

SUNDAY OFFERING

February 1, 2015 Envelopes/Pre-Authorized Giving Program \$13,224.25 Loose \$1,471.61

WE PLEDGE 5% . . . Back Door Ministry at St. Mary's Parish, \$524.57; L'Arche Saskatoon, \$656.83; Sacred Heart Chaldean (Refugees), \$670.73. Thank you.

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed . . . He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'" Mark 1:35, 38. In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. Yet, Jesus also makes time to be alone in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what God wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.

BAPTISM Expectant parents please contact the parish office three months prior to the baptism date to arrange for the baptism preparation program and for the baptism celebration. The next baptism celebrations are March 1, April 19, June 21 and August 23. Please call Sr. Marlene Aquino at the parish office, 306 374-1425, for information and to register.

MARRIAGE Arrangements for marriage can be made by contacting the parish priest eight months prior to the date of marriage. This will provide adequate time for documentation and the diocesan required marriage preparation program. A preparation program is offered through Holy Spirit parish. This program is intended not only for engaged couples but also for couples considering engagement and marriage. The next six-week Marriage Preparation begins February 8, 2015. Please call Arch McKay, 306 373-0993/agmckay1@shaw.ca or the parish office, 306 374-1425/info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca for information and to register. Catholic Family Services, 306 244-7773, also offers a marriage preparation program. Please check the diocesan website at saskatoonrcdiocese.com for more opportunities for marriage preparation.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY The program takes place during the readings and homily at Sunday Mass. It is suitable for children age 3 to pre-First Eucharist. Parents and young people interested in leading the program or helping, please call Shannon Granger, 306 955-0089.

NEW IN THE PARISH? MOVING? Please help us keep parish records up-to-date. It assists us to serve you. Please complete the following and return to the parish office by mail or in the weekend collection basket. Thank you for your assistance.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTAL CODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

PARISH OFFERING ENVELOPES? YES _____ NOT AT THIS TIME _____

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING PROGRAM YES _____



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 8, 2015

Using God-given gifts

The hours of volunteering at parishes cannot be numbered. Parishioners serve in liturgical ministry, they prepare food, they teach, they visit the sick, they coach the young - it goes on and on. Most people volunteer because they enjoy working with others who share their faith, and they like giving back to God something they have received.

Every gift God gives also comes with a desire to use it - as if God packaged our gifts with start buttons. Having gifts is one thing, but using them is something else. If we don't use the gift we have, we feel it eating away within us. It wants to come out.

The apostle Paul writes about his own vocation this way. He is a preacher. People have praised him for his ability, but Paul says, "If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!" Paul felt the gospel like a raging river within him. He had to let it out. Otherwise, he would personally suffer.

God has given us our gifts that we might use them. We have no reason to boast of our gifts - they were given to us. But we do have reason to use them. They will fulfil the purpose for which God made them, and all will come to know the greatness of our God.

Paul Turner. Resource Publications, Inc.

Alleluia. Alleluia. The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death, light has dawned. **Alleluia.**

Gospel Acclamation

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

PASTORAL ASSOCIATES

Charlene Nijhawan Ministry of Care
Kelly Wormsbecker Ministry of Care
Arch McKay Christian Initiation of Adults
Marriage Preparation
Bible Study
Sr. Marlene Aquino Baptism
First Reconciliation
Confirmation
First Communion
Celena Komarnicki Youth Ministry Coordinator

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Delores McLean

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Melina Palendat

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Jack Altrogge
Ed Yuzyk p/t

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Brent Blazieko Todd Gursky
Jeannette Chicoine Darroch Robyn Kondratowicz
Jaybee De Castro Ian Rana
Rhea Johnner Jim Wilson
Bev Jutras Kim Morrison

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Loretta Simonot, Chair Pat Pitka
Ed Solie Basil Waslen

THIS WEEK AT HOLY SPIRIT

Monday, February 9

6:30 pm EDGE

Tuesday, February 10

8:30 am Mass
9:00 am *Walking With Purpose* Leadership
9:30 am Mass (Bishop Pocock School)
7:00 pm Ecumenical Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 11

8:30 am Mass
5:00 pm Columbian Seniors potluck supper
7:00 pm Rite of Christian Initiation

Thursday, February 12

8:30 am Mass
9:30 am Bible Study
10:30 am Mass (Stensrud Lodge)
6:15 pm Sacramental Preparation

Friday, February 13

8:30 am Mass
9:00 am-12:00 noon Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, February 14

9:30 am First Reconciliation Celebration
11:00 am-12:00 noon Confessions
1:00 pm Wedding
5:00 pm Mass
6:00 pm Anointing of the Sick

Sunday, February 15

10:00 am Mass
12:00 pm Mass
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
1:30 pm Marriage Preparation
7:00 pm Mass

On our front cover: The Thursday morning Bible Study group gathers to reflect on God's word.

DID YOU KNOW? . . .

