

St. Joseph  
Catholic Church



Grace &   
**COURAGE:**

United through prayer and loving service.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 26, 2021

10404-102 St., Grande Prairie, AB T8V 2W3

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

**Parish Office Closed: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Thursday, September 30.**

Weekday Mass will be at 7:00 pm.

This week, sign up for Sunday Mass will begin on Wednesday.

**Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada this weekend, September 25/26:**

Each year, and with the generosity of Catholic faithful from coast to coast, the Bishops of Canada continue their work on relations with Indigenous peoples, important doctrinal and ethical questions, ecumenical initiatives and interreligious dialogue, international relations, evangelization, faith education and catechesis, questions of social justice, responsible ministry, and the development of a culture of life and family. "On behalf of all Canada's Bishops I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. May the Lord extend his grace and love upon you and your loved ones."

*The Most Reverend Richard Gagnon,  
Archbishop of Winnipeg and CCCB President*  
Make cheques payable to St. Joseph Church.

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[https://twitter.com/CCCB\\_CECC](https://twitter.com/CCCB_CECC)

**Parish Financial Information**

Joanne Chiasson Ext. 227 [sjc-finance@gpcsd.ca](mailto:sjc-finance@gpcsd.ca)

Donation options: *Envelopes*

*PAP (Personally Approved Payments)*, monthly automatic withdrawal from your bank account

*Credit Card* monthly donation

*Online donation* through our website

*E-transfer:* email to [sjc.etransfer@gmail.com](mailto:sjc.etransfer@gmail.com)

**Covid 19 Mass Regulations (Sept. 16)**

*Due to the Public Health Emergency:*

- Do not attend Mass if you are sick
- Wear a mask and maintain physical distance
- We are restricted to 1/3 our capacity. Sign up to attend Sunday Mass on our website or on Facebook
- Sign-up for Sunday Masses begins 2 business days in advance of the Mass (*\*This week on Wednesday*)

**Archbishop Pettipas' dispensation from Sunday obligation is still in effect.** We anticipate that we will not be able to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend Sunday Mass. Therefore:

- We will be live-streaming the 11:00 am Mass
- Join us in person at weekday Mass. (You do not need to sign up for weekday Masses.)

*Please remember that we are all in this together.*

Be kind. Be safe.

**2021 Donation Envelopes** are available from the parish office. Drop by during office hours to pick yours up, or call us, 780-532-2351.

**This week on FORMED**

**Angels: Bishop Fulton Sheen**

In this compilation of three episodes from his classic television program, "Life is Worth Living," Bishop Fulton Sheen delivers his thoughts on various elements of the Catholic Faith with his ever-present humor, animated presentation, and captivating mode of speaking. In the first segment, "Angels," Bishop Sheen explicates the nature of angels and the meaningful role they play in our world.

Sign up for FORMED on our website: [saintjoseph.ca](http://saintjoseph.ca)

## SACRAMENTS

Beatriz Fernandez ext 228 sjc-sacraments@gpcsd.ca

Through the waters of Baptism we welcome into our family of faith Julieannah Bauer-Hamelin, Gabriel Gneugang and Evangelo Tabios. We pray that their journey with our Lord will be filled with joy.

**Parents are required to complete a Baptism course for each of their children.** For information check [saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/](http://saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/) or call Beatriz at the parish office, ext. 228.

### PARENT SACRAMENT FORUM WITH REGISTRATION FOR Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation

In our diocese children baptized in the Roman Catholic Church celebrate Reconciliation in grade 2, Eucharist in grade 3 and Confirmation in grade 6. All children receiving sacraments in the 2021 - 2022 school year, whether they attend Catholic school or otherwise, must be registered for the sacrament. Go to our website, [saintjoseph.ca](http://saintjoseph.ca), and click on: Ministries - Sacraments and the sacrament your child will be receiving. Watch the video "Parent Sacrament Forum" and fill in the registration form. Registration deadline is October 31. Contact Beatriz, [sjc-sacraments@gpcsd.ca](mailto:sjc-sacraments@gpcsd.ca) or call the parish office.



