



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH FUNERAL LUNCH VOLUNTEERS' NEWSLETTER

April 2023

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PRAYER CORNER

This month, let's all try to have a daily prayer for those who are currently following the RCIA program and will be welcomed into our Parish as full members of our community at the Easter Vigil, Holy Saturday evening.

"God of infinite goodness, you bring all people together in love and you fill us with the desire to encounter Christ.

"Help us to live in solidarity with those new members of our Parish, who seek to know you better.

"Help us to be welcoming always and to be kind as we struggle to see your face in all of those who worship with us."

Amen.



Hello friends,

Finally, spring has arrived and we are expecting new life; a re-birth in all creation! For the believer, Easter is a time of new life also.

We celebrate Eternal Life promised to us in our Saviour Jesus Christ and Easter is a promise of the Holy Spirit breathing new life into us every day.

We are called out of our dark tombs to live lives of holiness and grace, lives of forgiveness, love and mercy. I pray that not only your Easter Season, but every day may be coloured with Easter joy! I pray you good health and happiness.

Happy Easter everyone!

Fr. Kevin

HOLY THURSDAY:
Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 PM
Followed by Adoration until 10:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY:
Friday, April 7 at 11:00 AM & 3:00 PM

EASTER VIGIL:
Saturday, April 8: 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY:
Sunday, April 9
9:00 AM; 10:30 AM; 12:00 Noon

Hi Everyone,

It will soon be Easter and as usual, both Chris and I are asking ourselves how it could be Spring and Easter so soon! "What happened to March? It can't be Easter already!" I have to say that we both just love Easter and always try to attend all of the services of the Triduum.

Holy Thursday begins with the readings, telling of the Passover and the origins of our Faith, and then proceeds to the Washing of the Feet. This action also reminds us of our obligation to look after the well-being of our neighbours. The stripping of the altar and the removal of the tabernacle is always a very moving ritual.

On **Good Friday**, our hearts are heavy with the knowledge of what is to come, after listening to the Passion of Christ. Then we witness the crucifixion, through the Stations of the Cross. The silence of the congregation has such a powerful impact as we take time to recognize Christ's great sacrifice.

On **Holy Saturday**, of course, the atmosphere changes from one of sorrow to exultation. I just love the **Easter Vigil!** Sitting in darkness, as Father Kevin lights the fire at the entrance of the Church, is most touching. The light from this fire and from the Pascal candle is spread throughout the dark Church, and as the light grows, we see how Jesus lights up our space.

Each person in the pews has a candle which is lit from the candle of their fellow parishioner and this ceremony is really quite inspiring. Going from darkness to light is so symbolic! As the evening proceeds, we once again have Litanies sung and Baptismal waters blessed. Those folks who have been travelling on the journey to discover what the Catholic Faith offers, through the RCIA program, are accepted into the Church. This is another touching ceremony. The Easter Vigil is an emotional service, which reminds us that Christ is the light of the world and that his love is always with us!

The symbolism of light is really affecting us now that Spring is here and the lengthening daylight warms our souls. Light is a powerful symbol in many religions of our world. A few weeks ago, I was at St. Boniface Hospital and I noticed that at the front of the Entrance, there is erected a large Menorah, consisting of eight bright lights. The story of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights was explained on a plaque:

"Hanukkah commemorates the values of Judaism and remembers the re-dedication of the second Temple of Jerusalem. Candles are lit on eight consecutive nights and prayers are said hymns are sung and gratitude is expressed for Blessings that God has bestowed upon his people."

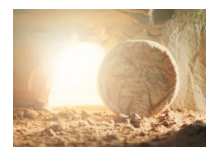
In the Faith of Islam, the Our'an states that "God is the Light of Heaven and Earth." Muslims believe that the Messenger has come from God and that his light illuminates the world. Muslims spend thirty days fasting (March 22 to April 21, this year), during the time called Ramadan.

Fasting is a universal way of honouring God and reassessing our relationship with Him and our relationship with our fellow travelers on this journey of life! So many people have used the image of Light to represent God. We are more alike in our ideas of worship than in our differences.

For Catholics, though we firmly believe that Jesus is with us always – even when we are not very loveable and when no one else loves us. Others may abandon us but Jesus loves us and will be by our side. He will always love us. No matter what. That's the real message of Easter: **Jesus loves us.**

Chris and I hope that your relationship with God is heartily renewed this Easter! God is our Light and we hope that you are astonished by that light, shining all around us, this Easter! Remember to look for the light and also to follow in Jesus' footsteps and be the Light!

