



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

114 Kingsmere Place • Saskatoon • SK • S7J 3V7
(306)374-1425 • info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca
holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Our Mission Statement

*Inspired by the Holy Spirit we are a Eucharistic community called by God
To share the love of Jesus Christ and create a welcoming parish of renewal and mission.*



December 17, 2023 | Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2A, 10-11 | 1 Thes 5:16-24 | Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE


"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." Such simple words from today's second reading. And yet it is not always easy to put them into practice. It is difficult to rejoice if we or people we love are hurting. It can be hard to pray when life is pulling us in a thousand different directions. But on this Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing, we are asked to focus on a truth that can make both rejoicing and praying easier: Jesus entered humanity in flesh and blood to save us from our sins. This truth means that even if we don't feel like there is much gladness or joy in our lives today, we can rejoice in the knowledge that we all have the chance to spend eternity in a place where pain, disappointment and suffering will be no more. With our eyes focused on that prize, praying can become a natural part of our days.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes, I can make everything so complicated. I want to create charts and checklists to ensure that I am doing everything just right. But St. Paul's words today make me realize that living well is really not that complicated. He writes: "Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil." That's it! Of course, while this is not complicated, it does require us to make prayerful, faithful efforts toward this end – and it is an end for which God has given us his grace, the help of the Church, and the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ. This includes St. Paul, who prays for us, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." This is what is good in these dark days of Advent: the light of Christ is coming into our world. The Gospel says that John the Baptist testified to this truth – to the light. We can too! Let us continue to pray, to rejoice and to give thanks for God's gifts, especially the gift of his Son.

SING Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim / One more light the bowl shall brim, / Shining beyond the frosty weather, / Bright as sun and moon together. / People, look east and sing today: / Love, the star, is on the way.

DECEMBER 17	DECEMBER 18	DECEMBER 19	DECEMBER 20	DECEMBER 21	DECEMBER 22	DECEMBER 23
10a Mass 12p Mass 1-4p Adoration 7p Mass	7p RCIA	8:30a Mass	8:30a Mass 7p Adoration	8:30a Mass 1p Christmas Senior Cards 	8:30a Mass 9a-12p Adoration	11a-12p Confession 5p Mass

THIS WEEK



Poinsettias are available for purchase in honour of a loved one

The Art & Environment Committee will use these poinsettias as part of the Christmas décor in the church. **Drop an envelope into the offering basket or in the mail slot at the office no later than Dec. 17.**

Mark it 'Poinsettia' and include:

- name of your loved one stating 'In honour' of (living) or 'in Memory' of (deceased)
- your name and phone number.
- \$20

A card with your loved one's name will be placed with a poinsettia for the Christmas season.

PLEASE NOTE: There will not be Adoration on Sunday, December 24.

WE PLEDGE 5%

Each day many of our Holy Spirit Parishioners that have health and mobility challenges rely on the Daily TV Mass to stay connected to the Church and their faith. The daily Catholic Mass is broadcasted on the Vision TV channel Sunday to Sunday. The funds received will be used to pay a portion of the air time as the cost to air the Mass on television is \$2700.00. Many of our parishioners watch this Mass daily as they are homebound and unable to attend church. Thank you for your support. www.dailytvmass.com

LET US PRAY

- ♦ For the sick and all those that care for them, today we pray for: Father Marc Mireau, Father Bernard De Margerie, Leon Hartman, Betty Anne Tomney, Bob Kudel, Quinn Gorman, Roberta Marisi, Trev Yager, Jeff Haugen, Shelley Fenrich, Josephine Walter
- ♦ For all those who have died, today we remember: David Coombes, Maryanne Grzanic, Larry Korchinski, Emilie Zaritsky, Robert Prpich, Violet Ehman,
- ♦ And on the anniversary of death, Madeline Gerlinski, Brennan Jarrett, Collins A. Odoemene, Stan Forman, Vivencio Elimanco, Arvin Elimanco, Adolfo Monteron, Mercedita Monteron

We pray to the Lord.



Truth and Reconciliation Commission Healing Response-TRC Indigenous Reconciliation Fund-IRF

PARISH PEW COLLECTION—DECEMBER 17
to donate use the QR code or dscf.ca/trc



I am writing on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council to express our gratitude for your generous donations towards the **Christmas Hampers for St. Mary's Parish**. These hampers are meant to serve our indigenous brothers and sisters in need. This year, we decided to collect food items for the hampers instead of monetary donations, as the need for food was greater. However, we neglected to remove the pink envelopes designated for the hampers. Any monetary donations received will be directed to the Diocese of Saskatoon's \$1.25 million Indigenous Healing Funds with your permission. This fund supports local Indigenous projects that promote healing, reconciliation, education, and community building. You can find more information about the fundraising at dscf.ca/trc. We want to thank you for your tremendous generosity and pray that God blesses you always. -Fr. Joseph Salihu, Pastor



For all Knights of Columbus, the Knights Night Out initiative to have active and non active Knights break bread together begins January 9, 6:15pm. The meal starts at 6:15pm and ends at 7:15 in the parish hall (unless other location posted). This time frame allows the executive opportunity to set up for the general meeting at 7:30. You are not obliged to attend the meeting. Let's rekindle our ties; let us truly experience the community of Knights and the connectedness of our vibrant parish. You will make the difference.

