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

Responsorial Psalm 97: The Lord is king, the most high ever all the earth.

St. Joseph The Worker News:

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

Praying with Pope Francis August: *For World Youth Day:* We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Mass Intentions For This Week:

Transfiguration of the Lord

Saturday Aug 5 7:30 p.m. Russell For all parishioners by Father Paul

Sunday Aug 6 9:00 a.m. Russell For all parishioners by Father Paul

11:00 a.m. Rossburn + John Ryshytylo req. my Michael & Myrna & family

Monday Aug 7 Health of family & friends req. by Jean Goba

Tuesday Aug 8 In thanksgiving for God's Blessings req. by Holly & family

Wed. Aug 9 + Frank Mangin from Funeral Mass offering

Thurs. Aug 10 10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration

11:00 a.m. Mass Emily Sanders for her health and healing req. by David and Karen Shaw

Friday Aug 11 8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration

9:00 a.m. Mass

10:00 a.m. Mass & Music Rossburn Personal Care Home

+ John Ryshytylo & all the Souls in Purgatory req. by Lynda & family

Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Saturday Aug 12 7:30 p.m. Russell + Rita & Joseph Deschambault req. by Anne & Ubald Deschambault

Sunday Aug 13 9:00 a.m. Russell

For all parishioners by Father Paul

11:00 a.m. **Oakburn Farm** Emily Sanders for her health and healing req. by David and Karen Shaw

Annual Mass will be held at Our Lady of Assumption, Roman Catholic Church (Oakburn Farm Church), on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. & Blessing of Graves followed by coffee and muffins. Please bring their own lawnchair. Everyone welcome. I will also be Blessing of Graves in Oakburn at 2:00 p.m.

World Youth Day Coverage from EWTN

World Youth Day Lisbon 2023 is just around the corner and EWTN will be there to bring the most comprehensive Special Coverage of the activities in Lisbon, Portugal right into our viewers' homes. The theme, "*Mary arose and went with haste*" (Lk 1:39), presents Mary as both a woman of charity and a missionary woman and leaving in haste represents the attitude depicted in Pope Francis' indications for *WYD Lisbon 2023*: "*may young people's evangelization be active and missionary, for this is how they will recognize and witness the presence of the living Christ*". This Special Coverage can be viewed on EWTN via [cable tv](#), live online on our website (ewtn.com/tv/watch-live...) or via the free EWTN app on mobile devices (Android, Apple, Roku, KindleFire).

It's been a full 40 years for Winnipeg archbishop

BY [QUINTON AMUNDSON, THE CATHOLIC REGISTER](#)

Winnipeg Archbishop Richard Gagnon said his 40 years of service to the Canadian Catholic Church, first as a priest and then as a bishop, "has gone by so quickly and is so full of events and people."

So much so that he admits "one has difficulty focusing on those four decades with any accuracy because there is constant movement in ministry with different experiences and situations one right after another."

Nevertheless, Gagnon endeavoured to provide The Catholic Register with a 40,000-foot encapsulation of his vocational career a day before he was celebrated at a special thank you Mass on July 20 at Winnipeg's St. Mary's Cathedral

The 75-year-old, born to Therese and George Gagnon in Lethbridge, Alta., recalled that he first entertained the possibility of being a priest when he was either attending Grade 3 or 4 in the Vancouver Catholic school system. His calling to the priesthood really took root during his 20s. He was working as a public school band teacher, possessing talent as a clarinet, flute and saxophone player.

"I had a realization that there must be more to life than what I was experiencing it in terms of fulfillment," said Gagnon, who also credits the inspirational lives of the saints for drawing him towards the priesthood.

Gagnon completed his seminary studies at the Pontifical Beda College in Rome from 1978-1983. He was ordained a priest at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver on June 24, 1983, which is the feast day of John the Baptist.

His early ministerial assignments were as assistant pastor at St. Mary's Parish and then Corpus Christi Parish in the Vancouver area. In 1986, he was appointed pastor of St. Jude's in Vancouver. Especially during his early years, Gagnon enjoyed a tight-knit association with the Catholic Women's League. He served as spiritual advisor for the Archdiocese of Vancouver's CWL starting in 1986 and then he was named to the provincial council for B.C. and Yukon in 1992.

"I found that these were terrific women," said Gagnon. "They were well-versed in the Church's teachings. They were dedicated to their tasks. Very intelligent, and who were very inspirational in their dedication to the Church, the ways they went about their duties to the league and how they advocated for their causes, particularly being pro-life, in society."

