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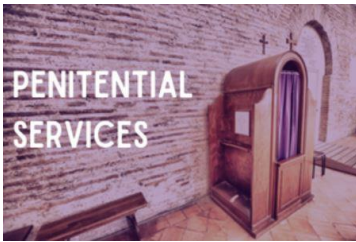
Take a moment to visit and 'Like' our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ArchSaintBoniface.

NEW ITEMS

Archdiocesan News

NEW Archbishop's Schedule

To view Archbishop LeGatt's schedule for December, 2024, [click here](#)



NEW Advent Penitential Services

This Advent, we invite you to prepare your heart for the birth of Jesus by participating in the sacrament of reconciliation. Advent, from the Latin word *Adventus*, which means *coming*, is a liturgical season which affords us a time to prepare for the coming of Christ. As during Lent, we can fast, deepen our prayer life, increase our charitable activities, and do penance. This is a wonderful opportunity for spiritual renewal and to transform our experience of Christmas. To find out when and where a penitential service will take place near you, please [click here](#).



REMINDER Bilingual Eucharistic Celebration on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception – December 9, 2023

You are all invited to participate in the December 9 celebration, patronal feast of the Archdiocese of St. Boniface. Comme celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary at 7:30 pm at St. Boniface Cathedral. In celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary who committed herself fully to listening to the Word of God with an open and transparent heart, and who then also committed herself fully to living that Word, with her whole heart and her unwavering "yes".

The celebration will also be live-streamed on the St. Boniface Cathedral's YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0mC9pPKPwI>, allowing for virtual participation as well. This Eucharistic celebration will be presided by Archbishop Albert LeGatt.

Following the celebration there will be a time of coffee and fellowship in the Narthex.

Together, let us pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary and to St. Boniface for their intercession. May Christ, the Word of God, the Good News, enlighten and protect us by the powerful love of the Holy Spirit. Please invite your friends, parishioners, and acquaintances to attend!



REMINDER VIDEO – Bishop LeGatt – Vocations, For the Life of the Church!

If you've visited one of our churches recently, you've probably noticed the posters announcing the Good Shepherd Campaign 2024! The chosen theme this year, *For the Life of the Church*, celebrates the many vocations the campaign has promoted since its conception. Thus, Monseigneur proposes us a reflection on the priestly vocations supported by the Campaign, but also on the broader vocations to which each person is called. Truly, we all have a vocation and through that vocation Christ calls us to be his hands and feet on the Earth. Let us continue to pray for vocations in in our Archdiocese and for our personal vocations too, that we may continue to be good stewards of the gifts and talents the Lord calls us to use.

To view the video, [click here](#) or visit the diocesan Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ArchSaintBoniface/> or visit the diocesan website homepage at: www.archsaintboniface.ca

➔ Visit our new Vocations webpages by [clicking here](#) ➔ Support the vocations in our Archdiocese! Donate to the Good Shepherd Campaign by [clicking here](#)



***REMINDER* Advent and Christmas Activities**

We would like to suggest the following initiatives that could be done in our parishes and families to help foster a sense of community. Below, you will find a variety of Advent & Christmas Activities. For more activities and resources, visit our website by [clicking here](#)

Christmas Star

We will once again be encouraging the faithful to create a Christmas star to place in their windows during the Christmas season to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus and as a tangible symbol that Christ is in our homes.

Below are a few options for making your stars, but the possibilities really are endless.

[Lacy Gold Paper Star](#)

[Christmas Star Ornament](#)

[Origami Star](#)

[Paper Bag Star](#)

[3D Christmas Star](#)

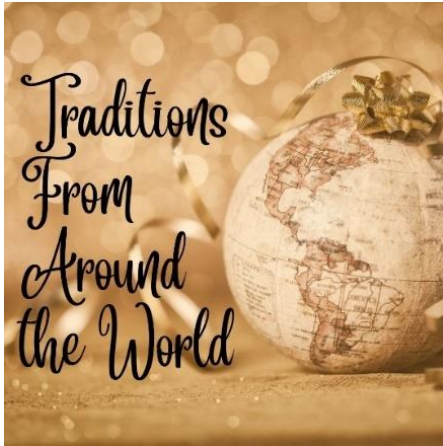


Epiphany Home Blessing with Chalk

To bring blessings to families for 2024, we would like to share a special European Catholic tradition, dating back centuries, of blessing homes at the Epiphany (January 6th) using blessed chalk. With the blessing of the chalk, we are asking the Lord to bless our home, all inhabitants of our home, as well as any guests who may pass through our door throughout the year.

