

Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.

# From the Pastor's desk

### Happy New Year

A happy new year to all parishioners and visitors. As we stand on the brink of the new year 2024, many of us are probably wondering what the new year will bring. At present there is the on-going war between Russia and Ukraine, now in its second year. There is also the war raging in the Holy Land. As I write this blurb for the bulletin Japan has just experienced a severe earth quake as well as a crash between two planes on the ground, at the airport. We each have our heartaches and troubles which we bring with us into the new year. Psalm118:24 encourages us "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Being joyful is a choice which we make, just like love is a choice, regardless of our circumstances. When things go wrong we can allow the circumstances to take us down unhappy street or we can choose to rise above our circumstances and rejoice in God and the salvation which he gives us. Our spirit is created to "rejoice in God my savior" as Mary said in her Magnificat. Now, I do not mean that we should ignore our circumstances; often it is impossible to ignore them. However, we can experience more of God's peace as we choose to focus on the goodness of God and his plan for our well being. Again, Happy New Year!

### Thank You

I want to thank everyone who assisted in the parish in any way during the Advent and now Christmas seasons. There always are so many who work "behind the scenes" that often I am not aware of who did what. Thank you to all who prepared breakfast during the dawn Masses, those who decorated the church, those who were involved in the music ministry, ushers, altar servers, readers, parking attendants, communion ministers, counters, and office workers. St. Anthony's is a better place of worship because of you.

I also want to thank all those who gave me Christmas gifts. I try and thank those who give me Christmas cards and gifts personally, but sometimes I do not see you, don't know your telephone number or otherwise. So, this is my way of thanking you. I assure you that I greatly appreciate your gifts and the fact that you thought of me. May the Lord truly bless you in 2024.

## **Adoration Chapel**

At present we have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10 am to 5 pm Monday to Thursday and 10am to 10pm on Fridays. Hopefully as time goes on we will be able to expand the hours. If you would like to sign-up for an hour of adoration, please do so. You do not have to come every day or even every week. We spend time with Jesus asking Him to stir young men's hearts to respond to the call to follow Him as a priest and young women to follow as Sisters. Those passing through the adoration area are asked to keep our traditional Catholic practice of genuflecting as you pass the monstrance. We notice a number of parishioners going about their duties and conversations in the gathering area as if Jesus wasn't there. If you are too busy to kneel and pray an Our Father or a Glory Be, then at least have enough respect to genuflect as you hurry on your way.

Parish Pot Luck Our next pot luck will be in February

### Pray for more vocations

We continue to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the harvest. We also continue to pray for the vocations which the Lord has given to us; namely Fr. Oliver Omega, Sister Kolbe Marie, now a novice with the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal and our "deacon to be" Ed Ploszay. I am convinced that there are other vocations in our midst. They just need the courage to respond to that gentle nudge of the Good Shepherd.

### Your Last Will and Testament

Please consider giving a portion of your will and estate to your parish. St. Anthony's financially exists on the generosity of its parishioners. As good stewards of God's manifold gifts, we return to God a portion, usually understood through Scripture as 10% of what God gives to us. We return that gift to God's bride, the Church. At the beginning of this new year, you may weigh through prayer the happy idea to increase your tithe. Did you know that some folks are still giving to their parish what they gave ten, twenty, even thirty years ago. They need to drop into Tim Hortons or Starbucks and discover that they can't buy a coffee today for the same amount as they paid a year or two ago. Yet, they continue to give the same amount to their parish which gives them more than any coffee shop can ever give them; the word of God, the Eucharist and help toward eternal life. "Remember then, it is the Lord, our God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." Deuteronomy 8:18.



Please remember in your prayers, parishioners and friends who are ill: Renate Luebbert, Connie In Need Mikolash, Brian Mondor, Sharon Harris, Al Sarna, of Your Susana Montales, Jaques Drapeau and Adam Rusak.

**Tarish** News

Leisure Club: Happy New Year! Come and join us and have some fun Wednesday afternoons at 1pm in the hall ! We play cards, bingo and whist and go on the occasional outing. Membership is \$20 due January, 55+ welcome. Members of the Leisure Club may consider spending some time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Chapel.

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The next CWL General meeting will be on Thursday Jan 11/24 at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall. CWL Memberships for 2024 of \$40.00 are due now. Please make cheque payable to St. Anthony of Padua-CWL Members can use envelopes in the lobby and put in the collection at Mass or mail to Pat Hay at 408-445 Partridge Ave, Winnipeg, MB R2V 3H6.

# May the Light that is Christ shine bright in our hearts today and always! Thank you to Ken

Chrzanowski and all Brothers for sponsoring the catechism Children's Christmas Party. Congratulations to our Council Prize Winners in the MB State Christmas Poster Contest whose designs have been selected for provincial competition. MB State Curling Bonspiel rink entry registration is January 15. Hurry, hard!

