



**Canadian Martyrs**  
**Box 36, Carrot River, SK. S0E 0L0**  
 Email: [zpnotdam@sasktel.net](mailto:zpnotdam@sasktel.net)  
 Pastor: Fr. Travis Myrheim

**Mass Times for Nov/Dec**  
 Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield  
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River  
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

**Sunday Dec 23, 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- Sat Dec 22 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield For Residents of Arborfield Care Home  
**Sun Dec 23 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River For the people**  
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park For Special Intention  
**Mon Dec 24 5:00pm Mass in Arborfield For †Pete Potie**  
 7:00pm Mass in Zenon Park For the people  
**9:00pm Mass in Carrot River For †Nick and Dennis Panchyshyn**  
 Tues Dec 25 10:00am Mass in Zenon Park For Our clergy  
 Wed Dec 26 no mass  
**Thurs Dec 27 no mass**  
 Fri Dec 28 no mass  
 Sat Dec 29 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield For Souls in Purgatory  
**Sun Dec 30 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River For the people**  
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park For Edwin Lee

Date	Commentator	Readers	Communion	Hospitality	Proc. Of Gifts	Welcoming
Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup> 4th Sunday	Dan Oakes	Sharon Cross Perry Mamer	Allan & Aline Malfair	Milton Wood Larry Trew	Connie Wood Fredel Trew	Volunteers
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve	K of C	K of C	K of C	K of C	K of C	K of C
Dec 30 <sup>th</sup> 5th Sunday	Shirley Zeller	Wilma Wheeler Marguerite T	Dan & Myrna Oakes	Leo Brochu Ted Myslicki	Jolene Brochu Rose Myslicki	Volunteers

**Collection:** Dec 16, 2018 \$1435.00

**Vocation Corner ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent – C**

**A Vocation View:** Can you honestly pray: "I have come to do your will, O God"? Blessed are you who trust that the Lord's words to you would be fulfilled.

**Prayer:** That the faithful respond, "Behold, I come to do your will, O Lord," will be voiced by each person discerning a call to serve Christ as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, we pray to the Lord.

**Action:** A good vocation is simply a firm and constant will in which the person who is called must serve God in the way and in the places to which almighty God has called him. *Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622)*

**Announcements:**

**"What Must We Do... to Build the Kingdom of God?"**. We are just days away from the end of the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. As of December 12, 2018 parishioners have pledged \$343,676.15 towards the goal of \$425,000 for the Diocese of Prince Albert. If you have already sent in your pledge for the Bishop's Annual Appeal, thank you for your generosity. If you haven't done so yet and are planning to do so, the Appeal Office would like to have all pledges received before December 31, 2018. If you have lost or misplaced your Appeal information, additional pledge cards are available from your Parish Office. Please continue to pray for the success of the 2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal. For further information contact Andrea Langlois, Director of the Bishop's Annual Appeal at 306-922-4747 ext. 234, [baadirector@padiocese.ca](mailto:baadirector@padiocese.ca) or Louis Hradecki, Data Administrator of the Bishop's Annual Appeal at 306-922-4747 ext. 233, [bishopsappeal@padiocese.ca](mailto:bishopsappeal@padiocese.ca).

**Bishops Annual Appeal Update:** 14 pledges for total of \$2800.00.

**Bishop's Annual Appeal**  
**"What Must We Do... to Build the Kingdom of God?"**  
October 14 – December 31, 2018  
Every gift is greatly appreciated!

**Diocesan announcements:**

Jan. 16, 2018 - Cree Language Study-Muskeg Lake First Nation, Parish Church, Muskeg, SK  
Jan. 18-28, 2019 - NET (National Evangelical Team), Billets needed  
Jan. 20-27, 2019 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019  
Jan. 22, 2019 - École St. Mary High School, 'Swish For A Cure' - Prince Albert, SK  
Jan. 26, 2019 - WYD@Home (World Youth Day) - St. Joseph Parish, Prince Albert, SK  
Jan. 28, 2019 - Barry Tkachuk (Diaconate) - St. Vital Parish, Battleford, SK

Serena Saskatchewan, a natural family planning service, invites you to our annual gala fundraiser "Une Nuit à Paris" on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at Our Lady of Lourdes in Saskatoon. For more info or to reserve your free tickets, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/une-nuit-a-paris-a-fundraising-gala-tickets-53617859461> or email [sask@serena.ca](mailto:sask@serena.ca). The gala will include a French catered banquet and wine, silent auction, pay a dime to be first in line (bring pocket change to increase your odds of eating first), and guest speaker Fr. Stephano Penna "Authentic love in a sexually confused world".

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>** 5:00pm – Arborfield, 7:00pm – Zenon Park, **9:00pm – Carrot River**

**December 25<sup>th</sup>** 10:00am – Zenon Park

**Mass Times for Jan/Feb 2019**

Sat 7:30pm – Zenon Park  
Sun 9:00am – Arborfield  
Sun 11:00am – Carrot River



Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our Church for Advent & Christmas.



Sunday, December 23: Fourth Sunday of Advent (C) - violet  
Monday 24: Ferial - violet  
Tuesday 25: The Nativity of the Lord - white  
Wednesday 26: St. Stephen, the first martyr - red  
Thursday 27: St. John, apostle, evangelist - white  
Friday 28: The Holy Innocents, martyrs - red  
Saturday 29: Fifth day within the octave of the Nativity - white  
Sunday 30: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (C) - white

# Christmas Preparations



Our Christmas preparations are first and foremost on our agendas! We have gifts to purchase and wrap; trees to decorate and food to prepare ... But beyond the material preparations, how do we prepare spiritually for Christmas? Today's readings offer us three suggestions.

## Celebrate life

Today's Gospel describes a meeting of two women: an elderly woman who is pregnant and a young girl who is pregnant earlier than expected. The elderly Elizabeth greets Mary with an exclamation inspired by the Holy Spirit, one that is prophetic. *Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.* Mary is blessed because she carries the Child who is the Source of all blessings. The first blessing in the Bible is one for life: *God blessed them saying, "Be fruitful and multiply..."* (Genesis 1:22). Jesus is the blessing who brings life: *I came that they may have life and have it abundantly* (John 10:10).

The life that God offers us through Jesus is greater than anything on earth, greater than illness or death, than old age and war. As the angel said to Mary: *Nothing will be impossible with God* (Luke 1:37).

## Celebrate joy

Not only did the two women connect, but a relationship developed between the babies within their mothers' wombs. Elizabeth felt her baby (John the Baptist) move joyfully as he acknowledged the Savior's presence. John the Baptist fulfills an important role during Advent. He recognized and identified the Savior whom we welcomed. Let's set aside time for moments of reflection and silence to welcome the One who is the Source of our joy.

## Celebrate the first beatitude

For Christians, the first beatitude in St. Matthew's Gospel is from Christ's teaching on the mountain: *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven* (Matthew 5:3). In St. Luke's Gospel, Elizabeth, inspired by the Holy Spirit, proclaimed the first beatitude: *Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord* (Luke 1:45). How do we describe Mary's faith? It comes down to one word *welcoming*. She welcomes God who is faithful to his promise. Mary has complete confidence in God and welcomes Him in her body, mind, intelligence, will and emotions. Mary's self and existence became the abode of our infinite God. Mary offers herself to God so that our Savior can enter our world to inhabit, heal and transform it. Through Mary, the faith of the people of Israel reached its peak and the faith of the Church had its Source. According to some authors, Mary's faith was so cherished that even when she was taken up to heaven, she kept it, not for herself alone, but to share with us. With Mary, we welcome God into our lives.

My preparations for Christmas begin by praying to Mary, God's mother, to share her faith with me.

*Georges Madore, s.m.m.*

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli