18 12:00 pm 12:10 pm 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	FERIAL Praying of the “Regina Caeli” MASS – Fr. Raphael Glofcheski+ (bequest) Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance

Wednesday, April 19	FERIAL
6:45 pm	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
7:00 pm	MASS – Angela Kalichak+ (bequest)
Thursday, April 20	FERIAL
10:30 am	Mass (offered in private) – <i>Souls in Purgatory, requested by Blaquera family</i> <i>Central Winnipeg Deanery Meeting at St. Anthony of Padua (Hungarian) Parish</i>
Friday, April 21	FERIAL
12:00 pm	Praying of the “Regina Caeli”
12:10 pm	MASS – Angela Kalichak+ (bequest)
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance
3:00 pm	Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday, April 22	FERIAL
4:00 pm	MASS for Sunday – Leonne St. Marie+, requested by Steve Hewitt
Sunday, April 23	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
9:00 am	MASS (livestreamed) – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
10:15 am	Sacramental Preparation Session for First Eucharist (parish hall)
11:45 am	MASS – In thanksgiving, requested by Celestino family
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Confirmation candidates guided pilgrim tour of Blessed Velychkovsky Martyr’s Shrine at St. Joseph’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, 250 Jefferson Avenue, Winnipeg

A Blessed Martyr Amongst Us

Discover Canada’s 2nd National Martyr’s Shrine in Winnipeg.

Bishop Velychkovsky National Martyr’s Shrine

a prayerful, peaceful atmosphere of holiness

Pray before the fully intact Holy Relics of Blessed Martyr Vasyl

Tour the Museum **Visit** the Gift Shop **Learn** about the life of Blessed Vasyl

Open: Tuesday to Friday – 10 am to 5 pm Saturday – 10 am to 1 pm Sunday after Divine Liturgies

Devotional Service & Anointing every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Located at St. Joseph’s Ukrainian Catholic Church at 250 Jefferson Avenue, Winnipeg, MB

To arrange a guided group tour, call 204-338-7321 or email: info@bvmartyrshrine.com

For more information visit the website: bvmartyrshrine.com



Our Saint John XXIII Parish confirmation candidates, parents, sponsors and families will be going on a guided pilgrim tour of the shrine, museum and church on Sunday, April 23rd from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

We need to advise shrine personnel beforehand as to the approximate number of pilgrims to expect.

If there are any other parishioners who wish to join us for the pilgrim tour, please contact Sharon Camier as soon as possible.

Please pray for the loved ones of our community in need of healing and comfort:

Dora Auger, Gladys Barton, Annette and Maynard Bates, Monica Bird, George Bonnefoy, Freda Broughton, Barry and Sharon Burke, Ken Burke, Donna Burns, Alan and Cathleen Critchley, René Defries, John and Marina Foucart, René Gobeil, Helen Hallack, Darryn Hellofs, Bev and Steve Hewitt, Angela Krassie, Violet Lebedeff, Marie Mangin, Norman Mangin, Tim Mangin, Frances Mijker, Zonia Patson, Shirley Payment, Owen Robertson, Carol Ann Robinson, Jerome Strachan, Joe and Maria Wallack, and Helen Yankoski.



TABERNACLE LAMP OFFERING

April 9 – 15, 2023 Bill and Jacquie Camier+, requested by John and Sharon Camier

April 16 – 22, 2023 Intentions of Bev and Steve Hewitt, requested by Henrietta Zhanel

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.



“To be content, to find true love, is what essentially drives us all, but if found, would it be recognized?”

— Saint Ambrose

CONFIRMATION RALLY 2023



APRIL 22 9:30 AM-3:00 PM	St. Augustine Canterbury Church 327 4th St. Brandon MB R7A 3H1
APRIL 29 9:30 AM-3:00 PM	Immaculate Conception Church 181 Austin St. N. Winnipeg MB R2W 3M7

OPEN TO ALL PARISH & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES.

