

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

Healing Our Wounds through Joyful Service

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 2, 2018**

10404-102 St., Grande Prairie, AB T8V 2W3  
Office: 780-532-2351 • Fax: 780-538-2286  
Email: [sjc-church@gpcsd.ca](mailto:sjc-church@gpcsd.ca)

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



**PARISH OFFICE CLOSING EARLY:** on Friday, Dec. 7, the office will close at 4:00 pm.

In an ongoing effort to streamline and reduce costs in the parish **WE WILL NO LONGER BE MAILING OUT A CHRISTMAS LETTER** through Canada Post. We will post the letter and any information about the Christmas season and Christmas and New Year's Masses on our website. We will also have some printed Christmas letters available on the literature rack in the entrance to the church.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** will be at 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 pm & Midnight on Christmas Eve and 10:00 am on Christmas Day. The 4:00 & 6:30 pm Masses are especially suited to children. **Free tickets** for the 4:00, 6:30 & 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Masses will be available in the entrance to the church after the 7:00 pm Saturday evening Mass and the 9:00 & 11:00 am Sunday Masses each weekend until all the tickets are gone. (Tickets are not required for midnight Mass or 10 am Christmas Day.) *They are not available during the week from the office.* If you are unable to get to Mass on the weekend, please ask someone to pick up tickets for you.

### **Be part of our Christmas Spirit**

At the 4:00 & 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Masses we would like to include as many young people as possible: greeting people as they enter, Lectors, gift bearers and help with assorted other jobs. Specifically at the 4:00 pm Mass, we will have a children's procession coming in with the priests. At the 4:00, 6:30 & 9:00 pm Masses, we need helpers to spread Christmas cheer to our children immediately following the Mass. Please contact Joanne, ext. 230, if you can help.

### **DECEMBER 2 - 9 DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Mon. 3:** 9 am - 3 pm, Quilting Bee-Levers, Liguori Hall  
-7 - 8:30 pm, Challenge Girls, upstairs  
-7:30 pm, Festival of Carols, church  
**Tues. 4:** 7:30 pm, Festival of Carols, church  
**Wed. 5:** 9:30 - 11 am, Ladies' Bible Study, St JP II Room  
-10 am - noon, Martha's Prayer Time, Tranquille Hall  
- 7 pm, RCIA, Liguori Hall  
**Sat. 8:** noon - 2 pm, Usher Workshop, church

**2019 Sunday collection envelopes available** in the Modern Martyrs Room until Sunday, December 16.

**Donators through automatic Bank withdrawal:** extra collection envelopes available in the Modern Martyrs Room.

**2019 Sunday Missals & Children's Sunday Missals** are available in the entrance to the church.

### **CALLING ALL MOMS & PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN**

*Martha's*  
♥ *prayer time*

*1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10 am - 12 noon*

Come make connections with other moms of the parish. Find encouragement, support, fellowship and joy. Prayer/reflection at 11:15 am. Children welcome and encouraged to attend with mom.

**Next Gathering: Dec. 5, Tranquille Hall**

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

**Parish Financial Information** (Diane Walker ext. 227)  
Offering Required Weekly \$23,816.34  
Offering received last Sunday \$20,818.48  
Children's Offering \$127.00  
*Based on 769 donors an amount of \$30/week per donor is needed to meet our annual budget*



**Family & Children's**  
m i n i s t r y  
Joanne Chiasson ext. 230 sjc-family@gpcsd.ca



**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
April Fogle, x 229

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



Go online to see our  
upcoming news & events:



**Grades 3 - 5 youth group**  
Next gathering: **Friday, Dec. 21,**  
7 - 9 pm, Tranquille Hall.  
Christmas Party



**Family Movie, Sunday, Dec 30,**  
**3 - 5 pm** in Tranquille Hall.  
Bring something comfy to sit  
on. Popcorn & juice provided.

**JOIN THE TEAM! LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN LEADERS AND HELPERS ARE NEEDED.**

*This ministry is unable to continue without more volunteers. Adults (males too!) and mature older teenagers are required. All materials and training provided - minimal preparation by you - so simple that it could almost teach itself. However God requires **OUR** participation to share His love with our children. Call Joanne, ext. 230, during office hours.*

**Do you want to help our parish but don't have a lot of time?** *The Welcome Table ministry may be the place for you. People are needed at the Masses on Saturday evening & 11 am Sunday morning. Contact Joanne, ext. 230 or sjc-family@gpcsd.ca*

**SACRAMENTS**

Darlene Lemay,  
x 228



This weekend, **through the waters of baptism**, we welcome Lilia Pinyon and Keon Young to our family of faith. We pray their journey with our Lord is filled with great joy.

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



**Youth group for grades 6 - 9**  
Next gathering, **Friday, Dec. 14**  
7 - 9 pm, Tranquille Hall  
Christmas Party

**Challenge Girl's Groups (gr. 5 - 6, 7 - 8 & 9 - 12)**

Next gathering:  
Monday, Dec. 3, 7 - 8:30 pm  
Christmas Party in  
Liguori Hall and SJPII Room.  
Questions? Call Anna 780-831-8338.

**High School Youth Group: (Grades 9 - 12).**



2nd & 4th Saturday  
8 - 10 pm, St JPPII Room  
following Saturday  
evening Mass

Next CORE December 15 (note day change)-  
**Christmas Party**



**We are running youth Alpha at St Joseph (Tuesdays) and St JPPII (Thursdays) High Schools**

Youth Alpha Team invites individuals, families, parish ministries or other interested groups to sponsor lunch for the participants. If you would like to donate to this important ministry, please contact April, ext. 229

**saintjoseph.ca Blog Reflection: "Simplicity: Having nothing yet possessing all things"**  
Sign up under "Subscribe for special parish updates and reflection blog" on the home page to receive notification for each new blog.

