



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH FUNERAL LUNCH VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

October 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SUSAN OWENS	2
SIX LITTLE STORIES / EATING IN THE FIFTIES	3
THE HALL	4
SILLY SPOT	5
TURKEY TRIVIA	6
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	7
PUZZLE ANSWERS / CLOSING THOUGHTS	8

PRAYER CORNER

During the month of October, let's remember the Politicians who have have started a new Session of Parliament. It is not an easy job but let's ask the Lord to be with the Politicians as they try to govern in a fair and equitable way.

"Lord, we ask you to guide the Politicians that oversee our government. Help them to remember all of the people in Manitoba -the young, the Elderly, those who are disabled, and those who are working so hard to feed their families.

"Lord, be with them as they deal with the homeless and those who long to own a home. Help them to bring about good legislation that will bring healing to our Communities. We ask you to Bless all of those who are in charge of so many important aspects of our lives."

Amen.

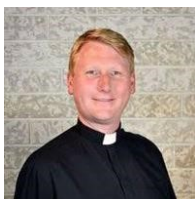


Hi Everyone,

Wasn't that "Summer in September" wonderful? I hope that you were able to get outside as much as you wanted to during that fantastic flood of warm weather! We know what's around the corner, waiting to cool us mightily, so we have to enjoy this balmy Manitoba as long as we can!

As I write this, the Election hasn't yet taken place, but let's hope for a government that recognizes the diversity of our Province and that treats everyone with respect and dignity. Let's hope that the Health Care System can be improved, and let's support those workers who deserve to work for a fair and living wage. As a former teacher, I'm hoping that Manitoba Teachers will also be supported in their quest to educate our children in a safe and affable atmosphere, where each child is able to receive instruction from a kind and understanding teacher. I hope also that the homeless can find shelter and a way to overcome their problems, and be treated with dignity. Wouldn't it be nice if our cost of living went down, instead of up? And lastly, I hope that all of the pot-holes can be looked after before that first snowfall!

Am I dreaming in Technicolour again??? We have to keep praying!!!



Dear friends,

October could be considered a scary month; ghosts, goblins... impending freezing cold wind and snow. Very scary.... October is also the month of the Holy Rosary, which when prayed, reminds us of Mary's 'Yes.' Her yes to God transformed her fear into faith!

This month I pray you may say Yes to God like Mary; even if it is a yes, simply to opening your heart to God's presence. Let Mary inspire you to help take on life challenges. Let October be for you a month not of fear, but of Faith!

Fr. Kevin



Susan Owens was one of the first people I met when I came to be a part of Blessed Sacrament Parish, in 1965. Even though we each had young children, we both volunteered for various openings that appealed to us. Since we were both teachers, we worked with the children. We became Brownie Leaders and had so much fun, just learning about Brownies, since neither of us had grown up with any idea of what went on in Brownies. Marie Young, Susan and I became the Catechism Directors and we organized the Classes for over 300 children. Those were busy, fun times! Susan had a great personality and Marie and I loved working with her. If we goofed up on something, Susan would just say, "Hey, This isn't going to work!! Let's get our act together!" She would say something funny and we'd move to fix everything up. Susan was non-judgemental and was so supportive.

Susan and I started to attend University classes together in the mid-eighties. We drove out to the U of M with two other gals. We took turns driving and since our classes were in the evenings from 6pm to 10pm, it was a late night for me. I am an early-to-bed kind of person, but was determined to stay

up late, if it meant that I would earn my Degree. Susan announced that we would stop at the Esso Station Coffee shop for a snack on the way home after each class. I looked at the eager faces of the other two gals and I knew that they were keen to have a break. They were also confirmed night owls! I was not a happy camper but I had to go along. Well, I had so much fun with everyone, that I looked forward to those late night cinnamon buns and assorted snacks more than anyone! Susan later told me that she was sure I'd take to the gatherings, even if they were held sooo late!

Susan was a wonderful listener and she had such empathy. She had lost her beloved Alex and had had cancer, but Susan never complained. When I had cancer, she sat down at my kitchen table and scolded me a bit. "Listen, Carol. I got through breast cancer and so will you! Try to stop feeling sorry for yourself and think good thoughts! I know it's hard right now, but you'll be fine!" Those were just the words I needed to hear. A few days later Susan apologized for speaking "rudely" to me. She had such a good heart.

Susan just loved a few simple things. She was crazy about her car. She didn't want a fancy car, but she

loved nothing better than going for a drive. Susan would head out to Bird's Hill or Selkirk or Beausejour at the drop of a hat. She and her sisters Marge and Helen would head out for a yearly visit to friends in the States and they would always drive. They loved those road trips! Maybe her early years in the country trained Susan to love looking at the marvellous sky and called her to roam.