In order for the "cooks" to prepare the simple meal (5\$ participant fee) we would require one of two quick responses.

- **number 1**— sign the poster in the welcome area that you will be attending or,
- **number 2**— email Rob Young (rob.young@shaw.ca) **at least 4 days prior (January 5th)**, to indicate your attendance for the January 9th, 6:15 pm activity. See you there!



Offering envelopes are here!

They will be available in the Place of Welcome December 9/10 & 16/17 and again in the New Year.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Remember: All 2023 parish donations must be in by December 31 midnight to qualify for 2023 income tax purposes. Donations received on or after Jan. 1, 2024 will be allocated for 2024 tax receipts.

MASS TIMES**Saturday** 5 pm**Sunday** 10 am, 12 noon, 7 pm

Weekdays, Tues. - Fri. 8:30 am

ADORATION

Wednesdays 7 pm

Fridays, 9 am - 12 pm

Sundays, 1 - 4 pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 11 am - 12 noon

or by appointment.

Congratulation to those who have been baptized in the past two months.
To each child – a very special welcome to Holy Spirit Parish! And to each family who had their child baptized – thank you for letting us share in your joy!

Casey Jerome Erlandson—Arden and Kerri
Asher Antonie McCallum—Dylan and Allena
Bella Ceyana Billette-Janvier—Carey and Trudy
Zoie Jolien Arpon—Oliver and Jennifer
Jax Colter Daratha —Neil and Danielle

Penny Noel Debogorski—Anton and Jennifer
Tyler Jacob Talay Estolano—Aljerome and Trixie
Caleb Wyatt Mills—Jordan and Kimberly
Lotachi Frances Okeke-Pius—Chukwudi and Anulika



Thank you to everyone who supported the CWL Raffle. The proceeds from this raffle will be distributed to various charities in the city and province at our monthly meeting in June.

We would like to congratulate the winners:

Janice May - Nativity Set
Robin Wessel - Artisan bowl
Diana Robstad - Quilt

Angela Brockmeyer - Artwork
Liz Wosniak - Set of placemats
Bertha Bretell - Set of placemats

Orelene Eremondi-Larocque -Teddy bear
Patricia Hall - Teddy bear

Christmas Season Mass Times

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday December 23 at 5pm

Sunday December 24 at 10am (livestream)

Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24 at 5pm (livestream),
8pm,

11pm (incense used)

Monday, December 25 at 10am

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30 at 5pm

Sunday, December 31 at 10am, 12 noon
(livestream)

Solemnity of Holy Mary Mother of God

Sunday, December 31 at 7pm

Monday, Jan 1 at 10 am (livestream)

Save the
Date

Please join us at our **Parish Winter Social Dinner Party** on Saturday, January 13, 2024!

Adults \$30, Child/Youth \$10, Children under 5 free.

Tickets will be sold after Mass starting on December 16th.

Act fast, tickets are limited! *See the poster in the online bulletin for more information.*

2023 INFANT BAPTISM 2023 Baptism Schedule Sharon 306-374-1425 or spowell@rcdos.ca
CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN Sharon at spowell@rcdos.ca or 306-374-1425
CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS - RCIA Erin 306-374-1425 or email egratton@rcdos.ca.
MARRIAGE PREPARATION Nicole Gursky at 306 229-0384 or email ngursky@sasktel.net
Please visit holyspiritsaskatoon.ca for more information about faith formation.

PASTOR • Fr. Joseph Salihu jsalihu@rcdos.ca

ASSOCIATE PASTOR • Fr. Greg Smith-Windsor

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH STAFF

Building Maintenance

Ed Yuzyk info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Baptisms, RCIC

Sharon Powell spowell@rcdos.ca

Financial Administrator

Shannon Granger finance@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca

Ministry of Care

Kelly Wormsbecker kwormsbecker@rcdos.ca

Office Manager

Karen Klein kklein@rcdos.ca

Parish Life and Liturgy

Lynn Eremondi leremondi@rcdos.ca

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Erin Gratton egratton@rcdos.ca

Sacramental Preparation/Faith Formation

Erin Gratton egratton@rcdos.ca

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Lynn Eremondi leremondi@rcdos.ca



If you need prayer, support, a visit (with the Eucharist or otherwise), Anointing of the Sick, or assistance with funeral planning, Ministry of Care is just a phone call or email away.