Happy Easter!



15 Easter Groaners

1. What do you call ten rabbits marching backward?
A receding hareline.
2. What's the difference between a Lumberjack and the Easter Bunny?
One hews and chops, one chews and hops.
3. What did the Easter Bunny's kids get from Mac Donald's?
Hoppy Meals!
4. What do you call someone who likes Easter but doesn't believe in the Easter Bunny?
An eggnostic.
5. What did the Easter Bunny say to the carrot?
"Nice gnawing you."
6. How does the Easter Bunny stay in shape?
Eggs-ercise and Hare-obics.
7. How do rabbits keep their fur in place?
Hare spray.
8. What happens when you get married at Easter?
You'll live hoppily ever after!
9. How does the Easter Bunny feel after Easter?
Eggs-austed!
10. What do you call a rabbit with fleas?
Bugs Bunny.
11. How can you make Easter shopping go faster?
Use the eggs-press lane.
12. Don't tell an Easter Egg a joke -
he might crack up!
13. How do you send a letter to a rabbit?
Use hare mail!
14. What day does an Easter Egg hate the most?
Fryday.
15. What do you call a rabbit who has been kicked out of school?
Egg-spelled!

THE WORST RABBIT JOKE OF ALL

A man was driving to work one day on a country road, when suddenly a rather large rabbit ran right in front of his car. Try as he might, the man could not avoid hitting the rabbit. He got out of the car and went to the lifeless body of the poor bunny and picked it up.

Just then a woman pulled up and got out of her car. "Is that rabbit dead?", she asked. "Yes, I'm so sorry that I hit it and now it's dead."

The woman went to her car, opened the trunk and came back with a spray can in her hand. She took the rabbit and sprayed it liberally all over and after a few minutes, the rabbit gave a huge shudder and stood up. He began to hop away, all the time waving at them.

"MY GOSH" uttered the man. "What was that stuff?"

The woman held it up for the man to see. It was Pantene Hair Spray. The label said it all:

"RESTORES LIFE TO ANY DEAD, LIMP HAIR.
IT WILL ALSO GIVE YOUR HAIR A PERMANENT WAVE."

Grab your shovel.

Our planet needs more trees!

Tree planting has always been one of the flagship activities symbolic of helping the environment. The United Nations Environment Programme promotes [The Trillion Tree Campaign](#), with the intention of moving people of all ages to action. The Government of Canada committed to planting two billion trees by 2030 as a part of our natural climate change solution.

Planting a tree is not just for increasing green space. Did you know that one large tree can provide [a day's oxygen for up to four people?](#)

A tree has many functions, including:

- providing habitat, food and shelter for wildlife
- controlling floods
- purifying air and water
- providing shade
- capturing and storing carbon
- providing recreation

So, if you're ready to roll up your sleeves and plant some trees, but aren't sure how, read below for steps and tips.

What tree to plant and where

There are 137 species of native trees in Canada, according to the [Database for Vascular Plants of Canada](#). Each [forest region across the country](#) has different species that are found there.

To begin, find out what kind of soil is on your ground. Visit a local native plant nursery and learn about the suitable species for your area. Also research what trees are available for purchase.

Best time to plant a tree

Spring and fall are the best seasons for planting new trees in countries with colder climates like Canada. So, get your shovels ready in spring when the frost clears, or [in fall after the leaves fall but before the ground freezes](#). Planting trees in summer can put stress on young trees if it is too hot or dry.

Plant a tree for any occasion

Looking for a reason to plant trees? Why not celebrate birthdays, milestones, achievements and more by planting a tree? Here are some [alternative ways to celebrate beyond the traditional balloon](#).

No land? No problem

If you don't have the space to plant a tree, consider [supporting conservation organizations like the Nature Conservancy of Canada](#) in conserving important natural areas and biological diversity across all regions of Canada.

Local organizations, such as LEAF (Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests), offer [planting and maintenance programs](#) to help interested homeowners, schools and businesses contribute to enhancing urban forests. You can choose an in-person consultation with an arborist, followed by the delivery of a native tree and then the actual planting. Or choose to plant it yourself following a virtual consultation.

Wherever you are, planting trees is one of the most impactful ways to see results on the ground — literally. If you've planted a tree in the past, we'd love to hear how it has grown, the wildlife it has attracted and how it benefited the area.