Pope John Paul II, installed as pope the year Gagnon began his education in Rome, loomed as an influential figure in his career. It was John Paul II, in 2004, who would appoint Gagnon as the 16th Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria.

"John Paul II was a very important presence and very influential," said Gagnon. "He was a giant in a sense. He straddled the world and the Church with his presence, teachings, encyclicals, travels and example. He showed me and many others what it means to live a full human life. He was a missionary at heart, a pastor, an intellectual, an artist — a universal man in many respects."

Gagnon hailed the late Pope Benedict as "an intellectual presence, a formidable theologian and a very humble man who was a real gift to the Church."

As for the current shepherd, Pope Francis, Gagnon said he is "another pope suitable for the times. He gave us a real pastoral sense of the modern world and how we are to approach the question of evangelization and relationships with others."

Pope Francis named Gagnon Archbishop of Winnipeg on Oct. 28, 2013, just seven months into his papacy.

A defining chapter of Gagnon's leadership in Manitoba was navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2022.

"COVID was filled with pastoral challenges," said Gagnon. "There was a lack of outreach and presence in the Church, but at the same time there was a lot of creativity and goodwill from clergy and others and keeping churches active with its contact with people. Even though those two years saw congregations often not meeting and the style of Mass was very different, I, as a bishop, stayed busy in different ways."

Gagnon praised "the perseverance" of Manitoba's Catholics during this tribulation, while also recognizing that a segment of churchgoers has not returned after public health restrictions lifted either because of ongoing fear of COVID-19 or becoming accustomed to remote liturgical broadcasts.

On the horizon, Gagnon said there is a lot of excitement over the upcoming Synod in Rome. Before the worldwide Synod on Synodality began in 2021, the archdiocese completed a synodal process from 2016 to 2018. The pandemic substantially delayed the implementation of the 42 recommendations that arose from the archdiocesan synod. But now progress can be made toward new initiatives that should bolster evangelization efforts, ties with Indigenous peoples, faith formation, social outreach and youth and young adult ministry.

Dear Padre,

For the past year or so I have been trying to pray on a regular basis, but I am constantly distracted. My mind wanders so easily. Do you have any suggestions?

Distractions in prayer are an inescapable part of the human condition and the result of our imagination. Even great saints experienced distractions in prayer, and some of their suggestions may help. When St. Thérèse of Lisieux struggled with prayer, she would recite an Our Father or a Hail Mary or read from the Gospels. Praying an act of faith or returning to God’s presence and love can turn our focus away from other concerns, but even then, distractions may still arise.

When we become aware of them, we should calmly renew our focus and continue our prayer. Saint Teresa of Ávila offers this guidance: “We should not be distressed by reason of our thoughts, nor allow ourselves to be worried by them....The thing is inevitable, therefore do not let it disturb or grieve you” (*The Interior Castle*). No matter how often distractions return or how long they last, they are not sinful. Rather, they are opportunities to show God that we are sincere about praying.

Saint Alphonsus, another great teacher of prayer, reminds us that prayer is necessary, beneficial, and always possible. Hang in there, he says, because the devil would like nothing better than for you to stop praying. ●



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
August 7 Weekday Nm 11:4b-15 Mt 14:13-21	August 8 St. Dominic, Priest Nm 12:1-13 Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14	August 9 Weekday Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 Mt 15:21-28	August 10 St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr 2 Cor 9:6-10 Jn 12:24-26	August 11 St. Clare, Virgin Dt 4:32-40 Mt 16:24-28	August 12 Weekday Dt 6:4-13 Mt 17:14-20	August 13 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33



