

2st SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

THEME: GOD IS CALLING YOU TO MAKE A JOURNEY.

Beneath Abraham's call to leave his father's house is a call to holiness of life. God was calling Abraham for a purpose he had in mind. God would make of him a great nation. St. Paul in the 2nd reading of today tells us that God "called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace". This is also true in the life of Abraham. There was no works on his part to justify his call. In fact, he was an idol worshipper, but God had a purpose in mind when he called him and God would bring that purpose to a desired end. Abraham is the forebear of the Jewish people, from whom Jesus's lineage can be traced. But Abraham is also our father in faith. He made two journeys simultaneously-- outward and inward journey. As we go about our normal duties, we are reminded that lent is a time to make an inward journey. It is a time of change; a time to experience our own transfiguration like Jesus. Reflect today on whether you are on course to experience this transfiguration. What have you been doing so far?

1st reading: *Genesis* 12:1-4. God called Abraham to leave his father's house and kindred.

Responsorial Psalm: Let your love be upon us, Lord, even as we hope in you.

2nd reading: *2 Timothy* 1:8b-10. St. Paul tells us that our call is a holy calling.

Gospel: *Matthew* 17:1-9. Jesus is transfigured on the mountain where Moses and Elijah bore witness to him.

Masses for the Upcoming Week

Sunday, March 8

9am Mass in Garson

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

Tuesday March 10

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

Wednesday, March 11

9 am Mass in Garson

Thursday March 12

Friday March 13

830am Stations of the Cross in Garson

9am Mass in Garson

7PM Stations of the Cross in Cook's Creek

Saturday, March 14

5:00 pm Mass in Oakbank

Sunday, March 15

9:00 am Mass in Garson

11:00 am Mass in Cook's Creek

SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS:

April 5th: Aileen & family are praying for the repose of the soul of Vincent Obirek at St. Michael.

April 12th: Aileen & family pray for the repose of the soul of Carolyn Obirek at St. Michael.

April 19th: Mass at St. Michael is offered for the repose of the soul of Allan Obirek as requested by Aileen & family.

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS:

March 9th: Mass is for the health of Mary Laverty as requested by Sophie and Cathy 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 Sunday, April 5th. Invitations are ready and will be 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 3rd.

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 next Sunday March 15th after mass. It is our bread and soup Sunday. Proceeds to Development and Peace.

Altar Server Schedule

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.

Cooks Creek Celebrates - Many thanks to everyone who made last Saturday's fundraiser such a success. It was a joint effort with Cooks Creek Community Club, Cooks Creek Heritage Museum, Immaculate Conception and St. Michael's. We couldn't have done this without the support of our volunteers and those who attended. It was a fun evening with 400 people in attendance coming from various areas in Manitoba including Gimli, Teulon, Lac du Bonnet, Ste. Anne, Winnipeg, Dugald, Garson, Oak Bank and Cooks Creek. Again THANK YOU!

Our next **Administration Board** meeting is Thursday, March 26 at 7 PM.

St. John Paul II

A huge thank you goes out to Pat Adams for not only being available to receive the citrus delivery on Monday, but also for sorting and organizing the orders for pick up. This was a big task and was done with expertise. Thank you, Pat.

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, April 2nd, 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

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

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

Social Action - Development & Peace.

Week 2: March 8 – International Women's Day

Yesica: a voice that reverberates from the Amazon to the Synod



Yesica Patiachi Tayori of the Peru's Harakbut Indigenous community was invited to the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Region in October 2019. She said, *"We, the Indigenous peoples, have been, are and will always be the guardians of the forest. But caring for our common home is everyone's responsibility, not just that of Indigenous peoples."* Development and Peace's partner, the Amazonian Centre for Anthropology and Practical Application (CAAAP), helps the Indigenous peoples of the Amazon ensure that their rights and territories are respected.

On this **International Women's Day**, let us salute the courage of women like Yesica, who bravely lead the defence of the land, water and people.

Watch Yesica's testimony at devp.org/campaign/yesica.

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.

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

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus Present Bishop Robert Barron's The Mystery of God Series

Atheism is on the rise. Skeptical thinkers attack belief in God as irrational or, even worse, dangerous. The so-called New Atheism has attracted millions of young people thanks to bestselling books such as *The God Delusion* and *God Is Not Great*. How should Christians respond? How can we turn the tide of secularism and draw people back to God?

In *The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters*, Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich intellectual tradition to teach us how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope Benedict XVI, he uncovers a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God." Beginning on Feb 19 2020, our Knight of Columbus will be hosting the six part series, *Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters*, program in our parish. To find out more information, please contact Chris Kiazuk at 204 268 1972 or Gerry Geall 204 268 4529. The presentations will start at 7:00PM and continue the following Wednesdays

40 Cans For Lent

For most of us, Lent reminds us to give something up. We deny ourselves something that is important, children often give up sweets, as Adults we may deny ourselves something that we enjoy, a favorite food, maybe a favorite drink. Why do we give these things up? The purpose of Lent is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ, his suffering, his sacrifice, his life, his fasting, his death, burial, and resurrection. When you walk into Church what is the first thing that you notice? I notice my Lord Jesus Christ hanging on a Cross for us. Jesus Christ made the ultimate sacrifice of giving his life for the forgiveness of our sins.

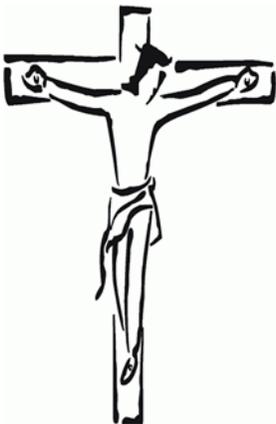
As Pope Francis stated that we need to rediscover corporal works of mercy. Feeding the hungry of our PARISH and COMMUNITY is one of them. "40 cans for Lent" program has a goal of having each council member and each parishioner contributing one can of food per day during the forty days of Lent.

For every \$500 or 1,000 lbs of food contributed to your food bank the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will refund \$100 to individual councils to a maximum of \$500. Please insure that all donation amounts to your food bank are acknowledged in writing and copies submitted to council 5870 before the end of June 2020. Any funds received from Supreme will be divided to each food bank based on the percentage of the total donated.

Knights of Columbus - Old Time Dance,

Beausejour - Brokenhead River Community Hall - April 19th, 2020 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., Dance to a live Band "The Mosaics", Cash Bar, Admission \$10 per person. Dinner at 5:00 P.M. Catered by Green Gables \$11.00. Proceeds to Brokenhead Community Hall and Knights of Columbus Local Charities. For tickets call: Ron 204 755 2821 or Stan 204 268 2961.

"Imagine! A Live Band, Dancing and Dinner for \$21.00!"



Join us At St Michael's on Friday March 6th, 13th, 27th, April3rd at 7 PM for Stations of the Cross followed by refreshments, short films and fellowship. On **Friday March 20th we will have the Stations of the Cross at 6PM** followed by a pizza supper and presentation with a special focus on the youth of our Parish!