Please click on the following links for further information:

[What is the Epiphany Chalk Blessing? \(article from 2022\)](#)
[Prayer Card for Families](#)



***REMINDER* Advent and Christmas Traditions from Around the World – La Griteria**

La Griteria is celebrated throughout Nicaragua on December 8, at the end of the Novena to the Immaculate Conception. Hosts will move their altars to the sidewalk or street, and groups of people will gather and go around to the different altars while singing to the Virgin Mary. After a series of songs, the leader will shout: “*Quien causa tanta alegría*” (who causes so much joy) and everyone responds, “*La Concepción de María*” (The Conception of Mary). After the shouting, the hosts distribute goods, candies, fruits, etc. to the group of people who “*Le Gritaron a La Virgen*” (shouted to the Virgin Mary). The group of people then move to another altar and another group takes its place; this can continue until midnight. Some neighbourhoods will also set off fireworks to celebrate *La Griteria*. **The Nicaraguan families of Nuestra Señora de La Asunción Parish will celebrate “The Griteria” on Sunday, December 8, after the 11 pm Mass at 200 Kenny St. in Winnipeg. They invite you and your friends and family to**

come and celebrate with them.

If you have a favourite cultural Advent or Christmas tradition you would like to share with us, please email a short description to khrizai@archsaintboniface.ca. All traditions will be added to our [website](#) as they are received.



***REMINDER* La Noche de la Velitas – Celebrated Traditionally in Columbia on the Eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception – La Virgen de Concepción – December 7, 2024**

The Columbian families of Nuestra Señora de La Asunción Parish will have a candlelight celebration, with electric candles and a Rosary on Saturday, December 7 at 6:30 pm, followed by a Mass at 7 pm. After Mass, hot chocolate and pan dulce will be shared.



***UPDATED* La Guadalupe – Celebrated in Mexico and in Latin America, as well as North America – December 12, 2024**

Our Lady of Guadalupe (*Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*), also known as the **Virgin of Guadalupe** (*Virgen de Guadalupe*), is a title of Mary, Mother of Jesus associated with a series of five Marian apparitions to a Mexican peasant named Juan Diego and his uncle, Juan Bernardino, which occurred in December 1531, when the Mexican territories were under the Spanish Empire. A venerated image on a cloak (*tilmahtli*) associated with the apparition is enshrined within the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The basilica is the most-visited Catholic shrine in the world, and the world's third most-visited sacred site.

Come celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, December 12, at the 7 PM Mass at 200 Kenny St. in Winnipeg. They invite you and your friends and family to come and celebrate with them.

If you have a favourite cultural Advent or Christmas tradition you would like to share with us, please email a short description to khrizai@archsaintboniface.ca. All traditions will be added to our [website](#) as they are received.



***REMINDER* Journey Through Advent 2024 Videos now available!**
Visit the CCCB website or [YouTube channel](#) every week for a series of videos on Advent. *Journey Through Advent 2024* presents reflections on the Gospel readings for each Sunday leading up to Christmas and also serves as an introduction to the liturgical season of Advent.
To visit the *Journey Through Advent 2024* page, [click here](#)



***REMINDER* Archsaintboniface.ca Website User Survey**
The Archdiocese of St. Boniface is planning a website update. While we have some ideas of what changes and upgrades need to be made, we want to give our users a chance to give us their own feedback and suggestions. Please consider taking a few moments to fill in this survey by [CLICKING HERE](#). The survey will be open until **December 7**



***UPDATED* Announcements for the Sundays of Advent connecting the theme of Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope and Advent**

Here are announcements for Sundays of December 8, 15, 22 that link the theme of Advent to the pilgrimage of hope by reflecting on the journey of preparation, repentance, joy, and trust. Each Sunday invites parishioners to consider their role as pilgrims awaiting Christ's coming and encourages them to deepen their faith in anticipation of the Jubilee Year 2025. We hope that you will read them aloud as we draw near to the Year of Jubilee!

