

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

Hope for a Wounded World

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17, 2017**

10404-102 St., Grande Prairie, AB T8V 2W3  
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Email: sjc-church@gpcsd.ca

Website: [saintjoseph.ca](http://saintjoseph.ca)



## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Due to the great number of people we welcome on Christmas Eve we have instituted a process in which parishioners get *free* tickets for the 4:00, 6:30 and 9:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. All these tickets have now been given out.

Tickets are *not required* for Midnight Mass or 10 am on Christmas Day as there is always room at these two Masses.

### Feast Day Masses

#### **Christmas Eve**

Sunday, Dec. 24: 4:00 pm  
6:30 pm  
9:00 pm  
Midnight

#### **Christmas Day**

Monday, Dec. 25: 10:00 am

#### **Mary, Mother of God, Eve Mass (New Year's Eve)**

Sunday, Dec. 31: 7:00 pm

#### **Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day)**

Monday, Jan. 1: 10:00 am

*New Year's Day* is a Holy Day of obligation in Canada. Attending Mass on this day is a great way to begin the new year!



**Mercy Monday**, December 18 - Priests will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation from 12 Noon to 8:00 pm. Make this one of your stops during Advent.

### The parish office will be closed:

Monday, December 25

Tuesday, December 26

Monday, January 1

In addition, the office will close at 3:00 pm on Friday, December 22 and Friday, December 29

### DECEMBER 17 - JANUARY 7 DATES TO REMEMBER

**Sun 17:** 3:45 - 4:10 pm, Children's Pre-Mass Christmas  
Choir practice, church  
- 4:15 - 5 pm, Children's Christmas Choir practice, church  
**Mon. 18:** noon - 8 pm, Mercy Monday, church  
**Wed. 20:** 9:30 - 11 am, Ladies' Bible Study, St JP II Room  
- 10 am - noon, Mom's Prayer & Play, Tranquille Hall  
- 4:30 - 4:55 pm, Children's Pre-Mass Christmas  
Choir practice, church  
- 5 - 6 pm, Children's Christmas choir practice, church  
- 7 - 9 pm, RCIA, Liguori Hall  
**Fri 22:** - 4:30 - 4:55 pm, Children's Pre-mass Xmas  
Choir practice, church  
- 7 - 9 pm, Ultreya Christmas social, Tranquille Hall  
**Sat. 23:** noon - 1:20 pm, Children's Christmas choir  
practice, church  
- 1:30 - 1:55 pm, Children's Pre-Mass Christmas Choir  
practice, church  
**Fri. 5:** 6:30 pm, Family Movie, Tranquille Hall  
**Sat. 6:** 3 pm, Polish Christmas Mass, church  
- 7 pm, Youth Choir, church  
- 8 pm, Discovery Reunion, St JP II Room

### Be part of our Christmas Spirit

At the 4:00 pm Mass, we are having a children's procession coming in with the priests. Also, we need helpers to spread Christmas cheer to our children at the 4:00, 6:30 & 9:00 pm Masses immediately following the Mass. Please contact Joanne, ext. 230, if you are interested in helping.

### Parish Financial Information (Diane Walker ext. 227)

Offering Required Weekly	\$23,718.29
Offering received last Sunday	\$26,467.24
Children's collection	\$189.00



Meet every 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10 am - 12 noon in Tranquille Hall.  
**Next Gathering: Wed., Dec. 20**  
 Come when you can for any or all

of the time. Fun playtime for the kids and visiting for mom with a short reflection or prayer at 11 am.

**First gathering in the new year: Jan. 10**

[www.facebook.com/groups/momsprayerandplay.gp.ca/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/momsprayerandplay.gp.ca/)

**SALT (Sharing And Learning Together)** grades 3 - 5 youth group. **Next gathering:** Friday, January 19, 7 - 9 pm, St JPll Room.

**Liturgy of the Word with Children Leader and Helper Formation:** Thursday, January 11, 7:30 - 9 pm, Grouard Room. Contact Joanne, ext. 230, email [sjc-family@gpcsd.ca](mailto:sjc-family@gpcsd.ca), or just show up.



**Family Movie:** Join us over the holidays on Friday, January 5, at 6:30 pm for *The Emoji Movie* in Tranquille Hall. No charge. Popcorn and juice provided but bring something comfy to sit on and bring a friend!



**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
 April Fogle, x 229

[stjoesyouthgp@gmail.com](mailto:stjoesyouthgp@gmail.com)



Go online to see our upcoming news & events:

**Youth Choir & Discovery Reunion** January 6th, join us in the youth choir at 7 pm Mass followed by Discovery Reunion in St JPll Room at 8 pm.