- Columbian Seniors February potluck supper will be held Wednesday, February 11 at Holy Spirit Parish. Doors open at 5:00 pm supper at 6:00 pm. Anyone over the age of 55 is welcome to join.
- The diocesan Restorative Ministry office is seeking donations of metal (not string) rosaries for men at the Saskatoon Correctional Centre (preferably not pink in colour). Please drop off donations at the Catholic Pastoral Centre or contact Dianne at 306 659-5845. Also needed are donations of bibles (soft cover), blank greeting cards (especially those with messages such as "I Miss You" and "I Love You" for inmates to correspond with families), as well as white socks, sweat pants and parkas (large, XL, XXL and up).
- Queen's House is a place where you can 'Nourish Your Mind, Nurture Your Spirit' - a gathering place and oasis in an ever-changing world. Queen's House is nestled in a quiet corner of Saskatoon on the bank of the South Saskatchewan River: 601 Taylor Street West. For information, 306 242-1916; email receptionist@queenshouse.org/ www.queenshouse.org. Upcoming - The Five Love Languages: A St. Valentine's Day Workshop with Sarah Donnelly. Saturday, February 14, 9:30am - 1:00pm. Cost \$35 - includes lunch
- if you are going away for the winter and would like someone to house-sit your home please call the parish office, 306 374-1425.
- if you have changed your telephone number, moved from a 'land line' to cell phone, changed your address, or have a new email address, please contact the parish office, 306 374-1425, info@holyspirit saskatoon.ca, or complete the form on the back page of the parish bulletin to update our parish information.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Thank you to all who have contributed financially to Holy Spirit parish during 2014.

Tax receipts for 2014 are available for pick up in the Place of Welcome. The envelope will also contain a receipt for any contribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal and Uniting in Faith.

WE PLEDGE 5% . . . Equal Justice for All

is an advocacy and mediation service. This service, located at Avenue H and 20th Street (St. Thomas Wesley church), provides information and representation to Saskatoon and area low income citizens to assist them to navigate the Social Services and Child and Family Services systems to ensure fairness. This often includes providing representation at local and provincial appeal hearings and assisting with landlord/tenant issues including representation at rentalsman hearings.

The organization operates on a very small budget with no paid staff - volunteers are low income persons with disabilities.



PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD

The Emmanuel Community and Holy Spirit Parish invite you to an evening of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer for peace. As a faith community, we come together to unite in prayer for our brothers and sisters who are living amidst turmoil, strife and war. The prayer service take place at Holy Spirit Parish on Thursday, February 26th at 7:30 pm. Refreshments to follow one hour of Eucharistic Adoration.

POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER

Follow the pope's tweets: @Pontifex



Website: www.holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

FOUNDATIONS COURSE at Holy Spirit Parish. "Bless me Father, for I Have Sinned" Do adults celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation (go to confession) in the same way they learned as children? This session with Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU offers an option to the "list" method toward a style more suited to adult moral development. This presentation will be held at Holy Spirit Parish Thursday afternoon, March 5, 2015 at 3:00 pm. Pre-registration is appreciated; the cost is \$5, payable at the door. To register and/or receive more information please call Charlene or Delores at (306) 374-1425.

LENT BIBLE STUDY Plan to attend the 6-week Bible Study during the season of lent. It will reflect on the Sunday scripture readings and provide a great preparation for the Mass. All are welcome. The study will be held on Thursday mornings - beginning Thursday, February 19. Please contact Arch McKay for more information 306 373-0993 or agmckay1@shaw.ca



Many Voices.
My Life.
God's Mission.

Vocation contact:
Sr. Sheila Sullivan, CND
1 866 461-1700
cnd@cnd-m.org
www.cnd-m.org



**HOLY SPIRIT
ROMAN
CATHOLIC -
McCLURE UNITED**



In March 2000 McClure United Church under the leadership of pastor Ron McConnell and Holy Spirit parish under the leadership of Fr. Bernard de Margerie saw the potential of the two communities praying and working together in a spirit of reconciliation and unity. Father de Margerie has for many years been very actively involved in the ecumenical movement in the church in Canada - responsible for the opening of the Saskatoon Centre for Ecumenism in Saskatoon in 1984 (renamed the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism - PCE - in 2000). The journey of the two communities began long before the year 2000. Committees from both churches had pursued many possibilities in response to Jesus prayer for his disciples, "that they may be one" (John 17-22). It would be after much consultation, many gatherings, and prayer that in March 2000 a Covenant was formed. This Covenant outlined and proposed many opportunities for the two churches to work and pray together.

Continuing in the spirit of the Covenant, last weekend Fr. Ken was welcomed by the McClure community and gave the homily at the services. This weekend, February 7/8, pastor Ron McConnell will give the homily at Holy Spirit, Saturday, 5:00 pm and Sunday, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. It is another opportunity to celebrate our common love for the Word of God and welcome into our community members of McClure United Church.



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon, SK S7J 3V7
Office Rectory 306 374-1425/Fax 306 374-3190

Rectory 306 664-4548

Email info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Website holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Office Hours 9:00 am-12:00 pm 1:00pm-5:00 pm

Pastor Rev. Ken Beck

Associate Pastor Rev. Dan Yasinski

Diocesan website saskatoonrcdiocese.com

WELCOME to all visiting with us this weekend. Your faith and spirit enrich our community. May you travel safely and know that God's presence is always with you.



**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper**
Tuesday, February 17
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Free will offering for
the support of
Seminarians.



**ANOINTING
OF THE SICK**

Jesus calls each of us to bring compassion and healing to those who are sick. The care of the sick is the responsibility of us all. The one who is sick

may feel alienated and isolated. Through the celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the church expresses its love and asks God's help for those who are sick. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at Holy Spirit parish on Saturday, February 14 following the 5:00 pm Mass.