## ADULT FORMATION

**Usher Workshop Saturday, December 8 from noon - 2 pm** in the church. Ushers serve our parish by assisting parishioners during Mass and helping with the collection - a great way to get involved in our parish. This meeting is for all ushers, including new people interested in learning more. All ushers need to complete a Criminal Records Check.

### Sock Sundays

How good it feels to put on a pair of warm, dry socks! *Please remember to bring a new pair of socks to donate during Advent.* This simple act of kindness benefits many in need in our community. Don't remember to bring socks? Consider donating a Toonie. All funds collected will buy more socks. Toques, mitts and scarves also gratefully accepted!

Advent Retreat for Men & Women

### Peeking into the Manger:

*A Labyrinth Journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem*  
December 8, 9:45 am - 2 pm, Tranquille Hall  
Cost \$20 Bring a bag lunch  
Presenter - Jennifer Wrzosek  
To register call 780-538-3165 or  
email [jennifer.wrzosek@telus.net](mailto:jennifer.wrzosek@telus.net)

**Filipino Christmas Mass**, Saturday, December 15, 4:00 - 5:00 pm, in the church. Social to follow in Tranquille Hall. Details? Call Tessie, 780-978-2106

*Mark your calendar-*

### St. Joseph 100th Anniversary, April 26, 2020

We are excited about celebrating the 100th Anniversary of St. Joseph Parish in Grande Prairie. To help us prepare, please send any suggestions/ideas to Fr. Remi on how we might celebrate this wonderful occasion.



### Religious Gift Shop

*Christmas gifts in stock.*  
Check after Saturday 7 pm Mass  
& Sunday 9 & 11 am Masses.

### Bulletin Q & A - Mastering the Mass

**Q.** *Why is there a red light (the sanctuary lamp) burning in our churches?*

**A.** The red light always burns near the tabernacle to remind us that Christ is present in the consecrated hosts. We reverence his presence by genuflecting, or bowing.

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

**Catholic Family Services** is accepting donations for their Christmas Hamper Program for families in need until December 20. Please drop donations of cash, gift cards and IGA budget savers at the CFS office, 10105-102 St. For information or to sponsor a family please call 780-532-9381.

**Polish Christmas Mass:** Saturday, Jan. 12, 4:00 pm, in our church. Everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments to follow in Tranquille Hall. Questions? Call Jagoda, 780-539-1005.

**Children's Christmas Choir** at 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. For children ages 4 and older. Rehearsals: Dec. 16, 1 - 3 pm, Dec. 19, 5 - 6:30 pm, Dec. 21, 5 - 6:30 pm, Dec. 22, 2 - 4 pm. Contact Mary-Ann Lynch for details or to register your child, 780-532-0435 or [ritchima@hotmail.com](mailto:ritchima@hotmail.com)

**Cursillo Christmas Social**, Friday, Dec. 14, 7 - 9 pm, Tranquille Hall. Call Tessie, 780-978-2106 or email [dotgr@hotmail.com](mailto:dotgr@hotmail.com), for information, if you are able to help or would like to share your talent.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 3 - 8

( † Signifies a Mass for someone deceased)

Mon. 3, 7:00 am: † John Menlik

Tues. 4, 10:30 am:

7:00 pm: † Orest Woychuk

Wed. 5, 7:00 am: † Gwen Glaser

7:00 pm: † Madeline Daley

Thurs. 6, 7:00 pm: † Catalina Chong

Fri. 7, 7:00 am: † Mavis DeCruze

10:30 am: † Antonio Qualizza

Sat. 8, 9:00 am: † Michael Long

## GENERAL INFO

### Please pray for

<b>The sick, especially</b>	Doug Cooke
Mitchell & Cassie Dube	Noel Keerthekumar

**CWL & K of C's Annual Christmas Potluck**, Tuesday, Dec. 11, Tranquille Hall. Social: 5 pm Dinner: 6 pm Music and program to follow. Please bring donations of personal hygiene and gently used towels that will be shared to those in need.

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

**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Carols, Monday & Tuesday**, Dec. 3 & 4, starting at 7:30 pm, in the church. Instrumentalists, church and community choirs. Donations to the Salvation Army Christmas Kettles.

**Oliver's Funeral Home Christmas Candlelight Service, "Handling the Holidays"** Sunday, December 2, 6 pm RSVP by November 27. Call 780-532-2929 or at [www.oliversfuneralhome.com/christmas](http://www.oliversfuneralhome.com/christmas)

**Bear Creek Funeral Home's "A Time to Remember"**, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7 pm, 11802 99 Ave. RSVP 780-830-7742 or at [info@bearcreekfuneral.com](mailto:info@bearcreekfuneral.com)

**If you plan to do a one time a year donation to St. Joseph Church** you must have your donations to the parish office by December 27 in order for it to be included on your 2017 donation receipt.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 5 pm

#### Regular Mass Schedule

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 7:00 am  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 pm  
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:** Available after the Saturday 7:00 pm & Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am Masses

**Prayer Chain Requests:** Confidentiality assured. Contact Alyeska, [alyseska@degen.ca](mailto:alyseska@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:** Sundays, 3:30 - 6 pm  
Contact Irene, 780-380-9540.

## Sunday Readings

### *First Sunday of Advent: The Habit of Prayer*

**Jeremiah 33:14 - 16.** Restoration of Jerusalem      **1 Thess. 3:12 - 4:2.** Plea for growth in holiness

**Luke 21:25 - 28, 34 - 36.** Coming of the Son of Man

**Key Passage:** Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man. *Luke 21:36*

**Question:** What have been the strengths of your prayer life? What habit of prayer could you strengthen during this Advent season?