**EDGE (Grade 6 - 8)**

Watch the bulletin for the next gathering in 2018. Blessings this Christmas and into the New Year.



**Challenge Girl's Groups**  
 (gr. 5 - 8 & 9 - 12)

Have a joyful Christmas season.

**Next gathering: Monday, Jan. 8,**  
 7 - 8:30 pm, meet in church.

Questions? Call Anna 780-831-8338.



**ARCHGMYOUTH Ski Trips:**

Jasper (ages 16 - 19 yrs) Feb. 16 - 19  
 Worsley (12 - 15 yrs) March 3 - 4

For information please contact [archgmyouth.com](http://archgmyouth.com)

**SACRAMENTS**

Darlene Lemay,  
 x 228



**Through the waters of Baptism,** we welcome Avery Burke, Silvers Larios, Trinity Arellano and Penn Ashley to our family of faith. We pray that his journey with our Lord is filled with joy.

**Parents are required to complete a Baptism course for each of their children.** You are welcome to attend while still expecting your child. Pre-registration required. Call Darlene, ext. 228.

**Save your Bottles for our Youth Groups:** Drop them at any Bottle Depot with this information on them: St. Joseph Youth Group #1479-2351. Your donations and assistance are greatly appreciated!

**"Why Do I Come To Church?"** We were delighted to have receive so many and thoughtful responses to the question we asked during Mass a couple of weeks ago. We received back over 1,200 responses! In the new year we will begin to share the responses with the parish. Keep in mind that the reason to ask the question was to invite us to ponder more deeply the parish pastoral theme for this year "Hope For a Wounded World."

## ADULT FORMATION

**Set-up for Christmas environment is Saturday, December 23**, beginning at 10 am in the church. Fluff a Christmas tree, string lights, hang banners, etc. Lots of help is needed. Please join in preparing our church for the season of Christmas. "Many hands make light work."

### Ministry of Welcome at Christmas Masses

Do you have a gift for welcoming and a bit of extra time on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? We are looking for parishioners who can come about 45 minutes before Mass to greet people as they arrive. At the 4:00, 6:30 and 9:00 pm Masses those greeting will also collect the Mass tickets given out during Advent. The 12:00 am Midnight and Christmas morning Mass greeters will only welcome. 8 people needed at each Mass. Please contact Heinz Wolfram by **Monday, December 18**: axiomfsi@gmail.com or text 780-505-2190 .

**Polish Christmas Mass:** Saturday, Jan. 6, 3:00 pm, in our church. Come celebrate Mass in Polish with Fr. Raymond Dorawa, C.Ss.R. Everyone is welcome to attend. Traditional Polish meal to follow in Tranquille Hall.

Questions? Call Jagoda, 780-832-3286.

**Interested in Religious life?** Contact Fr. Leo English, C.Ss.R. at the parish office, ext. 222.

### GREETINGS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

**Second Mile Giving:** Deadline for donations for the Diocesan office's 2017 taxation year is January 12, 2018. Tax receipt will be issued in February. Not sure where your support is needed? Check out the new Adopt - a - Program! Choose a program and receive updates as to how your donation is impacting your parish and the Archdiocese. Includes: Seminarians, Youth Ministry, Cemeteries and much more! For information on how to donate contact the Archdiocese Office, 780-532-9766.

Join us Sunday, January 28, 7 - 9 pm for our **2018 Parish Pilgrimage: *In Giving We Receive***. If you are in a caring role - looking after children or a spouse, caring for parents, supporting a friend, a professional...you understand the blessings & burnout. Or perhaps you experience both struggle & compassion as the one being cared for. This is a peaceful, contemplative evening journey along with short reflections by



parishioners. How do we listen for Christ's voice and feel the embrace of Christ's compassion in this place of giving and receiving?