The infographic below shows the basic steps of planting a tree:



A HISTORY OF MANITOBA QUIZ (1950-1975)

1. In 1950, for the first time in Manitoba history, Agriculture was surpassed as the primary source of income for the Province. Which industry took the number one spot?

- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Forestry
- Fishing

2. This resource was discovered near Virden in 1951. Can you name it? _____

3. I'm not sure how this compares to other regions of Canada but by 1954, all of rural Manitoba areas finally had this. What was it?

- Gas Stations
- Electricity
- Paved Roads
- Rail Road Links

4. After the terrible flood of 1950, the Conservative government decided to build a Diversion. Premier Dufferin Roblin pushed for its construction. It was only built in 1968, but would forever be remembered as Premier Roblin's Pet Project. What is the Floodway's nick-name?

- Roblin's Route
- Premier's Path
- Dufferin's Dugout
- Duff's Ditch

5. In 1950, large nickel deposits were discovered in the Moak Lake-Mystery Lake area. Since then the town that was built to develop that mine has become one of the largest nickel-producing centres in the world. Which town is it?

- Nelson House
- Thompson
- Lynn Lake
- The Pas

6. In 1963 the first laboratories went into operation at the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment and two years later a nuclear reactor was up and running. Near which town is it located?

- Pinawa
- Lac Du Bonnet
- Seven Sisters
- Whitemouth

7. The Amalgamation of The United, Wesley and Manitoba Colleges in 1967 formed which University?

- University of Manitoba
- Red River University
- Brandon University
- University of Winnipeg

8. The Provincial Election of 1969 saw the first Socialist Government in Manitoba (the N.D.P.), which was only the second Canadian Province to have a Socialist Government. Which Province was the first?

- Saskatchewan
- New Brunswick
- British Columbia
- Prince Edward Island

9. Although Manitoba had several areas of economic growth in the third quarter of the 20th century, by 1970 the largest growth was in the service and public sector. Who was the largest employer in Manitoba?

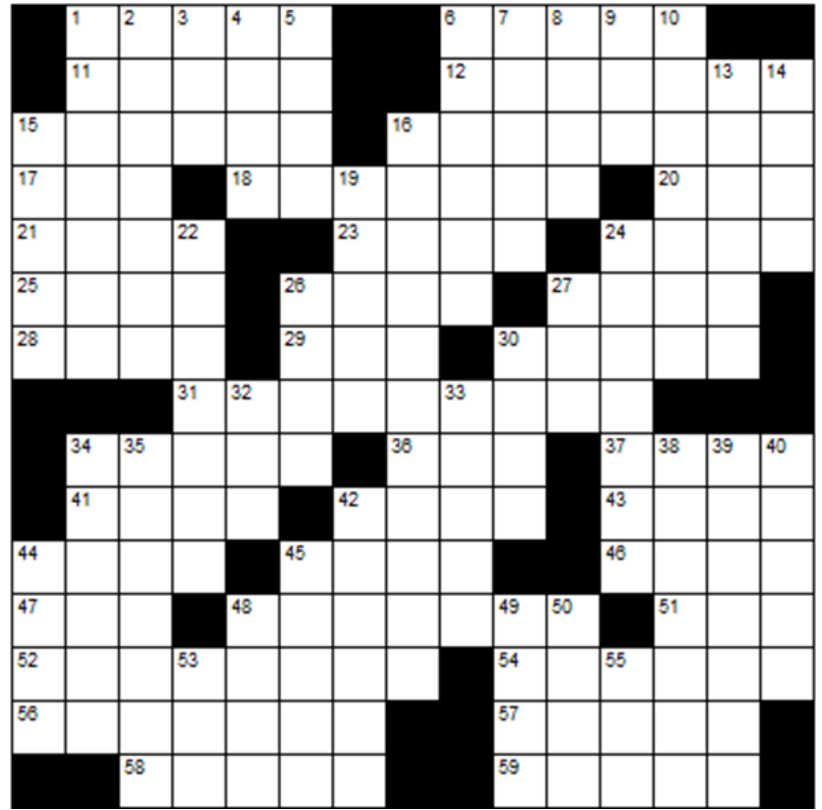
- The Richardson Group
- New Flyer Industries
- The Government
- Travel Manitoba

