

THIS WEEK:  
**8:00am Lauds**  
**(Morning Prayer)**

Mass Intentions may be requested by contacting:

Fr. Young

**SIGN-UP FOR MASSES (CLICK HERE)**

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[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10CoD4FABA82DABF8C25-LITURGIES](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4FABA82DABF8C25-LITURGIES)

*Available times for Masses and Adoration-Communion Liturgies are online at the above link. Confessions available at all times.*



## OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

### Pastoral Message

**T**he Gospel tells us through John the Baptist how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Savior's 'advent' ('coming') into our lives during the Advent season by repentance and renewal of life. John preached that the appropriate behaviour for those preparing 'the way of the Lord' was to be baptized 'as they confessed their sins.' He wanted the people to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, leveling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings. This a baptism of repentance.

**W**e need to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus: We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives so that Jesus may be reborn in us. Let us ask with Alexander Pope the challenging question, "What do I profit, if Jesus is born in thousands of cribs all over the world unless he is born in my heart and in my life?" We need to allow Jesus to be reborn in our lives. People around us should recognize Jesus' rebirth in our lives by our sharing love, unconditional forgiveness, compassionate and merciful heart and spirit of humble and committed service. Let us accept the challenge of John the Baptist to turn this Advent season into a real spiritual "homecoming" by making the necessary preparations for the fresh arrival of our Lord and Saviour Jesus into our hearts and lives.

**O**n this feast day of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6) we see an example of zeal, faithfulness, and discipleship with Christ. The love experienced in Christ, St. Nicholas shared in abundant charity and love for his parishioners and people. He was a heroic bishop and defender of faith at the Council of Nicaea. We look to him in dark times; and we hold to the joy and peace that comes from our faith: for nothing is more beautiful, nothing is a greater gift - than friendship with Christ Jesus our Lord.

*'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'*

*- Mk 1:1-8*

~IN CHRIST WITH MARY, FR. G. YOUNG

**Lourdes' Practice for Coming to Communion:**

Some have asked for a periodic 'refresher' over how we should approach for communion at Our Lady of Lourdes. So here it is:

At the time of communion, after the choir has received first, I will then go into the congregation if needed to those who for mobility or other reasons need to remain in their place to receive. After this is done, I will return to the communion rail and ask that people who wish to receive communion on the hand come first. Please spread out around the communion rail giving 6 feet between individuals (or different households). The people in the front rows should approach first; moving towards the back. Then once the last have received on the hands; those wishing to receive on the tongue come next; and likewise spread out around the communion rail. In coming and going from your pews, follow the arrows marked on the flow in the aisles.

Masks are worn throughout, except for the immediate moment when you are to receive communion in which you remove it briefly. If you or a friend/family member would prefer to receive in your pew/seated; indicate this to an usher or myself prior to mass and I am happy to do what I can to assist you. ~Fr. Young

Then we will send you an email with more details, including a schedule with each person's assigned fast day. Your email will remain private.

Participants are called STARS. Starting on Dec 28th, you will receive a daily reminder to pray a Rosary for each other and for the intention of You will be invited to meditate on the day's virtue or gift, as you follow along in the book: Mary's Mantle Consecration: 46 Days of Prayer for Heaven's Help. Your books will be available at the church at the Christmas masses 24th, 25th. (Or we can arrange to have your book dropped off.) We will also have a beautiful poster of Our Lady, to which we will add a star each day of the retreat.

Inspiring videos of weekly talks accompany the consecration. Weekly we will direct you to them on You tube or if pandemic restrictions allow we can gather at the church and watch the video together. We will end the consecration on Our Lady of Lourdes Feast day Feb 11, 2021. A special time to celebrate

together and consecrate ourselves to Mary our Mother. Remember, email or call us back by Dec 10th if you'd like to be put on the list and we will order you/your family a book. If you already have the book from a previous consecration but want to participate with Our Lady of Lourdes Parish let us know and we will include you in the emails. We encourage you to invite

others to join us as we pray for each other. We look forward to hearing from you! ~Rick and Donna Dupuis [dupuis.family@sasktel.net](mailto:dupuis.family@sasktel.net) Rick cell 306 380 0857 Donna cell 306 260 9278

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

Are you or is someone you know a Catholic adult who never received his or her Confirmation? Are you or is someone you know an adult who comes to Church but isn't Catholic and would like to be?

**RCIA meetings are every Tuesday (7pm) currently via Zoom.** To become a full member of the Catholic Church or would like more information about the process, we'd love to have you as a member of our Parish's RCIA Program. For more information please contact Fr. G. Young (639-471-3246) or [gyoung@rcdos.ca](mailto:gyoung@rcdos.ca).

**MARY'S MANTLE**

Please join Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners in a special consecration to Mary. Many of us have already consecrated ourselves to Mary. But these are challenging times and there is an urgent need for heaven to intercede in the life of our families, the Church, and our world, and for us to place ourselves under the care and direction of the Blessed Mother by consecrating our lives to her. Mary's Mantle Consecration: A Spiritual Retreat for Heaven's Help is a special program that has resulted in miracles in the lives and hearts of its participants and their loved ones. St. Pope John Paul II said that his consecration to Mary was "a decisive turning point in my life." The Days of this consecration will begin Dec 28th, Feast of the Holy Innocents for 46 days to Feb 11, Our Lady of Lourdes Feast day. Please feel free to check the website [www.queenofpeacemedia.com](http://www.queenofpeacemedia.com). If you decide to participate in this special self-guided retreat, please email Rick and Donna Dupuis or call us by Dec 10th and say I'm in. We will order a book per family for \$18.00.

**CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS LESSON**

In the Gospel, John the Baptist announces the coming of the Messiah. John first recognized Jesus during the Visitation. Young children enjoy a reading of the Visitation: Luke 1:39-45,56. For more age appropriate reflections on the Gospel, go to <https://www.thebetterpart.net/> and click on the age group for your child.



**Ways to Contribute to the Church:** Our Lady of Lourdes has a **food collection** for families in need connected to our parish community. To assist us in this ministry, you may make monetary donations out to the parish (indicate with a note/in the Memo: 'Food Collection'). This helps us to be able to buy goods or items particular to each situation. You will receive a charitable tax receipt of any monetary gifts given to the parish for this or other contributions. **Our parish also will be preparing Christmas hampers** as well as supporting the St. Mary's Parish Christmas hamper program with a monetary contribution. During Covid, this is the best way to help prepare hampers as we can buy any necessary items. Again, and gifts made out to Our Lady of Lourdes, with a note/memo to indicate where your gift is to be directed.