Sunday, December 8, 2024 – Second Sunday of Advent: Preparing the Way

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we continue our pilgrimage of hope, moving steadily toward the great feast of Christmas. As pilgrims, we are not only called to anticipate Christ's coming, but we are also invited to actively prepare the way for Him in our lives, just as John the Baptist did.

In today's Gospel (Luke 3:1-6), we hear the voice of John the Baptist calling out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." His message is one of repentance, renewal, and hope. John was a pilgrim, too—one who lived in the wilderness, preparing the hearts of the people to welcome Christ. His message was a call to make a straight path for the Lord, to clear away the obstacles in our hearts that prevent us from receiving God's love and grace.

As we reflect on this, we are reminded that Advent is not just a season of passive waiting. It is an active time to clear our hearts, to remove the distractions and attachments that hinder us from fully encountering Christ. The Pilgrims of Hope are called to walk with purpose and intentionality, preparing the way for Jesus by turning to Him in prayer, in acts of charity, and in our desire to grow closer to Him.

This Advent, let us consider: What is God inviting me to clear from my life so that I can welcome Him more fully? What do I need to repent of, so that my heart can be a place where His love and grace can dwell? As we continue our pilgrimage, let us remember that preparation is not just about getting ready for a day, but about creating a space for God to work in us every day.

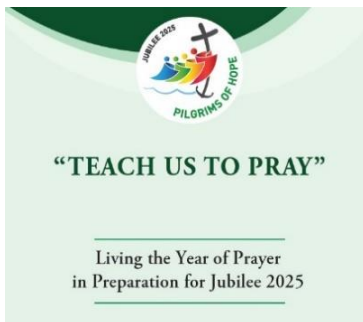


***REMINDER* Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope: What is a Jubilee Year?**

A Jubilee Year is a significant period of celebration and forgiveness observed every 25 years in the Catholic Church. This sacred time provides a unique opportunity for spiritual renewal, where individuals and communities can reflect on their faith, seek forgiveness, and restore relationships. The essence of the Jubilee is rooted in the themes of mercy and hope, inviting everyone to partake in the grace of God and the joy of reconciliation. Pope Francis has called for a year of jubilee with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope" The 2025 Jubilee will officially open on December 24, 2024, at 19:00 with a Mass presided over by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City. The rite of the Opening of the Holy Door will follow. For the faithful around the world, the local diocesan Masses are to be held on December 29, 2024. Save the date December 29th, 2024! The Archdiocese of Saint Boniface Local Mass will be at Saint Boniface Cathedral at 15:00, on December 29th, 2024, presided by Archbishop Albert LeGatt, D.D. All are welcome!

***REMINDER* SAVE THE DATE!!! Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope – December 29, 2024**

The Jubilee Year 2025 will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024. On December 29th, the Holy Door of the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome, will also be opened by the Holy Father. On this same day, every Cathedral and co-Cathedral worldwide will celebrate a special Mass, presided over by the local Bishop, to mark the beginning of the Jubilee. To mark this significant event, Archbishop Albert LeGatt, D.D. will celebrate Mass on December 29th, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Saint Boniface Cathedral. All are invited to join in the opening of the Jubilee Year. Save the date!



***NEW* "TEACH US TO PRAY" – Document in Preparation of Jubilee 2025**

A Brief Introduction - As we move closer to the Jubilee of 2025, Pope Francis wants 2024 to be dedicated to prayer. Thus, he is inviting the whole Church to a time of intense commitment in preparation for the Opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's in Rome, on December 24.

The Jubilee will involve not only the city of Rome, but will extend far beyond, as God's mercy is proclaimed to the whole world, thus becoming a great opportunity for evangelization. As Christians, we are invited to bear witness as authentic "Pilgrims of Hope" walking toward the Lord, who opens his merciful and forgiving arms to us, as well as to our brothers and sisters who are still waiting for the Gospel to be proclaimed to them.

Prepared by the Vatican's Dicastery for Evangelization, "Teach Us to Pray", is a resource aide, inspired by the magisterium of Pope Francis, intended to be used by the faithful during this time of preparation for the opening of the Holy Door. It is an invitation to intensify prayer as a personal dialogue with God.

To read *Teach Us to Pray*, please [click here](#).

To help us all prepare for Jubilee 2025, the **Weekly News Bulletin** will be offering tips drawn from *Teach Us to Pray*.

This week, we focus on **Retreats on Prayer**...