**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
(FEBRUARY 18)**

8:30 am Holy Spirit
7:00 pm Holy Spirit
The distribution of ashes
will take place at these
Masses.



FOOD FOR THE POOR A food container is available at the church entrance to receive your gifts of non-perishable food. This food will be distributed to agencies in Saskatoon involved in helping to feed the poor. Why not try on a weekly basis to bring an item of food? It will be a great reminder of God's blessings and how we are called to bless others.

MINISTRIES for February 14/15

Altar Servers

5:00 pm Barb Meier team
10:00 am Nicholas Cody team
12:00 pm Cong Tong team
7:00 pm Bobby Manipud team

No Children's Liturgy due to school holidays

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

President -

Diane Hergott, 306 955-6120



THERE WILL NOT BE A REGULAR GENERAL MEETING IN FEBRUARY.

In its place, Holy Spirit CWL will be hosting a Birthday Party on Thursday, February 19 at 1:30 pm at St. Ann's Special Care Home for all of the care home residents. All CWL members are encouraged to attend this event. There will be refreshments and entertainment.



The next Book Club gathering to discuss and exchange ideas on the book 'Reading Lolita in Tehran' by Azar Nafisi is Tuesday, February 17 at 7:15 pm. Please call Barb Mickelson, 306 374-0982 for more information.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP NOW

*Make a conscious effort to stop negative comments and verbal "put-downs."
Refuse to join in conversations that scorn or belittle other people.*

LEAVING A LEGACY REMEMBERING YOUR CHURCH

By leaving a gift in your will or estate to Holy Spirit parish, the impact will be felt and remembered for generations. For more information, please contact the parish office, 306 374-1425.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 8905



*Fraternally,
Paul Caves, Grand Knight
306 374-3713*



WAKE UP THE WORLD!

— 2015 Year of Consecrated Life —

Religious life ought to promote growth in the church by way of attraction. The church must be attractive. Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!... It is this witness that I expect of you. Religious should be men and women who are able to wake the world up.

*Pope Francis, meeting with the
Union of Superiors General,
November 29, 2013*

LOOK FOR IT Included with your parish bulletin will be a Lenten booklet '*Let Jesus Lead the Way*'. It contains daily reflections, practices and prayers. It is just one of many resources you will receive to journey through the season of lent, leading to the great celebrations of Holy Week and the Feast of Easter. Please use the booklet and share it with all family members.



CATHOLIC COMMUNION/ CELIAC

Holy Spirit parish offers 'low-gluten' hosts for Holy Communion. It is important that you seek out the appropriate

information - website provided below/also your own physician - if you have questions.

The hosts will always be in a separate container on the altar and will not be in contact with the other hosts on the altar. At the time of communion they will be distributed by the communion minister in the centre isle on the left side as you come forward. A simple indication to the communion minister is all that is required. If you wish to receive less than the full host, please indicate that to the communion minister. (Always remember that the reception of the wine/the precious blood is the full reception of Holy Communion/the Eucharist).

If you have any questions, please speak to one of the priests. Thank you for your kindness as we try to provide, as possible, for this need in our parish community.

www.benedictinesisters.org

* A brochure, previously included in the parish bulletin, is available at the hospitality desk in the welcome area. The brochure provides additional information.

MINISTRY OF CARE – COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND *"I wonder if the people in the pews know how much we appreciate having Communion brought to us here." "It's so wonderful that you're doing this. I'm so grateful." "Thank you so much for coming to see me. I try to get to Mass but I can't very often. I really miss being there, but this helps."*

When we come together to pray at our Eucharistic liturgy, we do not forget the members of our community who are unable to be with us because of ill health or confinement. We remember them in our prayer, and we wish to include them in our Holy Communion. Members of our parish community bring the Blessed Sacrament to them to comfort them and to unite them with us in the Eucharist. We are not always aware of those who have this need. Please call Charlene or Kelly at (306) 374-1425 to let us know if you or a member of your family would like to receive this ministry.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

O ever Immaculate Virgin,
Mother of Mercy, Health of the Sick,
Refuge of Sinners,
Comfortress of the Afflicted,
you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings.

Look upon me with mercy.

When you appeared in the grotto of Lourdes,

you made it a privileged sanctuary where you dispense your favours, and where many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal.

I come, therefore, with unbounded confidence to implore your maternal intercession.

My loving Mother, obtain my request.

I will try to imitate your virtues so that I may one day share your company and bless you in eternity. Amen.

Thank you to Ray Rivard, Margaret Schwab, Tony Keane and Loretta Simonot who generously donated their time to deliver unclaimed boxes of parish offertory envelopes. Any undeliverable envelopes remain at the parish office. If you believe you should have received a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office to arrange for pick up.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DAY

Join us for pancakes! Shrove Tuesday is the last day before the season of Lent. Traditionally, this was seen as the last chance for merriment and, the time to cast off things of the flesh and to prepare spiritually for Lent. Pancakes are associated with the day preceding Lent because they were a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk and sugar before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent. The liturgical fasting emphasized eating plainer food and refraining from food that would give pleasure. In many cultures, this means no meat, dairy, or eggs. The Knights of Columbus/Holy Spirit Council will be hosting the annual Pancake Supper, Tuesday February 17, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the parish hall. Enjoy a great meal and hospitality with your friends.

Free-will offering with proceeds to support seminarians in the diocese of Saskatoon. Thank you for your support.



