

PARISH BULLETIN

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – October 26, 2025

The parish schedule published herein continues to the weekend of November 9, 2025

As circumstances suggest, updates will be posted on the parish website.

Saint John XXIII Roman Catholic Church

3390 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3K 0Z3

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

Email: office.stjohnxxiii@gmail.com

Website: www.johnxxiii.ca

Office Hours: On designated afternoons until 4:00 pm
and at other times for pre-arranged appointments

SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY LITURGIES (MASSES)

Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am and 11:45 am

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

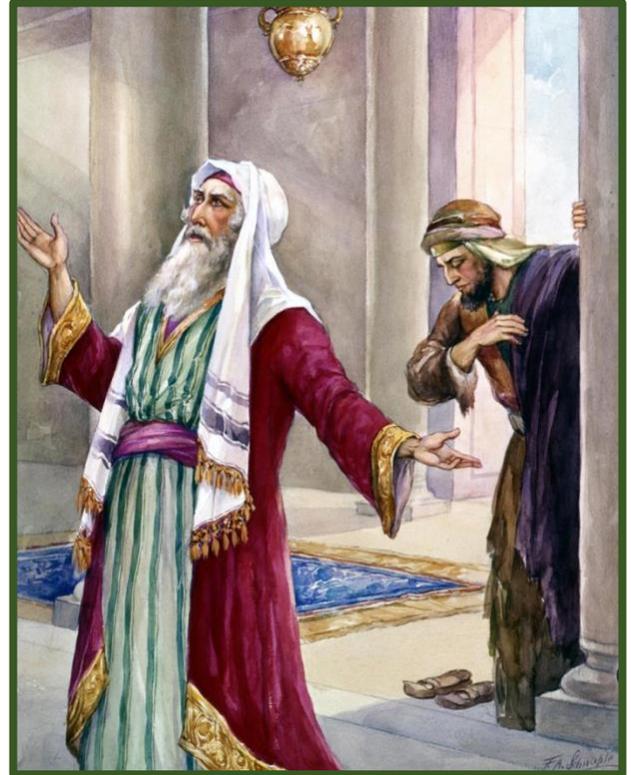
As announced in the schedule in this bulletin.

ASSISTANCE TO THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

For emergencies, you may contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

*As circumstances permit, on Wednesday evenings,
on Friday afternoons or by appointment.*



PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Robert Polz

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

Pastoral Assistant: Sharon Camier

204-832-7206 scamier.stjohnxxiii@gmail.com

Trustee: William Gould

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

Trustee: Derek Lobo

204-832-7175 dereklobo73@gmail.com

Custodian: José Barrera

204-888-9340

Music Ministry: Donna Vendramelli

204-888-8200 d_vendramelli@mymts.net

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.



Your Gift to the 2025 SHARING GOD'S GIFTS ANNUAL APPEAL

We are pleased to kick off this year's *Sharing God's Gifts Appeal!*

Our Commitment Sunday event will take place on November 23rd, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – a fitting time to celebrate Christ's reign of love and to reflect on our call to generosity and service.

As we begin this year's campaign, let us open our hearts in gratitude and renew our commitment to *Sharing God's Gifts* – answering Christ's call to be good stewards of all we have received.

November 22 and 23 is Commitment Weekend for the Appeal, at which time you can make your gift or pledge. Our parish has been asked to raise \$28,196.00. We can accomplish this if, after prayerful consideration, everyone gives what they can. Any amount raised over our goal will be returned to our parish to be used for our particular needs. Thank you in advance for your prayerful generosity!

Marriage Milestone Anniversary Celebration

November 16, 2025

St. John XXIII Parish, Winnipeg, MB

11:45 am to 1:00 pm

The Archdiocese of Winnipeg warmly invites all married couples celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2025 to a **special Mass of thanksgiving and renewal of vows** in honour of their Sacrament of Matrimony.

His Grace, **Archbishop Murray Chatlain**, will preside at the celebration and offer a heartfelt blessing to couples marking anniversaries of **5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, etc.**

This annual tradition, first introduced in our Archdiocese last year, is initiated by the Marriage and Family Life Synod Implementation Commission. Following the Mass, all are welcome to join a simple reception downstairs in the parish hall.



Couples wishing to take part are kindly asked to **register by Sunday, November 2, 2025**. Registration can be completed by scanning the QR code on the poster or by visiting the [Archdiocese website at this link](#). We look forward to celebrating this joyful occasion with you and expressing our gratitude for the gift of marriage in our community!