Please contact **Kelly Wormsbecker** Pastoral Associate- Ministry of Care
kwormsbecker@rcdos.ca or call 306-374-1425



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
Margaret Schwab 306-227-8930



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 8905

Eric Lautsch
SirKnightEric@outlook.com

WAYS TO DONATE TO HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

- 1. Sign up for Pre-Authorized Giving** Registration [forms](#) are available at the church office, online on our parish website, or via email. Donate using debit or credit card.
- 2. Interac e-Transfer using online banking:** send e-transfer to finance@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca (it is directly deposited, no password needed). Please put your full name and envelope number in the message box along with any special offering designation.
- 3. Parish Offertory:** <https://dscf.ca/parish-offertory/>
- 4. Mail envelopes to the church:** 114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon, SK, S7J 3V7
- 5. Drop envelopes off at church:** Put envelopes into the office door mail slot.
- 6. Place envelopes in the offertory basket at Mass**



Another option to
donating to your
parish online:

**PARISH OFFERTORY
QR CODE**



Enjoy the latest and greatest Catholic video, audio, and reading material from FORMED.org! Simply head over to holyspiritsaskatoon.formed.org and register your free account to access a tremendous wealth of Catholic content.

You may also download the FORMED app for iOS and Android devices.

The cost to you is absolutely free: our parish has a subscription for the entire year.

Are you new to the parish? Has your information changed?

Fill out this [form](#) online

Or contact the office (306) 374-3190 or info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca



Click the links to learn more about each initiative:

[Truth and Reconciliation Commission Healing Response \(TRC\)](#)

[Indigenous Reconciliation Fund \(IRF\)](#)