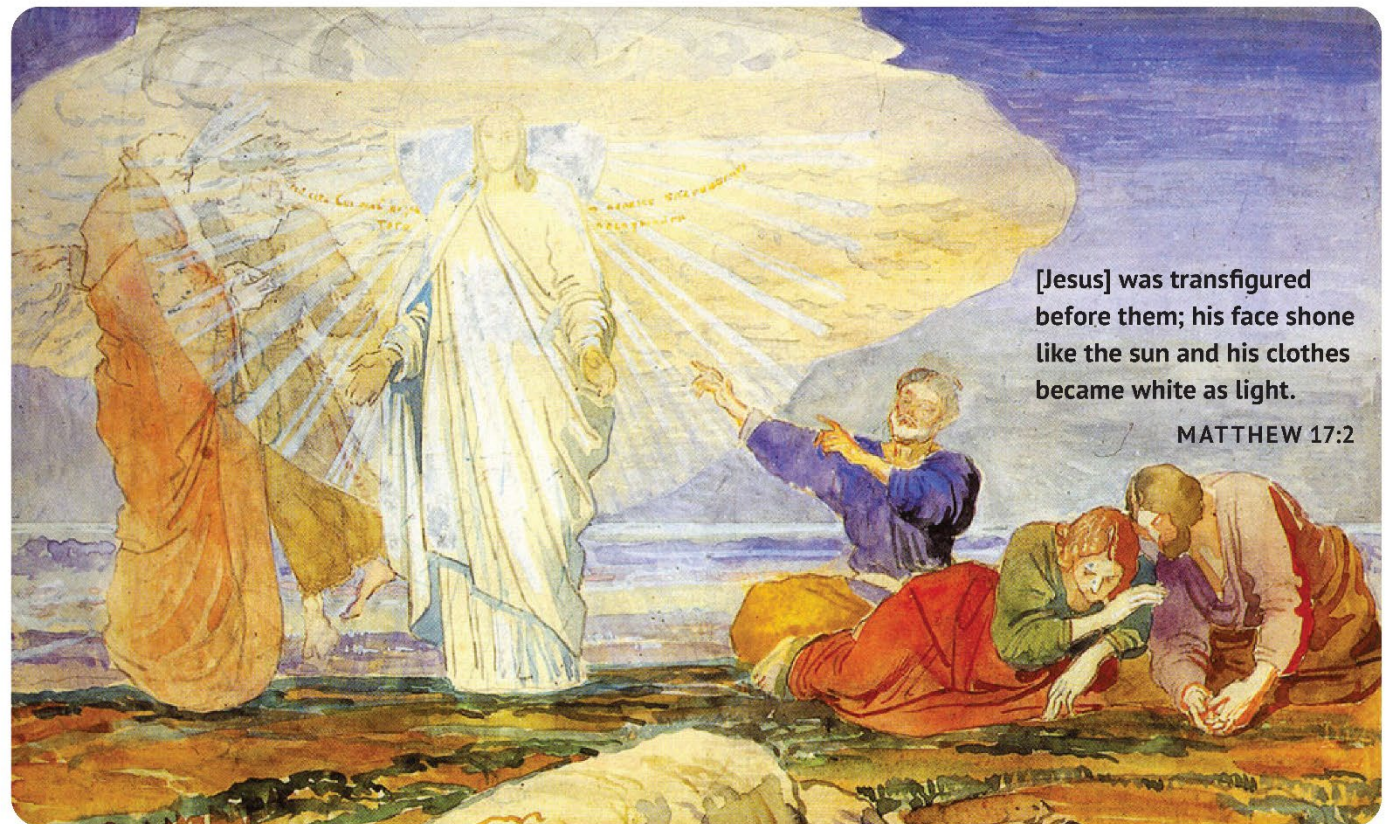
A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We have not seen with our own eyes the face of Jesus shining like the sun. However, we too were given the Word of Salvation, faith was given to us, and we have experienced the joy of meeting Jesus in different ways. Jesus also says to us: “Rise, and have no fear” (Matthew 17:7).

ANGELUS, MARCH 8, 2020

Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 6, 2023
Transfiguration of the Lord (A)
Deuteronomy 7:9-10, 13-14 / 2 Peter 1:16-19 / Matthew 17:1-9



[Jesus] was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.
MATTHEW 17:2

The Gift of Mystery

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In life there are moments that some call transcendence, when the divine shines through the human and the veil that seems to cloak another world falls ever so briefly to reveal that there are not two worlds but only one wrapped in mystery. That is what took place on a mountaintop when Peter, James, and John realized that this Jesus with whom they talked and walked and shared meals, this friend, this very ordinary one, was so much more, was extraordinary, was “of God.” While real, it seemed better not to tell anyone about what they had seen.

Are there also moments in our lives when the human glows with the divine, when we come to realize more clearly than ever before that there is another power at play in life than you yourself? Most assuredly. While we are powerless to create such experiences of transcendence, more than 100 years ago the psychologist William James described such moments when they do occur. He identified four qualities in such experiences: 1) they seem closer to being emotional than intellectual or cognitive; 2) they tend to bring us new understandings of life and of what is, akin to insights, though they cannot be found in a book or be taught; 3) they tend to be very brief, a few seconds for most people; and 4) there is a sense of being sustained by a superior power. This was the apostles’ experience of the transfiguration, the feast we celebrate today. ●

Reflect

Have you had an experience of the transcendent that changed you?