

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA (REDVERS)**  
**ST. MAURICE (BELLEGARDE)**  
**ST. ANTHONY (STORTHOAKS)**

Fr. Ronald M. Andree  
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**September 3, 2023**  
*22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**Redvers**

**Pastoral Council Chairperson**  
Marc Wolensky 306-840-7282

**Parish Hall Bookings**  
Anita Colleaux: 306-452-3868

**Caretaker**  
Coralie Wolensky



**Bellegarde**

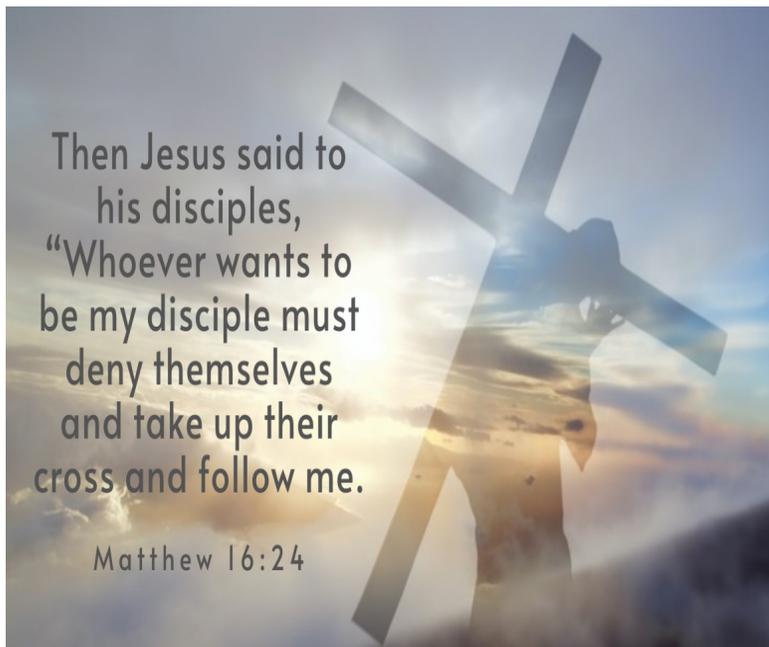
**Pastoral Council Chairperson**  
Guy Poirier: 306-840-7744



**Storthoaks**

**Pastoral Council Chairperson**  
Richard Chicoine: 449-2231

**Parish Hall Bookings**  
Monique Dumaine: 449-2237



**Mass Schedule**

**Mon, Sept 4, 9:00 a.m.**  
+Paul Henrion by Charles/Anita Henrion

**Tues, Sept 5, 9:00 a.m.**  
Intentions of Albert Magotiaux by Zoe Martin

**Wed, Sept 6, 9:00 a.m.**  
+Marie McKenzie by Gilbert Couture

**Thurs, Sept 7, 9:00 a.m.**  
+Marguerite Perreux by Knights of Columbus

**Fri, Sept 8, 9:30 a.m. (Estates)**  
+Charles Tinant by Lucille Tinant

**Sat, Sept 9, 7:00 p.m. (Bellegarde)**  
+Raymond Cop by Joe/Irene Poirier

**Sun, Sept 10, 9:00 a.m. (Storthoaks)**  
Pro Populo

**Sun, Sept 10, 10:45 a.m. (Redvers)**  
+Angele Millette by Jean-Guy/Suzanne Millette

**Liturgical Ministries (Redvers)**

To ensure your name is still on a ministries list or to volunteer contact **Carol Poirier (452-8397)**.