PARISH PEW COLLECTION—DECEMBER 17
to donate use the QR code or dscf.ca/trc

Christmas Season Mass Times

Fourth Sunday of Advent

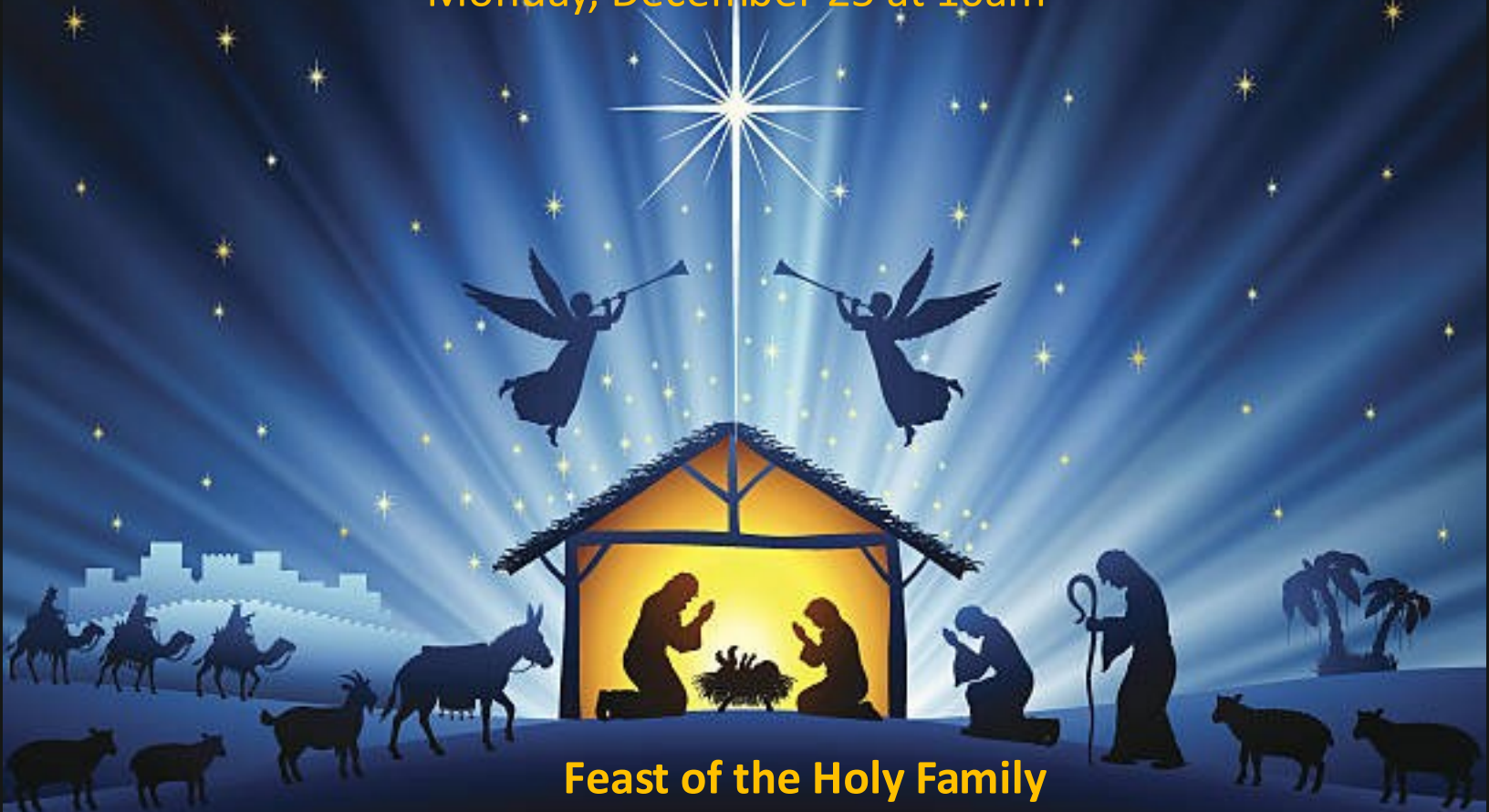
Saturday December 23 at 5pm

Sunday December 24 at 10am (livestream)

Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24 at 5pm (livestream), 8pm,
11pm (*incense used*)

Monday, December 25 at 10am



Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 30 at 5pm

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Solemnity of Holy Mary Mother of God

Sunday, December 31 at 7pm

Monday, Jan 1 at 10 am (livestream)

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
INVITES YOU TO

Winter Social

DINNER • PARTY

JANUARY

SATURDAY 13 AT 630 PM

2024

TICKETS ARE LIMITED

YOUTH / CHILD \$10 | ADULT \$30

CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER ARE FREE

DOORS OPEN AT 530PM

DINNER • CASH BAR • DOOR PRIZES

GET YOUR TICKETS AFTER MASS
OR CONTACT LYNN:
(306 374 1425)

Holy
Spirit
Church



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, 114 KINGSMERE PL., SK



FREE

Fresh Air Fireplace

- Wood burning
- Comes with a remote
- Has a natural gas insert
- Works well—Good condition



ALSO FREE

**Approximately 190 SQ FT of Oak
Hardwood**

Pick up only. No holds.



Diocesan Bulletin

Dec. 17, 2023 - Third Sunday of Advent

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

Upcoming Events

Awaken adult faith program: "Praying as Catholics" –

Registration is underway for this in-person series which will include experiences of different kinds of prayer, to be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on **four Tuesday evenings in January** at the Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon. Includes: **Jan. 9:** Centering Prayer with Fr. Kevin McGee; **Jan. 16:** Eucharistic Adoration with Fr. Gerard Cooper; **Jan. 23:** Praying With the Sacred Scripture with Verbum Dei sisters; **Jan. 30:** Marian Prayer with Fr. Daniel Yasinski. Cost: \$40 for the series. Register at: <https://form.jotform.com/231799051119257> or call Astrid Alas for more information: (306) 659-5858.

New IPL course - The diocesan Indigenous Pastoral & Lay Leader (IPL) Ministry Education program presents a new course "Contemporary Effects of Colonization II: Social Justice," from **Jan. 9 to March 5**, 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons. Cost: \$200 (some funding assistance available). No pre-requisite is necessary (those completing eight courses receive a diploma). See: rcdos.ca/indigenous-ministry-education.

Palliative Care and End-of-life Issues - St. Philip Neri Parish in Saskatoon will host a two-part **Horizons of Hope** workshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Saturday, Jan. 13** and **Saturday, Jan. 20**, at St. Philip Neri Church, 1902 Munroe Ave. S. Saskatoon. To register please call the parish at (306) 343-0325 (lunch will be provided). When confronted with a life-limiting diagnosis, we can find ourselves in an unfamiliar and even frightening situation. As Catholics, our faith in Jesus Christ has much to teach us about living and dying well. Horizons of Hope is a resource created by the Canadian Catholic bishops as a toolkit for Catholic parishes about palliative care. The goal is for the workshop to be taught in every parish community across the diocese. To book a workshop in your parish, contact Jackie Saretsky at jsaretsky@rcdos.ca or (306) 659-5839.

Christmas Schedules

and Sacrament of Reconciliation in Advent

Find Advent / Christmas postings submitted by parishes on the diocesan website's Advent-Christmas schedule:

rcdos.ca/advent-christmas-schedule

Check with your local parish for details and other opportunities.

