

St. Joseph Catholic Church

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF
OUR SACRED *Journey*

**First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019**

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

Website: saintjoseph.ca



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 **every weekend during Advent** until all the tickets are gone. (Tickets are not required for midnight Mass or 10 am Christmas Day.) *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 for you.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSING EARLY: on Friday, Dec. 6, the office will close at 4:00 pm.

We thank God for our parishioners who helped to label all our Sunday donation envelopes. We pray they will be richly blessed for their service.

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 23 in order for it to be included on your 2019 donation receipt.

100th Anniversary Commemorative Merchandise

To fundraise for the furniture in the new upstairs rooms we are offering sweatshirts, caps and touques embroidered with the 100th anniversary logo. A range of prices, with sizing from children to adult 3x. Great stocking stuffers or presents.

Taking orders after Sunday Masses or at the parish office during office hours.

**Ordering deadline:
December 5.**



DECEMBER 1 – 8 DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon. 2: 9 am - 3 pm, Quilting Bee-Levers, Liguori Hall
7 - 8:30 pm, Road to Emmaus, Liguori Hall
7:30 pm, Festival of Carols, church
Tues. 3: 7:30 pm, Festival of Carols, church
Wed. 4: 7 - 9:30 pm, RCIA, Liguori Hall
9:30 - 11 am, Ladies' Bible Study, Modern Martyrs Rm
7:45 - 9:30 pm, Bible Study, Tranquille Hall
Sat. 7: 1 pm, Filipino Mass, church

2019 Sunday collection envelopes available in the Modern Martyrs Room until Sunday, December 15.

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.

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.

Parish Financial Information (Diane Walker ext. 227)

Offering Required Weekly \$24,455.00

Offering received last Sunday \$20,638.54

Children's Offering \$122.00

Based on 815 donors an amount of \$30/week per donor is needed to meet our annual budget. Please mark your envelope with the amount enclosed.



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



Grade 3 - 5
 Next gathering: Friday, Dec. 13
 6 - 9 pm, Tranquille Hall.
 Christmas Party!



FOR MOMS & PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN
 1st & 3rd Wednesday,
 10 am - 12 noon

Next gathering: December 4, Tranquille Hall
www.facebook.com/groups/momsprayerandplay.gp.ca/

SACRAMENTS

Darlene Lemay,
 x 228



Through the Waters of Baptism we welcome Adley Yanishewski and Ryder Laviolette to our faith family. We pray that their journey with our Lord is filled with joy.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2 - 7

(† Signifies a Mass for someone deceased)

Mon. 2, 7:00 am: † Lorraine & Jack McArthur

Tues. 3, 10:30: † Jack Frey

7:00 pm: † William Andres

Wed. 4, 7:00 am: Josey Burrough & family

7:00 pm: † Richard Hunt

Thurs. 5, 7:00 pm: † Catalina Chong

Fri. 6, 7:00 am: Kevin Bain

10:30 am:

Sat. 7, 9:00 am: † Mabel, John, Michael McNeil/

† Stacey Hagg



YOUTH MINISTRY

April Fogle, x 229

stjoesyouthgp@gmail.com



Grade 6 - 12 Saturday, Dec. 7

Join us in the choir for 7 pm Mass. Movie and snack to follow in St JP11 Room. Please bring something comfy to sit on.



(Grades 9 - 12)

Saturdays, 8 - 10 pm

HIGHSCHOOL YOUTH Next gathering, Dec. 14: Attending

Boy's Choir Concert at GP Alliance.

Be sure to purchase your ticket before the concert.



Youth group for grades 6 - 9

Next gathering, Friday, Dec. 13, 7- 9 pm, St. JP11 Room.

Chosen Girl's Groups

(formerly Challenge Girl's)



1st & 3rd week of the month

Gr 5 - 7 (Jr): Mondays, 7 - 8:30 pm

Gr. 8 - 12 (Sr): Tuesdays, 7:30 - 9pm

No Senior Chosen on Dec. 3

No Junior Chosen on Dec. 2

Questions? Call Anna 780-831-8338.


Music & Muffins at the High Schools: from 8:40 - 9:15 am. Tuesdays at St. Joe's and Thursdays at St JP11 Schools in the chapel. A great way to start the day with muffins (outside the chapel) and worship. All students and staff are welcome to attend.



High School lunch hour youth group

Tuesdays at St. Joe's and Thursdays at St JP11 in the black box. The more the merrier. Snacks provided.

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!