**Urgent! Liturgy of the Word with Children Leaders & Helpers needed.**  
Volunteer screening is necessary.  
Contact the parish office, 780-532-2351

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 2

(✠ Signifies a Mass for someone deceased)

Mon. 27, 12:15 pm: ✠ Mary Vant Erve  
Tues. 28, 7 pm: Ang Wiebe  
Wed. 29, 12:15 pm: ✠ Andy Vavrek  
7 pm: ✠ Gabriela Ormay  
Thurs. 30, 7 pm: Jerome Bowen  
Fri. 1, 12:15 pm: ✠ Emerenciano Lugao /  
✠ Ninfa Suarez  
Sat. 2, 9 am: ✠ Don Guenette

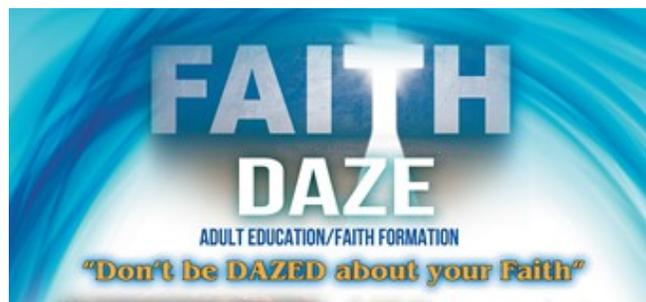
## ADULT FORMATION

Allan Forsberg ext. 224 sjc-ocia@gpcsd.ca

Are you, or do you know, someone who

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. Contact Allan, ext 224, at the parish office.



September 29

**Topic: Healing Culture by Communicating Presence**

7:45 - 9:00 pm on ZOOM

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7805322351>

Meeting ID: 780 532 2351

### Workshop for Lectors

If you are a lector (one who proclaims the readings and Prayers of the Faithful at Mass) or would like to begin in this ministry, please plan to attend **one** of these workshops (even if you have been a Lector for many years). Workshops are in the church.  
Monday, September 27, 7:00 - 8:30 pm  
Tuesday, September 28, 3:30 - 5:00 pm  
Saturday, October 2, 3 - 4:30 pm

**GENERAL INFO**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**  
**The sick, especially** Agatha Vavrek  
 Aspen Alfred Charlotte Maurice  
 Carmen Mann, daughter of Debbie Reed  
**The deceased, especially**  
 Heidi Heitrich Oliver Pinto

**Gift Shop volunteers needed.** Only a few people have volunteered so far, therefore it can only open occasionally after Sunday morning Masses. If you can help for a few minutes after Sunday Mass, contact Theresa, threejtr@telusplanet.net.

**From Our Refugee Committee**  
 The Archdiocese Refugee Committee is joining forces with a young Somali couple in a co-sponsorship agreement to sponsor the wife’s family including mom, dad and 4 young adult siblings. They have been living for a number of years in Uganda. The family will be sponsored for one year as per Canadian government regulations. The bulk of the sponsorship costs have been raised by the young couple who live in GP. We are seeking the support of anyone interested in helping newcomers in getting established in Grande Prairie. Monetary donations will help defray the costs of an Airbnb we will need to rent for the 14 day quarantine period. Gift cards of any amount for stores such as Canadian Tire, Walmart, Bed Bath & Beyond, Superstore or Safeway are also welcome. Any such assistance you can offer will help us maximize our budget. **Note: This donation is not eligible for a charitable donation receipt.** Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute.

**Sunday Readings**  
**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Setting Priorities**  
**Numbers 11:25 - 29.** Sharing the gift of prophecy  
**James 5:1 - 6.** Keeping the right focus  
**Mark 9:38 - 43, 45, 47 - 48.** Sharing our possessions  
**Key passage:** Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. *James 5:4*  
**Question:** What are the three most important values motivating your daily decisions?  
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GrACE is a partnership of stakeholders resolutely committed to Catholic

education within the province of Alberta. The mission is to inspire, invigorate and embolden the spirit of Catholic education in order to unite, engage, educate and communicate with one voice on its behalf.

