

# Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Parish

Archdiocese of St. Boniface

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www.holyredeemerrcparish.ca



Office Hours During Code Red: Tuesday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Sr. Maria Ciccarelli, SNJM, Parish Life Director  
Ken Perrett and Wayne Johnson, Deacons  
Leigh Vis, Office Administrator  
Kate Klassen, Catechetical Coordinator  
Garry Strick, Parish Pastoral Council Chair  
Norman Kozusko, Finance Committee Chair  
Clement Ukobizaba, Maintenance  
Gerry Ouellette, Grand Knight K of C  
Ladies Auxiliary

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**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 20, 2020**

**Christmas Blessings**



2020 Joyous Christmas Blessings to all our Holy Redeemer Parishioners and a Happy New Year filled with Hope!

We all know too well from our experience of this past year that for us as a faith community, just as for all of humanity, there are cold, lonely, challenging seasons...seasons of sickness, of COVID-19, of hurt and broken relationships... seasons of pain in losing our jobs and our loved ones during this time of pandemic...and a season within which we will die.

The prophet Isaiah tells us that when the Messiah is born, the Virgin shall name him "Emmanuel"

– a name which means "God-is-with-us".

As Avery Dulles puts it:

*"The incarnation does not mean that God saves us from the pains of this life. It means that God-is-with-us."*

Christmas does not give us a ladder to climb out of the human condition; but rather, it gives us the invitation to enter into the heart of everything that exists and there discover the presence of the divine.

Without denying either the truth of God's promise or the real pain and evil in the world, Christmas is precisely the challenge to celebrate while we are still in pain, for God-is-with-us, and it's that presence that redeems us.

We are no longer alone in our tears and our suffering.  
We no longer walk alone in our pain.

Karl Rahner, one of the greatest theologians of our day, tells us that at Christmas, God says to the world:

*"I am here. I am with you. I am your life.*

*Do not be afraid to be happy.*

*For joy is the standard of living that is really more suitable than all the anxiety and grief of those who think they have no hope.*

*This reality...this incomparable wonder of my almighty love...*

*I have sheltered safely in the cold stable of your world.*

*I am there.*

*I no longer go away from this world.*

*Even if you do not see me, I am there.*

*It is Christmas! Light the candles!*

*They have more right to exist than all the darkness.*

*It is Christmas!*

*Christmas lasts forever."*

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And as John Shea, a great storyteller, recounts:  
"A four-year-old child woke up frightened one night, convinced that there were all kinds of spooks and monsters in her room. In terror she fled to her parent's bedroom. Her mother took her back to her room and, after soothing her fears, assured her that it was safe there:  
'You don't need to be afraid. After I leave, you won't be alone in the room. God will be here with you.'  
'I know that God will be here,' the child protested, 'but I need someone in this room who has some skin.'"

Yes, we desperately need a God who has some skin!  
*And so the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.*  
(John 1:14)

As we celebrate Christmas in an entirely different way this year of pandemic, I would like to thank you on behalf of our Holy Redeemer staff, for your continued commitment to our parish.

May we be strongly united in prayer and in our care for one another and remain connected in heart and mind in spite of the distances that may separate us.

May this time of new birth find us rejoicing in the goodness of God, filling our hearts with hope as we look to the Radiant Dawn that is breaking upon us.

May the Love, Joy, and Peace of Emmanuel, God-with-us, enfold you and your families this Christmas, throughout the New Year, and always.

Lovingly,  
Sister Maria



## Bulletin Information

Please note that this will be the last bulletin for 2020. The next bulletin will be January 10, 2021.

If you or someone you know would like a paper copy of the bulletin please contact the office.

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## Office Holiday Hours

During the holiday season the office hours will be as follows:

**Mon. Dec. 21:** Closed

**Tues. Dec. 22 & Wed. Dec. 23:** 8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

**Thur. Dec 24 & Fri. Dec 25:** Closed

**Mon. Dec 28:** Closed

**Tues. Dec 29 & Wed. Dec 30:** 8:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

**Thur. Dec 31 & Fri. Jan 1:** Closed

The office will reopen on Tuesday January 5, 2021.