November is the Month of the Holy Souls

The ***Book of the Names of the Dead*** is a tangible sign of our solidarity with the rest of the Church in prayer for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed. **All are invited to take some time to remember their deceased loved ones, and to inscribe their names in this special book if not previously included.** The book will be available in the narthex beginning October 25th. On the weekend of November 2nd, it will be placed on a table near the sanctuary and will remain there for the month of November.

SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 9, 2025

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

Sunday, October 26	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
3:30 pm Saturday	RECITATION OF THE ROSARY in the church – all welcome to participate
4:00 pm Saturday	MASS – Eulalia Minerva+, requested by Minerva family
9:00 am	MASS (livestreamed) – In thanksgiving, requested by the Castillo family
10:15 am – 11:15 am	CATECHISM CLASSES (downstairs in the parish hall and classrooms)
11:45 am	MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
Monday, October 27	FERIAL
	Mass (offered in private) – <i>Special intention</i>
Tuesday, October 28	FEAST: SAINT SIMON AND SAINT JUDE, Apostles
10:30 am	MASS at Golden West Centennial Lodge, 811 School Road – <i>Eva Riel+, requested by Cathy Sabiston</i>
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance
6:00 pm	<i>Fr. Robert will attend a meeting of the board of the Manitoba Multifaith Council</i>
Wednesday, October 29	FERIAL
6:45 pm	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
7:00 pm	MASS – Jeffrey Penner+, requested by Motuz family
7:40 pm	Inquiry Session – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (downstairs in room 9)
Thursday, October 30	FERIAL
	Mass (offered in private) – <i>Bernard and Helen Trudeau+, requested by Cathy Sabiston</i>
10:30 am	<i>Central Winnipeg Deanery Meeting at St. Paul the Apostle Parish</i>
Friday, October 31	FERIAL
12:00 pm	Praying of the Angelus
12:10 pm	MASS – Intentions of Andrew Overton, requested by Overton family
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, November 1	SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
8:30 am – 12:30 pm	<i>Fr. Robert will attend a St. Paul’s High School Board of the Directors retreat and meeting</i>
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	LEGION OF MARY Praesidium Meeting (downstairs in room 6)
4:00 pm	ALL SOULS DAY MASS – Doris Blair+, requested by Tannena Korolyk
	*** Remember to turn clocks back tonight, i.e. “FALL BACK ONE HOUR” to Central Standard Time***
Sunday November 2	THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
9:00 am	ALL SOULS DAY MASS (livestreamed) – For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory
10:15 am – 11:15 am	CATECHISM CLASSES (downstairs in the parish hall and classrooms)
11:45 am	ALL SOULS DAY MASS – “Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners
Monday, November 3	FERIAL
	Mass (offered in private) – <i>Johnny Dancel+, requested by J. Ferdinand A. Martin</i>
Tuesday, November 4	MEMORIAL: SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO, Bishop
12:00 pm	Praying of the Angelus
12:10 pm	MASS – Roberto Romasanta+, requested by Ruth Barbon
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Office Hours – call or ring door buzzer for assistance
7:00 pm Tuesday	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Preparation Meeting (downstairs in room 9)
Wednesday, November 5	FERIAL
6:45 pm	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
7:00 pm	MASS – Margaret Gfroerer+, requested by Overton family
7:40 pm	Inquiry Session – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (downstairs in room 8)

Thursday, November 6	FERIAL Mass (offered in private) – <i>In thanksgiving, requested by Erik Barbon</i>
Friday, November 7	FERIAL – FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
12:00 pm	Praying of the Angelus
12:10 pm	MASS – <i>Intentions of Nate Overton, requested by Overton family</i>
12:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Adoration Time (<i>monstrance on altar in main worship space</i>)
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
3:45 pm	Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday, November 8	FERIAL
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	LEGION OF MARY Praesidium Meeting (<i>downstairs in room 6</i>)
4:00 pm	MASS for Sunday – <i>Jordan Braun+, requested by Laurette and Doug Burch</i>
Sunday, November 9	FEAST: THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA
9:00 am	MASS (livestreamed) – <i>“Pro populo” / Intentions of parishioners</i>
10:15 am – 11:15 am	CATECHISM CLASSES (<i>downstairs in the parish hall and classrooms</i>)
11:45 am	MASS – <i>Orlando Florida+, requested by Sigue family</i>

TABERNACLE LAMP OFFERING

October 26 – November 1 Special intention, requested by a parishioner
November 2 – November 8 Intentions of Holy Souls in Purgatory, 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.



