



Contact us at:

Diocese of Saskatoon  
Catholic Pastoral Centre  
100 - 5th Avenue N.  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 2N7

Phone: 306-242-1500  
Toll Free: 1-877-661-5005

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# Exploring Our Faith Together

## Parish leaders gather to discuss vision for diocese of Saskatoon

BY KIPLY LUKAN YAWORSKI

Reflecting on a vision for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon was on the agenda Nov. 28-29 at this year's Diocesan Congress, an annual gathering of parish and diocesan leaders.

Facilitated by Mariette Martineau, the two-day meeting at Queen's House began with a reflection on the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress held in Saskatoon in October.

Participants were also invited to reflect on the next phase of a "Parish Vitality Reflection" (PVR) process, which has now moved into a reflection on the priestly dimension of the baptismal call.

The group provided input into a PVR parish survey – a tool that will be used by parishes in the upcoming year to identify strengths and weaknesses and consider opportunities for growth. The focus on the priestly call follows previous PVR efforts examining the call to share in Christ's mission as prophet and as shepherd king.

Bishop Albert LeGatt also provided the gathering with an update on plans to make the new Holy Family Parish Church the site of the diocesan Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Centre. The bishop introduced the diocese's new Development Officer, Don Gorsalitz, who is one of those working on the fund-raising campaign for the project. The new building will be constructed next to St. Joseph's Catholic High School on a 5.5-



Among those at the Diocesan Congress discussing a vision for the diocese were (l-r): Nancy Beaton, diocesan coordinator of hospital chaplaincy at City Hospital and Royal University Hospital; Sr. Lucie Hamel, PM, Parish Life Director at Sts. Martyrs-Canadiens; Fr. Pius Schroh, pastor of several parishes in the Wadena area; Fr. Leo English, CSsR, priest moderator at Asquith, Delisle and Vanscoy as well as at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish; and Fr. Denis Phaneuf, pastor at Cudworth and St. Benedict.

acre parcel of land in northeast Saskatoon.

The group of ordained, religious and lay leaders then spent time reflecting on re-defining a vision for the diocese, a process which Bishop LeGatt has asked be continued at the level of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the deaneries and parishes across the diocese.

"In this process we will examine who we are called to be as the diocese of Saskatoon, and imagine our path as we continue to journey together in faith," said the bishop. He noted that it is an appropriate time to re-visit the diocesan vision in light of all that

has been experienced since former Bishop James Weisgerber identified four key areas of concern: a new evangelization, living out our baptismal identity, rural depopulation, and a declining number of priests.

"At this point in the life of the diocese, we need to re-articulate our vision, to define once more what that vision is, and where we will put our efforts," LeGatt said, citing the recent Eucharistic Congress, the ongoing PVR efforts and new areas of diocesan ministry as points upon the journey which call for celebration and further reflection.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dear friends,

Greetings and a blessed New Year to all of you. Let us hope and pray that it will bring many signs of God's loving goodness.

Our Diocesan Eucharistic Congress Oct. 26-28 was certainly such a sign of God's love powerfully at work amongst us. The whole weekend with its many elements was greatly appreciated, with a special mention to the many local speakers who gave excellent presentations at the special interest sessions and to the organizers of the youth rally. The Mass on Sunday morning at Credit Union Centre, gathering about 6,500 people, was truly a beautiful, prayerful and joyful celebration of God's gift of the Eucharist: "Bread of Love, Life for All."



It was wonderful to see people of all ages coming from across the whole diocese, symbolized by the candles carried in by parish representatives, and by the decorative cloth altar runners depicting different nationalities. We came to express our common faith in the Lord who gives himself to all of us in the Eucharist and who by this gift unites us to himself and to all others in God's love.

It was powerful to see so many people united in prayer, in singing, and in giving thanks to God. With our faith strengthened, we now go forth to live out the Eucharist in our parishes and in our daily lives. The spirit of the Eucharistic Congress will also be a source of challenge and encouragement as we move forward as a diocese. I certainly want to thank the members of the organizing committee, the parish liaisons, and all the many people who assisted in so many ways. A wonderful job, very well done!