**The Great Adventure Bible Study - On January 17<sup>th</sup>** the Wednesday evening group will be holding a **pot-luck supper** and a video introduction to the Bible Timeline. Learn about the major people, events and themes of the Bible - get the "big picture" of our salvation history. The goal of this study is to take our understanding of the Scriptures and our faith to entirely new levels. Watch the Parish Bulletin in early January for more information.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 18 - JANUARY 6

( † Signifies a Mass for someone deceased)

Mon. 18,	7:00 am:	† Dylan Tremblay
Tues. 19,	7:00 pm:	† Madeline Daly
Wed. 20,	7:00 am:	Sr. Louise Vander Ploeg
	7:00 pm:	† Anita Garant
Thurs. 21,	7:00 pm:	† Madeline Daly
Fri. 22,	7:00 am:	Jillian Lees
Sat. 23,	9:00 am:	† Frank Vanden Dungen
Tues. 26,	9:00 am:	† Ira Stanley
Wed. 27,	9:00 am:	Thomas Odland
Thurs. 28,	9:00 am:	† Judith Radke
Fri. 29,	9:00 am:	† Gordon Otto
Sat. 30,	9:00 am:	Samuel Shaba
Tues. 2,	10:30 am:	† Lorraine Parenteau
	7:00 pm:	† Nora Griffin
Wed. 3,	7:00 am:	† Doreen Gallant
	7:00 pm:	Andrew McGunigal
Thurs. 4,	7:00 pm:	† Maureen Biegel & Pat O'Rourke
Fri. 5	7:00 am:	† John Latos
	10:30 am:	† Frank Pickard
Sat. 6,	9:00 am:	† Nancy Evans

## GENERAL INFO

### Please Pray For

<b>The sick, especially</b>	Jeannie Valen
Charlene Loxam	Marion Bailey
Emerenciano Lugao, father of Airish Lugao	
<b>The deceased, especially</b>	
Pearl Tabor	Anthony Piebiak

### Children/Youth Choir - 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Children ages 4 - 6 and 7 - 18 are invited to sing for 4:00 pm Mass. Contact Mary-Ann, 780-532-0435 or ritchima@hotmail.com Practices are:

#### Pre-Mass Choir 4 - 7 years

Sunday, Dec 17, 3:45-4:10 pm

Wednesday, Dec 20, 4:30-4:55 pm

Friday, Dec 22, 4:30-4:55 pm

Saturday, Dec 23, 1:30-1:55 pm

#### Mass Choir Ages 7 - High School

Sunday, Dec 17, 4:15-5:00 pm

Wednesday, Dec 20, 5:00-6:00 pm

Saturday, Dec 23, 12:00 -1:20 pm

**Cursillo Christmas Social**, Friday, Dec 22, 7 - 9 pm, Tranquille Hall. For information or if you are willing to give a hand or share your talent, contact Tessie, 780-978-2106 or dotgr@hotmail.com

**If you do not normally donate to St Joseph Parish through Sunday collections** you must have your donations to the parish office by December 28 in order for it to be included on your 2017 donation receipt.

**St. Joseph CWL Student Funding** for Christian-based volunteer work. Call Lorraine, 780-539-4766 for info. *Deadline: January 15.*

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 5 pm  
See front page for modified hours over the holidays & Christmas & New Year's Masses

#### Regular Mass Schedule

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 7:00 am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 pm

**Tuesday - Friday, Dec. 26 - 29 9:00 am**

Saturday 9:00 am

#### Senior's Lodge Masses at 10:30 am:

1st Tuesday - The Gardens

1st Friday - Heritage Lodge 3rd Friday - Pioneer Lodge

**At 9:30 am:** 2nd Friday - Wild Rose Manor

#### Sunday Masses

Saturday evening 7:00 pm

Sunday morning 9:00 & 11:00 am

**Confessions:** Saturday evenings, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, or by appointment (call the parish office)

**Morning Prayer:** Mon - Fri, 8:45 am, in Chapel.

**Devotions** to our Mother of Perpetual Help at Wednesday Mass.

**Baptism for Infants & Young Children:** Contact Darlene at the Parish Office (even prior to the birth of your child) about Baptism Preparation for parents.

**Marriage:** Couples wishing to be married in a Catholic Church must contact the Parish Office *at least 8 months* prior to their wedding date.

**Religious Gift Shop/Library:** Closed Dec. 22 - Jan 5.

**Prayer Chain Requests:** Confidentiality assured. Contact Alyeska, alyeska@degen.ca or 780-532-5659

**Spanish Prayer Group:** Saturdays, 8 - 10 pm, in the Modern Martyrs Room. Ana, 780-978-4966

**El Shaddai Prayer Group:** After Saturday 7 pm Mass, Grouard Room. Irene, 780-380-9540 or Gilbert, 780-978-8006

## Sunday Readings

### *Third Sunday of Advent: Bringing joy through justice*

**Isaiah 61:1 - 2a, 10 - 11.** The mission to the afflicted      **1 Thess. 5:16 - 24.** Christian conduct; blessings

**John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28.** John as witness to the light

**Key Passage:** I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation. *Isaiah 61:10*

**Question:** What work of justice could you do this week to bring someone joy?