Her garden was a great joy to Susan. It touched her heart to putter in her garden and she was so proud of her "preserves." She canned tomatoes, made various pickles and just rejoiced in her harvest.

Susan, although handicapped by a birth defect which left her with problems on one side of her body, never complained. Susan was a person who always thought of others. She worked in many aspects of volunteering in our Parish—from Catechism when she was younger to Altar Guild and Parish Visitation as she aged. She was empathetic and kind.

Susan never wanted praise and recognition. She quietly went about her tasks.

We salute you, Susan. Rest in Peace, loyal and faithful servant.

May the songs of the Angels welcome you and guide you to the arms of God!

SIX LITTLE STORIES

1. All the villagers decided to pray for rain.
On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.
That's FAITH.
2. When you throw babies into the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them.
That's TRUST.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarm to wake up.
That's HOPE.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.
That's CONFIDENCE.
5. We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.
That's LOVE.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence: 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.'
That's ATTITUDE.

Have a happy day and live your life like the six stories.



EATING IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Oil was for lubricating; fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot, using tea leaves and never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yoghurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly, muesli was readily available—it was called cattle feed!

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.

The only thing that we **never, ever** had on our table in the fifties was **elbows, hats** and **cell phones**.

THE HALL

During the few years of COVID, Blessed Sacrament faced the same problems as many other Churches - we could not meet in groups and had to endure mass via YouTube. It was better than nothing, but I for one really missed the camaraderie of the other Parishioners and friends, and the act of receiving Communion.

We couldn't use the buildings and, after a few years of neglect, both the Church and the Parish Centre began to require major repairs. The hall in particular was in dire need of renovation.

When Father Kevin first came to the Parish, just over three years ago, the hall had been invaded by little critters and the floor tiles had begun to pop up - making them a safety hazard. The critter problem was swiftly dealt with, but the hall was nevertheless declared unusable.

After three years of not having a meeting place, Father Kevin and a group of Parishioners decided to look at the cost of repairing the floor of the hall and fixing up the rest of the room.

Unbeknownst to many, Gord Cummine had also looked at the floor and had come up with a method of repairing the tiles. Gord has spent countless hours on his knees working on that floor and, with the help of Barry Breiter and Ron Klassen, the floor has been fixed and we have a smooth and safe floor in the hall once again. They have also painted the walls and given the hall a fresh and appealing look! We salute them!

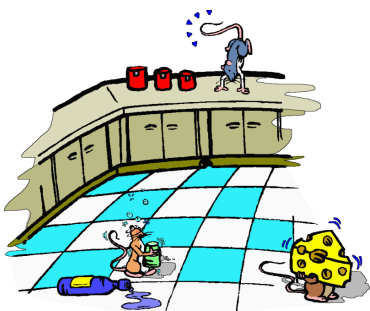
The kitchen was tackled about three weeks ago. A commercial cleaning company was hired to clean the kitchen, the bar, and both washrooms. Every inch of the kitchen and the bar was

sanitized! They scrubbed the cupboards, walls and drawers.

To prepare for this cleaning, Chris, with a bit of help from me and Patti LaBelle, emptied every cupboard and drawer in the kitchen and the bar, and put the dishes and other articles on tables set up by Gord Cummine, in the centre of the hall.

Before the items from the kitchen are replaced, all of the dishes, cutlery, beverage containers, and sundry articles will be run through the dish washer to be cleaned and disinfected. Jack Puranen and Henry McNeil, aided and abetted by George Moyon and Lorne Baert, are seeing to that aspect of the clean-up.

We are overjoyed to think that later this Fall, we may have a hall which can be used for Parish activities. Many thanks to those workers who did so much to help with this project!