Finding God in Ash Wednesday Every year in the middle of a week in late winter, we go to Church and have the ashes smudged upon our clean foreheads. Why do we still undergo this ritual of ashes that is centuries old, as old as the prophets who pleaded with God's people to turn back from sin and toward God? We go because we need to go, because at least once a year we need to be reminded that our deepest hunger is the hunger for God.

Lent is a gift that the Church in her wisdom celebrates every year. It is a gift of time, a gift of contemplation, and a gift of quiet so that we may listen to the Word, who whispers to us to come back to the God who created us. It encourages us to turn away from the noise and over-indulged appetites so that we may understand the hunger that can be filled—with the grace of God—only by prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor.

So we go to our parish churches once a year to have crosses signed upon our faces. It is in this same manner that, when the Gospel is proclaimed, we take our right thumbs, trace three crosses, and pray: may the word of God be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart. The prayer of the whole Church, the Body of Christ, is that each year the sign of the cross penetrates a little deeper and moves us toward fuller conversion toward the light of Christ.

Julianne B. McCullagh is Director of Family Life Ministry at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Lewisville, Texas. She writes the weekly column The Family Life Corner.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross is also called the Way of the Cross, the Via Crucis, and the Via Dolorosa. We can trace this devotion to the early days of the Church, when the faithful would walk the way of Christ's Passion in Jerusalem. By the end of the first millennium, these scenes began to be reproduced elsewhere for pilgrims unable to travel to Jerusalem. Pope Clement XII officially recognized the Stations in 1731. This practice is what we have now in the traditional 14 Stations.

The Stations of the Cross is a living memory of the Lord's final days on earth and is an appropriate exercise for the season of Lent. They can be practiced in a variety of ways individually, communally, or by using various meditations or reflections. There are many resources available.

(The Stations of the Cross is prayed Friday evenings throughout Lent at 7:00 pm beginning Friday, February 20.)

BLESSED PALM BRANCHES

Originally, people paraded or processed in the original footsteps of Jesus from the little village of Bethany into the city of Jerusalem. As part of the festivities they carried real palm fronds or olive branches, the two most common trees in Palestine (see Matthew 21: 18). These were replaced with local versions of "palms" as the celebration of Palm Sunday spread throughout Europe and then the entire world: willow branches, cedar branches, pussy willows and flowers. The "palm branches" commonly used today are "ground palms" from various North American locations.



Blessed palms have always been respected as holy objects or sacramentals. Some families place one or more on the wall behind a crucifix or holy picture, or they might braid them into crosses for wall decorations. Before the beginning of Lent the following year blessed palms are burned at the local church and the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday ritual.

You are invited to bring to the church any palm branches that you have at home. They will be burned and the blessed ashes will be used at the Ash Wednesday liturgies at Holy Spirit parish. A basket is available in the Place of Welcome to gather the branches. New palm branches will be blessed and distributed at the Palm Sunday liturgies March 28/29.



The Word of God Bible study on the Gospel of John continues Thursday mornings 9:30-11:00 am.

For information please call Jim Cruthers, 306 374-2804. Newcomers welcome.

LIVED ECUMENISM . . .

15th anniversary celebration of McClure/Holy Spirit Covenant on Sunday, March 8, 2:00 pm at Holy Spirit church.

- ♦ In early 1999, a joint committee of the two churches was given the task of formulating a covenant text which would reflect our love for each other and our commitment to a closer working relationship. Presented with a draft of the text, both congregations agreed to support this covenant. The Covenant text is on display in both churches.

STARVING FOR CHARITY

Fast from food. Repent from your sins. On Ash Wednesday we stand as sinners before God. We reflect on the misdeeds of our past and on the ill habits of our present. Our frail spirits wrestle with sin, even as our frail bodies fight off death. We accept ashes as a reminder of our mortality. We fast from food as a sign of our sorrow.



Our sins weigh us down, but it could be worse. You could have a plague of locusts darkening the sky over the place where you live. That happened once before. The prophet Joel addressed a people who were losing everything because they could not stop an advancing army of locusts. They believed God was punishing them for their sin, so they fasted as a sign of their repentance. In our lives, sin does not bring locusts. But it brings estrangement from the people we love, guilt when we lift our eyes to heaven, loss to a world starved for charity.

Can you imagine yourself living your life a better way? In the quiet of your heart, do you know what sin is darkening your sky? Are you willing to name it, specifically?

Accept ashes. Fast from food. Repent.



**Excerpts from the
MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS
FOR THE 23rd WORLD DAY OF THE SICK
February 11, 2015**

Sapientia Cordis — The Wisdom of the Heart

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (Job 29:15)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this Twenty-third World Day of the Sick, I turn to all of you who are burdened by illness and are united in various ways to the flesh of the suffering Christ, as well as to you, professionals and volunteers in the field of health care. We consider the perspective of "*sapientia cordis*" — the wisdom of the heart.

This "wisdom" is a *way of seeing things infused by the Holy Spirit* in the minds and the hearts of those who are sensitive to the sufferings of their brothers and sisters and who can see in them the image of God. Today, many Christians show by lives rooted in a genuine faith, that they are "eyes to the blind" and "feet to the lame"! They are close to the sick in need of constant care and help in washing, dressing and eating. This service, especially when it is protracted, can become tiring and burdensome. It is difficult to look after a person for months or even years, in some cases when he or she is no longer capable of expressing gratitude. In those difficult moments we can rely on the closeness of the Lord, and we become a special means of support for the Church's mission.

