



# St. Mary's Parish

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**Fr. Mick Fleming, C.Ss.R.—Pastor**

## **ST. MARY'S PARISH UPDATE**

**December 1, 2020**

**Pope's Intention for December: Evangelization: A life of prayer- We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.**

**WELCOME to ADVENT**, the beginning of the Church's Liturgical Year. Advent has a two-fold nature: It prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation.(ordo2020-2021)

**SEASON of ADVENT:** A Penitential service is normally offered to prepare us for the Feast of Christmas, but because of the pandemic, this is not possible. However, there will be additional weekly times offered for Reconciliation. From December 14th to 23rd, confessions will be available Monday to Saturday following the 9:00am Mass until 11:00 am., as well as Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00pm., and if necessary, after the evening Mass; and the usual Saturday time from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

**CHRISTMAS MASS:** To make it possible for more parishioners and families to attend Christmas Mass, St. Mary's will be providing additional Mass times for the Christmas Season. This will help to keep everyone safe, as well as provide more options for attendance.

**REGISTRATION is REQUIRED for ATTENDANCE at ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES.**

**Please early call to register .**

The Christmas Mass schedule follows:

December 24: 5:00 pm Family Mass, 7:00 pm and 12:00 midnight.

Our Lady of Guadalupe: 9:00 pm.

December 25: 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

New Year's Eve, December 31: 5:00pm and 7:00pm

January 1 9:00 am & 11:00 am.

January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, and in Canada, it is a Holy Day of Obligation.



**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:** While the Pandemic and Provincial restrictions have curtailed the way we normally take registrations for our Christmas hampers, we are however, continuing to reach out to the needy in our area. We have adopted a phoning system to meet this year's challenge of helping our sisters and brothers in need. With donations from our parishioners, schools and sister parishes, we will be issuing Gift Cards in place of boxes of food, which can be used to shop at the specific food outlets in the west side. If you wish to donate to this year's Christmas Hamper program, please make your cheque payable St. Mary's Parish, and write Christmas Hampers on the Memo line, or place a cash donation into an envelope marked Christmas Hampers. Receipts will be issued for all donations received. Thank you for your continuing support of this ministry.

**SUNDAY MISSALS** for the new Liturgical year are now available at the office or in the Sacristy after the various Masses. \$5.00 each.

**BISHOP JON'S CALENDARS** "Arctic Visions" 2021 are now available at the office for \$20.00. This fundraiser supports Bishop Jon and the Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

**BOOK of REMEMBRANCE/MEMORIAL MASS:** As in previous years, the Book of Remembrance, containing names of deceased loved ones, was displayed in front of the Altar, with prayers for those within were offered at each daily mass throughout November.



As well, on November 2, All Souls Day, St. Mary's joined Our Lady of Guadalupe parish to celebrate a Memorial Mass at which we remembered and offered our prayers for the lives of deceased members of both parishes. Candles were lit and placed before the altar in memory of the deceased loved ones. It was a simple and beautiful shared ceremony.

**BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2020:** If you have not yet contributed to the BAA, you can still do so by mailing to the diocese or dropping off your donation at the parish office. Please make cheques payable to Bishop's Annual Appeal, and write St. Mary's Saskatoon on the memo line. To date, St. Mary's has contributed \$19,980 to the campaign. Thank you to those who have already made a donation.

**SAINTS and FEASTS in DECEMBER:**

December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
December 12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a day of prayer in solidarity with Indigenous peoples
December 24/25	Christmas Eve/Christmas Day—The Nativity of the Lord
December 27	Feast of the Holy Family
December 28	Feast of the Holy Innocents

**"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint.  
The Lord never lets us down."**