30 Thanksgiving Groaners

1. How does a turkey travel?
By gravy train.
2. What do you call a live turkey after Thanksgiving Day?
Lucky.
3. What did the Turkey say to the Hunter on Thanksgiving Day?
"Quack, quack."
4. Why did they let the Turkey join the Band?
He had his own drumsticks.
5. If we call a big Turkey a gobbler, what do we call a small Turkey?
A goblet.
6. What do you call a running Turkey?
Fast food.
7. Why did the Turkey cross the road?
He wanted everyone to think he was a chicken.
8. What did the turkey say to the computer?
"Google, google."
9. What kind of weather does a Turkey like?
Fowl weather.
10. What's a turkey's favourite dessert?
Peach Gobbler.
11. What is Frankenstein's favourite Thanksgiving dish?
Monster Mash Potatoes and Grave-y.
12. Why did the Cranberries turn red?
They saw the turkey dressing.
13. What do you wear at Thanksgiving?
A nice Har-vest.
14. What holiday is Dracula's favourite?
Fangs-giving.
15. What is a tree's least favourite month?
Sep-timber.
16. Who helped the pumpkin cross the road?
The crossing gourd.
17. What do you get when you pop a pumpkin?
Squash.
18. Who won the skeleton beauty contest?
No body.
19. If money really grew on trees, what would everyone's favourite season be?
Fall.
20. Who lives in the scary 100 Acre Woods?
Winnie The Boo.
21. On Thanksgiving, eat turkey and gobble till you wobble.
22. Knock, knock. Who's there?
Annie. Annie who? Anibody seen the turkey?
23. What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?
Pumpkin Pi.
24. What would you get if you crossed a turkey with an octopus?
Enough drumsticks for everyone.
25. What do you call an evil turkey?
Poultry-geist.
26. Cranberries *without* vodka?
Must be Thanksgiving.
27. What's the difference between Election Day and Thanksgiving?
On Thanksgiving, you get a turkey for the day.
On Election Day, you get a turkey for four years.
28. A sweet potato said to a potato, "I'm related to you."
"Oh no you're not," said the potato.
"Oh yes I yam." said the sweet potato.
29. Oh my gourd, I always eat too much on Thanksgiving.
30. My family said to stop telling turkey jokes.
I said that I couldn't just stop cold turkey!

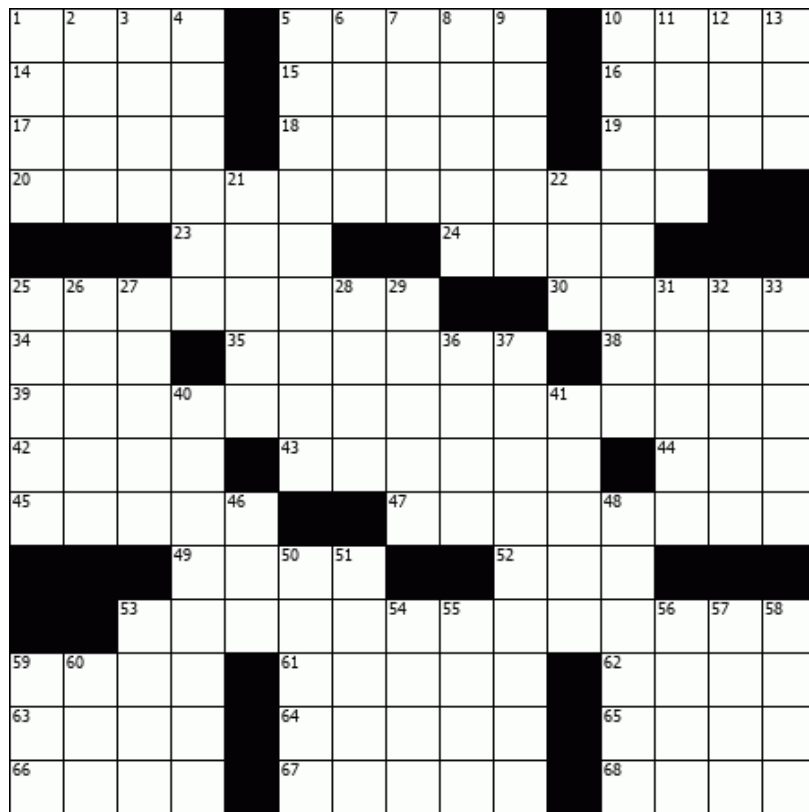
TURKEY TRIVIA

1. How many feathers does a mature turkey have?
 - a) 500
 - b) 1000
 - c) 3500
2. How fast can a wild turkey run?
 - a) 15 mph
 - b) 2.5 mph
 - c) 5 mph
3. What do you call the skin that hangs from a turkey's neck?
 - a) Gobble
 - b) Wattle
 - c) Gaggle
4. What do you call a male turkey?
 - a) Joe
 - b) Tom
 - c) Tim
5. How high must a cranberry bounce before it is harvested?
 - a) 5 cm
 - b) 20 cm
 - c) 10 cm
6. What is it in a turkey that makes you sleepy?
 - a) Chloroform
 - b) Fat
 - c) Protein
 - d) Tryptophan
7. Turkeys can see in colour.
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. What does Cornucopia mean?
 - a) Traditional corn dish
 - b) Greek Goddess of Corn
 - c) Horn of Plenty
 - d) Goat's Horn
9. What is another name for a turkey's Wishbone?
 - a) Corona
 - b) Furcula
 - c) Swot
 - d) Ossein
10. A group of turkeys is called a
 - a) Rafter
 - b) Gaggle
 - c) Flock
 - d) Gobble