Time spent with the sick is holy time. Thanks to our closeness and affection, these sisters and brothers feel more loved and comforted. How great a lie lurks behind certain phrases which so insist on the importance of "quality of life" that they make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living!

Occasionally our world forgets the special value of time spent at the bedside of the sick, since we are in such a rush: caught up in a frenzy of doing, of producing, we forget about giving ourselves freely, taking care of others, being responsible for others. Charity takes time. Time to care for the sick and time to visit them.

Even when illness, loneliness and inability make it hard for us to reach out to others, the experience of suffering can become a privileged means of transmitting grace and a source for gaining and growing in *sapientia cordis*. People immersed in the mystery of suffering and pain can become living witnesses of a faith capable of embracing suffering, even without being able to understand its full meaning.

I entrust this World Day of the Sick to the protection of Mary, who conceived and gave birth to Wisdom incarnate: Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O Mary, Seat of Wisdom, intercede as our Mother for all the sick and for those who care for them! Grant that, through our service of our suffering neighbours, and through the experience of suffering itself, we may receive and cultivate true wisdom of heart! With this prayer for all of you, I impart my Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican, 3 December 2014

FRANCIS

We bring our prayers before the Lord, for the sick and those who care for them.

- For the sick and the hospitalized: May they feel the healing power of Christ and find comfort and hope in His constant presence.
- For all Catholic healthcare workers: May they be a light to others and a testament to the Word as they live their faith and care for their patients.
- For all students in the healthcare professions: May their studies be motivated by pure desires to be the hands of Christ and to offer healing and hope to those who are ill.
- For those who do not have adequate access to healthcare: May we respond to their needs with love and compassion and seek creative solutions to bring healing to all.
- For the vulnerable and marginalized in society, including those with mental and physical illness: May they always be treated with dignity and respect as children of God.
- For administrators and government leaders: May they work to enact legislation and policies compatible with the fundamental ethical and social teachings of our Church, defending the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death.
- For hospital chaplains and those who care for the spiritual needs of the sick: May they offer words of wisdom and truth and be a warming presence to all those who are ill.

BLESSING FOR ALL WHO SERVE AND CARE FOR THE SICK

Loving Father and giver of all life,

You are our support and you are always with us.

Hear our prayers for all who serve your people

every day, caring for those who are suffering,

those who are weak and in need of perpetual help.

Blessed be the hands that have touched life and suffering.

Blessed be the hands that have embraced the sick with compassion.

Blessed be the hands that have released anger and fear.

Blessed be the hands that have cleaned beds and disposed of wastes.

Blessed be the hands that have reached out and have been received.

Blessed be the hands that have comforted the dying and held the dead.

And blessed be the hands to whom we commend all of the sick,

the suffering and the aged.

Give strength and courage to our caregivers

to be instruments of your everlasting love

for all those who are in need of your protection.

We ask this in the name of Christ the Healer, your Son and our Lord, who

lives with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.



**PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE
SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated
at Holy Spirit Parish on Saturday, February 14, 2015
following the 5:00 pm Mass.**

If you require the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick outside of the parish celebration contact
Holy Spirit Parish Ministry of Care Phone: (306) 374-1425
Pastoral Associates: Charlene Nijhawan and Kelly Wormsbecker



Diocesan Bulletin

Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com

In all things we are rooted in Christ,
in His desire to bring God's love to all peoples.

Upcoming Events

Marian Movement Cenacle - Holy Hour consists of adoration, the rosary, benediction, hymns and prayers, 3 p.m. **Wednesday, Feb. 11** at St. Paul's Co-Cathedral, 720 Spadina Crescent E., Saskatoon. For information: (306) 382-1680.

Children's Story Time resumes 10 a.m. **Thursday, Feb. 12** at Msgr. Michael J. Koch Library in the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 2nd floor, Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Martensville presents Codie Prevost at a dinner and concert fundraiser for the parish building fund: **Feb. 13** at the Northridge Community Centre, 901-3rd St. North, Martensville; cocktails at 5:30 p.m., supper at 6:00 p.m. with concert to follow. Tickets are \$50 for adults, \$40 for ages 15 and under. Call Erin Leier at (306) 220-8487.

Development and Peace Share Lent workshop: "Sow Much Love to Give" will be held 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Sunday, Feb. 15** at St. Augustine parish in Humboldt. Reflect on international development in the context of faith, and prepare for the Share Lent Campaign in your local parish. For information contact Victor or Lucille at (306) 369-4193.

Lenten Conference at St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission in Bruno, SK. **Thursday, Feb. 19** to **Sunday, Feb. 22**. Encounter the merciful love of God and learn about the role of Mary in the Christian life, with keynote presenter Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC: www.fathercalloway.com (who is also known as "The Surfer Priest"). Live-in cost for the full conference is \$275, or the commuter rate is \$200. Contact Carolyn at (306)369-2555 or visit <http://st-t.ca/len>

Introduction to Restorative Justice

Monday evenings, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Feb. 23 - March 30

Resurrection Lutheran Church

310 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon

Learn how restorative justice operates, and how it works for communities and individuals. Hear about opportunities to join in working for justice and restoration in and around Saskatoon. This six-week course is sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, Mennonite Central Committee, The Micah Mission and Micah on Campus. Contact Myron Rogal at (306) 659-5841 or: vocations@saskatoonrcdiocese.com Cost: \$50

NOTE: Educational bursaries available to Catholics in the diocese of Saskatoon for this event. codirector@saskatoonrcdiocese.com

Diocesan Congress Day in the Deaneries

All are welcome to join Bishop Don Bolen and parish, deanery and diocesan leadership for a **Congress Day to be held in three locations:**

• **Feb. 28 - St. Patrick Parish, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon.** RSVP by Feb. 20 to (306) 659-5831 or by e-mail: foundations@saskatoonrcdiocese.com

• **March 7 - St. Joseph Parish, 600-4th Ave., Kindersley.** RSVP by Feb. 27: foundations@saskatoonrcdiocese.com or (306) 659-5831 or toll free: 1-877-661-5005, Extension*831.