PLEASE PRAY for the loved ones of our community in need of healing and comfort:

Cathy Blaquera, Jean-Louis Charles, Betty Connor, René and Sue Gobeil, Bev and Steve Hewitt, Larry Kuyzk, Brett Lawrence, Kristy O’Toole, Lauran Peters, John Powell, Fr. Barry Schoonbaert, Jerome Strachan, Joe and Maria Wallack, Helen Yankoski.

If you wish your name or any of your loved ones to be included in our prayer list, please notify the parish office. Be sure to obtain the consent of persons concerned before submitting their names.



POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the prevention of suicide – Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Parish Catechism Classes 2025 – 2026

Regular catechism classes have begun and are held on **Sunday mornings at 10:15 am** in the parish hall and classrooms. Once again we are following the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies* liturgically-based faith formation program that provides weekly handouts with a short description of the Sunday Gospel plus suggested activities and discussion starters for each age level. This faith formation program has materials divided into the following age groups: SEEDS (Preschool), PROMISE (Kindergarten – Grade 1), GOOD NEWS (Grades 2-3), VENTURE (GRADES 4-6) and VISIONS (Grades 7-8 and up). Children who will be receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist in the spring of 2026 as a PREREQUISITE SHOULD BE ENROLLED NOW in our regular catechism program held on Sunday mornings. Later this year further details will be made available about proximate preparation sessions for these two sacraments which will begin shortly after Christmas and will involve a mixture of lessons to be completed at church and at home. **To register your children and/or if you are willing to help as a catechist or catechetical assistant, please contact Sharon Camier, our pastoral assistant, at the parish office.**

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

How do I become Catholic?: Whatever path has led you to this time of searching or interest in becoming a baptized Christian or, if already baptized, to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process that could be Good News for you in your journey of faith. **RCIA inquiry sessions have begun and are held immediately following Mass on WEDNESDAY EVENINGS. Please contact Sharon at the parish office and/or speak with Father Robert if you are interested in participating.**

St James Assiniboia Catholic Women's League

The next CWL General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 28 at 2:00 pm at St. Charles Church beginning with Mass upstairs. Note that the lift will be available for any with mobility issues. If any need a ride, please call Jodeen Stewart at 204-891-4740 All ladies are welcome.



Donations of the following items can be brought to any of our general meetings this year: We are continuing to collect hats, mitts and socks for the Crisis Response Centre, men's toiletries for the Bruce Oake Recovery Centre and food items for Harvest Manitoba. *New* Peanut Butter and Jam for Main Street Project.

CWL Membership Drive is beginning: The new theme for 2026-2027 is *Ignite Your Passion, Empower His Mission*. As members we are fortified by faith, active in areas of service-to do, social justice-to educate and advocate. The national membership due is \$25.00, provincial \$6.00, Winnipeg Diocesan \$5.50, St. James Assiniboia Council \$8.50 for a total of \$45.00. Cheques to be made exactly as follows: "St. James Assiniboia C.W.L." Members can send their payment by E-transfer to jodeenstewart@gmail.com If you want your membership picked up, please contact your respective parish representative: St. John XXIII representative is Rose Thomas, email rathomas@mymts.net

Women's Wellness Day

Ladies, you are invited to the next Wellness Day at Mary, Mother of the Church to be held on **November 1, 2025**. It will be a day filled with wellness renewal in all areas, including spiritual, fitness, food, fellowship etc. The theme for the event is JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE. The guest speaker will be Martha Aviles, speaking on "The Holy Spirit: Source of Hope in Your Relationship with God During Challenging Times." Cost is a goodwill offering. Registration Deadline is October 28. [Click here to register](#), visit mmoc.ca, or email shawnda@mmoc.ca for further details.

St. Charles Night

St. Charles Night is happening at the St. Charles Parish Hall on **November 8, 2025**. Cocktails will begin at 5:00 pm, with dinner starting at 6:00 pm. There will be dancing, karaoke, a 50/50 draw, raffles and a cash bar. [Click here for more information on how to obtain tickets](#).

