

The Community of **St Ignatius**

Winnipeg, MB

On-line Parish Bulletin for 2022-03-20

www.stignatius.ca/our-parish/weekly-bulletins/

3rd Sunday in Lent (Year C)

Please click underlined words below
to go to:

REFLECTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

OUR FACILITIES

**Sunday morning Mass Times
now in effect: 9:30 and 11:30am**

St Ignatius is open for public Masses

✚ Wednesday through Friday: 11am*

✚ Saturday 11am* and 5pm

✚ Sunday 9:30am and 11:30am*

* livestreamed

**You are still required to wear a mask
covering nose and mouth. If you have been
exposed to Covid19 or are sick, you should
refrain from attending in person.**



Parable of the Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13)
Painting by James Tissot, French, 19thC (detail)

READINGS: 3rd Sunday in Lent (C)

1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8a, 13-15

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Mass Intentions for the Week of Mar 21st – 26th (will be honoured during live-streamed Masses)

Mon	Mar 21 st	11:00am	For the people of Ukraine
Tues	22 nd	11:00am	+Eugenio Marino
Wed	23 rd	11:00am	Spec Int: Mary Jane Abejero
Thu	24 th	11:00am	+Mary Pomanski
Fri	25 th	11:00am	+Domenico & + Luigi Marinelli
Sat	26 th	11:00am	+Joseph Gfroerer

- **Masses are still live-streamed** at 11am daily from St Ignatius at <http://stignatiusmass.from-ca.com> (and remain available on line until the next morning). All who cannot attend are invited to join us on line.
- **When private prayer in the church is not available for you, family prayer at home is highly recommended.** See the following websites for prayer suggestions:
 - <https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/prayers-for-healing>
 - <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/>
 - <https://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/a-prayer-for-healing-and-hope/>
- **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available on Friday 4:15pm to 5pm, Saturday 10:00am to 10:45am or by appointment Wednesday through Friday. Please send request by email to reserve@stignatius.ca
- **Additional Lenten Reconciliation opportunity: Monday 4 April, 7-9pm.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Needed: Volunteer Ushers and Live-stream Technicians for Saturday 5pm and Sunday 9:30am Masses.

Needed: Sunday School Teachers for 2022-23, for all grade levels. If interested, email office@stignatius.ca

D&P-hosted Stations of the Cross, Friday 8 April, 5pm, followed by the K of C Fish Fry.

D&P's People and Planet First campaign asks you to sign the petition at devp.org/act and spread the word, to help ensure that Canada adopts strong due-diligence laws preventing Canadian corporations from abusing human and environmental rights in their global operations. We have the ability to mobilize thousands of Canadians like you to amplify marginalized voices from the Global South. Our partners there want to stop businesses from perpetrating abuses with impunity.

St Ignatius Refugee Cttee needs help for refugee families settling in Winnipeg. Ukrainian family: the size of family we can sponsor depends on the funds we raise. **Afghan family:** We also still need more funding for the family in peril for working with the Jesuits. **Send cheques payable to St Ignatius Parish** earmarked for "Ukrainian Refugee Fund" or/and "Afghan Refugee Fund." For info, contact Saratha, 204-885-0551.

Universal Synod announced by Pope Francis: St Ignatius Parish Pastoral Council invites you to participate in either or both of two ways:

- **Complete the Archdiocese of Winnipeg's on-line survey before May 1st** by going to <https://www.archwinnipeg.ca/main.php?p=168> There find full info and click on "Participate in the Synod."
- **Attend one of two Parish listening sessions;** to sign up, email Fr Con Mulvihill at fr.mulvihill@stignatius.ca indicating which session you prefer:
 - ☐ **Wednesday 23 March, 7pm on Zoom OR**
 - ☐ **Sunday 10 April, 1:30pm in person in our Parish Hall.**

Ecology and the Common Good, an on-line Prairie Symposium, sponsored by Campion College (Regina) and St Thomas More College (Saskatoon), welcomes scholars from across Canada and around the globe. Program info & registration: <https://umanitoba.ca/st-pauls-college/pscg> You can hear these keynote addresses:

- **Thursday 24 March, 1 pm (CDT): 2022 Jesuit Lecture, *Endless forms most beautiful ... Lichens, Contemplation and Awe***, Dr. John McCarthy S.J.
- **Thursday 24 March, 7 pm (CDT): 2022 Hanley Memorial Lecture, *Fruit of Our Common Home: Tales from the Cheese Caves of France – A Benedictine Cheesemaker's Perspective on Microbial Diversity***, Mother Prioress Noella Marcellino, OSB, PhD.
- **Friday 25 March 25, 1 pm (CDT): 2022 MLT Aikins St. Paul's College Affiliation Lecture, *Spirituality and Wonder: A Way Forward in Hard Times***, Dr. Heather Eaton, St Paul University, Ottawa

Knights of Columbus Initiatives

- **Next Rosary Prayer, Sunday 27 March** immediately after 11:30am Mass.
- **Lenten Fish Fry, Friday 8 April** immediately following the **D&P-hosted 5pm Stations of the Cross.**
- **Sobeys and Co-op Grocery Card Sales** after Saturday 5pm and Sunday 11am Masses. Pay by cash or debit to earn these stores' donations to our Parish.

Virtual Conference on Ignatian Spirituality, Saturday & Sunday 2 & 3 April. Eight sessions on such topics as decision-making; hearing God's voice; the link between faith and justice. Hosted by the Jesuits of Canada, as part of the Ignatian Year. Presenters include: James Martin, SJ; Laurence Loubières, XMCJ; and Greg Kennedy, SJ. No charge to register at <https://crc-canada.org/en/activite/ignatian-spirituality-conference/> (registration button at bottom)

Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) and the Jesuits of Canada stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. Jesuits and lay partners in Ukraine and nearby countries are accompanying forcibly displaced people. To donate, please send a cheque to CJI, 70 St Mary Street, Toronto, ON M5S 1J3, visit <https://www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/statement-of-solidarity-with-the-people-of-ukraine> , email cji@jesuits.ca , or contact CJI at 416-465-1824. Thank you.

REFLECTION

Repentance and the Barren Fig Tree Parable: Interpretations

Traditional Interpretation: The Church Fathers (and the Catholic Church subsequently) have interpreted this parable as Jesus Christ warning Christians that they must bear fruits after their conversion worthy of repentance or risk being condemned to Hell. God, in His mercy, repeatedly checks on believers to see if they have borne fruit worthy of their baptism and conversion. If someone who has been baptized and says they are Christian has not borne fruit, they are condemned. This verse was used during the Counter-Reformation to help support the belief of the Church that faith without works is dead.

Holistic Interpretation: The owner, who had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and came seeking fruit, is generally regarded as representing God the Father. The gardener (vinedresser) is Jesus. Fig trees were common and would rarely be planted in vineyards, because their deep roots and large branches take much ground that would otherwise be used for the vines....

The fig tree was a common biblical symbol for Israel and may have that meaning here. More likely, the tree refers to a Gentile who has heard the gospel of Christ by faith in order to be saved. In either case, the parable reflects Jesus offering a chance for repentance and forgiveness of sin, showing his grace toward the faithful. "These three years" could logically refer the period it took for a fig tree to bear fruit, or allegorically, to the period of Jesus' ministry. The fig tree (Gentile) was given the time it needed to bear fruit, and the opportunity to be in the vineyard in the first place, where it otherwise would not have been. The vinedresser (Jesus) does not fail and promises to cultivate the tree so that it may produce fruit. In the end, the faithful prevail.

Luke could have based the allegory on a tale of a Jewish labourer 'outsmarting' his Roman master. The owner is an absentee landlord, only visiting his vineyard once a year. Jesus' Jewish audience would have understood that such a landlord might be unfamiliar with the Jewish law of first fruits, enunciated in Leviticus 19. This law forbade eating fruit from a tree in its first three years; while possibly intended to protect early growth, the law was to be taken literally. Therefore, the vinedresser, probably an observant Jew, may well have disposed of the fruit, either by plucking it at an unripe stage or dropping it for compost, to prevent anyone from inadvertently eating it during the tree's protected period. Now that the tree is entering its productive period, the vinedresser has saved it from the axe, without letting the master know what happened to the earlier fruit. (There may also be a suggestion that there is a period of latency in the development or manifestation of the results of good works).