• **March 14 - St. Augustine Parish, 809-10th St., Humboldt.** RSVP by March 6 to: staugustine@sasktel.net or call: (306) 682-2106.

Topics of discussion at each Congress Day:

- Feedback about the Synod on the Family
- The Year of Consecrated Life
- Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

Schedule: 9:30 a.m. registration; lunch is provided at no charge (please RSVP); Congress Day concludes in each location with celebration of Mass starting 3:30 p.m.

Christopher Leadership Course will begin **Tuesday, Feb. 24** in Saskatoon. Improve leadership, presentation and public speaking skills in a friendly, non-judgmental setting. To find out more see www.clicsaskatoon.com or call (306) 955-8980. Register before Feb. 21 for an early bird discount.

Prayer Night for Peace in the World- The Emmanuel Community and Holy Spirit Parish will host an evening of Eucharistic Adoration and prayer for peace 7:30 p.m. **Thursday, Feb. 26** at Holy Spirit, 114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon. As a faith community, we come together to unite in prayer for our brothers and sisters who are living amidst turmoil, strife and war. Refreshments to follow one hour of Eucharistic Adoration.

"Bless me Father, for I Have Sinned" - Do adults celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation (go to confession) in the same way they learned as children? This session with Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU, offers an option to the "list" method, moving toward a style more suited to adult moral development. This Foundations: *Exploring Our Faith Together* presentation will be held 3 p.m. **Thursday, March 5** at Holy Spirit Parish, 114 Kingsmere Place., Saskatoon. Pre-registration is appreciated; the cost is \$5, payable at the door. To register and/or receive more information call Charlene or Delores at (306) 374-1425.



Parish Nursing Information Forum will be held 7 p.m. **Wednesday, Feb. 11** at Christ Church Anglican, 515-28th Street West, Saskatoon (registration begins at 6:30 p.m.). Open to anyone interested. A panel will discuss the role of the Parish Nurse in the life and mission of the congregation. Contact Mona at (306) 978-1951 or e-mail: p.nursing@sasktel.net

Seeking donations of children's books - Msgr. M. J. Koch Library at the Catholic Pastoral Centre in Saskatoon is accepting donations of children's books. If you would like to donate gently-used children's material please drop off at the library or e-mail MarieJel at: library@saskatoonrcdiocese.com

Generation to Generation: Passing on the Faith to the Children of the Church - An evening discussion with Rev. Dr. Gordon T. Smith, 7:30 pm, **Wednesday March 4** at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1636 Acadia Drive, Saskatoon. Dr. Smith is president of Ambrose University in Calgary and has a passionate interest in Evangelical-Roman Catholic relations.

A Pure Witness Alive Retreat will be held at Sacred Heart Parish in Watson, SK. on **Saturday, March 7**. A Confirmation-First Eucharist Retreat begins in the morning, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, followed by the Pure Witness Alive Retreat for all youth. For more information contact Fr. Geoff Young at (306) 202-6936 or e-mail: sasksaints@gmail.com

Catholic Marriage Preparation is offered either as weekly sessions or as a weekend event in several settings in the weeks ahead. Check the diocesan website for program details at: www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/marriage-and-family-life

Celebrating 15 Years of Covenant - With much joy, McClure United Church and Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church will celebrate 15 years of their Covenant relationship at 2 p.m. **Sunday, March 8** at Holy Spirit Church, 114 Kingsmere Place. Guest speakers are Rev. Jordan Cantwell of the United Church Riverbend Presbytery and Catholic Bishop Don Bolen. A social will follow. Come celebrate! Info: Carol Pek (306) 373-3790.

Stewardship Corner: Your Faith in Action

"In the morning... Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place and there he prayed." Jesus took time to meditate, contemplate, and open himself to his Father. We must try to do the same, to find time to be with Jesus, to share ourselves with Him, to read God's Word, to meditate and trust that this exercise can help our lives be more fruitful.
www.dscatholicfoundation.ca/parish-stewardship-resources



Year of Consecrated Life

Grateful Memory: As we celebrate the World Day of the Sick on Feb. 11, let us pause to remember in thanksgiving all of the consecrated religious, orders and congregations who have cared for the sick and suffering down through the ages - most especially those who established hospitals and care homes in the province of Saskatchewan. We thank God for their powerful witness of love, as they served as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, offering a ministry of healing and compassion.