ACROSS

1. Aquatic bird
5. Dining room piece
10. Crumbly cheese
14. Ring up?
15. Map holder
16. Michelle Kwan leap
17. Tabloid tidbit
18. Disorderly demonstrations
19. Prong
20. Be overly eager
23. James's creator
24. Setback
25. Termite hunter
30. Mishandles
34. Suffolk sound
35. Popular rentals
38. "Splendor in the Grass" director
Kazan
39. Respond angrily
42. More than ___
43. Bush's former Treasury
secretary
44. AAA suggestion
45. Toadies' replies
47. Places to get tickets
49. Large-scale
52. Soothing sound
53. How to stop something from
getting out of hand
59. Discontinue
61. V-nick?
62. Fictional reporter
63. Female suffix
64. Chocolate source
65. "Like that'll ever happen"
66. Forest females
67. Actor Hawke
68. This coming

**DOWN**

1. Fashionable
2. Swear words
3. Promise, e.g.
4. Agee of '60s-'70s baseball
5. "Kill Bill, Vol. 1" director
6. Plugging away
7. Stain
8. Plaster backing strips
9. City near Dusseldorf
10. Worn out
11. Leave
12. Hamilton's bill
13. Brewery product
21. Finnish track star Nurmi
22. Emeril's exclamation
25. Dublin theater
26. Ingenuous
27. "Soap" family
28. Garden setting
29. Change to zeros
31. Fauna's partner
32. L, at times
33. Hotel conveniences
36. "Super Tuesday" primary state
37. Lengthy marketing event
40. Recluses
41. Shi'ite's deity
46. Maple output
48. Jill of "The Love Boat"
50. Because
51. Brown ermine
53. Golfer's choice
54. Rash reaction
55. University sports org.
56. Soldier's home
57. Computer operating system
58. Skillful
59. Logician's letters
60. Simple card game



Crossword Solution

T	X	E	N		N	A	H	T	E		S	E	O	D
F	I	S	A		O	A	C	A	C	A	E	N	N	E
E	N	A	L		H	C	T	O	N		T	I	U	I
D	U	B	U		E	H	T	N	I	T	I	P	I	N
					H	A	A			S	S	A	M	
S	A	A	W		L	L	O	T			S	E	S	E
E	T	R			L	L	I	L	E	N	O		R	E
F	F	O	D		A	E	H	S	E	N	O	E	T	I
A	I	L	E		S	O	S	D	I	V		A	V	A
S	F	F	U		W			R	E	T	A	E	T	N
					G	V	N	S			N	V	I	
					T	I	B	E	H	T	A	P	M	O
E	N	I	T			S	T	O	I	R		M	E	T
L	E	X	A			S	A	L	A	T		O	L	A
A	T	E	F			E	L	B	A	T		T	O	O

Answer to Cryptogram

It is a far, far better thing to have a firm anchor in nonsense than to put on the troubled seas of thought.

Turkey Trivia

10. a)
9. b)
8. c)
7. a)
6. d)

5. c)
4. b)
3. b)
2. b)
1. c)

Our closing thoughts ...

We have written so much about gratitude in the past, that we thought that we'd just go for fun this month. Both Chris and I are great fans of gratitude. We try to begin each day with a short prayer of

gratitude for the new day and all that it may bring! Remember to show gratitude to those around you. Not only do you benefit from showing gratitude, but the person to whom you express your thanks also feels needed and wanted by those whose opinion they relish.

Chris and I hope that you have all of the people you love around your table this Thanksgiving. Sometimes, they can only be with you in Spirit, but that's good too. These special days when we celebrate being together, we have a good chance to reflect on our many gifts and to be glad and thankful.

Here are three simple things for which to say, "Thank you, Lord".

1. We woke up today. We have another chance to do some good for someone. We can still make a difference in someone's life, including our own.
2. We can give thanks for our life struggles and be so happy that we were able, with the help of God, to overcome those difficulties in our lives. Those struggles turn us into the wiser, kinder people that we aspire to be today.
3. Be thankful for those who love you! Your family and loving friends make life worth living!

Let's all try to have less Attitude and more Gratitude!

Happy Thanksgiving, from

Carol and Chris

That's all for now, but let's continue to pray for each other and to keep in touch as much as possible!

Carol Engstrom and Chris Klassen