Saskatoon Penitential Services with Confessions:

- 7 pm **Tuesday, Dec. 19:** Our Lady of Lourdes, 1235-12th St. E.
- 7 pm **Tuesday, Dec. 19:** St. Philip Neri, 1904 Munroe Ave.
- 7 pm **Wednesday, Dec. 20:** St. Augustine, 602 Boychuk Dr.
- 5 pm **Thursday, Dec. 21:** St. Mary, 211 Avenue O S.

Other confession opportunities in Saskatoon:

- 11 am **Monday to Saturday** at St. Paul Co-Cathedral, 720 Spadina Cres. E. (followed by daily Mass).
- 11 am **Friday and Saturday** and 7 pm **Thursday** at Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road (followed by daily Mass).
- 7 pm on **Dec. 19, Dec. 21, and Dec. 22;** and 10 am to noon on **Saturday, Dec. 23** at St. Patrick Parish, 3339 Centennial Drive.

Rural-Area Penitential Services with Confessions:

- St. Felix, **Archerwill** - 5 pm Tuesday Dec. 19
- St. Mary, **Colonsay** - 6:30 pm Tuesday, Dec. 19.
- St. Michael, **Cudworth** - 7:30 pm - Wednesday, Dec. 20.
- Sacred Heart, **Denzil** - 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 20.
- Our Lady of Grace, **Dodsland** - 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 21.
- Christ the King, **Foam Lake** - 6:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 21..
- St. Mary, **Lanigan** - 7 pm Thursday Dec. 21.
- St. Eugene de Mazenod, **Luseland** - 5 pm Tuesday, Dec. 19.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary, **Major** - 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 20
- St. George, **Naicam** - 5 pm Wednesday, Dec. 20.
- Christ the King, **Rose Valley** - 5 pm Friday, Dec. 22.
- St. Front Parish, **St. Front** - 5 pm Thursday, Dec. 21.
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, **Wishart** - 6:30 pm Tues. Dec. 19.
- St. Mary, **Wynyard** - 6:30 pm Monday, Dec. 18.

Simbang Gabi 2023 *Filipino Catholic pre-Christmas Mass schedule:* rcdos.ca/simbang-gabi

Cathedral of the Holy Family

123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon

- 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17
- 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18
- 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19
- 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20
- 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21
- 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22
- 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23

St. Patrick Parish

3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon

- 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17
- 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18
- 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19
- 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20
- 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21
- 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22
- 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23

St. Peter the Apostle Parish

1121 Northumberland Ave., Saskatoon

- 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 17
- 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18
- 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19
- 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20
- 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21
- 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22
- 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23

Simbang Gabi Novena of Masses is also celebrated Dec. 14 to 22 at St. Theresa Parish, Rosetown, SK.

Message Board



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Prison Outreach at Christmas - The diocesan Restorative Ministry Office is again seeking monetary donations to purchase small, identical gifts for the men at the Saskatoon Correctional Centre, as a way to share our Christmas joy and let them know they are not forgotten by God or the community. Donations can be made online at dscf.ca/designated-ministry-support by choosing "Prison Ministry - Christmas" in the drop-down box. The Restorative Ministry office continues to seek donations of rosaries (metal chains) for outreach and prayer in the prison. Donations can be dropped off or sent "Attention Dianne" at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 2nd Floor, Cathedral of the Holy Family, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, S7S 1H1. (Hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.). *(Prison ministry is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.)*

Journey Through Advent video series - The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents "Journey through Advent" with Bishop Jon Hansen, CSsR, of the northern diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. This is a joint initiative of the National Liturgy Office, the Office national de liturgie and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis, posted online at: www.cccb.ca

Breathe Catholic marriage conference in Saskatoon: Is it time to "Breathe" fresh air into your marriage? Make room on your calendar and recharge your relationship at the Breathe Catholic Marriage Conference, **March 8-9, 2024** at the Cathedral of the Holy Family in Saskatoon. Find information and registration online: www.catholicmarriageandfamily.com. Early-bird registration for those registering before Dec. 31 is \$275 per couple (regular price \$375).

Employment Opportunities

Full-time Parish Life Director (PLD) for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Saskatoon to provide day-to-day management of the parish, which serves First Nations, Métis, Indigenous, and non-Indigenous parishioners. An Indigenous background and a firm understanding of Indigenous history, cultures, and spirituality is an asset. Find the job description at rcdos.ca/employment. To apply, submit cover letter and resumé to Fr. Graham Hill, CSsR, at ghill@rcdos.ca.