This Diocesan Eucharistic Congress was also a wonderful way to prepare for the International Eucharistic Congress to be held June 15-22, 2008 in Quebec City. Hopefully many will consider attending this International Congress if possible. I especially ask all of you to pray for its spiritual success as a sign of hope and new evangelization for the Church in Quebec and in all of Canada.

Continuing on our own journey as a Diocesan Church, I have asked the Council of Priests and the Diocesan Pastoral Council to both consider some important matters.

One priority is the whole realm of **adult faith formation**. Much is already done in the diocese: the Lay Formation program, Foundations, lay ministry training, scripture study, Theology on Tap, Alpha programs, RCIA, parish missions, the creation of Small Christian Communities of faith sharing, and so on. As a diocese we now need to discuss new and unmet needs; how to effectively focus our efforts and resources; and how to reach out even more.

Another important matter is to **examine and re-articulate our vision as a diocese**. In 1999 Bishop Weisgerber expressed a diocesan vision based on four points: new evangelization, the baptismal identity and mission of all, rural depopulation, and a declining number of priests. Many of our efforts over the past few years have been in response to these points, which continue to be important realities in the life of the diocese. However, it is now time to re-articulate and to re-define this vision. Discussions at the level of the Council of Priests, as well as at the parish, deanery and Diocesan Pastoral Council levels will move us toward a re-articulation of our diocesan vision.

Finally, a major effort will be the **construction of the new Holy Family Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Centre**. Plans are proceeding for the design and costing of the new building to be located beside St. Joseph High School in Saskatoon. A fundraising campaign is being prepared with the help of Ketchum Canada, overseen by Don Gorsalitz, who was recently hired as our diocesan Development Officer. Information sessions about the project will soon be taking place throughout the diocese in the various deaneries. Please make an effort to be informed and to consider lending your support for this project, unique to our diocesan history. The wish to build a Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Centre speaks to the unity of our diocese and to the desire to combine our efforts and resources in order to create many future possibilities for growing in our faith, for evangelization and for outreach.

In such ways the spirit of our recent Diocesan Eucharistic Congress will indeed live on.

Sincerely in Christ

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Albert LeGatt" with a cross at the beginning.

Most Rev. Albert LeGatt  
Bishop of Saskatoon

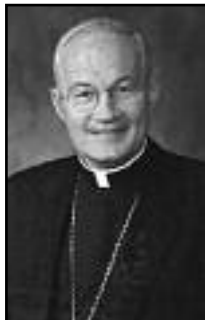
## Cardinal Ouellet to speak at "Growing in Holiness" conference in Saskatoon

A conference about the sacraments will be held Feb. 29 to March 2 in Saskatoon.

"Growing in Holiness Through the Sacraments" will be held at St. Patrick Parish Centre, presented by the Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus.

Speakers include Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop of Quebec; Fr. William Casey, CPM; and Fr. Daniel Callam, CSB.

Cardinal Ouellet is a consultant for the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, a member of the Pontifical Committee for International Eucharistic Congresses, and advisor to the Pontifical Commission for Latin America. He is also a member of the Pontifical Academy of Theology.



**Cardinal Ouelett**

Fr. William Casey is a native of Philadelphia, Penn., and a graduate of Temple University, Pennsylvania. He served in the U.S. Army before entering the congregation of the Fathers of Mercy. He studied philosophy at Christendom Colleg, and theology at Holy Apostles Seminary, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1991. He was elected the Superior General of his congregation in 1997. Casey is a an internationally-known speaker and a frequent guest on the Catholic media network EWTN.

Fr. Daniel Callam is presently associate professor of theology and chaplain at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas. A priest of the Congregation of St. Basil, he earned his doctorate from the University of Oxford and taught in the department of Religious Studies at St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon, where he edited the Canadian Catholic Review from 1983 to 1997.

Conference fees are \$35 for adults, \$25 for post-secondary students and \$20 for high school students, with a reduced rate available for early registration before Feb. 10, 2008.

Contact: 306-374-2079; e-mail: growinginholiness@gmail.com or visit www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com



Mission team members Ed & Natalia Schrader with Louis Andreas, OMI (l-r).

## Three parishes work together to offer Oblate Parish Mission

Parishes at Prud'homme, St. Denis and Vonda are the latest faith communities in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon to embark on a multi-year Oblate Parish Mission.

