

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Healing Our Wounds in Joyful Service

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018**

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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.

If you have picked up tickets for any of the Christmas Masses and do not need them all, PLEASE return them to the office or after weekend Masses as there are many people who were not able to get tickets for their preferred Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASSES will be at 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 pm & Midnight on Christmas Eve and 10:00 am on Christmas Day. **Free tickets** for the 6:30 & 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Masses (4 pm tickets have all been distributed) will be available in the entrance to the church after the 7:00 pm Saturday evening and the 9:00 & 11:00 am Sunday Masses every weekend during Advent until all the tickets are gone. (These tickets hold a place for you until 15 minutes before Mass begins.) *Tickets will not be 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 on your behalf.



Mercy Monday, December 17 - Priests will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation from 12 Noon to 8:00 pm. Make this one of your many stops during Advent in preparation for Christmas.

DECEMBER 9 - 16 DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mon. 10:** 9 am - 3 pm, Quilting Bee-Levers, Liguori Hall
- Tues. 11:** 5 pm, CWL & K of C Potluck, Tranquille Hall
- Wed. 12:** 9:30 - 11 am, Ladies' Bible Study, St JPll Room
- 7 pm, RCIA, Liguori Hall
- 7:30 pm, Musical Rosary, church
- Fri. 14:** 7 - 9 pm, EDGE, St. JPll Room
- 7 - 9 pm, Cursillo Christmas Social, Tranquille Hall
- Sat. 15:** 4 pm, Filipino Christmas Mass, church
- 8 - 10 pm, CORE, St JPll Room
- Sun. 16:** 1:45 - 3 pm, Children's Christmas Choir practices, church
- 4 pm, French Mass, church



"Like us" on Facebook! We have updated our presence. Our new page is St. Joseph Catholic Church. Search using [@stjoescatholicchurch](https://www.facebook.com/stjoescatholicchurch)

The parish office will be closed:

Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day
In addition, the office will close at 12:00 noon on Christmas Eve.

Set-up for Christmas environment is Sunday,

December 23, from 2:30 - 5 pm in the church. Fluff a Christmas tree, string lights, hang banners, etc. Lots of help needed. Please join in preparing our church for the season of Christmas. "Many hands make light work."

Parish Financial Information (Diane Walker ext. 227)

Offering Required Weekly	\$23,816.34
Offering received last Sunday	\$26,854.23
Children's Offering	\$89.00

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



Grades 3 - 5 youth group
Next gathering: **Friday, Dec. 21,**
6 - 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.

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. Contact Joanne, ext. 230, if you can help.

CALLING ALL MOMS & PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN



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. 15, Modern Martyrs Room
www.facebook.com/groups/momsprayerandplay.gp.ca/

SACRAMENTS

Darlene Lemay,
x 228



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 MINISTRY
April Fogle, x 229
stjoesyouthgp@gmail.com

Go online to see our
upcoming news & events:



Youth group for grades 6 - 9
Next gathering, **Friday, Dec. 14**
7 - 9 pm, St JP II Room
Christmas Party

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



Mondays, 7 - 8:30 pm
See you in the new year.
Questions? Call Anna 780-831-8338.



High School Youth Group: (Grades 9 - 12).
2nd & 4th Saturday
8 - 10 pm, St JP II 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 JP II (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

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 17**: axiomfsi@gmail.com or text 780-505-2190 .

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* (Toques, mitts and scarves also accepted). 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.

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.*

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.

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

November Prayers for the Deceased: 3534(+) names were written in our Book of Remembrance this year. Eternal rest grant unto each of them, Oh Lord!



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. What is the significance of the Processional Cross and the Processional Candles?

A. The processional cross is a crucifix carried at the head of the procession in a celebration (unless incense is used). Two servers carrying processional candles accompany the cross bearer. The candles shed light on the unfolding paschal mystery.

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.

Children's Christmas Choir at 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Children aged 4 - 8 sing 2 pre-mass songs. Youth aged 7 and older will sing during the Christmas Mass. Practices are:

Dec 16: 1:45-2:00 Ages 4 - 8

2:00-3:00 Youth 7 & older

Dec 19 & 21: 5:00-5:20 Ages 4 - 8

5:20-6:20 Youth 7 & older

Dec 22: 2:30-2:50 Ages 4 - 8

3:00-4:00 Youth 7 & older

You are invited to join us in the church Sunday, January 27, 7 pm for our **2019 Parish Pilgrimage of the heart: Blessed are...** Drawing on their own personal experiences, parishioners' reflections will focus on the Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1-12. The speakers will shine some light on how the Beatitudes can influence our lives and how, in very practical ways, we may incorporate Jesus' teaching in our lives.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 10 - 15

(† Signifies a Mass for someone deceased)

Mon. 10, 7:00 am: † Gwen Glaser

Tues. 11, 7:00 pm: CWL / † Marie Ames

Wed. 12, 7:00 am: † Dominique Dika

7:00 pm: † Orest Woychuk

Thurs. 13, 7:00 pm: † David Heck & Raoul Tremblay

Fri. 14, 7:00 am: † James Field

9:30 am: † Rosario & Lucille Normandeau

Sat. 15, 9:00 am: † Johanna Klein-Gebbinck