For more information contact:

catechetics@archwinnipeg.ca | marycia@archwinnipeg.ca
youth@archwinnipeg.ca



ARCHDIOCESE OF
WINNIPEG

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES FROM SAINT JOHN XXIII PARISH:

Please have your registration and waiver forms filled out and submitted to Sharon Camier NO LATER THAN Easter Monday, April 10, 2023. Thank you.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST
WEST 2 CHAPTER

ZEAL for GOD's Righteousness

Romans 10:2-3

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM (CLP)
April 29, 2023 @ 11:30 am
St. John XXIII Roman Catholic Church
3390 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, MB

Please contact:
Bro. Vince 204-890-4984 / Sis. Jules 204-894-4497
Bro. Nelson 204-294-9096 / Sis. Medy 204-881-4425

Registration is free and child minding is available.

7 PRINCIPLES OF MAKING MARRIAGE WORK: Couples are invited to a marriage enrichment event at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 85 Kirkbridge Drive, Winnipeg. The workshop event is titled “7 Principles of Making Marriage Work” based on Gottman’s book. In this two-part workshop, you will learn how to **Deepen Your Love, Manage Conflict and Create Shared Meaning**. The workshops will be held from **1:00 pm to 4:30 pm on Saturday April 15th and Saturday April 22nd**. Please see our website www.mmoc.ca for more details and to register by April 14th. Cost is \$20/couple.

JOCELYN HOUSE: SUNDAY SUPPER FUNDRAISER: For 38 years the mission of Jocelyn House Hospice has been to carry on the dream of Jocelyn Hutton: adding life to final days for the terminally ill, and their loved ones, by providing care and comfort in a home-like setting. The *11th Annual Sunday Supper*, in support of Jocelyn House Hospice, will be held on **Sunday, April 23, 2023** at Fort Gibraltar at 5:00 pm. Funds raised at this event directly support hospice residents, by providing expert clinical, emotional and spiritual care, dedicated volunteer assistance, healthy home-cooked meals, and a safe and comfortable home. Jocelyn House Hospice is full of life; it is much more than a healthcare facility, it is a home. Jocelyn House is not about dying, it is about living at end of life – with dignity, comfort, understanding and peace. For more information, to purchase Sunday Supper tickets or make a donation, please go to www.jocelynhouse.ca or call Jacqueline at 204-799-6130.

2023 CARITAS AWARD DINNER

Join the Catholic Foundation of Manitoba for their annual Caritas Award Dinner on **April 27, 2023** at Petrus Hall, 2624 Inkster Boulevard. Reception begins at 6:00 pm

and dinner and official program will begin at 7:00 pm. This year's theme is A PATH TO HEALING & RECONCILIATION: Creating Healthy Relationships, One Conversation at a Time. The Caritas Award recipients are Janelle Delorme & Norma McDonald, CSC. The Service Award will go to Most Reverend Murray Chatlain, Archbishop of Keewatin-The Pas. Keynote Speaker is Lisa Raven. Performer is Don Amero. The event will support this year's charity of choice: Returning to Spirit. **Tickets available for purchase online at www.catholicfoundation.mb.ca.**



THE CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION
of MANITOBA

LA FONDATION
CATHOLIQUE
du MANITOBA

КАТОЛИЦЬКА
ФУНДАЦІЯ
МАНІТОБИ

Supporting Catholic Values - Always

MIKE JANZEN IN CONCERT - April 28, 2023: Signpost Music Presents: The Psalms Project: Mike Janzen in Concert with Erin Propp, members of the WSO String Orchestra, and the Horizon Choir. Featuring special guest Steve Bell. Tickets are available through www.ticketmaster.ca.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION MARIAN AWARDS GALA: St. Mary's Academy Foundation is delighted to host its Marian Awards Gala on **Friday, May 5, 2023** at the RBC Convention Centre. Join them to honour the Legacy of Women at St. Mary's Academy who continue to Hold High the Torch. Funds raised will directly support school programs which open doors for young women such as the Academy's new Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre. Find out more details, purchase tickets and see **Sponsorship Opportunities** at www.smamb.ca/events/marian-awards. Anyone with questions is asked to reach out to Kaylene Kessler, Advancement Manager, at kkessler@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031.