Other communities in the diocese that have undertaken an Oblate Parish Mission in recent years include Rosetown, Cudworth/St. Benedict, and Naicam/St. Front.

The powerful mission experience includes active outreach in the form of home visits to Catholics in the area, the establishment of ongoing faith-sharing groups, and a focused time of evangelization, prayer, and celebration from March 5 to 15, including presentations known as the "Great Assemblies" as well as special programs for youth.

The Great Assemblies are gatherings of the entire district for praise and worship, teaching and the experience of faith rituals.

Oblate Mission Team members Ed and Natalia Schrader and Brother Louis Andreas, OMI, were in Vonda early in January preparing parishioners from the three communities for the time of evangelization. Volunteers will soon begin visiting homes to issue an invitation to participate in the mission.

Although sometimes viewed with trepidation, the home visits done in conjunction with the Oblate Missions are almost invariably positive, said Brother Louis Andreas, before providing concrete suggestions about the process. The Oblate Mission Team will follow up on the initial home visits when they arrive in March.



Parishioners attended a retreat and planning session in January.

The 10-day mission period from March 5 to 15 will also include:

Wednesday, March 5 - Opening Mass  
7:30 p.m. in Vonda

Thursday, March 6 to Saturday, March 8 -  
Daily Mass at 10:30 a.m. in Vonda

Thursday, March 6 and Friday, March 8 -  
Listening centres (faith sharing in small groups) at various homes in district

Sunday, March 9 - Eucharist celebrated  
9 a.m. in St. Denis, 11 a.m. in Prud'homme

**Prud'homme – Monday, March 10 &  
Tuesday, March 11:**

- Mass at 10:30 a.m.
- Eucharistic adoration & reconciliation 4-5 p.m.
- **Great Assembly at 7:30 p.m.**

**St. Denis – Wednesday, March 12,  
Thursday, March 13 & Saturday, March 15**

- Mass at 10:30 a.m.
- Eucharistic adoration & reconciliation 4-5 p.m.
- **Great Assembly at 7:30 p.m.**

**Vonda – Friday, March 14:**

- Mass and Sacrament of the Sick 10:30 a.m.
- Eucharistic adoration & reconciliation 4-5 p.m.
- **Great Assembly at 7:30 p.m.**

(Daily youth activities will also be scheduled from March 9 to 15.)



# Journey of Faith held in Wynyard

BY RITA HITCHCOCK

A "Journey of Faith" program will be held in Wynyard, beginning Monday Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, with Alex and Cecile Halyk of Foam Lake facilitating.

This is open to all parishes, all ages – everyone from our communities – to come and learn more about our Catholic Christian faith and how we may live it in our daily life. For more information, please call Paulette Thomson at 554-2618.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Albert LeGatt at St. Mary's Parish in Wynyard on Sunday, May 11, 2008 at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS** distributed from the Catholic Pastoral Centre can now be found on the website: [www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/weekly\\_bulletin/index.cfm](http://www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/weekly_bulletin/index.cfm)

**Muenster Engaged Encounter** seeks contact with couples who have either written or begun to write their Junior or Senior talks. If you have presented in the past or have thought about presenting, please contact Lynn Freistadt at [lynn.freistadt@sasktel.net](mailto:lynn.freistadt@sasktel.net) or 373-8607 in Saskatoon.

The Diocesan Task Force on Marriage and Worldwide Marriage Encounter present



**The 6th Annual Marriage Appreciation Banquet**



**Saturday, March 29, 2008**

Keynote address by Pat & Gail Fitzpatrick

**"Jesus, Mary and Joseph! The First Blended Family: Grace in Second Marriages"**

Mass at 5 p.m., Bishop Albert LeGatt presiding  
Cocktails at 6 p.m. / Supper at 6:45 p.m.  
Door prizes & cash bar / Dance from 8:30-11 p.m.  
Tickets: \$35 per couple

*This banquet is free to those involved in marriage preparation or enrichment. Please contact your parish to register.*

For more information call Krystyna at the Catholic Pastoral Centre 306-242-1500

**NEW BEGINNINGS** is a group for those who are widowed, separated or divorced. New Beginnings can provide vital growth and healing to people hurting from the loss of a partner: whether through death, separation, or divorce. For more information contact Celine, 306-658-2005; or Sandra, 933-9778 (after 6 p.m.).