Jesus "Went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed." (Mk 1:35). Mark gives us an image of Jesus that points to two essential dimensions of Christian prayer: removing oneself from the daily routine - necessary for seeking personal dialogue with the Father – and a silent heart - indispensable for listening for God's voice and hearing what He wants. In this perspective, a spiritual retreat can provide an unparalleled opportunity for spiritual conversion and a renewal of heart to which we have all been invited by the Holy Father.

Participating in a spiritual retreat is a great opportunity to experience the Lord's presence more fully through common life and prayer shared during retreat days. A spiritual retreat is not an escape from reality, but rather a fuller immersion into reality through the silence of prayer. The fruit of an authentic spiritual retreat will be a new light transforming everyday life by the presence of the Lord. In a world that often distracts us and pulls us away from our life of faith, a prayer retreat is like stopping at an oasis in a desert. Our cities, although full of ways and opportunities for encounters, often shroud or hide from view the true source of hope, the fount of joy that only the Lord can give us.

SUGGESTED WORDING FOR A PARISH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT:

Withdrawing from everyday life is necessary to seek a personal dialogue with the Father, and indispensable for listening to God's voice and hearing what he wants. From this perspective, a spiritual retreat can be a unique opportunity for spiritual conversion and renewal of heart, to which we are all invited by the Holy Father. A spiritual retreat is not an escape from reality, but rather a fuller immersion in reality through the silence of prayer. The fruit of an authentic spiritual retreat will be a new light transforming daily life through the presence of the Lord.



Apostolates and Ministries



***NEW* 2025 Call for Candidates for the Catholic Women's Leadership Program**

We are currently accepting applications for the 2025 cohort of our Leadership Program, scheduled to begin in June 2025. The program is open to all Canadian Catholic women, from all walks of life who have a genuine interest in making a difference in their communities and places of work. A candidate must be a Catholic woman, at least 21 years of age, demonstrate oral and written English language competencies, have a genuine desire to cultivate her gifts of leadership, and have made a previous contribution to her community in some capacity. The

Program is an 11-month Certificate program with ongoing mentorship once the course work is completed. Throughout the Program, participants will be guided by professional facilitators from Saint Paul University. The Program is specifically designed to integrate faith and life, personal and professional leadership development. Spirituality and a Catholic faith perspective are the foundation of all activities; prayer and reflective practice are core elements integrated throughout the program.

Details of the content of the different components and timelines can be found on the website at www.cwlfcanada.ca. If you are or know of a Catholic woman who wishes to be a transformative and impactful leader we invite you to complete the application process by December 15th, 2024 which can be found at www.cwlfcanada.ca/participate.

***NEW* Join the Knights of Columbus Before Christmas!**

Become A Knight Before Christmas!

Limited Special Offer for you!
Scan this QR Code for a Free Online Membership in the Knights of Columbus.

Enter Code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**
Sign up Today and you will also receive a Free Knights of Columbus T-Shirt Make A Difference!

Why Join?

In today's world, many Catholic men are looking to fulfill their desire to spend meaningful time with their family, to serve their community and their Church, also to grow stronger in their faith. Joining the Knights of Columbus provides men and their families with volunteer opportunities and activities to accomplish these goals. If you are such a man who is dedicated to your faith and desire to "Make a Difference" then membership in the Knights of Columbus is for you.

The Knights of Columbus Core Principles are:

Charity Unity Fraternity Patriotism

Charity is the Heart of our work and faith- as it always has been. For the Knights of Columbus Charity means supporting a virtually boundless variety of projects.



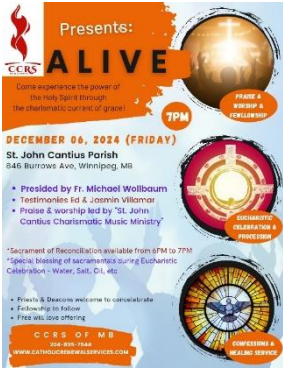
Knights of Columbus

Merry Christmas



***REMINDER* "Illuminate" Evening of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – December 13, 2024**

Evening of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – All are invited to participate in a dynamic evening of adoration, praise & worship, reconciliation and fellowship on **Friday, December 13 at 7:30 PM, at St. Emile Parish, 556 St. Anne's Rd.** Come and worship Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament as part of a vibrant Catholic community. All are welcome! For more information, www.illuminatemb.com or facebook.com/illuminatemb. Illuminate is an evening of Eucharistic Adoration, Praise & Worship music, and fellowship, with the opportunity to take part in the sacrament of Reconciliation. See you there!