10. This famous hockey player came from the N.H.L. to join the W.H.A's Winnipeg Jets for the 1972-1973 hockey season.

Who was he? _____

ACROSS

1. A type of writing tablet
6. Manila hemp
11. Instances
12. Reveal
15. Sprints
16. Building wing
17. Chapter in history
18. Razzed
20. Roam
21. Seaweed
23. Nights before
24. Picnic insects
25. Extend credit
26. Minerals
27. Tall woody plant
28. Flower stalk
29. What we breathe
30. Multitude
31. Bowel
34. Units of land
36. Cobbler's tool
37. Abbey area
41. Masticate
42. Sand
43. Unit of paper
44. Teller of untruths
45. Conceited
46. Give the cold shoulder
47. Commercials
48. Realize beforehand
51. Consumed
52. Looks down on
54. Cursed
56. Study of the physical world
57. Simple elegance
58. Sugary
59. Terminated



DOWN

1. Red
2. Baked Italian dish
3. Fire residue
4. Adolescent
5. Being
6. Confuses
7. Waits
8. Ardent
9. Director's cry
10. Brought into agreement
13. A small chin beard
14. Terminates
15. Trades
16. Opponents
19. Spooky
22. Adorer
24. Past-due debts
26. Horse feed
27. 2000 pounds
30. Sword handle
32. Without precedent
33. They can be fraternal or identical
34. Having a low pH
35. Auto frame
38. Remorseful act
39. Fried quickly
40. Implant
42. January's birthstone
44. Boys
45. Express
48. A temple (archaic)
49. Border
50. Deserve
53. Morning moisture
55. Angry

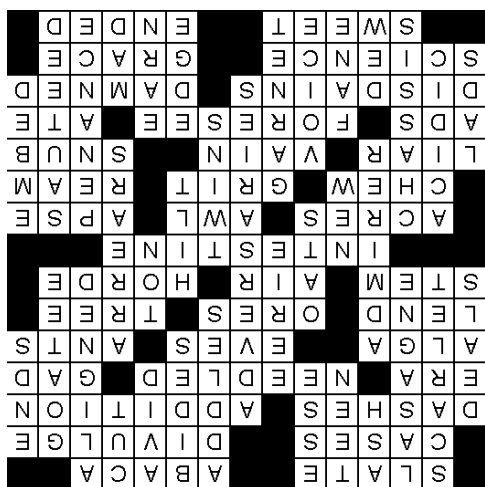
CRYPTOGRAM

BR BN G DGK, DGK QCRRCK RPBZX RM PGLC G DBKS GZYPMK BZ ZMZNCZNC RPGZ RM EVR MZ RPC
RKMVQJCU NCGN MD RPMVXPR.

– John Kenneth Galbraith

Hint: C decodes to E.

Crossword Solution



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.

Answer to Manitoba Quiz

1. Manufacturing
2. Oil
3. Electricity
4. Duff's Ditch
5. Thompson
6. Pinawa
7. University of Winnipeg
8. Saskatchewan
9. The Government
10. Bobby Hull

Our closing thoughts ...

Spring is still far in the distance but our hearts are being teased into thinking that the evening daylight promises warm sunny days without any snow banks! We long for walks without heavy coats and the now

ratty-looking mitts and gloves. Soon, though, Mother Nature will wake up for good and we'll be back, enjoying a beautiful Manitoba Spring! Since I never plant the garden before June, I am resisting looking at seed catalogues. However, I have seen enough of Manitoba weather to know that Winter is not done with us yet! I have no doubt that, under that snow and grime, there is grass and all kinds of plants ready to awaken, stretch out and begin to grow. In a short period of time, everything will change! No more white stuff! The trees will bud out and everything will green up! It is the eternal story - a new season and a new beginning.

The seasons of Lent and Easter are just like the atmosphere that surrounds us. Easter really is a time of change—a chance for renewal. We struggle with our decision to try to lead better and kinder, more gentler lives; and the more we are grateful and the more we look for God in the faces of those around us, the closer we come to fulfilling our Lenten and Easter plan.

Chris and I hope that you feel that closeness with the Risen Lord this Easter. We both certainly plan on having a celebratory Easter, with possibly some bingeing on chocolate and an occasional Hot Cross Bun! Never forget though, that Easter is a beautiful reminder of how lovely change can be! We leave you with this blessing:

*Bless this Easter
With Love and Light*

*Bless this Easter
With Faith and Sight*

*Bless us all
With Grace and Ease*

*Bless us all
With Joy and Peace.*

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

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