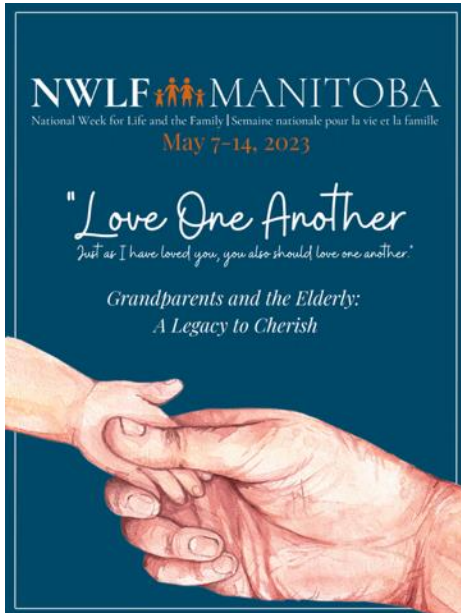


Saint John XXIII Parish, Winnipeg
3390 Portage Avenue at Rouge Road

National Week for Life and the Family 2023



In Manitoba, the NWLF involves a tri-diocesan effort (Archdiocese of St. Boniface, Archdiocese of Winnipeg, and Archeparchy of Winnipeg). The theme this year is: **Grandparents and the Elderly: A Legacy to Cherish**. Our theme follows the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops scriptural focus for the NWLF, "Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." John 13:34

The Archbishops of Winnipeg are asking each parish to celebrate "Grandparents and the Elderly" within our families, communities, and parishes. We all are invited to join together in marking this momentous year by celebrating the experience and wisdom of the elderly and their important role in passing on and preserving the Catholic faith through generations.

Additionally, the **March for Life** this year will be on **May 11, 2023**. Further information regarding this event will be found on each Archdiocesan website closer to this date.

To mark the National Week for Life and the Family 2023,
Saint John XXIII Parish in Winnipeg
will honour and pray for grandparents and the elderly
of our parish, families, and community during our annual

"FLORES DE MAYO" FIESTA SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023



- **ROSARY CELEBRATION** will be held at 10:15 a.m., i.e. between Masses on Sunday morning.
- The **INTENTION** at the 11:45 a.m. Mass will be offered specifically for grandparents and the elderly of our parish, families, and community.
- Following the 11:45 a.m. Mass a parish **FAMILY CELEBRATION** will be held in the parish hall.

As in previous years, the **ROSARY CELEBRATION** with the procession of the "AVE MARIA" letters will require the participation of a number of our children and youth. We are looking for older children and youth to be pole bearers (the poles are a bit heavy) and younger children to accompany the pole bearers dressed as angels to carry the ribbons. We are also looking for some strong readers to help with the rosary prayers. For those who would be walking in the procession, where possible they could wear a white top. We have angel wings on site for the children to use.

For preparation purposes, if your child(ren) would like to take an active part in the rosary celebration, please let Sharon Camier know ASAP. We need to know how many children/youth will be available to help and in what area they would like to assist (pole bearer, angel or reader).

The **FAMILY CELEBRATION** after the 11:45 a.m. Mass will include a potluck lunch, music, and some children's activities. The donated food (preferably commercially prepared) will be set up buffet style in room 9 on the east side of the basement hallway.

In the interest of health and food safety, as in previous years arrangements will be made for designated food handlers to serve the food buffet style. **For those with food allergies and/or other health concerns, you are welcome to omit the buffet and bring your own bag lunch for your family.**

If you are willing to help in the celebration (a food dish to share, soft drinks, juice, children's activities, food service or clean up, etc.) please let us know as soon as possible and in which area(s) you would like to help. You may contact Sharon Camier through the parish office at 204-832-7175 or email sharon@johnxxiii.ca, or you may contact Elona Paragas at 204-930-2426.

Be sure to invite and bring your grandparents and elderly loved ones to our celebration.
Thank you so much. We look forward to seeing you at our FLORES de MAYO FIESTA!