Women at the Heart of Justice with Sister Laura Vicuña Pereira Manso

Canadian Jesuits International is proud to host Sister Laura Vicuña Pereira Manso, a Franciscan Catechist nun and Indigenous Kariri leader from Brazil, as the keynote speaker for the *Women at the Heart of Justice* campaign. On Sunday, **November 9, 2025**, at St. Ignatius Parish Hall in Winnipeg, Sister Laura will share her inspiring work advocating for human rights and environmental justice in the Amazon. With over 20 years of experience and a background in anthropology and social psychology, she supports Indigenous communities facing threats from illegal industries. Her visit aims to raise awareness and foster dialogue on faith, ecology, and justice. [Attendees can register by scanning the QR code on the event poster](#).

CFC Young Couples Assembly

Attention young couples! You're invited to a special year-end assembly on finances, happening Friday, **November 14, 2025** at St. Patrick's Church, 172 Worth Street. The evening begins with Holy Mass at 6:00 PM, followed by the assembly from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. This free event is open to couples who have been married for 15 years or less. To help you focus, we recommend leaving the kids at home, but if childcare isn't available, families are still welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Please register at <https://forms.gle/UkfA7Gqzr719bQvA6> so we can plan accordingly. For questions, contact Andrew De Leon at 204-979-3793.

Fertility Awareness Seminar

The Archdiocese of Saint Boniface invites engaged couples—and anyone interested in Natural Family Planning—to attend the upcoming Online Fertility Health Awareness Seminars this fall. These free sessions offer valuable insights into fertility awareness methods and their benefits for marriage and overall health. Two seminars are available: **November 17** (6:30 -9:00 pm) featuring the Creighton & NaPro Method (register by November 10), and **November 26** (6:30 - 9:00 pm) featuring the Marquette Method (register by November 19). Registration is required at bit.ly/fhas-register. For more information, visit bit.ly/fertilityhealth-stboniface or contact the Office of Marriage, Family and Life: Marie at mfl@archsaintboniface.ca / 204-594-0274 or Nadine at mfl2@archsaintboniface.ca / 204-594-0295.

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

Kindergarten Open House

St. Charles Catholic School, 331 St. Charles Street, invites you to attend its Kindergarten Open House for the 2026-2027 school year on **Tuesday, November 26, 2026 at 6:30 pm.**



**Saint Charles
Catholic School**

If your child was born in 2021, they will be ready for Kindergarten!

Come and meet our Kindergarten teachers. You will hear about a Day in the Life of a Kindergarten student.

We are a K-8 school, offering full day, every day Kindergarten, Before and After School Care program – No waiting list to register for Before and After School Care, K-5 Orff Music program, K-8 French, K-2 Learn to Skate program, Gr. 6-8 Band, and a Gr. 6-8 Hockey Skills program. For more information, please visit our website at www.stccs.ca. Please call 204-837-1520 or email sec@stccs.ca to R.S.V.P.

Quality Education that is Intellectually Challenging and Faith Filled

“The rivers of Grace cannot flow uphill, up the steep cliff of the proud man’s heart.”

—Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

Reflection for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 2025

Humility rules

It's an oxymoron to imagine the humble soul on top of the world. Humility seeks to be hidden and takes the low road. Yet in the inscrutable gospel reality (where the last shall be first), the humble one is exalted in the end. If we take a quick glance around the world or our assembly, it's shocking to imagine just who those exalted ones might be. It's also disconcerting to consider that the exalted ones may not be us.

If we're shocked and disconcerted, then we know we've just been parabled. A parable is like a gag gift: It's conventionally wrapped on the outside, but inside nestles the *gotcha*. Rest assured when it comes to a parable, the joke's always on us. Here's how it works. Jesus is a smart teacher, and he knows that no one likes to be preached to. So he presents stories, which seem easy and pleasant at first—then take a sharp turn toward discomfort. A preacher may tell us the same harsh truths, but we can tune him out the moment he goes down the dark road to perdition. A storyteller, by contrast, captures the imagination, and we tend to travel with him or her further—all the way to the troublesome ending.

Parables conceal something, like chocolates in a box. You have to bite in to find what's at the center. By the time you discover it, it may be too late to refuse it. Parables draw comparisons between what we know and what we don't know, conventional understanding up against gospel truth. They begin in familiar territory, if you live in an agrarian society: sheep and goats, sowers and seed. Or with recognizable local characters: the debtor and his master, or the Pharisee and the tax collector. First we say: Yeah, yeah, sure, sure. Then the sharp corner is turned, and we swallow hard. We don't like where this story is going; that isn't supposed to be the way of things.