Full-time Coordinator of Evangelization and Youth Ministry for Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, a vibrant, thriving faith community serving Martensville, Warman, and surrounding areas, to work in collaboration with the pastor and parish leadership to invite members of the congregation and the wider community to enter into a meaningful relationship with Jesus. Find the job description at rcdos.ca/employment. Submit cover letter and resumé to ihmp@rcdos.ca. **before Dec. 29.**

Part-time position at CWL Clothing Depot in Saskatoon, with a possibility of additional hours in future: the applicant should share the CWL Clothing Depot's value of service to those in need. Contact Bea at the CWL Clothing Depot, 619 - 20th St. W., Saskatoon (306) 242-5042 or drop off resumé at the back door of the Clothing Depot where donations are accepted (ring the bell) 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Diocesan Collection for the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF)

A collection will be held in parishes across the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon on the Third Sunday of Advent, **Dec. 17, 2023**, as part of our diocesan contribution to the national Catholic pledge to support healing and reconciliation initiatives for Residential School survivors and their communities.

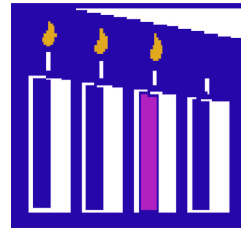
Your donations to the TRC Fund have already helped many organizations in our community, including Saskatoon Tribal Council, Haven Family Connections, St. Michael Community School, and Returning to Spirit. Project applications are being accepted and processed quarterly, and all donations support local programs.

To learn more or to make a donation online, visit the Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation website:

dscf.ca/trc

New Beginnings - The African Catholic community presents Cross Over Night starting 10:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve **Sunday, Dec 31** at Holy Spirit Church, 114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon.

Blood donors needed - There are 690,00 eligible donors in Saskatchewan but only two per cent donate. Hospital demands are outpacing donations. There is NO substitute for blood. In December, we must fill 1,150 appointments to meet patient needs in Saskatoon. Consider organizing a group donation or individuals can book on their own at www.blood.ca. December is a wonderful month to give the gift of life. The Saskatoon blood services centre is at 1206 Emerson Ave. (just off 8th Street). To schedule a group donation, please contact Lisa Beechinor at (306) 251-0986 or e-mail her at: Lisa.Beechinor@blood.ca.



Diocesan Prayer - Heavenly Father we pray as a diocesan family for all those who are experiencing grief, loss, sadness, illness, and struggles during this holiday season. Help us all to feel the healing presence of Jesus in times of difficulty. O come, O come, Emmanuel ("God with us").

The Diocesan Bulletin is a publication of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon

Catholic Pastoral Centre, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon SK S7S 1H1

Phone: (306) 242-1500 or Toll free: 1-877-661-5005

E-mail: kyaworski@rcdos.ca

<https://rcdos.ca>

<https://news.rcdos.ca>

Communications is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

THE FILIPINO CATHOLIC COMMUNITY, SASKATOON

SIMBANG GABI 2023

PRE-CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASS
December 15-23, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE

	CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY FAMILY	ST. PATRICK PARISH	ST. PETER THE APOSTLE PARISH
DEC 15 FRI	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 16 SAT	7PM	5PM	630PM
DEC 17 SUN	630PM	7PM	11AM
DEC 18 MON	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 19 TUE	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 20 WED	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 21 THUR	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 22 FRI	7PM	7PM	6PM
DEC 23 SAT	7PM	5PM	630PM

**You are invited to spend time with fellow parishioners
for refreshments after Mass.**

Volunteer opportunities still available.
For more information please contact your parish.



St. Patrick Parish, SK



Holy Family Cathedral, SK



St. Peter the Apostle, SK

THE AFRICAN CANADIAN
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
PRESENTS

CROSS OVER NIGHT

THEME

New Beginnings

DECEMBER 31 | 2023

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

1114 KINGSMERE PLACE

SASKATOON, SK

10:30PM – 1:30AM

"Behold I am about to do a new thing. - IS 43:19"

2024

WINTER 2024

AWAKEN

PRAYING AS CATHOLICS

-CENTERING PRAYER- FR. KEVIN MCGEE

JAN
09

-ADORATION- FR. GERARD COOPER

JAN
16

-PRAYING WITH THE SACRED SCRIPTURE -
VERBUM DEI

JAN
23

-MARIAN PRAYER- FR. DANIEL YASINSKI

JAN
30

7:00 PM

@ HOLY FAMILY CATHEDRAL
123 NELSON ROAD



Scan the QR code to register:

<https://form.jotform.com/231799051119257>



BREATHE

A Catholic Marriage Conference
March 8-9, 2024 - Saskatoon, SK

REGISTER NOW - catholicmarriageandfamily.com

SAVE \$100 - EARLY BIRD PRICE TILL DEC 31st



**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

**Will you donate
blood this winter?**



**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

Book now
blood.ca

Sunday, Dec 17, 2023

Oh, Antiphons!

