

1st SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

THEME: THE MYSTERY OF SIN

Lent is a time we prepare to celebrate the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ and his subsequent resurrection. On this first Sunday of lent we have a dramatic account of the fall of first man-male and man-female, that is, Adam and Eve. It is this fall that necessitated the coming of Christ. We have a situation where our first parents were given the option of choosing between good and evil as represented by the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil respectively; and they chose wrongly. Why would God place such a harmful tree within the reach of Adam and Eve? Will a loving parent place a beautiful toy and a sharp knife within the reach of a crawling child? Whereas it would amount to irresponsibility on the part of the parent since the child does not know the difference, the same may not apply to God and our first parents. In the case of Adam and Eve, we are dealing with adults, who are responsible for their choice. But didn't God know that they would choose wrongly? To say that he never knew would mean that he is not all-knowing God. It means that his knowledge is limited. In other words, he learns by experience just like every other human being. But we know that God is omniscient and does not learn through experience. Even though God knew beforehand, he gave them the freedom to make their choice and never wanted to compel them. We are responsible for our choices not God, but if we bring God into the choice we make, we will choose rightly. On this Sunday let us reflect on the mystery of sin and the mystery of salvation. If the first Adam had not sinned, perhaps the second Adam (Jesus Christ) would not have come. We are still faced with choices either to live like the first Adam or to live like the second Adam. Everyday we have a choice to make, to say 'yes' to God and 'no' to the devil or to say 'yes' to the devil and 'no' to God. What choice are you making today? Where Adam failed, Jesus triumphed as today's Gospel reading tells us. He overcame the temptations of the devil. With Jesus we can also triumph over sin and the devil, if we listen to God's voice when we are tempted.

1st reading: *Genesis* 2:7-9,16-18, 25; 3:1-7. The account of the temptation of Adam and Eve and their fall.

Responsorial Psalm: Have mercy, O Lord, for we have sinned.

2nd reading: *Romans* 5:12-19. Death came through Adam whereas life came through Christ.

Gospel: *Matthew* 4:1-11. The account of the temptations of Jesus and his triumph over Satan.

Masses for the Upcoming Week

Sunday, March 1

9am Mass in Garson

11am Mass in Cook's Creek : Mass is offered for the repose of the soul of Irene Blank as requested by Darlene & Roger

Ingram & family

Tuesday March 3

9am Mass in Garson: Sophie prays for the health of Margaret Lanoo

Wednesday, March 4

1030 am Mass in Kin Place

Thursday March 5

Friday March 6

830am Stations of the Cross in Garson

9am Mass in Garson

7PM Stations of the Cross in Cook's Creek

Saturday, March 7

5:00 pm Mass in Oakbank

Sunday, March 8

9:00 am Mass in Garson

11:00 am Mass in Cook's Creek: St. Michael's choir prays for the repose of the soul of Irene Blank

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS:

March 2nd: Sophie prays for the repose of the soul of Joseph Galka at Sacred Heart Garson.

March 25th: Catherine Bylo prays for the repose of the soul of Cindy Einfeld (one year anniversary of death) at Garson.

April 1st: Mass is for the repose of the soul of Roman Bylo as requested by Catherine Bylo at Kin Place Oakbank.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE FOR EASTER

March 30th at St. John Paul II Oakbank, time is 7:30 pm.

Please use special envelopes for Mass Intentions. Please, consult the bulletin or find out from the priest to know which Sunday is free for Mass intention

St. Michael's.

Our annual **Seniors' Supper** will be on Sunday, April 5th. Invitations will be sent out/handed out over the next couple of Sundays. If you have not received your invitation or have had a special birthday this past year please see Dorene or Michael so we can add your name to the list.

Donations of new door prizes are needed. Please drop off your donation at church on or before April 6th.

Volunteers are needed for prep, serving and clean up. Sign-up sheets will be posted at a later date. We would love to see volunteers from our younger groups (under 65). Our confirmation candidates will be assisting us again this evening as they have the past two years!



Our next **Fellowship Sunday** is March 15th after Mass. It is our bread and soup Sunday. Proceeds to Development and Peace.