***REMINDER* CCRS OF MB Presents – ALIVE, A Charismatic Event – December 6, 2024**
Join us on Friday December 06, 2024, at 7PM at St John Cantius Church – 846 Burrows Ave, Winnipeg MB. Eucharistic Celebration and Procession plus Healing Service - presided by Fr. Michael Wollbaum, Praise and Worship by the "St. John Cantius Charismatic Music Ministry". Personal Testimonies by Ed & Jasmin Villamar, plus procession with the Blessed Sacrament, prayers for healing, fellowship and more. Please note, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 6PM to 7PM and we will have a special blessing for sacramentals such as Water, Oil, Salt, etc. Free will love offering. Come experience the power of the Holy Spirit through the charismatic current of grace!
For poster, [click here](#).
For more information: 204-895-7544 or email ccrs@catholicrenewalservices.com or visit: <https://www.catholicrenewalservices.com/events>

Community News



***NEW* St. Georges "Festival des crèches" Nativity Festival – December 1, 2024 to January 12, 2025**
Come visit the Winnipeg River Heritage Museum in St. Georges to see over 300 crafted Nativity scenes. See our full calendar at www.winnipegrivermuseum.com The museum is located at 19, Baie Caron South in St. Georges.
For poster, [click here](#)

Interchurch & Interfaith Learning (Ecumenism)



***NEW* WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be celebrated in many places around the world from **January 18 - 25, 2025**. The resources for 2025 have been prepared by the community of Bose, an ecumenical monastery of brothers and sisters in northern Italy, and by the international Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Writing Team. The theme chosen is **"Do you believe this?"** (John 11:26). 2025 marks the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the Creed formulated during this Council, a faith that remains alive and fruitful in our time. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 offers an invitation to draw on this shared heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians.

The 2025 Week of Prayer will be marked by a City-wide Ecumenical Worship Service at 7:30 pm on Sunday, January 19, 2025 at Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1001 Grant Avenue, Winnipeg. All are cordially invited to participate in this celebration with church leaders and in the other various gatherings that will be held throughout the Week of Prayer. For a poster for the January 19, 2025 service, please [click here](#). For more information on the city-wide service and the ecumenical choir being formed for the occasion, please [click here for the poster](#). For a poster containing a complete list of gatherings that will be held in Winnipeg throughout the Week of Prayer, [click here](#).



***NEW* Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – January 23, 2025**

The service “L’Église, communauté de croyants” will be held in French at 7:30 p.m. at the Cathédrale de Saint-Boniface, 180, ave de la Cathédrale. Information: 204-233-7304 or www.cstboniface.ca

***NEW* ECUMENICAL CHOIR FOR CITY-WIDE CELEBRATION**

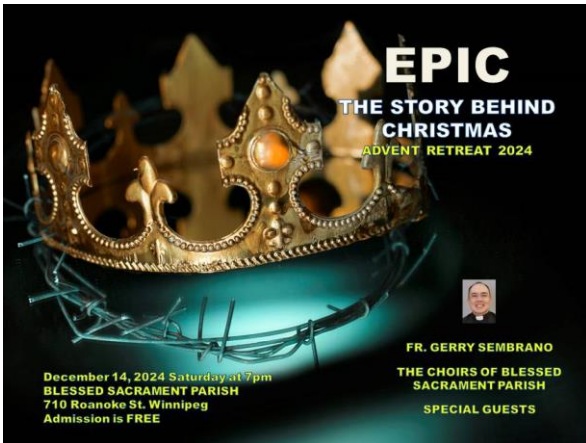
An ecumenical choir is being formed to lead music at the forthcoming celebration on January 19th during the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. No audition is required. Anyone who can carry a tune and wishes to sing in the choir is welcome! **Rehearsals will be held at Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1001 Grant Avenue, Winnipeg, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm on Sunday, January 5, 2025 and on Sunday, January 12, 2025.** A short final rehearsal will be held immediately before the Ecumenical Worship Service on Sunday, January 19, 2025. For more information on the city-wide service and the ecumenical choir being formed for the occasion, please [click here for the poster](#). For further information, you may call or text Michele Barr at 204-297-9212 or contact her via email: mbarr41@shaw.ca

Marriage, Family & Life

***NEW* Marriage Tips**

Is your spouse looking to fix or share on a problem? Communicate with each other about what the conversation is seeking to accomplish.