At evening prayer tonight, the church begins to invoke seven names for Jesus traditionally called the O Antiphons. These names—Wisdom, Sacred Lord, Flower of Jesse's Stem, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of All Nations, Emmanuel—suggest to us how the stories of the Old Testament foreshadow the arrival of God-With-Us. As Mary Winifred observes in *Hasten the Kingdom: Praying the O Antiphons of Advent*: "The Word, which joyfully shouted all the galaxies into being, left All Power and came silently into the womb of a young girl." Seek to encounter Jesus today in wise people, books, and practices.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O WISDOM)

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28 (8). "[John] came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him."

Monday, Dec 18, 2023

Pray for safe passage

Today's O Antiphon of Advent, the second of seven leading up to Christmas Eve, is "O Sacred Lord and Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!" Today is also International Migrants Day, which recognizes the contributions of migrants, their challenges, and their human rights. Migrants number in the hundreds of millions the world over—some by choice but many forcibly displaced. Jesus and his family became migrants fleeing for their lives soon after the birth that we are preparing to celebrate. Make safe migration and the humane treatment of migrants everywhere your prayer intention with this O Antiphon.

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O SACRED LORD AND LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL)

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25 (194). "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

Tuesday, Dec 19, 2023

Grafted onto Jesus' family tree

Near Bethlehem stands an olive tree scientists say is 5,000 years old. It's not uncommon for olive trees to reach the ripe old age of 900+ years in Mediterranean countries. Once they grow so old that they stop bearing fruit, olive trees are cut down to mere stumps. But that stump? Leave it alone for a couple of years, then suddenly new shoots spring forth. A shoot or root in this context does not symbolize fragility but rather hardiness and promise. Such are the descendants of the House of David, a spiritual family tree that includes Jesus and us. If you don't mark Advent with a Jesse tree, review the tradition—and pray the Jesse Tree Litany, a version of the Litany of the Saints.

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O FLOWER OF JESSE'S STEM)

TODAY'S READINGS: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 (195). "Though you are barren and have had no children, yet you will conceive and bear a son."

Wednesday, Dec 20, 2023

Stand together

On this International Human Solidarity Day, enacted by the U.N. in 2005, we remember Blessed Michael Piaszczyński, who in the early 1900s taught at the diocesan seminary of Łomża, Poland. Modest and compassionate, Father Piaszczyński had a deep respect for Judaism and even invited rabbis to speak at his school.

During World War II he was imprisoned by the Nazis and often shared his bread with elderly Jewish inmates. Piaszczyński died in the camp in 1940. He was beatified by his compatriot, Pope John Paul II, in 1999. What are small ways you can show solidarity with your fellow humans, especially those who seem different from you?

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KEY OF DAVID)

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38 (196). "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

Thursday, Dec 21, 2023

Radiant reminders

Monks, nuns, and others who take part in evening prayer are now chanting the O Antiphons, a rich series of references to the coming Christ recited from December 17-23. Today's antiphon proclaims: "O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death." Look around you today and seek out the many lights associated with Christmas: Advent candles, strings of light, Posadas candles, fires for holiday gatherings. Let each one remind you of the light of Christ coming into the world.

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O RADIANT DAWN)

TODAY'S READINGS: Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45 (197). "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Friday, Dec 22, 2023

The "O Hail No" antiphon

Few have direct experience of royalty, and so the words "queen" and "king" might do little other than remind us of some TV or streaming series. For some though, the terms hit hard because within their culture, people experienced oppression and violence from ruling classes. Singing the O Antiphon, "O King of All Nations," then, might not evoke a hopeful experience of God. How might we tap into the deeper meaning of the antiphon? What words and images can help us experience the longing for God who brings peace and right relationship, who removes barriers that divide, and who breathes life into our tired bodies?

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KING OF ALL NATIONS)

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). "My spirit rejoices in God my savior."

Saturday, Dec 23, 2023

We stand corrected

John Kanty (1390-1473) was a Polish priest, philosopher, physicist, and theologian. He helped develop early scientific theories of inertia that Newton would later use to formulate his laws of motion. Kanty's theories also helped Galileo figure out the orbital motions of the planets around the sun. During Kanty's time, the Catholic Church taught the geocentric model that the planets and the sun orbited around the Earth. In 1632 Galileo's work was condemned by Pope Urban VIII, and he was placed under house arrest for the rest of his life. Kanty was canonized in 1767, around the same time Rome finally capitulated to Galileo's heliocentric model of the solar system. Give thanks for the church that corrects its faults.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF KANTY, PRIEST (O EMMANUEL)

TODAY'S READINGS: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 (199). "Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed."

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Advent (B)
December 17, 2023

Who Are You?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

So far, the readings for Sundays in Advent have shown God leading the people into a new way of life—a way of righteousness and loyalty, of honesty and responsibility. Today the readings show the people beginning to see that the accomplishment of this transformation would come through the leadership of one individual. Who might that person be?