We learn two things about parables. First, that their intention is to clarify moral mysteries. Second, that just as often they leave us deaf and blind. The mystery is resolved for those with eyes to see in the first place, people already intent on obedient listening. Parables may delight or frustrate. The result lies mainly in the heart of the one who hears them. The humble soul, like the despised tax collector in the story, will find justification and a reason to rejoice. The self-righteous listener will more likely face a challenge that may prove unacceptable—and will leave it on the table. Jesus knew his audience. That he kept telling these stories implies they operated just as he meant them to do.

—Alice Camille

Adapted from a previously published Exploring the word. 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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For the Faithful Departed:

***Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.***

Reflection for the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)
November 2, 2025
Nothing is lost

Most European Americans approach All Souls' Day in a spirit of sober reverence. This is a day to remember our dead, and so it has the feel of a collective funeral about it. But it's also a liturgical event and therefore a statement of what we believe is true: about death, for the dead, and for us. That lifts the mood from one of communal mourning to an affirmation of hope and confidence. We trust that God's grace and mercy are not only smooth religious words but the truth about what awaits us. We hold our loved ones in holy memory especially on this day in hopes that whatever unfinished business may be theirs, we might help. In the economy of salvation, so to speak, our participation has real currency.

For many Latino Catholics, the Day of the Dead takes on a remarkably different atmosphere. The celebration of life is at the center of this commemoration and the day enjoys many of the aspects of a festival. The dead are honored by our full-hearted embrace of life and not only by our tears for personal losses. In bicultural parishes this juxtaposition of the All Souls' assembly with the Day of the Dead observers can make for misunderstanding.

But it needn't. There is nothing flippant about rejoicing in the lives of our loved ones and the many gifts with which these relationships have enriched us. We hear the grace notes of this same joy in our readings. Wisdom tells us that only the foolish imagine that the faithful departed are anywhere other than in the hands of God. Psalm 23 insists that the valley of darkness is nothing to fear when God assures us of safe passage. Paul says flatly that Christian hope does not disappoint. And Jesus lays claim to all those who are given to him, come hell or high water.

We stand to lose a lot of things in this world. In the relentless march of time we lose strength and vigor, memory and ability, and opportunities galore. We will also, all of us, lose our way now and then. Hopefully we'll also know the goodness of being found. But the one thing we absolutely don't have to worry about is losing our place in the arms of Jesus. Remember that picture of Jesus carrying the lamb home from the hills and back to the fold? One by one, living and deceased, mostly faithful or mostly straying, Jesus is keeping his promise to bring 100 percent of his own back home. — Alice Camille

Adapted from a previously published Exploring the word. 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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***“Start by doing what is necessary; then do what is possible;
and then suddenly you are doing the impossible.”***

—Attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi

Saint John XXIII Parish Stewardship of Treasure

***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.***

If you prefer to donate via e-Transfer, go online and login to your online banking account.

For name of recipient you may use **ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH**

and be sure to use this **new email address: finance.stjohnxxiii@gmail.com**

Transfers sent to finance.stjohnxxiii@gmail.com will be automatically deposited to the account of TRUSTEES OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF SAINT JOHN XXIII at RBC Royal Bank.

When making your contribution via Interac e-Transfer through your financial institution, please be sure to INDICATE IN THE MESSAGE/MEMO line what your payment is for.

As well, we urge parishioners to continue their regular contributions to our capital campaign to help pay off the debt of the loans our parish has received from the Trustees of the RCAW Inc.

For further information, you may contact staff in the parish office and/or check out information published in previous parish bulletins. Copies are available for viewing on the parish website.

A sincere THANK YOU for your continued generosity and support of our parish and its ministries!



Airport/Hotel/City Transfers



World Youth Day Experience

Experience the celebration of our faith with Pope Leo and young people all over the world!



Accommodation

Hosting or similar stay for Days in the Diocese and a hotel stay will be provided during the WYD Week



Meals

Registration fees for both Days in the Diocese and WYD covers the meals of each pilgrim.



Post-WYD Experience

Trip extensions available!



Save the Date!!!
UPCOMING INFO SESSIONS:

Tuesday October 14 @ 6:30 pm
&
Thursday, November 27 @ 7:00 pm

St. Boniface Archdiocese Centre
151 De La Cathedrale Ave, Winnipeg, MB
Press CALL 215 and identify yourself to gain access to the building

Wednesday, December 3 @ 6:00 pm
(via ZOOM)
Meeting link will be sent closer to the date.



ARCHDIOCESE OF WINNIPEG
OYAM
OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY