



ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Grouard-McLennan

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Girouxville Pilgrimage: a blessed day of worship, prayer, praise and fellowship!



Notre Dames de Lourdes Church, in Girouxville, held the annual Pilgrimage on August 15th, 2019. It was a glorious event which saw approximately 300 pilgrims from around the Archdiocese spend the day in prayer, worship, praise and fellowship. Archbishop Gerard Pettipas spoke about how it is in his heart to make this pilgrimage an “Archdiocesan Pilgrimage” to which the whole archdiocese will be invited and to which they will return year after year. To that end a Pilgrimage committee will be formed to learn from, and build on, the good work done by the parish in faithfully hosting this event for many years. It has been a sacrifice of love and devotion on their part and we all hope to continue this venerable and sacred tradition. Mark your calendar for next year and plan to attend, and bring your family and friends! You will be blessed!





Archbishop's Calendar Summer 2019

September 2019

- 1 Ft. Vermillion/Eleske- Sunday Mass
- 2-6 Edmonton- Clergy Retreat
- 10 Peace River- Curia Meeting
- 10 Peace River- APC Executive Meeting
- 13 Visit of Bishop Cyprian Monis
- 15 McLennan-Sunday Mass
- 18 Grande Prairie- Archdiocesan Finance Meeting
- 19 Grande Prairie—Curia Meeting
- 21 Peace River- APC Meeting
- 22-27 Cornwall, ON—CCCB Plenary
- 27-29 Toronto, On-Fr. C. Schmidt's 60th Anniversary

October 2019

- 3 Grande Prairie—Curia Meeting
- 8 Peace River-Council of Priests
- 9 Peace River-Presbyterium Meeting
- 16 Edmonton-CEFFA Board Meeting
- 17 Grande Prairie—Curia Meeting
- 20 McLennan-Sunday Mass
- 22-23 Edmonton-Covenant Health Meetings
- 25-26 Calgary-One Rock Youth
- 30 Grande Prairie-School Board Meetings
- 31 Grande Prairie—Curia Meeting



What's Happening

Grande Prairie: St. Joseph Parish

100 Year Celebration—2020

St. Joseph Catholic Church was established as a parish April 26, 1920. Join us for Mass on our 100th Anniversary: Sunday, April 26, 2020.



Coming This Fall: SOMETHING'S MISSING!

Do you feel like "something's missing" in your life? All divorced, widowed, single or separated: Join us this fall for a time of faith and fellowship. Call the parish office for details.



Grief as a Journey: Our Walk to Emmaus

The death of someone we have loved leads us to question life's purpose and meaning. We find ourselves asking many questions: Where is my life headed? What is its true meaning? How do I assess the rightness of my decisions? What is real and true? When the answers are unclear, we can lose the confidence that we once had about where all this was leading us.

Grief as a Journey: Our Walk to Emmaus a nine-week support program for those grieving a loss. The two disciples on that ancient road to Emmaus did not have a known destination; in many ways the personal experience of grief is precisely like that. This program offers help, fellowship, and the support of the Church community. For more information, contact Debbie, 780-518-5763.

High Prairie: St. Paul's Parish:

We are organizing a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal with Fr. Dowle. The trip will happen September 16—26, 2019. For more information please call Julie Hnatiw at 780-916-4064 or email:julien@voyagesterranatura.ca

“Baptism...is an immersion into the most profound relationship and reality!”

Archbishop Gerard

*His Grace teaches on the Sacraments of Initiation,
(from the Archbishop’s pastoral letter, Sept. 2019)*



**Munus Docendi: The Sacraments:
Sacraments of Initiation**

Three of the seven sacraments of the Church are classified together as the “sacraments of initiation” – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. This is because in the early Church, these sacraments were distinct but celebrated at the same time for adults who were entering the Church as it spread quickly in the first few centuries. Converts to the Christian Church (called “catechumens”) would be in the catechumenate process (what today we call the RCIA) for a few years, as they were instructed and formed morally and spiritually to take on their new identity as Christians. On the day of reception, which was usually at the Easter Vigil, these catechumens would be baptized and confirmed, as well as receive their first Holy Communion. By reception of these sacraments, the new Christians “put on the garment of salvation”, and were counted as members of Jesus Christ in the Church.

In subsequent generations, as the baptism of infants became the norm, these three sacraments were separated in their celebration, as well as in the order in which they were celebrated.



A child would be baptized as an infant; they would be confirmed by the bishop at a date suitable to the bishop, and finally they would receive First Holy Communion shortly after that. Pope Pius X in the early 1900s was concerned that children be able to receive Communion as soon as possible in their life, so he decreed that young people make their first Communion as early as possible. This was deemed to

be at the “age of reason” (about age 7), when a child would be able to understand the distinction between the Eucharist and “ordinary bread”. In most instances, Confirmation ended up as the last of these sacraments to be celebrated. This gives the erroneous impression that Confirmation is the apex of Christian initiation ... that honour really belongs to the Holy Eucharist.

Seen together, the Sacraments of Initiation are understood as the process by which we “put on Jesus Christ”, become “members of Christ’s Body”, or as St. Paul puts it about his initiation, “I live no longer my own life, but Jesus Christ lives in me.” In this light, I have often wondered if some parents truly understand the significance and consequences of having their child baptized. Much more than simply “getting their child done”, they are immersing their daughter or son in a relationship and a reality that will have an impact more profound than anything else that they will ever do for their child.

Archbishop Pettipas

[Baptism is]...much more than simply “getting their child done”, it has an impact more profound than anything else...



Coming Events

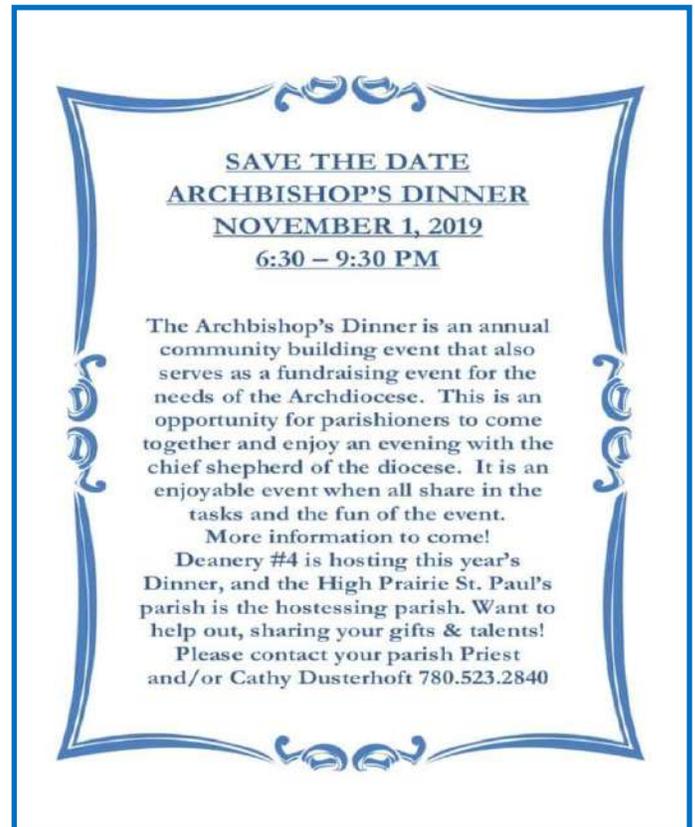


LIVING THE CATHOLIC LIFE
IMMACULATE LOVE
with **Ken Yasinski**
includes Musical Adoration

Sept 25-26
Our Lady Of Peace
Peace River, AB
Each Evening at 7:00 PM

Have you ever felt like your life was a mess? Mary the Mother of Jesus gracefully lived through humanity's darkest hour. Her example teaches to turn our mess into a message. Her intercession empowers us to get through the darkness. Join us to rediscover strength in Christ, through Mary.

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CatholicSpeaker.com
Let's Live the Catholic Life.



SAVE THE DATE
ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER
NOVEMBER 1, 2019
6:30 – 9:30 PM

The Archbishop's Dinner is an annual community building event that also serves as a fundraising event for the needs of the Archdiocese. This is an opportunity for parishioners to come together and enjoy an evening with the chief shepherd of the diocese. It is an enjoyable event when all share in the tasks and the fun of the event.

More information to come!

Deanery #4 is hosting this year's Dinner, and the High Prairie St. Paul's parish is the hostessing parish. Want to help out, sharing your gifts & talents!

Please contact your parish Priest and/or Cathy Dusterhoft 780.523.2840



Women,
Wine &
the Word!

An Evening of
Joy

Friday, September 20, 2019
at 7 PM – 9:30 PM
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Grande Prairie, AB
Guest Speaker: Carmen Moore