



Reflections of the pastor 10.10.17

The sun shone on our September 10th Festival of Friends and Patron's Day celebration. God blessed us with organizers Thecla Athayde and Chris Graham, their cohort of volunteers, the Knights of Columbus, the musicians of the Spanish, 9:30 and 11 a.m. Masses, liturgy planners, and altar servers to provide the parish with joyous worship of God and celebration, even thousands of wasps came to join the inclusive event (all God's creatures!). Thanks to all who made the day so enjoyable.

Our New Web Site: The new St Ignatius Parish web site was launched on September 10th. The new St. Ignatius School web site will launch in October. Congratulations to Jan Hasiuk, our parish controller, and Principal Jeannine Pistawka who spent hours and hours on these projects with our provider, Lushious Orange. Limited funds made this a full two year venture. No doubt there will be some bugs to eradicate and additions to be made. Please take time to Google both sites: "St Ignatius Parish Winnipeg" and "St Ignatius School Winnipeg".

Gratitude for so many!:

- Thanks to all those who assisted our worship during the summer months, particularly, the musicians, Don Fraser, Malcolm & Jennifer Bird, Dale Rogalsky, Chas van Dyck and the cantors, and Joe Madden and the Sunday evening bands. Music lifts our hearts and our worship.
- Thanks to Fr. Peter Monty, S.J. for joining us again in August so that Fr Joe Newman and I could take turns disappearing from the parish for our annual eight day retreat and a few days holiday.
- We shall miss Fr. Jeffrey Burwell. Thanks to him for taking the Monday 7:15 a.m. Mass, for launching a new preparation for Baptisms, and for the many ways he assisted us. Best wishes and prayer for his ministry in Regina.
- Thanks to Markel Seitz for assisting in the office during July to enable Indira Rampersad to have her well deserved holidays and for Podge Dimagiba who assisted Saturdays during the summer months.
- Thanks to David Androvic for taking care of our computers and all things electronic in the Church and the office— screens, projectors, etc. When our system crashed in early August, David was able, with the help of Podge, to keep us operational, until he could return from Hungary to get everything hunky dory again. Thanks to David and his crew for cleaning and refurbishing the sound system in the church.
- Thanks to Lynne Campbell, our Youth Ministry Coordinator, for running a successful Bible Camp in the first two weeks of July.
- Thanks to Ruth Chipman and Mike Radcliffe who agreed to let their names stand as St. Ignatius representatives for the Archdiocesan Synod sessions. Valerie Forrest, Education Centre director, agreed to be the alternate. They have already had their orientation session. (For more about the Synod read our Archdiocesan publication "The New Wine Press" (Oct. 2017).
- Thanks to our counters. Most of the parish are probably not aware that their generous donations are tallied by two sets of counters every week during the course of the year so that proper receipts can be provided and deposits and records kept. Even during the summer a trusty cohort appeared every week to serve our parish in this!
- Thanks to the Committee of St. Ignatius and St. Kateri for organizing the second wonderful Truth and Reconciliation sessions in September. We look to more efforts encouraging reconciliation with our brothers and sisters who were greatly harmed as our Canadian nation of 150 years was forged.

Our Parish Future and Elevator: The PPC (Parish Pastoral Committee) continues this fall to evaluate documents which were part of a discernment process begun in 2014 to help determine our hopes for the parish in the next ten years. Our dream elevator is central to those hopes.

Summer works: Chris Janes and Connor MaGee did the repairs on the Church roof and south side eaves troughs damaged by the ice last winter. They assisted a good friend of the Church in removing the two massive trees on the grounds. One tree in particular posed a danger to the office building. Money saved on these projects, and by Chris and Connor demolishing the ceiling in the Hall themselves, was spent in providing a new ceiling and LED lighting for our Hall! For security reasons, we are gradually re-keying our entire complex. This summer all exterior doors of the Church have been re keyed. Four electronic pads are now in strategic places, rectory, Hall, Education Centre, and Nursery. Plastic fobs are available and replace keys for access.

Congratulations:

- Congratulations to Chris Janes who is attending the U of M this Fall to pursue an MA in Fine Arts. Thanks for his generosity in maintaining his plant supervisor/maintenance role part time here at St. Ignatius to make sure we are taken care of well while he completes his studies.
- Congratulations to Dr. Paul V.C. Adams upon whom Pope Francis has conferred the Knighthood of St. Gregory - Knight Commander with Star. This honour will be conferred on Dr. Adams at St Paul's College on Saturday, October 21, 2017.
- Congratulations to Ruth and Steve Chipman who will be honoured at the St. Paul's High School Tribute dinner on Tuesday, November 7th, 2017.

Our School: A permit was finally approved for the School Music room project. Budget constraints mean only part of the work can be completed, but enough to use the space. By the end of October the Music Room should be basically operable. The School gym inside repaint was completed thanks to the donations of SISPAC and student Logan Griffiths! You have noticed the mural on the outside gym wall has been power washed, sealed, and painted protecting the integrity of the wall.

Our Finances: The annual audit took place late September. The report will give us some good data to assess our decision about making our school tuition based. Under the fine leadership of Principal Jeannine Pistawka and the school board chaired by Andrew Hirst our school seems to be running well with a goodly number of students this fall. We can expect details on all of this and the financial state of the parish at the fall AGM in November.

In the spring our parish was audited by the CRA (Canadian Revenue Agency). The report was very positive thanks to the helpful representatives from the government and especially the work of Jan Hasiuk, our parish controller.

**Please mark your calendars with the date of the Parish AGM (Annual General Meeting):
Thursday, November 16th, 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.**



Peace and prayers,

R. Frank Albright

St. Ignatius Parish