Parish Events



***NEW* EPIC: The Story Behind Christmas Advent Retreat – December 14, 2024**

Come and join us for an evening of music, prayer, and Catholic teaching on the spiritual preparations for Christmas. Listen to a new way of sharing the Christmas story that goes beyond the silent night, the shining star, and the quiet birth of a baby. With speaker Fr. Gerry Sembrano, with the Choir of Blessed Sacrament Parish, and a few guests. Saturday, December 14 at 7pm at Blessed Sacrament Parish, 710 Roanoke St. Winnipeg. Free will donation accepted.

Social Justice



***REMINDER* The Beloved Ethiopia**

We share with you the open letter from Dr. Adriana Bara, National Director of Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA Canada), sharing a deeply moving account of witnessing Christ's love in action during a recent visit to Ethiopia. This journey revealed not only the physical transformation brought by CNEWA's projects but also the profound spiritual strength of Ethiopia's Christian communities. To read this letter, [click here](#).



Walking Together (Truth and Reconciliation)

***NEW* National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples - December 12, 2024**

To mark the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, which takes place on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (CCIC) recalls the profound sorrow expressed by Pope Francis, during his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in July 2022, for the catastrophic effects of the residential school system on Indigenous communities, as well as the journey of reconciliation and healing we have embarked upon together.

Two years later, the Pope's words still compel us to recognize this painful legacy and walk alongside the Indigenous Peoples in a spirit of repentance, solidarity, and hope. We contemplate the Holy Father's words: "The Church is the house where we conciliate anew, where we meet to start over and to grow together". This vision of the Church as a "living body of reconciliation" has guided us in our ongoing commitment to justice and healing.

Together we pray:

O God, Creator and Father of all, with humility and hope, we, your children, acknowledge the relationship in You of all living things. For this we thank You and praise You. We call on You, Great Mystery, our God who comes to us in Jesus Christ, Your Son – our Lord, teacher, prophet and brother – to open our minds and hearts as we continue to walk the difficult, yet critical journey of reconciliation and healing. In our world of such blessed diversity, we see so many struggles and obstacles to oneness and unity. We implore You to heal our brokenness and division. Show us in Jesus the way to unity among the multiplicity of Your peoples in our world. We also pray that You will guide and lead us in the Truth, and show us how to be a people who walk with You. May we be a people of Respect, Humility, Courage, Honesty, and Compassion - as we find Your Wisdom on the Spirit-led journey that supports deep healing and fosters renewed relationships. Lord, make us channels of Your Peace, Hope, and Love! +Amen



***REMINDER* "For the Love of the Creator's Land and People" - New Diocesan Land Acknowledgement**

The Archdiocese of St. Boniface is happy to present its new Diocesan Land Acknowledgement, titled "Shaawiintan Manitou akii tako opimaatisii", which means "For the Love of the Creator's Land and People" in Anishinaabeg. The land acknowledgement has been crafted with the assistance of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, and has wonderful artwork by Roslyn Boucha, a Anishinaabe / German Settler artist of the Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation. This artwork was originally commission during the 2022-23 school year by the Manitoba Catholic Schools.

This is Roslyn's description of the artwork:

"This illustration is my love letter to the land just as I believe a land acknowledgement should be; an act of reciprocity and a commitment to care for the land just as the land cares for us. Referencing the woodland art style, I included flora and fauna from across Turtle Island that has been integral to Indigenous groups since time immemorial, as well as cultural references to First Nations, Inuit, and our Metis relatives. The overall shape of the design references water as our life giver, flowing from the bottom of the page through to the infinity symbol and Creator's eye at the centre of the star blanket.

I chose not to include human shapes in this piece. Not because we are not an integral part of this system, but because we are included as the viewer, within the words, and within the shapes and stories throughout the image. A gentle reminder that we are not separate from the land. We are the land and this story is about us."

To download the Land Acknowledgement, please [click here](#).



Youth & Young Adult Ministry



***REMINDER* World Youth Day 2027 – Seoul, South Korea**

Are you interested in learning more about this pilgrimage of Catholic young adults from around the world? Fill out our interest-finder by [clicking here](#) and we'll be in touch regarding future information sessions and other essential details required to help you make your decision.