For more information about this Year see our website: www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/year-consecrated-life

"The Light of Glory in Prairie Skies" - Salvation History in the Stained Glass of Holy Family Cathedral - Join Bishop Donald Bolen and Agnes Pelletier for this prayerful, poetic and theological Lenten reflection on God's revelation, examined through the lens of the beauty and art of the stained glass windows that circle the worship space at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Rd, Saskatoon. All sessions begin at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon: **March 1** Creation and Covenant; **March 15** Annunciation and Incarnation; and **March 29** Resurrection and Glory. No registration required (there will be a free will offering). Attend one, two, or all three of these Foundations: *Exploring Our Faith Together* sessions.

Knights of Columbus Culture of Life fundraising dinner, dance and auction Feb 28 at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon. Tickets \$35 each. Contact Louis (306) 249-2764 or John (306) 477-1748.

Diocesan Prayer Intention - We pray as a diocesan family for the sick and hospitalized - may they feel the healing power of Christ and find comfort and hope in His constant presence. We also pray for all healthcare workers - may they be a light to others in living their faith and in caring for their patients.

Queen's House programs:

Find more information at: www.queenshouse.org or call (306) 242-1916, located at 601 Taylor Street W., Saskatoon

Walking with God in an Evolving Sacred Universe - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. **Tuesdays** in February, Sr. Judy Schachtel, SMS.

The Cross of Christ an ecumenical Lenten Retreat 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Saturday, Feb. 21** with Sarah Donnelly.

This "Diocesan Bulletin" is a publication of The Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon

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The communications office is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.



Bringing Home the Word

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 8, 2015



Suffering and Healing

By Janel Esker

Job speaks for all of us—OK, well, most of us. Certainly anyone who's struggled with insomnia resonates with Job's being "filled with restlessness until the dawn." But most of us share with Job the experience of suffering. Some people have suffered beyond comprehension; others have known only "regular" suffering—illness, death, disability, tragedy—although it's never regular when it happens to us. We've all felt the frightening despair of which Job speaks.

Sunday Readings

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job laments the "drudgery of life": hard, hot working days; long, restless nights; and an endless, hopeless, restlessness.

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Paul describes his preaching as "an obligation" and "a stewardship." So that others may gain the gift of salvation, he humbles himself and offers the gospel to all.

Mark 1:29-39

Jesus cures many sick people, including Simon's mother-in-law. Pressed by the disciples and crowds, he extends his preaching and healing to the nearby villages.

Some fortunate souls haven't experienced such challenges. During a talk I gave several years ago, I asked the audience to recall their own suffering. An older couple admitted they hadn't experienced significant suffering. Their children were healthy, their parents died at a ripe old age, and life had been fairly easy for them.

This isn't the experience of most of us, however. Even if we've moved past such moments of pain and suffering, we can recall feeling as Job did—that life was misery, that hope was difficult to find.

There certainly are no easy solutions to the problem of suffering. But in the Gospel today we see Jesus in his healing ministry, reaching out to many in need. Aren't we, in our times of suffering, among the crowds gathered at Jesus' door, begging for healing and mercy?

Jesus is persistent in his healing—he doesn't let exhaustion or weariness stop him. He reaches out, grasps hands, and is present to those who are hurting.

Jesus is this persistent presence of healing to us, too. He sees us in the crowd, he grasps our hand, and he promises to stay with us always. †

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When do I feel weary, weak, restless, ill, or enslaved?
- How do my obligations—including my stewardship—heal, teach, and bring salvation to others?

PRAYER

Lord, your touch is gentle and loving. Heal me of all that prevents me from seeing my sisters and brothers with eyes of love.

—From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

Catholic Calendar: St. Josephine Bakhita

By Mary Lee Barron, PhD, RN

Josephine Bakhita was born in the Darfur region of Sudan in 1869. At nine, she was kidnapped from her home. This trauma caused her to forget her family surname. Her kidnappers gave her the name *Bakhita*, meaning "fortunate."

Josephine was sold often and endured horrific brutality. In 1883, she was staying with the Canossian Sisters of the Institute of the Catechumens in Venice. It was there in 1890 that Bakhita heard the call to the faith and was baptized and confirmed, taking the name Josephine. She refused to return to her owner, and in a court case the judge concluded that since slavery was illegal in Italy, Josephine had been free since 1885. When she came of age, she declared her desire to become one of the sisters.

Josephine spent the rest of her life at a house in northern Italy, where she was known for her gentleness, ready smile, and modesty, keeping the faith during day-to-day work and routines. She started writing her memoirs in 1910. They were published in 1930. Appearances throughout Italy made her famous and helped recruit missionary nuns for Africa, whom she also helped train. Her last years were marked with pain and illness, and she lost the ability to walk. She died in 1947 on February 8—her feast day—and was canonized in 2000. She is venerated as a modern African saint and as a saint with a special relevance to slavery and oppression. She is the patron saint of Sudan. †



Bioethics: Chronic Pain Management

By Fr. Mark Miller, CSSR

People with chronic pain often are given medication that does not work or has awful side effects. They go from doctor to doctor seeking relief and end up with a reputation as complainers. The frustration level is high—for the chronic sufferer and for the doctor.

I often hear stories from people who suffer horrible, constant pain even in the hospital. On requesting relief they are told, "Doctor's orders: No medication for two more hours" or, "It's not that bad" or even, "There is nothing we can do." Ironically, much of the medical system simply minimizes the reality of pain. Denial reinforces the conviction that nothing needs to change.

But a growing number of health-care providers, finally realizing the problems of chronic pain, specialize in pain treatment.