CCRS of Manitoba Presents: THE JOY OF THE LORD CONFERENCE: After almost 4 years since our last in-person conference, we are glad to invite you to this very special conference with **Dr. Mark Nimo** on **May 5 and 6, 2023**. Praise & Worship led by "Friends of Jesus Covenant Community", teachings, Eucharistic celebration with Healing service, and much more. Tickets are \$50, includes breakfast and \$35 charitable receipt, **space is limited**. St. Emile Parish Hall, 556 St. Anne's Road, Winnipeg, MB. For tickets click on the following [link here](#). For more information call 204-895-7544 or email: ccrs@catholicrenewalservices.com.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES: Spring Preparation - Begins May 17, 2023: The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius are a user-friendly way to understand how God works in our lives, how to make wise choices, and how to find God in the people and experiences that fill our days. While they require a time commitment and presume some prayer experience, they are open to anyone who seriously seeks to enhance the quality of their relationship with God. If you are interested in exploring the Spiritual Exercises, it is highly recommended that you attend the Spring Preparation. We are still determining whether these will be via zoom or in person; the dates are Wednesdays May 17, 24, and 31, 2023, from 7:00-8:15 PM. Contact Carmela at adult.education@stignatius.ca for more information or visit <https://www.stignatius.ca/adult-education-centre/>.

MISERICORDIA TERRACE - Opening Summer 2023: Misericordia Terrace is a 97-suite independent assisted living community located on Wolseley Ave nestled in the charming West Broadway neighbourhood close to Misericordia Health Centre, shops, restaurants, pharmacy, library, parks, and green spaces. On offer are spacious one-bedroom or two-bedroom suites, all with access to shared areas: lounges, recreation spaces, a spectacular rooftop patio and much more. Included in your rent will be water, heating/air conditioning, electricity, weekly housekeeping, on-site chef-prepared lunch, and dinner served every day in our airy dining room plus an array of additional specialized services and activities all designed to support independent and healthy living. **For more information and to apply, please visit misericordiaterrace.ca** *Misericordia Terrace is inspired by the Misericordia Sisters' legacy of compassionate care.*

SOME OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

PARISH FLORES DE MAYO FIESTA on Sunday, May 7th

- Rosary led by the children in the church at 10:30 am (*arrival at 10:15 am to prepare*)
- Fiesta Family Celebration immediately following 11:45 am Mass in the parish hall

NATIONAL WEEK FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY, May 7 – 14, 2023

- Theme: "Grandparents and the Elderly: A Legacy to Cherish"

SHOWING OF THE MOVIE "MOTHER TERESA: NO GREATER LOVE"

- In St. John XXIII Church on Friday, May 12th beginning at 7:00 pm (*refreshments to follow hosted by the K of C*)

ORDINATION TO THE MINISTERIAL PRIESTHOOD

- Deacon Oliver Omega will be ordained to the Ministerial Priesthood on Friday, June 9, 2023 at St. Mary's Cathedral at 7:30 pm. All are welcome to attend!

PARISH FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION on Sunday, June 11th during the 11:45 am Mass

PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Saturday, June 17th during the 4:00 pm Mass

- Pastoral Visit of Archbishop Richard Gagnon
- Reception to follow honouring the newly confirmed and Archbishop Richard on his 75th birthday

For other news and events in and around the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, go to the website: www.archwinnipeg.ca

Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Peter testifies that Jesus came with healing and was met with rejection and violence.

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

The stone rejected as unworthy becomes the vital cornerstone.

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

We celebrate this feast with hearts cleared of malice and open to the truth.

John 20:1-18

None of the disciples grasps the meaning of the events of Easter.



EXPLORING THE WORD

Understanding Easter

Theological mysteries aren't meant to be mysterious. When we talk about the Paschal Mystery—conveniently encapsulated in the acclamation, “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again”—we shouldn't feel we are staring into a cosmic void. In ancient Greek mystery religions, *mysterion* referred to secret realities only privileged insiders might grasp. But Christianity makes a free gift of the gospel to all the world in its evangelizing mission. This mystery is just aching to be revealed.

That doesn't mean we're all on the same page when it comes to religious understanding, however. In nine short verses, John's Easter account reminds us that even those closest to Jesus could be absolutely clueless about the significance of the empty tomb. That it *wassignificant* they had no doubt. But such a finding could be read in so many ways—and apparently was—that even standing there on the morning of the third day could be a mind-boggling experience.

Being there

What did Mary Magdalene understand that morning in the dark, as she stood nearby and saw the great stone had been removed? Grave robbers; most likely the temple cohorts. When she says “they” have taken the Lord, she leaves us in little doubt as to which group she suspects. Meanwhile, folks on the Sanhedrin side of the equation, if Matthew's account is to be credited, are saying the same thing, only blaming the 12 apostles for the grave heist. The politics around the death of Jesus had been so acute that it eclipsed any theological reflection. Her report sets Peter and the other disciple running.