***REMINDER* Waiting and Witness - Advent Praise and Worship Evening – December 7, 2024**

The Youth and Young Adults of Mary, Mother of the Church invites you to an evening of Advent Praise and Worship - Waiting and Witness on Saturday, December 7 at 7-9pm at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish (85 Kirkbridge Drive). Join us for an evening of Testimony, Scripture Teaching and Song as we prepare ourselves for the Lords' coming! Reception and fellowship to follow afterwards. This evening is open to all and entry is free.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jason Cegayle, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Leader at youth@mmoc.ca For poster, [click here](#).



***REMINDER* Catholic School of Evangelization - Winter Camp Registration is Open!**

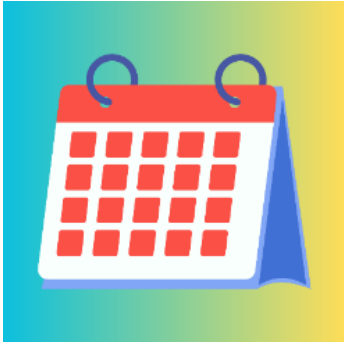
Overnight winter camps is a dynamic, fun-filled weekend for those who want to grow in their faith! Going to Saint Malo Catholic Camp is the perfect way for you to experience new activities, grow in character, build lasting friendships, and most importantly, have fun! Camps are available in both French and English for ages 8-17. Early bird registration ends on December 12th, so don't wait to get registered.

To register, [click here](#).

For more information, [click here](#)

Camps Dates:

- **Ages 8-12 * English Camp * Jan 17 - Jan 19**
- **Ages 8-12 * French Camp * Jan 24 - Jan 26**
- **Ages 12-15 * English Camp * Jan 31 - Feb 2**
- **Ages 12-15 * French Camp * Feb 7 - Feb 9**
- **Ages 15-17 * Bilingual Camp * Feb 14 - Feb 17**



***NEW* Upcoming Youth & Young Adult Events**

Sunday, December 8th

- 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., Young Adults (18+). Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, Winnipeg.
Contact: Jason, youth@mmoc.ca
- 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., 12 years old and up. Christ Our Saviour Parish, Steinbach.
Contact: Jason, cospyouthministry@gmail.com ***LAST gathering for 2024***
- Please note: there will be no more gatherings for Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens youth (grades 9+) on Sundays in December. Starting January 5th, this group will gather every other Sunday.

Thursday, December 12th

- 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., grades 6 and up (French). Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens Parish, Winnipeg.
Contact: Nadine, jeunesse.smc@mymts.net ***LAST gathering for 2024***
- 7:00 – 9:30 p.m., 13-17 years old. Holy Cross Parish, Winnipeg.
Contact: Dominique, holycrossparishyouthgroup@gmail.com

Friday, December 13th

- 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., Grades 7 and up. Blessed Sacrament Parish, Winnipeg.
Contact: Lydia, youth@blessedsacramentwpg.ca
- 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., grades 3-5. St. Emile Parish, Winnipeg.
Contact: st.emile.youth@gmail.com
- 7:00 – 9:30 p.m., grades 7-12. Notre-Dame-de-Lorette Parish, Lorette. Contact:
youthjeunesse@notredamedelorette.info ***LAST gathering for 2024***

Saturday, December 14th

- 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Young Adults (18+) Dodgeball, St. Emile School Gym. Bring a friend and good shoes, no registration required.

Stewardship

December 8, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that “gift” truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your “obligation” to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less “stuff” and spend more time with those you love.





REPEATED ITEMS

Catholic Schools



OPEN HOUSE
January 14, 2025 at 7:00 PM

St. Mary's Academy, established in 1869, is a Catholic school in the tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Jesus and Mary. Our focus of learning, faith, service, and leadership defines the Academy as a distinguished girls' school where students graduate empowered with knowledge, aware of their gifts, possess a desire for excellence in all endeavours, and embrace a sense of social responsibility to use their abilities in the service of others.