Perhaps the key breakthrough for these doctors is their willingness to accept as true the testimony of pain sufferers. Because it is difficult to measure pain objectively, a doctor's belief of a patient's pain story shows a level of trust that is at the root of the healing arts.

Most people would prefer just to take a pill. Pain specialists, however, have had to adopt four critical approaches to pain management. First, they speak of *coping* with rather than *curing* pain. When a cure is not possible, pain levels can still be reduced to tolerable levels where people can live full lives.

Second, these doctors work in interdisciplinary teams. Physiotherapy and chiropractic often help patients more than opiates. Acupuncture may help others, and others require counseling to change self-harming behaviors.

Third, the best medications are used but are seldom magic bullets. Doctors need to find the right dose, the right combination, and the right balance with other therapies. Here pain research, though lengthy and expensive, offers considerable hope.

Finally, and perhaps most surprising, these doctors often put "the sufferer at the head of the care team." Patients need to find what works for them and, as one woman explained, "direct the best care that worked for me."

So why discuss physical pain, let alone bioethics, in a religious publication? Like ethics, a cornerstone of faith is providing good and appropriate care for people who suffer. And pain is suffering. †

WEEKDAY READINGS

February 8-14

Mon.	Genesis 1:1-19 / Mark 6:53-56	Thu.	Genesis 2:18-25 / Mark 7:24-30
Tue.	St. Scholastica:	Fri.	Genesis 3:1-8 / Mark 7:31-37
Wed.	Genesis 1:20-2:4 / Mark 7:1-13	Sat.	Sts. Cyril and Methodius:
	Our Lady of Lourdes:		Genesis 3:9-24 / Mark 8:1-10
	Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17 / Mark 7:14-23		

Bringing Home the Word

February 8, 2015



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Take Five for Faith



Daily renewal for busy Catholics

Find a handy spot in your home to keep Take Five for Faith - maybe the kitchen table, posted on the refrigerator, or on your nightstand. Give yourself the gift of five uncluttered minutes a day to read the day's passage and then reflect and pray about what you have just read. Take an

extra copy for a homebound neighbour or friend. They'll be glad you did!

February 09

Be creative

The ability to be a creator is one of God's greatest gifts to human beings. To make something out of nothing, something beautiful and meaningful, and share it, is uplifting. Think of all the religious art—music, painting, sculpture, architecture, literature—that was divinely inspired and helps people understand God better. But you don't have to be a Michelangelo to be creative and affect others. Making meals, scrapbooking family history, holiday decorating, finger painting with kids—there are countless ways to make art that expresses who you are and touches those you love.

Readings: Genesis 1:1-19;
Mark 6:53-56 (329).
"God saw how good it was."

February 10

FEAST OF SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN, RELIGIOUS

Let the creativity flow

When creating something new, we don't know if it will make a lasting or meaningful difference in the world. Creation can be a profound act of faith, hope, and love. Saint Scholastica founded a monastery of Benedictine nuns in sixth-century Italy, seeking to grow in holiness and helping others do the same. Her act of creation reverberated through the ages, influencing the history of religious life and how we think about prayer. When you are drawn to create something new, something risky perhaps, remember Saint Scholastica—not only is she walking with you but so is our God who brings every good to fullness!

Readings: Genesis 1:20-2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330).
"So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested."

February 11

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES; WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Heal and be healed

It's not easy to deal with significant health problems. Our faith can help us. We can draw strength through the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, by wearing a medal of the Archangel Raphael as a reminder of God's healing, or by praying with Our Lady of Lourdes, whose special patronage is those who are sick. Our parish family is also a source of support, with prayers of healing and practical assistance like rides to the doctor's office or help with meals. If you need a helping hand, have faith and don't be afraid to ask. If you're able to give a helping hand, faithfully extend it to others.

Readings: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331).
"A stream was welling up out of the earth and was watering all the surface of the ground."

February 12

Faith shared, lives changed

Faith is something learned and given and, ultimately, shared. It's something you carry in your bones. You live it out in who you are and how you are and for that reason, you can share it without even realizing it. Think of the moments that you've encountered God's love in others; when someone shared the gospel with you through their love and forgiveness. God enters the world in those moments and changes lives. If you live out your faith today, there's no telling how far the gospel will reach. It can change the world—and you may not even realize it.

Readings: Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332).
"Then he said to her, 'For saying this, you may go.'"

February 13

Show mercy

Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a theory in psychology that proposes that human beings must have their basic physical and emotional needs met before they can realize their fullest potential. Catholics are expected to help others satisfy those needs through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, which include feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and visiting the sick as well as teaching those who lack education, forgiving offenses willingly, and comforting the afflicted. Through works of mercy the world gets closer to reaching its fullest potential. Let's all get to work!

Readings: Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333).
"He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

February 14

FEAST OF CYRIL, MONK, AND METHODIUS, BISHOP

A genuine Valentine

This is real love: two brothers dedicate their lives to serving a people not their own. Born in ninth-century Greece, Methodius was older and eventually attained the office of archbishop. Cyril, more philosophical, was a linguist and theologian. Both took on the evangelizing of Moravia. There, Cyril devised the Slavic alphabet developed by later disciples and called Cyrillic in his honor. Both brothers fought for Bibles and liturgy in the language of the people. Pope John Paul II declared these brothers patron saints of Europe. Their love brought good news to strangers. Does yours?

Readings: Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334).
"Where can anyone get enough bread to satisfy them here in this deserted place?"