The gospel then provides us with a little insider politics of its own. Peter and that other guy race to the tomb, but the nameless other outpaces him—the gospel writer is always looking for a way to point out that Petrine leadership is a little slow. The winner of the footrace sees the interior of the tomb, what's there and not there. But he doesn't go inside; he knows better than to supersede Peter. When the First Fisherman arrives, he does enter, does a thorough inspection of the scene, but comes up with no answers. Then the other disciple steps in, sees the same evidence, and believes. Believes what, we ask? That the tomb is indeed empty?

Because the next thing we are told is that they, both of them, did not yet understand that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Whatever it is that they might believe, they are not believing that. The consolation for us Christians living 20 centuries later is that being there would have put us at no advantage in the realm of faith. We still, like Mary and Peter and the nameless disciple, have to put our heads into that hollow space and draw our own conclusions.

The saving mystery of Christ

The scripture scholar PHEME PERKINS writes: “The ultimate goal of Christian life is not merely surviving death but transformation into the image of God, which is the risen Christ.” For people who struggle with the meaning of the Easter event, this message might help. Paul often reminded his audience that the Resurrection was not a one-time episode—the idea is not to acknowledge the resurrected Lord and to cheer, “Good for him!” If we die with Christ, we also rise with him. The victory of Easter is our victory, too.

But the goal of resurrection is not merely cheating death of its sting. Resuscitated bodies and reanimated identities, even immortal ones, would be a poverty compared to the true objective, which is to be one with God in Christ. The glorified body of the Risen One is not just Jesus back again once more. He's unrecognizable to his dearest friends. He's transformed into the fullness of divine life. “The life of the world to come,” then, is not more of the same, or even the best of the same. That image

of heaven we've clung to since childhood—living on a cloud, with all the cake you can eat and no calories—has got to be relinquished. Transformation into the image of God, whose very nature is love, will be quite a change for people like ourselves whose hearts are quite limited and whose ability to love is often disappointing.

We are the witnesses

When it comes to the Paschal Mystery, we can claim Peter's words from Acts as our own. Through our celebration of the Eucharist, we, too, become witnesses who eat and drink with Christ after he rose from the dead. Our liturgy is not a mental act of remembrance, sacramental theology insists. It is a divine activity through which we *are* there, present to and participating in the death and Resurrection of Christ. Liturgy "collapses past, present, and future into a single moment pregnant with meaning," as liturgical scholar Joyce Zimmerman writes in an essay on Christian mystery. The mystery aching to be revealed is in full flower when we approach the Table of the Lord.

This mystery, as Paul says in one of the two possible second readings for the day, is that as Christians we have already been raised up with Christ. We have already died to the way that leads to mortality and chosen the hidden life with Christ in God. Or, if you prefer the other reading for this day, Paul invites us to celebrate this feast of the Paschal Lamb with sincerity and truth. In both Colossians and Corinthians, we celebrate the divine mystery that is always and everywhere an open secret designed to be proclaimed, celebrated, and shared far and wide.

APPLYING THE WORD

Entering the mystery

Today we're not gathered to enter into an empty tomb. That's "so 2,000 years ago." We come together to enter into a mystery that is, by contrast, full of life. The emptiness of the tomb on Easter Sunday morning might be hollow enough to echo back our fears, suspicions, and doubts. But the glorified life of the Risen Christ that we celebrate this morning, and every Sunday of the year, enables us "to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity." With Mary, with Peter, and every other disciple named and unnamed, we lift our voices in thanks and praise.

— Alice Camille

Alice Camille is a religious educator, scripture commentator, and author of many books including **This Transforming Word** and other titles found at alicecamille.com
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Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

April 16, 2023

Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The life of a disciple involves teaching, community, Eucharist, and prayer.

Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

God's mercy endures even in times of failure.

1 Peter 1:3-9

The new generation of the church
loves and believes even though it does not see.

John 20:19-31

Jesus does many signs to bolster the faith of his disciples
which are not recorded in scripture.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Without seeing, we believe

Why do you believe what you believe? What makes you so sure that your faith isn't simply wishful thinking? What do you cling to, when people challenge the tenets of religious belief? What makes the gospel more than just a ghost story to you?