And the vinedresser has another surprise for the Roman landlord: in the fourth year, all the fruit is to be offered to God!

– Adapted from Wikipedia, "Parable of the barren fig tree"

"Repentance is not just a listing of our sins, but rather a matter of redirection, of putting God first and everything else second – it is this redirection of our desires, our hopes, our dreams, and our entire lives that results in flourishing and transformation."

– 'Rebecca,' "What the Parable of the Barren Fig Tree Tells us about Transformation"
from the blog: "Out Upon the Waters: Stories and resources for stepping out in faith," March 26, 2019 at
<https://outuponthewaters.com/what-the-parable-of-the-barren-fig-tree-tells-us-about-transformation/>

LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE, ALMSGIVING, and PENANCE

- **ABSTINENCE:** Catholics aged 14+ are expected to abstain from meat **on all Fridays of Lent¹** (and on Ash Wednesday). Eggs, fish, and plant-based substitutes don't count as meat.
- **FASTING:** Catholics aged 18-59 are expected to fast (taking at most one full meal and two small "snacks" that don't add up to a full meal) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday – and where possible, on Holy Saturday. Drinks such as water or juice don't count as food, but liquids used as food – e.g., soups or smoothies – do count.
- When you have a medical condition or are pregnant, travelling, or under unusual stress, these requirements may be relaxed.

In addition to fasting and abstinence, giving alms or doing charitable work is expected.

¹ Fridays are days of abstinence all year round, not just during Lent. *Outside* of Lent, however, special acts of charity or piety may be substituted for abstinence on these days.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sharing God's Gifts Archdiocesan Collection (SGG): Our assessment for 2021 is \$52,515, of which we still owe \$13,095. Please make cheques payable to the Parish, earmarked "Sharing God's Gifts" – and print your name and envelope number clearly on the Sharing God's Gifts envelope. Thanks for supporting our Archdiocesan ministries.

St Ignatius Statement for the period February 21st to March 6th: To our combined regular Sunday collections in support of our Parish, including school and church expenses you gave \$20,905. To SGG you gave \$1,684. For the Refugee Fund you gave \$870. You gave \$100 to D&P. For the Mission Fund you gave \$115. To Agape you gave \$120. Thank you for your generosity! (NB: For now, tallies are made every two weeks.)

OUR FACILITIES

ST IGNATIUS PARISH
255 Stafford Street
Winnipeg, MB R3M 2X2
www.stignatius.ca

Served by:

Pastor: Frank Obrigewitsch, SJ

Assoc Pastor: Con Mulvihill, SJ and John Perry, SJ

Office: office@stignatius.ca , 204-474-2351
Walk-in hours limited.

Admin Asst: Indira Rampersad,

Controller: Jan Hasiuk
controller@stignatius.ca

ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL
Nursery-Grade 8: full curriculum in a Catholic environment for children of registered parishioners.

Principal: Jeannine Pistawka

Admin Asst: Michele Lampertz
204-475-1386
www.stignatius.mb.ca

Adult Education Centre & Lending Library:
204-453-9243

Co-ordinator: Fr Con
adult.education@stignatius.ca

Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Manager:
Chris Janes,
maintenance@stignatius.ca

SACRAMENTS, FORMATION, & ACTIVITIES

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

For the preparation program, phone four months before child's birth

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:55am-12 Noon

This year: First Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation only

CONFIRMATION

For Grades 8-12: Enquire at Parish Office in September

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

Enquire at the Adult Education Centre if interested in joining the Catholic Church.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrange 12 months in advance.

SICK CALLS:

Request through the Office.
Someone will gladly visit the sick.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY:

call Office, 204-474-2351

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

normally meet 1st Monday each month at 7:30pm