

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 23rd (11:00 a.m.) St. Vital Parish & Parishioners

Wednesday, March 26th (7:00 p.m.) Parishioner (Special Intention)

Thursday, March 27th (9:00 a.m.) † John Graham

Pancake Breakfast (Sunday, March 23rd) after the 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Masses

Together We Serve

Your gift to the *Together We Serve* appeal will benefit St. Joseph Seminary and Newman Theological College in a number of ways. The average special collection for the seminary and college over the past six years has been \$288,931. *Together We Serve* has earmarked \$300,000 for the two institutions in 2014. In addition, they will save an about \$16,000 in materials, postage, and salaries previously spent on their parish campaign. Your gift will make a difference. For more information, please visit www.caedm.ca/WeServe.

Catholicism Series (Word on Fire)

Come join us for **The Catholicism Series (Word on Fire)**, with creator and host Fr. Robert Barron. This week's session is titled: **"A Vast Company of Witnesses: The Communion of Saints"** Come view a documentary style video and participate in an engaging conversation.

This Wednesday (March 26th) 7:30PM- 9:30 PM in the small room of the church basement.

All are welcome! No cost.

Take a stand for life!

From March 5 - April 13, 40 Days for Life ... a peaceful, prayerful, effective, coordinated international mobilization ... takes place in Edmonton. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city -- and beyond.

Please join us on April 11, 2014 across the street from the **Women's Health Options Clinic** (formerly the Morgentaler Clinic) 12409-109 A Avenue as we peacefully pray for an end to abortion. We need at least 2 volunteers to fill each hour from 7 a.m. To 7 p.m. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board at the entrance to the Church or call Megan @ 780-929-9660

<http://40daysforlife.com/edmonton.html>

Icon of St. Joseph the Worker

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, When we began thinking about ways to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Edmonton, one the goals that emerged from deliberations with the Jubilee 100 Committee was to organize events that would engage parishioners across the Archdiocese.

It is therefore my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Jubilee 100 in a special way, by bringing to your parish two items that will highlight the history of our Archdiocese as well as engage parishioners in prayerful reflection: An Icon of St. Joseph the Worker which was commissioned for the centenary and written by Andre Prevost, Iconographer. And A Historic Display created through a collaboration of Shamin Malmas, Archivist/Records Manager, and Lorraine Turchansky, Director of Communications and Public Relations.

The Icon was blessed at St. Joseph's Basilica on May 1 and will travel with the Historic Display throughout the Archdiocese over 20 months, visiting parishes, missions, and educational

institutions. After its tour, the icon will be permanently installed at the Basilica.

Description of the Icon - by Andre Prevost (Iconographer)

It has been a great blessing to write the Icon of St. Joseph the Worker. Most Icons to date which bear the name of St. Joseph the Worker are traditionally portrayals of St. Joseph with the Christ Child, wearing the himation (out garment) and usually holding the flowering staff or holding a set square (as a representation of his carpentry). St. Joseph is portrayed in his middle years, in this new icon, wearing a pale blue tunic with rolled up sleeves and a leather earth-toned shop apron, which is buttons at the shoulder. He is presented in 'working' cloths and not wearing the traditional himation, which wouldn't be worn while working. The tradition of use of blue (or purple) for the inner garment represents the spiritual and the outer garments is in warm brown colours for the earth. The blue in the detailing on his waist sash is representational that St. Joseph was from the lineage of the House of David. His left hand is resting on a wood-chipping tool and reaches out with his right, inviting people to himself. Referenced to the Byzantine tradition, the design is such for a stronger focus on St. Joseph's title.

It was important for His Grace, Archbishop Richard Smith that the icon be a reminder to us to be open to the working of God in our lives, and an invitation to us to trust in what God is doing as Joseph was. "It also would be consonant with the traditional admonition of the Church "Ite ad e Joseph" (Go to Joseph) to seek the intercession of the patron saint of the universal Church."

From the website of Andre Prevost

<http://andrepvost.homestead.com/StJosephBasilica.html>

St. Joseph the Worker – by Bob McKeon (Associate Director, Office of Social Justice)

The icon for the Archdiocesan anniversary portrays St. Joseph the Worker, whose feast day is May 1, International Worker's Day. The icon, showing St. Joseph with his carpenter's apron and tools, presents St. him as a protector and patron for all workers. Jesus' formative years would have been spent in Joseph's carpentry shop. Our everyday work is seen as blessed in the eyes of God.

When Catholic Social Teaching speaks of the dignity of work, it examines issues such as living wage, work-life balance, workplace health and safety, participation, the right to organize and business ethics. As we look upon this icon prayerfully, let us think about how we experience God's presence in our own work lives and how human dignity is respected in workplaces around the world.