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## Livestreaming of the Diocesan Sunday, Christmas and New Year's Masses

Archbishop Albert LeGatt invites you to participate, in as much as possible, in Sunday Mass live, while it is being celebrated. The simultaneousness of our prayers and songs, no matter where we are, represents an active participation in that particular moment of prayer and gathering.

**Sundays:** In English at **10:30 a.m.**

**Thursday, December 24:**

- In English at **6:30 p.m.**

This Mass will be preceded by a special presentation of Christmas carols at 6:00 p.m. Please note that the carols are available on YouTube only.

- A special **10:30 p.m.** Mass presided by Archbishop LeGatt will be livestreamed from Holy Cross Parish on Facebook only.

**Friday, December 25:** In English at **10:30 a.m.**

**Thursday, December 31:** In English at **6:30 p.m.**

**Friday, January 1:** In English at **10:30 a.m.**

The liturgies can be accessed via the YouTube channel of the parish of Saints-Martyrs-Canadians:  
[youtube.com/channel/UCFLbnkM6HIRYpb4QjiXeBOg/live](https://youtube.com/channel/UCFLbnkM6HIRYpb4QjiXeBOg/live)  
or on the Diocese's Facebook page at  
[facebook.com/ArchSaintBoniface/live](https://facebook.com/ArchSaintBoniface/live).

## COVID-19 Update

The entire province of Manitoba continues to be under Code Red Alert until at least January 8, 2021. Please be advised that there can be NO gatherings of any size for weekday or Sunday Masses, nor for any Christmas/New Year's Masses.

If you need to get in touch with the parish: please contact the office and leave a message, or email Sister Maria at [cicarellim@shaw.ca](mailto:cicarellim@shaw.ca), and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Let us continue to pray for each other and for our province, country and world during this time of pandemic.

May Jesus & Mary enfold you and your families with Christmas peace, joy and love.

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## Television Masses

While you are unable to attend Mass in person during this time, daily TV Mass can continue to be a source of faith, connection and comfort. Masses are available on Vision TV, Salt and Light TV, and EWTN.

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**Please pray for the sick,  
their families and their caregivers**

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## 2020 Donations

Please note that the last day for donations to be included in the 2020 tax receipt is December 31, 2020.

Just a reminder that if you have not already picked up your 2021 offering envelopes, they can be picked up at the church during office hours. If you are unable to pick up your envelopes, kindly let us know.

Thank you for your continued generosity during this challenging time.

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## How to Donate to your Parish

1. We strongly encourage signing up for direct deposit, especially during this time of pandemic. To sign up for direct deposit please contact the office at 204-669-0501 or [finance@hrwpg.ca](mailto:finance@hrwpg.ca).
2. Donations may be dropped off at the parish office Tuesday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
3. Donations may be sent in by mail.
4. Donations may be dropped off in the mailbox Tuesday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. We recommend that donations not be dropped off in the mailbox evenings and weekends for security reasons.
5. Parishioners may donate through the Archdiocesan website using your credit card (not the preferred method as there is a 3% fee that our parish incurs).

Thank you for your continued generosity during this challenging time of pandemic.

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Although we have no Masses at this time, please continue to pray for all of our parishioners and for an end to this pandemic.

## Feasts For December 20, 2020 – January 10, 2021

<b>Sunday Dec 20</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
<b>Friday Dec 25</b>	<b>Nativity of the Lord</b>
<b>Saturday Dec 26</b>	<b>Saint Stephen</b>
<b>Sunday Dec 27</b>	<b>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>
<b>Monday Dec 28</b>	<b>The Holy Innocents</b>
<b>Friday Jan 1</b>	<b>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b>
<b>Saturday Jan 2</b>	<b>Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen</b>
<b>Sunday Jan 3</b>	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>
<b>Thursday Jan 7</b>	<b>Saint Andre Bessette, Patron of Family Caregivers</b>
<b>Sunday Jan 10</b>	<b>Baptism of the Lord</b>



### Sacraments

**Baptism:** Please email Sister Maria or call the office.

**Marriage:** Please call the office one year in advance.

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----- Physiotherapist -----  
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### Pope Francis' Monthly Intention For December 2020

**For 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.