Bible Study: Start date moved to Monday January 15th, at 6pm. Elevator side door will open at 5:30. Please come early so that we may begin on time.

# <u>News in the Archdiocese</u>

**St. John Brebeuf School Open House** - January 11, 2024 Guided by their motto – Living, Learning and Serving in Christ -St. John Brebeuf Catholic School (K-8) provides children with a loving, faith-based education with rigorous academic expectations and high standards for personal conduct. Join them for their annual open house on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 7 pm. Click here to register! <u>https://www.sjbschool.ca/</u>

# Serra Club Winnipeg Presents: The Annual Creative Contest! - January 15, 2024

Serra Club Winnipeg continues to share the goals of Serra International, promoting Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and encouraging the spiritual and intellectual formation of lay Catholics to help them live their own Christian vocation to service. The Serrans are committed to creating a Culture of Vocations in parishes and dioceses as the primary strategy to achieve the Serra Mission. In response to creating a Culture of Vocation, they invite everyone, youth, young adults, and young at heart, to a "brotherly Creative Contest." The Creative Contest is open to Parishes, Ministries, Catholic Schools, Families, and individuals by sharing a group or personal entry of the following categories: Reflective Essay/Poetry. See bulletin board for more information.

# Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: City-Wide Ecumenical Worship Service

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated in many places around the world from January 18 – 25, 2024. The resources for 2024 have been prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso, facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community, and by the international Week of Prayer for Christian Unity writing team. The theme chosen for 2024 is "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27). We find our common Christian identity in the experience of God's love (cf. John 3:16) and reveal that identity to the world by how we love one another (John 13:35).

The 2024 Week of Prayer will be marked by a City-wide Ecumenical Worship Service at 7:30 pm on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 560 Arlington Street, Winnipeg. All are cordially invited to participate in this celebration with church leaders and to pray in a special way throughout the entire week of prayer.

An ecumenical choir is being formed to lead music at the forthcoming celebration on January 21st during the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. No audition is required. Anyone who can carry a tune and wishes to sing in the choir is welcome! Rehearsals will be held at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 560 Arlington Street, Winnipeg, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Sunday, January 7, 2024 and on Sunday, January 14, 2024. A short final rehearsal will be held immediately before the Ecumenical Worship Service on Sunday, January 21, 2024. For further information, you may call or text Michele Barr at 204-297-9212 or contact her via email: mbarr41@shaw.ca.



# <u>Mass Schedule</u>

Mon Jan 8: Feast: Baptism of the Lord 9:00am Pastor's Intentions

### Tue Jan 9: Ferial

**9:00am** Intentions of Dinah Lucero Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Ester Terrible by The Family

#### Wed Jan 10: Ferial

**9:00am** Thanksgiving & 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Blessings for Roger & Rosalie Castillo

#### Thur Jan 11 : Ferial

**9:00am** R.I.P. Maria Hawrylak by The Family R.I.P. Deb Iskierski by The Family Thanksgiving by Magda Kubisch

**Fri Jan 12:** Memorial: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys **9:00am** R.I.P. Raul Gementiza by The Urguelles Family All Souls in Purgatory by Alfredo & Myrna Bello

# Sat Jan 13: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

R.I.P. Raul Gementiza by The Family Thanksgiving & Birthday Blessings for Robert by Magda Kubisch

#### Sun Jan 14: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**9:00am** R.I.P. Richard Piotrowski by Veronica Kolody & Helen Korade R.I.P. Mateo Cassanova by Donnie & Maricel Cassanova **11:00am** Parishioners

#### Readings for the week:

Mon Jan 8 – Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38, Mark 1:7-11 Tue Jan 9– 1 Samuel 1:9-20, Mark 1:21-28 Wed Jan 10 - 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20, Mark 1:29-39 Thur Jan 11 – 1 Samuel 4:1c-11, Mark 1:40-45 Fri Jan 12 – 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a, Mark 2:1-12 Sat Jan 13 - 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a, Mark 2:13-17

## **Epiphany**

**Introduction To Penitential Rite:** We are called, like the magi, to keep looking for God in our lives. We ask God's forgiveness for the times we have given up.

**Isaiah 60:1-6** In the first reading, a prophet has wonderful news for a weary people. The light of God shines on them and the nations of the world draw near to worship.

**Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6** In the second reading, Paul speaks of a mystery revealed to him. Gentiles are called to be members with the Jews in the body of Christ.

<u>Matthew 2:1-12</u> In the Gospel, wise men seek the newborn king of the Jews to pay him homage with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh

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