



Served By: **Fr. Paul Bisson**
Box 776, Russell, MB R0J 1W0
Phone Office: 204-773-2924
Fax: 204-773-2342
Deacon Darin Douglas: 204-532-2157
Email: stjoewkr@mymts.net
Website: www.stjosephrussell.com
Archdiocese of Winnipeg www.archwinnipeg.ca



St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

Responsorial Psalm 103: “The Lord is merciful and gracious.”

St. Theresa's Parish News:

If **anyone** has any personal petitions, you can place them in the box at the back of the church. They will not be individually read but prayed for generally.

Bible Study will take place each Wed at the Lion's Manor Rossburn, 12-1pm.
We will be studying the Sunday readings. Please bring your Bibles, if this is your lunch time you are welcome to bring your lunch! Everyone welcome!

Regarding the Whole Life Confession, we have the books on hand, total of 10 for now, please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to participate or if you have any questions. We will begin on the week of January 19th. This will prove to be a most beautiful Lenten Exercises! Lynda Ryshytylo 859-2760.

Those working on their Whole Life Confessions will be meeting every 2 weeks after mass briefly, first meeting Feb.9.

Ash Wednesday, February 26, Parish Council evening Meeting, after Mass

St. Theresa's Finance Report 2020	Month of February		
REVENUES:		EXPENSES:	
Feb 2 collection	\$1,190.00	Hydro	\$501.00
Jan 5 collection	\$1,305.00	St Joseph The Worker (shared expenses)	\$2,000.00
2019 SGG overage refund	\$11,435.00	Wheatland (postage, church supplies)	\$19.17
Year To Date Revenues	\$6,531.36	Year To Date Expenses	\$6,375.14

For a donation envelope set contact Raymond Lysyshin at 204-859-2409 or 204-859-2134

**Lighthouse
CD's/Books are
available for you, at
the back of the
church, well priced.

Don't miss out on the
wide selection!**

St. Joseph The Worker Parish News:

There is a sign-up sheet for First Communion at the back of the church on the confessional door. Classes will begin in March and the actual date is yet to be determined. Please sign up or if you know of someone wanting to receive this sacrament please let them know. If you have any questions see Glenda or call me at 1-204-821-5216. Thank you.

Tuesday, February 25, Parish Council evening Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to Julie Zimmers group for supplying snacks, coffee, etc. this Coffee Sunday, Feb. 23rd after Mass downstairs, all welcome!

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 22nd after 9:00 Mass, Russell, St. Mary's Ukrainian Church basement. All are welcome! Hosted by the Knight of Columbus.

Stations of the Cross The Knights of Columbus will be leading Stations of the Cross starting at 8:30 a.m. Sunday mornings during Lent, the Knights invite you to come and join them to pray!

2020 World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, March 6th at 11:00 am at the Russell PCH and 2:00 p.m. at Russell Grace Lutheran Church. Everyone welcome! Service was written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Zimbabwe.

*****Ash Wednesday** is coming **Wednesday, February 26** and marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. Both Russell & Rossburn will have services at **7:00 p.m.** with the distribution of Ashes. Deacon Darin will be celebrating with us! ***

Reminder: Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

February 23, 2020 - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Stewardship Message

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” (Matthew 5:44)

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from “me” and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for “our enemy.” When we pray for others, even “our enemies,” maybe it softens their hearts as well.

THANK YOU to all our parish children in St. Theresa's & St. Joseph's for the coins they put in the treasure chest each Sunday.

Mass Intentions For The Week:

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Feb. 22 7:30 p.m. Russell: +Deceased Family req. Alan Kuzmicki
Sunday Feb. 23 9:00 a.m. Russell: For all Parishioners req. Father Paul
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Joseph Zimmerman req. Stella & family

Monday No Mass

Tuesday Feb. 25 6:30 p.m. Russell: Special intentions req. Jean Goba
7:00 p.m. Russell Parish Council Meeting

Wed. Feb. 26 ***7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Celebration in Russell***



7:00 p.m. Mass & Ash Wednesday Celebration in Rossburn
+Michael Sobie req. Bernadine Brown
Rossburn Parish Council Meeting to follow

Thursday Feb. 27 9:00 a.m. Russell: ~~Mass~~ – **Cancelled due to Funeral**
10:30 a.m. Rossburn: Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: +Suffering Souls in purgatory req. Joe, Rose & family

Friday Feb. 28 8:30 a.m. Russell: Exposition & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
9:00 a.m. Russell: +Lorne Gallant req. Lori, Kyle & Kim, Colin

First Sunday of Lent

Saturday Feb. 29 7:30 p.m. Russell: +Deceased Family req. Alan Kuzmicki
Sunday March1 9:00 a.m. Russell: +Deceased Family req. Frank & Madeline Mangin
11:00 a.m. Rossburn: For all Parishioners req. Father Paul

Welcome Back Father Paul! Nice to have you back in our parishes after your holiday.

Can you feel the pain in my heart too? Honoring the Mystery:

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 – lower level St. Boniface Cathedral. A workshop designed for caregivers who are supporting persons who are ill or palliative and healthcare professionals working in hospice, palliative care, and bereavement programs. One can register for the morning session, afternoon session or both. For more information visit www.cham.mb.ca and click on the Formation menu.

Anamnesis: Inner Healing Retreat – St. Charles Retreat Center, Winnipeg – March 13-17th. Four-day retreat in silence, an opportunity to review our life's story in the light & love of God in order to be reconciled with ourselves. Includes: teachings, personal prayer with the Word of God, daily personal spiritual accompaniment, practical workshops, community prayer/Mass. Located on the west perimeter side of Winnipeg. Retreat Centre, “Chemin Neuf Community” is hosted by Deacon Ted Wood & Nancy (his wife). Deacon Ted Wood works in our diocese office with role with, Pastoral Works. Website: www.chemin-neuf.ca for more information, or call 204-885-2260.

Share Lent 2020 – Development & Peace

Today a Solidarity Calendar is given to you – it may be used during the time of Lent. You may make a donation on Solidarity Sunday, March 29th. Thanks to money donated annually by Catholics during Share Lent, Development & Peace can support parishes & projects in 36 countries around the world!

Prayer For Lent
Gracious and Merciful God,

Throughout our Lenten journey, we are asked to be more gracious and merciful ourselves. Yet we often avoid looking into our own hearts for fear of learning the extent to which we have lost our way. As we continue our travels, help us, we pray, to sacrifice our own comforts in order to help those in need.

May we appreciate that your limitless love, compassion and forgiveness always journey with us.

Amen.

Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend says all the Catholic rituals aren't necessary to get to heaven. What can I say to convince her?

Your friend is correct about heaven: God wishes the salvation of everyone—not just Catholics (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church [*Lumen Gentium*], 13). Even so, Catholics believe—and Christ taught us—that certain rituals *are* necessary to enter heaven. Baptism is one example.

But being Catholic isn't just about getting to heaven. Earthly benefits abound!



Take the Mass: holy Communion gives us Jesus Christ's very Body and Blood. The sacrament of reconciliation absolves our sins, bringing us peace, comfort, and a closer relationship to God. Our saints and the Blessed Mother inspire us and intercede on our behalf. Our Church leaders—ordained and religious—bring Christ to our lives. Our Catholic hymns and prayer traditions help us offer praise and thanks in a unique way. Your priest and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* can explain in detail the

spiritual and temporal benefits of our rituals and rich traditions.

Once we get to heaven, the need for distinctions among those of different Christian faiths dissolves. But until then, we shouldn't follow the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church simply because it's the religion of our parents or spouse; we should follow them because we believe they show us how to deepen our relationship with God by living as Jesus wanted us to.

So while "all the Catholic rituals" do prepare us for heaven, they also enrich and inform our earthly lives in ways we can't find anywhere else. I thank God for my Catholicism every day—and you should, too.

—Fr. Scott Katzenberger, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

One of the essential characteristics of this vocation to perfection is the love of our enemies, which protects us from the temptation to seek revenge and from the spiral of endless retaliation....Those who evangelize must therefore be first and foremost practitioners of forgiveness, specialists in reconciliation, experts in mercy.

—HOMILY IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,
NOVEMBER 29, 2015

Calendar

Monday
FEBRUARY 24
Weekday
Jas 3:13–18
Mk 9:14–29

Tuesday
FEBRUARY 25
Weekday
Jas 4:1–10
Mk 9:30–37

Wednesday
FEBRUARY 26
Ash Wednesday
Jl 2:12–18
2 Cor 5:20–6:2

Thursday
FEBRUARY 27
Thursday after
Ash Wednesday
Dt 30:15–20
Lk 9:22–25

Friday
FEBRUARY 28
Friday after
Ash Wednesday
Is 58:1–9a
Mt 9:14–15

Saturday
FEBRUARY 29
Saturday after
Ash Wednesday
Is 58:9b–14
Lk 5:27–32

Sunday
MARCH 1
First Sunday of Lent
Gn 2:7–9; 3:1–7
Rom 5:12–19 or 5:12,
17–19
Mt 4:1–11

Our Parish COMMUNITY

February 23, 2020

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Lv 19:1–2, 17–18

1 Cor 3:16–23

Mt 5:38–48

Be Perfect

Wow, that's a tall order! But what does perfect mean? The Greek word means "full" or "complete." In the first reading, Leviticus calls us to be *holy*, a word with cultic allusions—to be set apart to be used for God. Though not possessing exactly the same sense, there is a connection between *perfect* and *holy*, for to be set apart to be used for God will certainly make us perfect, fulfilled, and complete. So what does Jesus mean when he tells us to be perfect, as God is perfect?

Continuing our reflection on the Sermon on the Mount, we find Jesus telling us how we are to be perfect as God is perfect. He offers two examples of extraordinary behavior. The Mesopotamian code of Hammurabi states "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." The punishment may not exceed the crime.

This was a step forward in ancient justice.

Jesus said that this is not enough. There is to be no vindictiveness, no revenge, regardless of how equivalent it might appear. The reason for this is that God loves and cares for all, even those who do us injustice. God makes the "sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:46). In this way, we must be like God; we must love all, no exceptions. This is what it means to be perfect. It is indeed a tall order. But it is the way to be fulfilled, to be complete.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Where in your life are you being called to consecrate yourself to God and God's work?
- ★ Where in your life are you being challenged to love more unselfishly?

[Jesus said,] "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you....Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."
MATTHEW 5:44, 48