After all, none of us were there when Jesus passed beyond a locked door and stood before his followers holding out hands marked with wounds. None of us heard his greeting of peace with our own ears, or felt his breath on our faces when he bestowed his Spirit. All of the events recounted by the evangelist are hearsay, handed on to us by a generation of folks who are themselves long gone. There are no videos, no medical reports, no notarized documents of these occurrences. Just a handful of testimonies and a hint that many other things happened that are not written in the book.

This is what gives me hope most of all: those other signs that didn't make it into the record. If all we had was the record itself, it would be the word of the evangelists against the story of human history. And human history tells us that the dead don't rise. The crucified and suffering ones are not made whole again. There is little peace after the horror of pain and loss. In all the accounts of history, the evidence of a Holy Spirit at work in the world is very spotty at best.



In search of other signs

"Although you have not seen him, you love him," the First Letter of Peter says with a note of congratulations. "Even though you do not see him now yet you believe in him." The rest of the passage is about joy so indescribable it can scarcely be contained.

Where does this spirit of rejoicing come from? I suppose some people are natural optimists, and others simply gullible. But beyond that small subset of the perky and the credulous are people like me and, I hope, you. Our faith isn't about what's easy or most comforting to believe. Maybe it's even dragged reluctantly from hearts ruled by skepticism much of the time. Left to our own tastes, some of us would not be joiners, followers, or believers. We might well be on the outside looking in at church, discipleship, and faith—but for one thing: an encounter with the person of Jesus.

I'm not talking about the walking-through-walls Jesus of that upper room in Jerusalem. Some saints of the church report miraculous visitations, but most of us are not so favored. But we have recognized Jesus in the places where he promised we'd find him: in the least of our sisters and brothers.

Though we may not have peered into literally empty tombs, we have known people once hollowed out by sin and suffering who returned to the land of the living. We have heard the stories of friends and neighbors crucified by the events of their lives who nonetheless walk free into the future, with glorified wounds that encourage us to live in hope. We read about people in war-torn lands who have every right to hate and hurt but choose instead the way of reconciliation, peace, and healing. If some question whether there is a Holy Spirit in the world, we can point to the places where love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are practiced daily.

Sharing the signs increases faith

Anyone still practicing religious faith after these past centuries of rationalism, scientific hubris, and elitist doubt probably has stories to tell about why he or she chooses to believe. These stories are among the signs not written in John's book, and it is the responsibility of each new generation to share such signs as a virtual extension of the gospel. Peter tells what he knows to the Gentiles at the home of Cornelius. We tell what we know in the marketplace and the workplace when we cast our vote at city hall and when we use our resources with respect for creation and concern for our sisters and brothers.

The early communal life portrayed in Acts provides us with the template for how we should consider our power and our property: as vehicles for loving service. Our shared meal in the eucharistic assembly is itself a sign that we take our communal life as the Body of Christ seriously. We are one in the Spirit and one in the Lord. We cannot walk away from this table as individuals clutching our privileges and possessions too tightly.

If we hope to recover the depths of that original faith of the early disciples, our friend Thomas shows us how. His ability to believe in Jesus, shattered at the cross, is reaffirmed and illuminated when he reaches out and touches the wounds of Christ. Now he no longer needs to rely on hearsay reports of the Risen Lord. Nor does he depend on seeing in order to believe. No, when he dares to come in contact with the sacred wounds, to put his hand into that gaping side, what he experiences is enough to dredge up one of the greatest professions of faith in the New Testament: "My Lord and my God!"

We don't have to go far to touch the wounds of our world, and it is there that we may meet our Lord face to face and find the ultimate reason to believe.

APPLYING THE WORD

Four steps to discipleship

The life of a disciple involves teaching, community, Eucharist, and prayer. So we learn from the early community of Acts, whose faith was nurtured by these four elements. Parishes that provide opportunities for their members that encompass all of these vital components will raise up more disciples and fewer people who define themselves merely in terms of Mass attendance. Genuine disciples will be prepared to take the next step, from being on the receiving end of the community's benefits to reaching out to the world in its need for healing, consolation, and the testimony of hope. The Easter season is a great time to renew our parish communities as places where the signs of faith not contained in John's gospel are written down daily.