 Like us on Facebook: @stjoescatholicchurch

ADULT FORMATION

Grief as a Journey: *Our Walk to Emmaus*: a support program for those grieving a loss.

Mondays in the Modern Martyrs Room, 7 - 8:30 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, December 2, in Liguori Hall

This program offers help, fellowship, and the support of the Church community. For information, contact Debbie, 780-518-5763.

Filipino Mass and Christmas gathering, December 7, 1:00 pm, church. Social to follow, Tranquille Hall.

For information contact the Filipino Association of Grande Prairie: Neil Tuazon, 780-832-9595, or neiltuazon10@yahoo.ca

Usher Workshop Saturday, Dec. 14, Noon - 1:30 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.

Mercy Monday, December 16 - 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.

Communion Ministers for Home Visits Needed This ministry is as much a blessing for those visiting the people in their homes to bring them communion as it is for those being visited. Time commitment is every few weeks for about 1 1/2 hours Wednesday mornings. Call the parish office if interested.

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

SOMETHING'S MISSING

All the divorced, widowed, single or separated: Join us for faith & fellowship.

Next gathering, 2nd Monday of December, the 9th, 7 - 8:30 pm,

Grouard Room. Contact Bernadette, 780-831-8016, or thibeaub@telusplanet.net



Bulletin Q & A - Mastering the Mass

Q What is the Responsorial Psalm?

A. This is the Psalm that follows the First Reading. It is designed to be sung as a dialogue between the psalmist (the cantor) and the people. This makes it responsorial.

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 making a donation instead. All funds collected will buy more socks. Toques, mitts and scarves also gratefully accepted!

Christmas Eve Youth Choir This year, both the 4:00 & 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Masses will have a Youth Choir. Rehearsals will take place in the church. Children ages 4 - 7 attend the first 15 minutes and Youth ages 8 & up attend the entire rehearsal.

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Youth Choir rehearsals

Dec 14, 3 - 4 pm

Dec 21, 2:30-3:45 pm

Dec 22, 4:45 - 6 pm

Dec 23, 3:30-4:45 pm

6:30 pm Christmas Eve Youth Choir rehearsals

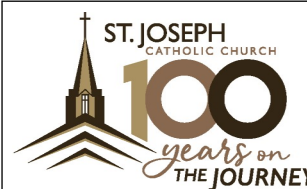
Dec 14, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Dec 19, 5 - 6:15 pm

Dec 22, 3:15 - 4:30 pm

Dec 23, 5 - 6:15 pm

To participate contact Mary-Ann, 780-532-0435, or ritshima@hotmail.com



We were established as a parish April 26, 1920.

Join us for Mass on our 100th Anniversary: Sunday, April 26, 2020.

Other centennial festivities include:

Parish Mission: March 29 - April 1

Mission Preacher - Fr. Jack Kingsbury

Parish Dinner: May 3, Evergreen Park

(Tickets \$50 each available during the week at the parish office)

St. Joseph Day in the Park: Sunday, June 14,

Muskoseepi Park, Mass at 11 am followed by family fun in the park.

GENERAL INFO

Please pray for

The sick, especially Ron Quinn

The deceased, especially

Therese Brien, mother of Ed Brien

37th Annual Festival of Carols, Monday & Tuesday,

Dec. 2 & 3, starting at 7:30 pm, in the church.

Instrumentalists, church and community choirs.

Donations to the Salvation Army Christmas Kettles.

Catholic Family Services is accepting donations for their Christmas Hamper Program for families in need until December 16. 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.

Oliver's Funeral Home Christmas Candlelight Service,

"Handling the Holidays" Sunday, December 8, 6 pm

RSVP by December 2, at 780-532-2929 or

www.oliversfuneralhome.com/christmas

Forbes Church Ladies present **The Gifts of Christmas**

Candlelight Service, Tuesday, Dec. 3, 7 pm.

Refreshments to follow. All are welcome!

Free will offering to Rising Above.



Religious Gift Shop available after Saturday 7 pm Mass & Sunday 9 & 11 am Masses, in the library. Come check our new stock of Christmas merchandise.

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 Masses.

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 or 780-532-5659

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

El Shaddai Prayer Group: Sundays, 3:30 - 6 pm
Contact Irene, 780-380-9540.

Sunday Readings

First Sunday of Advent: Putting on the Light of Christ

Isaiah 2:1 - 5. Zion, the messianic capital **Romans 13:11 - 14.** Christian use of time

Matthew 24:37 - 44. The need for watchfulness

Key Passage: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. *Romans 13:12b*

Question: What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?