The passage from Isaiah describes a prophet, one anointed by God and bringing good news to the poor. When the Baptist appears on the scene in John's Gospel, people wonder if it might be him. He insists he is not the one, nor is he a prophet. Then, as we read in John 1:19, "Who are you?" Recalling the passage from Isaiah read on the First Sunday of

Advent, John tells them he is the one repairing the road, getting it ready for the long-awaited one to arrive. He adds that his baptism is a baptism of repentance. He is readying them to be what Paul describes as "perfectly holy...blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

We now see that these readings are preparing us for salvation. We are now told that such divine graciousness will be inaugurated by an individual, one who has not yet been identified. Will it be a powerful king? A mighty warrior? A spectacular prophet? Those in the time before Christ didn't know. We now know that it will be someone powerful enough to initiate a revolutionary change in the lives of the entire people. Now waiting gets exciting! †

A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus has come to bring joy to all people for all time. It is not just a hopeful joy or a joy postponed until paradise: as if here on earth we are sad but in paradise we will be filled with joy. No! It is not that, but a joy already real and tangible now, because *Jesus himself is our joy*.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 14, 2014



Sunday Readings

Isaiah 61:1–2a, 10–11

I will rejoice heartily in the LORD,
my being exults in my God.

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

John 1:6–8, 19–28

[John the Baptist said,] "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'"

*John is the one preparing
the road, getting it ready
for the long-awaited one
to arrive.*



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS
REFLECTION

- Can you imagine how surprising Jesus was to those who were waiting for the Messiah?
- What messages from the Gospel are surprising even today?

The Loneliest Children

*Editor's note: This article appeared in Liguorian in December 1955.
Today there are similar efforts, including Prison Fellowship Angel Tree.*

Several years ago, a salesman named Dan Vinson decided that the loneliest people at Christmas must be children whose fathers are in prison.

Since 1943, Mr. Vinson and some volunteer workers have sent out millions of Christmas toys each year which have been donated by businessmen everywhere. The children have never heard of Mr. Vinson, and that is the way he wants it to be. He believes that children want presents from someone they love, so wardens and convicts are contacted, and the imprisoned father is sent a list of toys. He checks the ones he wants, and volunteers package the selections and mail them to the prison, where the father



readdresses the package to his children. Dan Vinson often says, "A man never stands so straight as when he stoops to help a child." †

Better than a Sermon

When Frederick Ozanam, the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, was eighteen, he endured many temptations. One day, in great agony of soul, he entered a church in Paris where he saw an old man devoutly reciting his rosary [and]...knelt behind him. The old man was the scientist André-Marie Ampere, [a founder of the science of classical electromagnetism]. The sight of such faith touched Ozanam deeply. Suddenly prayers and tears welled up in his heart. It was a complete victory over his temptations. "The rosary of Ampere," said Ozanam afterward, "did more for me than all books and sermons put together." †

From *Liguorian*, December 1956

Signs of the Season—Part III: Christmas Cards

Paige Byrne Shortal

Christmas cards are something of a ritual in our home, both the sending and the receiving. Somehow it became a "sin" to open a Christmas card alone. When the mail comes, the cards are set aside, to remain unopened until the next family meal. After dinner, the cards are gathered, and we take turns reading them aloud.

We send a lot of cards. Each year I wonder if we should keep sending a card to a woman who was in my choir twenty years ago, or the high school

classmate, or the teacher who made such a difference. But it's so easy to lose people and I don't want to be the first to let go.

Good news isn't complete until we've shared it with someone. Christmas cards are a cozy, civilized way of telling the story again. We need to tell it. We need to hear it. That God is. That God loves us. That God cares. That God is involved in our world. That the Incarnation Story is really true. And in the midst of the loss and sin and pettiness and fear and all the things that distract us from our one most important task of creating on this earth small colonies of heaven—that nothing is

powerful enough to make the story less true. I need to hear it again. And I need to share it. †



Lord Jesus, so that believers everywhere may embrace the truth you came to reveal, we pray—Be born in us, be born in our world.

The Redemptorists

WEEKDAY READINGS

December 18–23

Monday, Advent Weekday:
Jer 23:5–8 / Mt 1:18–25

Tuesday, Advent Weekday:
Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a / Lk 1:5–25

Wednesday, Advent Weekday:
Is 7:10–14 / Lk 1:26–38

Thursday, Advent Weekday:


Sg 2:8–14 or Zep 3:14–18a / Lk 1:39–45

Friday, Advent Weekday:

1 Sm 1:24–28 / Lk 1:46–56

Saturday, Advent Weekday:

Mal 3:1–4, 23–24 / Lk 1:57–66

Bringing Home
the Word 

December 17, 2023

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