— Alice Camille

Alice Camille is a religious educator, scripture commentator, and author of many books including **This Transforming Word** and other titles found at alicecamille.com
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CALLING VOLUNTEERS TO SERVICE: Every baptized person is endowed with indispensable gifts for the service of the Church and the world. Especially as we emerge from the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is time for us to rebuild participation in the liturgical and other ministries of Saint John XXIII Parish. As described in detail in previous recent bulletins, this includes Altar Servers, Communion Ministers, Hospitality Ministers (Ushers), Music Ministers, Readers (Lectors), Sacristans and others who assist in liturgical art and environment. Please prayerfully consider your participation as a full member in the life of our parish. **If you are willing to help in any of the liturgical or other ministries of the parish, please contact our pastor, Father Robert Polz, and/or our parish pastoral assistant, Sharon Camier, or any other member of our parish pastoral team.**

The following items are available at the parish office for a very reasonable cost as noted:

NRSV Bible – Catholic Edition, hardcover	\$20.00 per Bible	(\$40.00 for LARGE PRINT edition)
Living with Christ SUNDAY MISSAL 2022 – 2023	\$5.00 per copy	(reduced price)
Living with Christ Missalette – monthly edition	\$5.00 per copy	
Candles blessed on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	\$6.00 per box	(each box contains two candles)

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2022

The members of our Parish Finance Council met on March 28th to review and approve the parish financial report for the year ended December 31, 2022. **Copies of the parish financial statement for 2022 will be made available for parishioners to pick up on the weekend of Divine Mercy Sunday (April 16th).** At that time, designated members of the Parish Finance Council will speak at the end of Sunday Masses to share some information regarding the report and initial plans concerning how best to handle financial challenges going forward, especially the \$500,000.00 owing to the Anglican Diocese of Rupertsland that will come due in October 2023. In the meantime, we ask all parishioners to continue to do their best to join us in being generous in our stewardship of time, talent and treasure. Please keep St. John XXIII Parish and its ongoing needs in your thoughts and prayers and actions. Thank you all so very much.

Saint John XXIII Parish Stewardship of Treasure

Your assistance is very much appreciated – every gift, great or small, helps!

PARISH OFFERINGS: You may place your offering envelopes in the COLLECTION BASKET passed by the ushers to those sitting in the pews during Sunday liturgies. Or you may mail your contribution to the parish via CANADA POST. Or you may leave a message with the parish office to make arrangements with one of our parish staff to drop off your offertory donations at a safe drop off location. For donations to the parish, please make cheques payable to “St. John XXIII Parish”. **In this New Year 2023, please use 2023 envelopes only. Thank you.**

PAD OPTION: Alternatively, we encourage parishioners to consider being an “intentional giver” by registering for PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT. Please leave a message at the parish office and someone will contact you and assist you.

ONLINE OPTIONS: If you wish to donate to the parish ONLINE, a link to CanadaHelps.org can be found on our website. Go to www.johnxxiii.ca and click on the DONATE NOW tab at the top of the Links column on the home page. Alternatively, you may donate to St. John XXIII Parish via the **Archdiocese of Winnipeg Mobile APP** on your mobile device. Go to the Apple APP Store or Google Play Store to download the Archdiocese of Winnipeg Mobile APP.

New parishioners are encouraged to contact the parish office to register with the parish and to arrange for pre-authorized debit or a box of regular offering envelopes.

Archdiocese of Winnipeg Mobile APP

The Archdiocese of Winnipeg has produced a mobile application that will connect you with your faith community, anytime, from anywhere, using your Apple device. The objectives of this app are to: keep the members of our parish communities connected; provide new ways of supporting the parish and the Archdiocese; and inspire the People of God toward service, through our messages of hope.

Please encourage your family members and fellow parishioners to download and install this app and ensure you engage with your community through your home parish page. With this application, you will be able to:

- conveniently make or maintain your regular Church offering to support your parish;
- contribute to Sharing God's Gifts and so support the ministries and pastoral mission of the Archdiocese of Winnipeg;
- conveniently find the Archbishop's messages of hope that inspire us;
- obtain your donation tax receipts in a more convenient manner; and
- find contact information for your parish and the Archdiocese to help you stay connected.