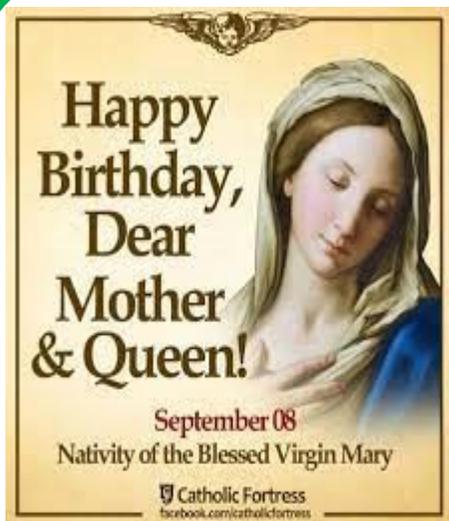
**Sunday, September 10, 10:45 a.m.**

**Hospitality**—Chase/Jaelene Boettcher

**Lectors**—Colin Martin/Sophie Martin

**Collection**—Raymond Lamotte/Linden Poirier/Seth Poirier/Denis Quennelle

**Communion**—Ron Martin



## **This Week...**

### **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary—September 8**

***This is, in fact, the day on which the Creator of the world constructed His temple; today is the day on which by a stupendous project a creature becomes the preferred dwelling of the Creator. ~Saint Andrew of Crete***

On December 8, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. That solemnity highlights the singular grace bestowed upon the Blessed Virgin Mary at the moment she was conceived. Church dogma states, "...in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful" (Pope Pius IX, 1954).

Today's Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated exactly nine months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, just as Christmas is celebrated nine months after the Church remembers the Incarnation of the Son of God on the Solemnity of the Annunciation. The birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one of three liturgical feasts in which we celebrate a birth: Christmas, the Birth of Saint John the Baptist, and the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Only the three most consequential figures in the Bible receive the honor of a liturgical celebration to commemorate their births.

Nothing is known for certain about the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary or of her upbringing, since the Bible only introduces the Mother of God to us for the first time during the Annunciation. However, an early 2nd century text called the Protoevangelium of James (The Gospel of James), paints a detailed picture of her conception, birth, early years, and betrothal to Saint Joseph. Though the account is not part of the canon of Scripture, it has been a source of reflection throughout the centuries and is the source of the traditional names of the Blessed Mother's parents, Joachim and Anne.

The actual feast we celebrate today is believed to have been first celebrated in the fifth or sixth century in the East and was tied to the dedication of a Byzantine church near the Pools of Bethesda in the Old City of Jerusalem. The church was built over what was believed to be the birthplace of Mary and the home of Joachim and Anne, just a short distance from the Temple. In the twelfth century, the current Basilica of Saint Anne was built on the same site. Beneath the basilica lie what are believed to be the caves in which the Mother of God was born and lived.

Regardless of whether the apocryphal Gospel of James presents accurate historical truths regarding the conception, birth, and early life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it is not difficult to prayerfully ponder the importance of her birth and childhood. Saint Andrew of Crete beautifully relates that on this day, the "Creator of the world constructed His temple..." Mary is that temple, that Arc of the New Covenant, the tabernacle and first dwelling place of God Incarnate. Her soul was born pure, spotless, and holy. As she grew, she manifested every virtue perfectly. All who knew her as a child would have been deeply impressed by her sanctity.

As we celebrate the birthday of the Mother of God, spend time pondering her soul. Though much of her earthly life has remained hidden from our eyes, she is the greatest saint to ever live and the holiest daughter of God this world has ever known. In Heaven, we will be in awe of her virtues and will forever rejoice in the great things God did in and through her. Begin that rejoicing today by prayerfully honoring her and pondering her, seeking her prayer for your life and for the whole world.

***Dearest Mother Mary, your conception was immaculate and your birth glorious. You were conceived without sin, born without sin, and remained sinless throughout your life. In Heaven, you radiate the beauty and splendor of God and will do so for all eternity. Please pray for me, that I will more fully imitate your many virtues, so that I can be a fitting instrument of your divine Son in the world. Mother Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.***

## **Meetings...**

- ◆ **Tues, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m. (Redvers)—Mass/Parish Council Meeting**
- ◆ **Thurs, Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m. (Storthoaks)—Mass/Parish Council Meeting**
- ◆ **Tues, Sept. 26, 7:00 p.m. (Redvers)—Mass/CWL Meeting**
- ◆ **Thurs, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m. (Redvers)—Mass/KC Meeting**

## **On the Web**

**Our Parish**  
oiofredvers.ca

**Archdiocese of Regina**  
archregina.sk.ca