

The Community of **St Ignatius**

Winnipeg, MB

On-line Parish Bulletin

for 2021-08-22

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)



*Two paths diverged in a yellow wood:
"Choose this day whom you will serve..." (Joshua 24)*

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The church is open for public Masses with limited attendance Wednesday through Sunday at 11am, with an additional Saturday 5pm Mass.

Please email reserve@stignatius.ca to reserve a seat Daily Masses continue to be celebrated and Parishioners' intentions are honoured at each Mass. Masses are live-streamed at 11am daily from St Ignatius at <http://stignatiusmass.from-ca.com> (and remain available on line until the next morning).

The Archbishop has extended **until September 12th** the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass in person.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by appointment Wednesday through Saturday.

When private prayer in the church is not available for you, family prayer at home is highly recommended. The following websites, among many others, have prayer suggestions you may find helpful:

- <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/>

READINGS: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2a, 15-17, 18b

2nd Reading: Ephesians 4: 32 – 5:1-2, 21-32

Gospel: John 6:53, 60-69

Mass Intentions for the Week of August 16th – 21st (will be honoured during live-streamed Masses)

Mon	Aug	23 rd	11:00am	Pro Populo
Tues		24 th	11:00am	+Frank & +Anna Tymczyszyn
Wed		25 th	11:00am	+Deceased members of the Mencik Family
Thu		26 th	11:00am	+Carol McVea
Fri		27 th	11:00am	Spec Int: Sequiera Family
Sat		28 th	11:00am	+Juliana Carandang

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Although physical attendance limits have been somewhat relaxed for indoor religious services under current Covid-19 restrictions, parishioners still require advance reservations to attend Mass in person, and the Parish policy is that all those attending Mass must wear a mask covering nose and mouth and practise physical distancing.

Meanwhile, all are requested to join us regularly on line at <https://www.stignatius.ca> .

Please see the Pastor's August Reflections on the website and by email.

Registration for First Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation Sunday School classes began Sunday 1 August. Forms are available in the Office. **These three classes resume Sunday 12 September.** Parents of children to be registered for all other classes: please watch for further notices.

Catechism teachers are needed for St Ignatius Parish Sunday School, September 2021 through May 2022, for Kindergarten and Grades 1, 4, 5 & 6. If interested, please email office@stignatius.ca , Attention: Lucy Vogrig, Sunday School Principal.

Growing in Wisdom: Seeking Deeper Generativity, Wednesday to Saturday, 14 to 18 September 2021 via Zoom. This is the opening session of a two-year program based on the ecumenical *Forest Dwelling Program* from the Oblate School of Theology in Texas, for those of us who seek the grace to come to terms with our own mortality and face our maturing years with wisdom. Follow-up Tuesday through Saturday sessions are scheduled for 2022 (February 8th through 12th and September 27th through October 1st) and for 2023 (February 7th through 11th and one day in June). Tuition: \$2,400 (minus discounts) phased over two years. For info, contact Program Coordinator Nancy Phillips, 204-470-9437 or dnphil@mymts.net ; or go to <http://www.queenshouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Growing-in-Wisdom-program-outline-final.pdf>

Adult Education Centre Events:

for info, contact Fr Con, fr.mulvihill@stignatius.ca or the Parish Office (204-474-2351)

- **RCIA starting in mid-October 2021:** Are you or a friend interested in baptism or confirmation in the Catholic Church? St Ignatius Parish will be offering a course in preparation for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at the Easter Vigil in 2022. Provincial guidelines permitting, participants and their sponsors will meet with a team for weekly formation classes and fellowship.

Come and Discover Nathanael Adult Faith Formation Experience starting Fall of 2021. For info, go to www.nathanaelwpg.ca

Rossbrook House still needs toiletry donations: shampoo, conditioner, soap (bars and liquid), hand lotion, men's & women's hygiene products. Please drop donations off at Rossbrook House, 658 Ross Ave, attention Stephanie Lambert, 204-949-4090; or to Don & Mary Hanson, 382 Riel Ave; or call 204-253-9428 to request pick-up.

Manitoba Catholic Schools Job Opportunities: Several teaching opportunities are available. For info or to apply, go to <https://www.mbcatholicschools.ca/employment.html>

REFLECTION

“This Saying is Hard”.... “Choose Whom You Will Serve”

“This saying is hard! Who can accept it?” That’s the first-century public reaction to what Jesus was teaching in the Bread of Life discourse, but many people may well say the same of some of the ideas in the Letter to the Ephesians. Listening to today’s second reading, we should remember that it was written in a historical context very different from our own and used contemporary practices to illustrate a perennial truth about Christian life. The essential teaching of the letter is contained in the first line: “Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.” The more we manage to do that in family and community, the more we will build up the body of Christ for our world....

Commitment is a key to today’s scriptures. Joshua, Moses’ protégé and successor, wants his people to remember who they are together before God. The great leader, now an old man, wants to hand on his legacy so that it will be kept intact and be fruitful. Joshua reminds his people of all God has done on their behalf, and thunders out his challenge: “Decide whom you will serve! As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!”

The situation John describes is quite different. Jesus’ Bread of Life discourse had caused such division that the majority of his disciples were leaving him. What they could not accept was the immediacy of Jesus’ words. Jesus claimed to be the bread come down from heaven: not a bread-line miracle worker, but the very source of spirit and life. Purveyors of free food will always be popular. People don’t often worry about the source of the supply, and they care little about the dependence they create. But Jesus didn’t fall into the trap of being the all-powerful benefactor. Instead, he offered himself — at the price of total commitment.

Half-measures were no option for the disciples at this juncture. The people hearing Jesus had to accept or reject his claim to be God’s unique envoy, the source of Spirit and life. As a result, in John’s simple, tragic words, “many of his disciples ... no longer accompanied him.” Whether because of scandal or lack of commitment, they walked away.

John wants us to understand that this was the disciples’ most critical moment between the time of their call and the Passion. While the majority of their friends and companions turned away, they chose to remain. That couldn’t have been a purely rational decision. Jesus’ words spoke to their hearts and rang true to them because that grace had been “granted them by the Father.” Jesus had truly become their source of “Spirit and life.”

These readings remind us that our faith is a matter of the heart as well as the head, an empowering grace as well as a voluntary response to God’s invitations. It is a free gift that will cost us everything. The readings also remind us that as Christians, we believe as members of a community, people who remember and celebrate the goodness of the Lord together. Crises of faith will come, and just as in every other relationship, the crisis will demand that we remember what God has done and how our hearts have been touched. May we always have the grace to repeat with Peter, “Lord, to whom shall we go?”

Celebration 2015 (Excerpted/paraphrased)

FINANCIAL REPORT

2020 Sharing God’s Gifts Archdiocesan Collection (SGG): Our assessment for 2021 is \$58,300, of which we still owe \$46,634. We have restarted our SGG collections every second week. 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 July 26th to August 8th: To our combined regular Sunday collections you gave \$17,222 in support of our Parish, including school and church expenses. To SGG you gave \$905. To Agape & Poor box you gave \$60. To the Unmarked Graves Fund you gave \$100. 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: CLOSED during current emergency Admin Asst: Indira Rampersad, 204-474-2351 office@stignatius.ca
Controller: Jan Hasiuk controller@stignatius.ca
ST IGNATIUS SCHOOL <i>Nursery-Grade 8: full curriculum in a Catholic environment for children of registered parishioners.</i> 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 1 st Monday each month at 7:30pm – meetings temporarily suspended.