

## The Roman Catholic Parishes of

**St. John the Evangelist**  
# 2 Academy Drive,  
Morden, MB R6M 2E8

**Father Ramon Oncog**  
Administrator



**St. Patrick - Mission**  
Manitou, MB R0G 1G0

**Confession**  
Saturday (4:00 - 4:45)  
Sunday (6:00 - 6:45)  
Or call for Appt  
204-822-5240

stjohnparishmorden@gmail.com

Website: [www.saintjohnparishmorden.org](http://www.saintjohnparishmorden.org)

### MASS INTENTIONS Apr 1, 2023 to April 9, 2023

#### SATURDAY, Apr 1, 2023

5:00 p.m. MASS in Morden- the eternal repose of Francien Cobben - req. Jan Cobben

#### SUNDAY, Apr 2, 2023 - PALM SUNDAY

11:00 a.m. MASS in Morden - the intentions of all parishioners

7:00 p.m. MASS in Morden - the intentions of all parishioners

#### MONDAY, Apr 3, 2023

7:00 p.m. Mass in Morden - the intentions of all parishioners

#### TUESDAY, Apr 4, 2023

7:00 p.m. Mass in Morden - NO MASS

#### WEDNESDAY, Apr 5, 2023

7:00 p.m. MASS in Morden - The intentions of St. John CWL members

#### THURSDAY, Apr 6, 2023

8:00 p.m. MASS in Morden- Holy Thursday Liturgy

#### FRIDAY, Apr 7, 2023

4:30 p.m. Mass in Morden- Good Friday Liturgy

#### SATURDAY, Apr 8, 2023

8:00 p.m. MASS in Morden- Easter Vigil

#### SUNDAY, Apr 9, 2023 - Easter Sunday SOLEMNITY

11:00 a.m. MASS in Morden- the eternal repose of Fr. Rodrigo Lazarte - req. Beth Villavicencio

7:00 p.m. MASS in Morden- NO MASS

### **Father Ramon** **The Shepherds walking stick**

#### **PARISH UPDATE 04/02/2023 –**

The evening Mass on Easter Sunday is cancelled in order to maximize participation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday at 8 PM. The Easter Vigil is the mother of all vigils and is the most important liturgical celebration of the Church. That is why a Catholic ought to participate in it often or more than once in his/her lifetime. This year's Vigil is even made more special here in our parish because a member of our community will be baptized and another will be received into full communion into the Church..... There are anti-Catholic videos on internet where the Easter Vigil from the Vatican is shown and the Exultet is sung in Latin. The videos then make it appear that Catholics are referring to Christ as a devil and worshipping him because of a verse that says, "Flammas eius lucifer matutinus inveniati: ille, inquam, lucifer, qui nescit occasum. Christus Filius tuus, qui regressus ab inferis..." Erroneously translated by anti-Catholics to mean, "Flaming Lucifer who finds mankind; I say O Lucifer, who will never be defeated. Christ is your Son, who came back from hell"..... At the outset, it must be pointed out that Lucifer is not a proper name of the devil. In fact, it has a beautiful meaning – light bearer (lux=light and ferre=to carry). There's even a saint in the 4<sup>th</sup> century named Lucifer of Cagliari who was a zealous defender of the doctrine of Christ's divinity. In short, the name Lucifer has no intrinsic connection with the devil..... But, how was the name came to be connected with the devil? Well, there's a passage in Isaiah chapter 14 that mocks the King of Babylon for his pride. "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! (Is 14:12). It is rendered in Latin, thus "Quomodo cecidisti de caelo, lucifer, fili aurora!" The king of Babylon fancied himself as high and mighty as the Day Star itself, but God will bring him down.

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### **Father Ramon** **The Shepherds walking stick** *Continued*

Some religious writers in medieval times compared the pride of the king of Babylon to the pride of the devil; they also compared the fall of the king of Babylon to Jesus' prophecy that he "saw Satan fall like lightning" (Luke 10:18). Accordingly, popular literature assigned the name Lucifer to the devil – e.g. Dante Aligjieri's Inferno (14<sup>th</sup> ), Joost Van den Vondel's Lucifer (17<sup>th</sup> c.), John Milton's Paradise Lost (17<sup>th</sup> c)..... It is acceptable to use the word "lucifer" for the devil. However, it becomes problematic when people think of it as the only use of the word and disregard the connection discussed beforehand. It is more problematic when one forget the other uses of the word, like in the liturgy in the Church. In the liturgy, lucifer refers to the Morning Star – i.e. the planet Venus because it is the brightest object in the sky next to the sun and moon. It is the first star seen in the evening (the Evening Star) and the last star seen in the morning (the Morning Star). So, the Exultet is asking God to let the paschal candle continue to give light, so that it still be burning in the morning. Then the prayer pivots to refer to the Morning Star not as the literal one in the sky but as Jesus Christ himself, based on the symbol in Revelation 22:16. Thus, we read in the correct English translation of the Exultet, "May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son..." The Exultet, therefore, is a moving poetic prayer to God, not an invocation of the devil.

### *April 2, 2023 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." MATTHEW 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbor. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbor and help him "carry his cross." These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.



"No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn."  
"The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created spring." "Easter is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life."  
"For I remember it is Easter Morn and life and love and peace are all new born."

#### **Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish....**

(Please call 204-822-5240 if someone should be included or removed. Thanks!)