FROM YOUR MOBILE DEVICE, GO TO THE APPLE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY STORE
[DOWNLOAD ON YOUR APPLE DEVICE HERE.](#) | [DOWNLOAD ON YOUR ANDROID DEVICE HERE.](#)



St. Charles Catholic School Spring Fundraiser

PLACE YOUR ORDER ONLINE UNTIL APRIL 15TH
Shop early to avoid disappointment at www.glenleagreenhouses.com

\$25 Plant Cards also available! It's a perfect gift for any plant enthusiast!

Gift Cards are a physical card that can be used in store or at our booth at any of the markets we attend. They are not accepted as payment for wholesale or fundraiser purchases.



Hello Everyone,

This year's spring fundraising campaign will be a sale of excellent quality and competitively priced bedding plants, perennials, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, succulents, and container gardens. Fall Garden Mums can be easily ordered now in the spring for delivery shortly after Labor Day in the early Fall. Gift Cards are also available.

You as the customer can **follow these simple steps** to shop and pay online at Glenlea Greenhouses website at www.glenleagreenhouses.com.

1. On their homepage select **Spring Fundraiser**.
2. Once you are finished shopping, **go to the cart page** and select **"to support & pick up at a fundraiser group"**. Afterwards, **three fields** will appear.
3. Please select from the dropdown **St.Charles Catholic School**
4. Under **Name of Seller** (the name of the individual you are supporting with this fundraiser's name) **input Name of Seller Info Here*optional field, state "leave empty" if your group does not need this field as it will still appear on our website as a field.**
5. Lastly, **check the Checkbox** to confirm all the information in the above fields are correct and click **check out & pay**.
6. Input your email and personal information and click Continue.
7. Select **"Fundraiser - To Support and Pickup at the Fundraiser Group I selected on CART page** then click Continue to payment method.
8. Once on the payment method screen, payment can be completed with VISA, MASTERCARD, and AMERICAN EXPRESS credit cards or INTERAC e-transfer to the Greenhouse.

Shortly after completion of the order, an email confirmation is sent to the email address provided confirming delivery location and date, along with the products ordered. **Online orders will be accepted until 11:59 pm on April 15th.**

The plants will be delivered to **St.Charles Catholic School** on **Tuesday, May 23, 2023** and we will need all orders to be picked up by **2:00-6:00 pm.**

All the proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards **St.Charles Catholic School.**

We thank you for your support!

Top: Impatiens Beacon, Middle: Calibrachoa Cabaret, Bottom: Proven Winners Vegetable & Herb Raised Planter.

"Every Christian meal reveals aspects of the kingdom of God, where guests are welcomed, people share with one another, broken covenants are renewed, and all are reconciled."

— Father Eugene LaVerdiere, S.S.S., Dining in the Kingdom of God

"I have ... learned as a member of the Christian community what is the nature of God's mercy, which does not leave me to overcome my sin by my own effort."

— Anglican Archbishop Rowan Williams

CAN YOU
IMAGINE BEING
GREETED BY THE
RISEN JESUS?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

RIGHT!? AND HE OFFERS
THEM THE STANDARD
GREETING, LIKE IT'S
NO BIG DEAL!



WOW! THAT TOTALLY
BRINGS NEW MEANING
TO "WHAT'S UP?"



MATTHEW 28:1-10

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2023 PROCEEDS PARTNER KIN KAR RAFFLE

Organized by Winnipeg Kinsmen



Tickets:
1 for \$10
3 for \$20
10 for \$50

Our organization will receive
50% of the proceeds from the
tickets we sell!

Win our grand prize:

- 2023 Ford Bronco Sport
Badlands 4X4
 - OR 2023 Ford Escape ST-Line
Elite AWD
- OR you can opt for the cash prize
of \$35,000 instead

PICK
YOUR
PRIZE



SCAN HERE



SCAN HERE

www.fundingchange.ca/wpgkinsmen

Our Kin Kar Raffle is Back!! Tickets are on sale now. Just scan the QR code or click on the link below and it will take you to our unique sales code. This way St. Charles gets 50% of the proceeds of every ticket sold under that code. Tickets are 1 for \$10, 3 for \$20 or 10 for \$50.

The final draw is on Monday, June 26th, 2023.

https://www.fundingchange.ca/wpgkinsmen/Y6C1_YMd0X8pSGiV/Y-6C9X5Atyuo36r1