

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

Mass Intentions may be requested by contacting:

Fr. Young

SIGN-UP FOR MASSES (CLICK HERE)

PASTOR - FR. GEOFFREY YOUNG (639) 471-3246
 GYOUNG@RCDOS.CA
 SECRETARY - JOANN NEILANDS (306) 343-0289
 OLOLSASKATOON@RCDOS.CA
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SASKATOONLOURDES/](https://www.facebook.com/saskatoonlourdes/)
[WWW.FATHERYOUNG.COM](http://www.fatheryoung.com)

[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

Advent's third Sunday is traditionally known as 'Gaudete Sunday'. This 'rejoice' Sunday is marked at times with rose-coloured vestments worn by the priest as well as the lighting of a candle of this colour too on the customary advent wreath. This little penitential season gives us a mid-season reprieve - for we are vastly approaching the commemoration of Our Lord's birth at Christmas. We call it 'Gaudete' Sunday drawing from the words of the Introit (Entrance Antiphon Chant): *Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete. Modestia vestra nota sit omnibus hominibus: Dominus enim prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis: sed in omni oratione et obsecratione cum gratiarum actione petitiones vestrae innotescant apud Deum. Benedixisti Domine terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Jacob.* // "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. Lord, you have blessed your land; you have turned away the captivity of Jacob." [Philippians 4:4-6](#); [Psalm 85 \(84\):1](#)

'John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.'

- Jn 1:6-8,19-28

During this liturgical season - the readings focus on the 'three advents', that is 'comings', of Christ. His first, his present, and his final Advent in glory at the end of time. The readings for Gaudete Sunday deal particularly with rejoicing in the Lord - Christian joy that comes with the reign of Christ Our Lord. John the Baptist is the 'voice' of Advent making way for the Word-Incarnate. There are clear differences between joy and what those of the world might describe as 'happiness'. While happiness is dependent on external conditions, joy is "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing - sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death - can take that love away." (Henri Nouwen) Therefore Christ joy persists and abides in us - even amidst sufferings, persecutions, plagues and pandemics; sickness and health - and all that may come our way. Rather than being overwhelmed with fear and anxiety about the events of the world or our superficial Christmas 'preparations' - Gaudete Sunday reminds us to make ready our soul and rejoice for the immense grace and blessings poured out upon us daily. Be mindful that as Christians we are to be a people of joy and hope; for no matter the storm that surges, Christ dwells with us. He reigns; now and forever.

~IN CHRIST WITH OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, FR. G. YOUNG

New directives for numbers in church buildings announced: up to 30 more persons, properly distanced, are now allowed in other rooms of a church building simultaneously. In a letter to pastors and parishioners Dec. 10, 2020, Bishop Mark Hagemoen said: "I wish to confirm that effective immediately, places of worship are able to gather groups of up to a maximum of 30 people per room, maintaining 2m distance between household groups. There is no limit to the number of rooms, as long as there is 2m distance between families. For some of our larger parishes, this may permit a gathering for Mass in both the church and a separate space – such as a church hall. As mentioned in my letter of November 26, 2020, I know that many of you are wondering about the implications of these developments for our celebrations during the Christmas season. I hope that we will be able to confirm directives that will affect Christmas celebrations by December 15. In the meantime, I again express my gratitude for your patience and diligent work in supporting the efforts of the parishes and faith communities of our diocese."

Find the letter from Bishop Mark Hagemoen and Updated Directives regarding worship in the diocese of Saskatoon at: <https://rcdos.ca/covid-19-updates>

Thus starting this weekend at Our Lady of Lourdes: the gym will be used as its own stand-alone gathering area with the glass doors being left closed throughout thereby separating the gym from the Church area. Attendees for Mass and other liturgies registered for 'gym seating' are to use the designed for: Please note - for those signed up for [GYM SEATING] - to park in the parking lot and enter and exit through the 'gym door' on the South Side of the building (facing 11th St). For those registered for the regular Church seating, they may still use the same front entrance on 12th St. Please note where you are registered and park accordingly.

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 be 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. 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. 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 Rick cell 306 380 0857 Donna cell 306 260 9278

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS LESSON

In the Gospel, John the Baptist reminds us of the coming of Christ. His baptism was one of preparation and repentance giving way to the one baptism in spirit and truth in Christ Jesus. 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.