NEW STUDENT APPLICATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 1, 2025
Applications accepted for all grades, with major entry points in Grades 7 & 9
Private entrance available
All faiths welcome

St. Mary's Academy Open House – January 14, 2025

St. Mary's Academy Open House takes place on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

For families who are interested in an Academy education, this is a great opportunity to explore our vibrant community of learning, faith, and service. At St. Mary's Academy our core belief is in nurturing the whole person—spirit, mind and body. Our students graduate empowered with knowledge, aware of their gifts, possess a desire for excellence in all endeavours, and embrace a sense of social responsibility to use their abilities in the service of others. During the Open House, guests will have the opportunity to meet our inspiring students, dedicated teachers, administrators, and staff, and tour our beautiful campus. Find out more at

www.smamb.ca/admissions/OpenHouse.

Interchurch & Interfaith Learning (Ecumenism)

Faith in the Public Square - Panel discussion featuring the World Council of Churches General Secretary – December 8, 2024

Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Reverend Professor Dr. Jerry Pillay, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, will be joined by local faith leaders to discuss how faith communities engage and contribute to society and how individuals can make a positive impact on the communities in which they live.

This event is FREE and open to the public. The gathering will be held in the Manitoba Teachers' Society classroom. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Panel Discussion starts 7:00 pm. Q & A to follow.

For information and tickets go online to Eventbrite:

[Faith in the Public Square Tickets, Sun, Dec 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Marriage, Family & Life

Reflections for the Separated & Divorced

As we live Advent, let's remember that things don't stay the same. Everything that lives, changes. If it doesn't change, it dies. As a Christian, you need to grow and change. You may find this difficult to accept because of your struggle with divorce. You may be suffering terribly from the pain caused by the loss of your marriage. But this change doesn't have to be for nothing. St. Paul's is a great example for anyone who is suffering. His life was difficult, but his sufferings did not deter him from his mission. He was always willing to go wherever the Holy Spirit led him, and he was always open to a higher purpose. Be open to the changes that will occur because of your new state in life. Like St. Paul, if you follow the Holy Spirit wherever He leads you, your pain will be transformed into peace. – Lisa Duffy, *A Road to Healing*

Monthly Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis

Prayer Intention for December, 2024

For Pilgrims of Hope – We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope



Social Justice



Laos Project - Support the communities, orphans and the deaf of Laos!

Many thanks to all those who have supported the Catholic Mission Laos (the Laos project) financially for many years. Your donations enable Father Biengta's orphanage to continue to house and feed 12 young people, and also help a second community of deaf and mute young people to manage the gardens they have planted thanks to your donations.

If you would like to make another donation to the projects started by Father Gérard

Dionne some 30 years ago, please follow these guidelines:

Please send a cheque directly to the mission office at the following address:

Mission Catholique Laos - 457 Tissot Street - Winnipeg, Manitoba - R2J 0C6

To receive a tax credit, make cheque payable to: **MISSION CATHOLIQUE LAOS, INC.** Be sure to include your full name and address. Receipts will be sent at the end of January.

Thank you again for the support you offer to the various Laotian communities.

Walking Together (Truth and Reconciliation)



Reconciliation Education
4 Seasons of Reconciliation

4 Seasons of Reconciliation Online Course – Many Spots Still Available!

Knowing more about Indigenous realities, both past and present is a vital step in entering into meaningful and just relationships with the Indigenous, thus ensuring our future together will be one where justice and the dignity of all are truly lived out. To help Catholics in our diocese, the Archdiocese of St.

Boniface is offering the faithful the opportunity to take the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation online course. This course, developed by Productions Cazabon in collaboration with the First Nations University in Regina and the Oblate Fathers, allows individuals to watch compelling videos and read testimonials and other material about the history, challenges and hopes of the Indigenous in Canada, touching on many of the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. All told, the course takes about three hours to complete, but anyone can do it at their own pace. **The Archdiocese still has about thirty slots, available on a first come, first serve basis.** To more information or to register for the course, contact Daniel Bahuaud at 204-594-0277 or at communications@archsaintboniface.ca

To view a video about the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation online course and get more information, [click here!](#)

Visit our **French website:** <http://www.archsaintboniface.ca/index.html?lang=fr> to read the French bulletin, *Nouvelles hebdomadaires*, for announcements and activities that appear only in French.

Please note: All announcements must be submitted to the office of Communications: communications@archsaintboniface.ca, by Monday at 4 PM if they are to be published in the Tuesday bulletin.

Unsubscribe, [click here.](#)