**DID YOU KNOW** that Catholic and Public school boards save taxpayers millions of dollars each year through a variety of partnerships such as purchasing, transportation, energy management and other shared services? *Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association Enrollment Data Report 2019-2020*

**Stress-Free Retirement presented by Joe Jordan**  
 A free on-line event, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, open to all Catholic families.  
 September 29, 5:00 pm OR October 6, 7:00 pm  
 ZOOM Registration. Please contact Pat Deluca, pat.deluca@kofc.org, or 780-263-1064.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Office Hours:** Mon - Fri, 8:30 am - noon, 1 - 5 pm  
**Regular Mass Schedule**  
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:15 pm  
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:00 pm  
 Saturday 9:00 am  
**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)  
**Devotions** to our Mother of Perpetual Help at Wednesday Masses.  
**Baptism for Infants & Young Children:** saintjoseph.ca/sacraments/baptism/ or contact Beatriz 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 begin preparation *at least 8 months* prior to their wedding date. Call Allan, ext. 224, or email sjc-marriage@gpcsd.ca  
**Religious Gift Shop/Library:** Call the parish office.  
**Prayer Chain Requests:** Confidentiality assured. stjosephprayers@gmail.com, or call the parish office

## Truth and Reconciliation Week and Orange Shirt Day

September 27 –October 1 is dedicated as Truth and Reconciliation Week. September 30<sup>th</sup> is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known as Orange Shirt Day. To learn more about Truth and Reconciliation regarding Indigenous people and the terrible legacy of Residential Schools in Canada, go to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation website: <https://nctr.ca/education/trw/>. They have developed online sessions that will be aired this week featuring Indigenous peoples, their culture and effects of residential schools and reconciliation.



THE BENTWOOD BOX: CARVED BY COAST SALISH ARTIST LUKE MARSTON, THE TRC BENTWOOD BOX IS A LASTING TRIBUTE TO ALL INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS.

**For settlers whose families have lived in Canada for generations and even for new immigrant Canadians, especially as Catholic people who are charged to love everyone as God loves us, we are called to learn the truth of the cultural genocide\* that occurred in Indian Residential schools. That is not enough though; we have a responsibility to advocate and reconcile with the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.** \*TRC – *Principles of Truth and Reconciliation 2015 Report indicates: “The establishment and operation of residential schools were a central element of this policy [against Aboriginal Peoples], which can best be described as “cultural genocide.”*

### Chief Cadmus Delorme of the Cowessess First Nations said:

*“In 2021, we all inherited this....if you say you’re a proud Canadian, read the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) ‘Calls to Action.’.... ‘Bring that into your personal life, your social life, your business life... If we can all own those a little bit in this country, in one generation we would overcome so many challenges today, that our next generation won’t inherit this.”*

More information on the TRC Calls to Action at: <https://nctr.ca/records/reports/#trc-reports>

### LEARNING THE TRUTH - HISTORY

**For over 100 years, the Canadian government established and operated Indian residential schools to “civilize” Aboriginal people.** Over 150,000 First Nations, Inuit and Metis children over 7 generations were forcibly sent to 139 Indian residential schools throughout Canada (25 residential schools in Alberta). Roman Catholic religious communities were contracted to teach and care for these children because they felt the sacred call to spread the Christian faith. Schools were overcrowded and there was a serious lack of funding from the government for running the schools. The religious and staff were overwhelmed and overworked. Grievously, children were neglected, abused, physically and sexually, and they died in horrifying numbers. There were many causes of death from rampant spread of diseases (due to overcrowding, poor nutrition, poorly constructed buildings and lack of funding for medical help), to suicides and deaths of children trying to get home. The truth of the horrors of Indian Residential Schools have been documented in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) <https://nctr.ca/>. *The stories of the experiences of Indigenous children in these schools are horrific and bone chilling.* The perseverance of the survivors and the TRC commission led to many actions including:

- the reaching of an Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement for compensation to the victims of this genocide (<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100015576/1571581687074>)
- issuance of **94 Calls to Action**, urging all levels of government to work together to change policies and programs to repair the harm caused by residential schools and move forward with reconciliation.
- apologies on behalf of all Canadians by Prime Minister Steven Harper (2008), from a number of Archbishops in Canada, including Archbishop Pettipas (2008) and even an apology from Pope Benedict XVI to the Chief of the Assembly of First Nations from the Vatican (2009).

### GOING FORWARD – RECONCILIATION

But, shaming and pointing out wrongdoings were not the purpose of the TRC’s mandate. Ultimately, the Commission’s focus on truth determination was intended to lay the foundation for the important question of reconciliation.

**Now that we know about residential schools and their legacy, what do we do about it?**

*“**All Canadians** must now demonstrate the same level of courage and determination, as we commit to an ongoing process of reconciliation. By establishing a new and respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians, we will restore what must be restored, repair what must be repaired, and return what must be returned.”*

**Justice Murray Sinclair - Chair of the TRC.**

This is the first of a series to highlight ongoing systemic racism against Indigenous and Metis people and will identify the 94 calls to action from the TRC, meant to advance reconciliation that we as Canadians and Catholics can do individually and collectively to help achieve equality and brotherly love with our Indigenous Peoples.

*“Let us find a way to belong to this time and place together. Our future, and the well-being of all our children rests with the kind of relationships we build today.” – Chief Dr. Robert Joseph –*



## Statement of Apology by the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of This Land

We, the Catholic Bishops of Canada, gathered in Plenary this week, take this opportunity to affirm to you, the Indigenous Peoples of this land, that we acknowledge the suffering experienced in Canada's Indian Residential Schools. Many Catholic religious communities and dioceses participated in this system, which led to the suppression of Indigenous languages, culture and spirituality, failing to respect the rich history, traditions and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the grave abuses that were committed by some members of our Catholic community; physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and sexual. We also sorrowfully acknowledge the historical and ongoing trauma and the legacy of suffering and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples that continue to this day. Along with those Catholic entities which were directly involved in the operation of the schools and which have already offered their own heartfelt apologies<sup>1</sup>, we<sup>2</sup>, the Catholic Bishops of Canada, express our profound remorse and apologize unequivocally.

We are fully committed to the process of healing and reconciliation. Together with the many pastoral initiatives already underway in dioceses across the country, and as a further tangible expression of this ongoing commitment, we are pledging to undertake fundraising in each region of the country to support initiatives discerned locally with Indigenous partners. Furthermore, we invite the Indigenous Peoples to journey with us into a new era of reconciliation, helping us in each of our dioceses across the country to prioritize initiatives of healing, to listen to the experience of Indigenous Peoples, especially to the survivors of Indian Residential Schools, and to educate our clergy, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful, on Indigenous cultures and spirituality. We commit ourselves to continue the work of providing documentation or records that will assist in the memorialization of those buried in unmarked graves.

Having heard the requests to engage Pope Francis in this reconciliation process, a delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders/knowledge keepers, and youth will meet with the Holy Father in Rome in December 2021. Pope Francis will encounter and listen to the Indigenous participants, so as to discern how he can support our common desire to renew relationships and walk together along the path of hope in the coming years. We pledge to work with the Holy See and our Indigenous partners on the possibility of a pastoral visit by the Pope to Canada as part of this healing journey.

We commit ourselves to continue accompanying you, the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples of this land. Standing in respect of your resiliency, strength and wisdom, we look forward to listening to and learning from you as we walk in solidarity.

24 September 2021

1 [Indian Residential Schools and TRC - Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops \(ccc.ca\)](#)

2 [The CCCB website has a link to several apologies previously offered by Catholic bishops, including those offered by bishops at national TRC events](#)