Altar Server Schedule

March 1: Hannah, Noah and Olivia Meadows
March 8: Daniel and Joseph Zubricki, Evan Matos
March 15: Riley, Grace and Fiona Kotzer
March 22: Madeline Duval, Evan Matos, Myah Lessard
March 29: Hannah, Noah and Olivia Meadows
Thank-you to our altar servers for their dedication!!

Please don't forget the Springfield Food Bank.

Your donations can be left at the back of the church in the drop off box. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Forty Days – Forty Items

Our Lenten journey has begun. It's not too late to take the challenge!. Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need and put it in a trash bag. At the end of the forty days, bring these items to church for donation to the Centre Flavie – Laurent. You can also do this for small kitchen gadgets.

St. John Paul II

Thank you to Larry and Pat Allard for arranging the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday. Also thank you to Ray Neumann with helping fry the sausages. The food was delicious and the company great! Thank you to everyone for participating and strengthening our church community.

Please remember that we need to update our records with your new mailing address, whether it be just a postal code or a complete address change. You can write your name and address on a paper and place it in the collection basket. Thank you all.

St. John Paul II has a membership number with the **Red River Co-op**. If anyone wants to donate their fuel purchases, our number is **500286**.

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors in our church community and invite you to register and join our parish. To register, please complete the form that is available at the back of the church and is also on our website at www.stjohn-paulii.org. Completed forms can be left with a greeter at the door or placed in the offertory basket. We are happy to have you be a part of our church community and to share our spiritual journey together.

The next Board meeting is Thursday, March 5th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart

Our Ladies Altar Society meeting is March 11th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory.

The Administrative Board meeting is March 12th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Get your 50/50 St. Patrick's Day tickets. Minimum prize is \$1000.00. **Draw to be made at our St. Patrick's Day dinner March 15, 2020.** Tickets available from Church Members

St. Michael's CWL

Our next CWL meeting will be Sunday, March 1st, after Mass.

The Catholic Women's League will turn 100 years old in 2020! From Newfoundland to B.C. to the Yukon, women from across Canada are joined together in faith and service. If you're not a member, what a special year to join. You can be as involved as you like. If you would like to simply receive e-mails to be informed, attend the odd meeting, or come and help us at one of our functions. We would love to have you join us. On the topic of our 100th year, there will be many celebrations and events to come in the new year. National Office is putting together a commemorative book. They are looking for pictures. See if we can find any good pictures from the past 20 years!

Perogies for sale, \$5.00 a dozen. See Fern Kotello or Alice Tetrault

Social Action - Development & Peace.



The tree of solidarity that is Development and Peace — Caritas Canada

In 1967, the Bishops of Canada sowed a seed of solidarity, seeking to nurture a movement for social justice. This seed took root and blossomed into a strong tree. Its roots are the thousands of Canadians who support the organization by donating time and money. Its branches are partners who flourish and help build a world of justice. Their work bears fruit for millions of people in the Global South who are taking charge of their own destiny.

Consult the Mini-magazine to learn more about Development and Peace's work:

devp.org/lent/resources.

Share Lent donations March 28 & 29 (Solidarity Sunday) Please make the cheque payable to your parish and write "Development and Peace – Share Lent" in the memo.

Cooks Creek Heritage Museum www.cchm.ca

"Polski Czat" an informal Polish language group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7PM in the St Michael's Church Hall. New members are most welcome! Please contact Liz @ 204-801-0829 for more info

Community Events

St. Boniface Diocesan High School registration is open and the countdown is on! Completed forms along with the \$100.00 registration fee are due to the school office by March 2, 2020. Join a COMMUNITY.

Sacred Heart Church Presents



St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Sunday March 15, 2020 @ The Garson Hall

Tickets \$15 🍀 Doors open at 4:30pm 🍀 Dinner served at 5:30pm
Children under 12 \$8.00, 5 and under free

50/50 Draw Guaranteed \$1000

Silent Auction and Cash Bar

For tickets contact any church member, the Garson Post Office
or call, Barb 482-5374, Ed 268-4904 or Emilie 268-1265

All tickets sold in advance / limited number available

World Day of Prayer 2020 -Ecumenical Worship Service

"Rise! Take your mat and walk"

World Day of Prayer will be held at **Oakbank United Church**, 582 Balsam Crescent.

Friday, March 6th at 1:30pm with refreshments to follow.

Resource material is from Zimbabwe, Africa.