**TRANSITIONS** is a ministry of healing to people who are divorced. This 16-week gathering is an opportunity for the divorced to share their experiences with others so they can move on – transition– into the next stage of their life. These gatherings are starting in Fall 2008. If you'd like to register, or for more information, please contact Blake Sittler at the Catholic Pastoral Center: 242-1500, ext 229. Watch for more details.

## Catholic Family Services

To register for any of these programs:

PHONE: 244-7773 or E-MAIL:

[staff@cfssaskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:staff@cfssaskatoon.sk.ca)

**"When Parents Separate or Divorce"** This group is designed to support children as they explore their feelings around separation or divorce of their parents. Parents are expected to attend concurrent group sessions.

Ages: 7 - 12 years  
4 - 5 p.m. Tuesdays  
Jan. 22 to March 18

Ages: 7 - 12 years  
4 - 5 p.m., Wednesdays  
Jan. 23 to March 19

**"Raising Boys – Building Heroes"** A group for boys to help them become heroes in their own life by focusing on their unique strengths and talents to develop self-esteem, social skills, problem solving, anger management, empathy building and friendship skills. Parents attend a concurrent session called "Raising Boys."

Ages: 8 - 12 years  
4 - 5 p.m., Wednesdays  
Jan. 23 to March 19

**"Reaching Out: When Teens Go Beyond the Limits"** One of several groups for parents whose adolescent is having severe behaviour and/or relational difficulties. *There is no fee for this program.*

7 - 9 p.m., Thursdays  
Jan. 17 to March 20

**"Bridging the Gap – a group for Parents of Out-of-Control Teens"** For information contact Terry Lowe at 244-7773. To register call Ken Wynes at 933-5109. *There is no fee for this program.*

7 - 9 p.m., Thursdays  
Jan. 3 to March 27 (ongoing group)

**Family - to - Family Ties:** Family to Family Ties is a family support and mentoring program dedicated to strengthening family life and promoting self-sufficiency by building community through family partnerships. Volunteer families always needed. Please call Catholic Family Services at 244-7773 for more information.

**Teen-Parent / Early Childhood Centre:** Contact Gaye Schwanbeck at 659-7802.

**OTHER OFFERINGS:**

Individual, couple, & family counselling / Employee & Family Assistance Programs / event speakers, workshop presentations / volunteer opportunities

Fees are based on a sliding fee scale, unless otherwise stated. Services are available to anyone in the community regardless of religious affiliation.

**Catholic Family Services is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.**

**"Children Exposed to Violence"** This group provides children who have been exposed to violence in the home with a safe place to talk about their experiences. A protective parent is expected to attend the concurrent parents' group.

Ages: 7 - 12 years  
4 - 5 p.m. Mondays  
Jan. 21 to March 17

**"Good Grief Kid's Talk"** This program is for children who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. A parent or caregiver is expected to attend concurrent parents' group.

# Retrouvaille's goal is to help troubled marriages

By **BLAKE SITTLER**

Fifteen couples gathered at the Ramada Hotel in Saskatoon Sept. 21-23 to work on their marriage. Some were merely hoping to deal with recurring difficulties while others admitted that they had discussed separation and even divorce.

The weekend was coordinated by Retrouvaille Saskatchewan along with cooperation from both the Roman Catholic dioceses of Regina and Saskatoon. Couples who facilitated the weekend were all past participants of Retrouvaille.

Retrouvaille, a ministry to troubled marriages, was developed in Quebec in 1977. Within five years, it began to spread through English Canada into the United States and South America. In 1991 the first Retrouvaille weekends were being offered in Europe and Australia.

Ken and Rita Wolfe attended their first weekend in Edmonton two years ago. Their positive experience of Retrouvaille prompted them to become provincial board members for this marriage ministry and the assisting "angel couple" on the inaugural weekend.

"We were gratified to have the kind of active participation and dedication that we saw from the 15 couples. It gave us tremendous hope to see that we could help make a difference in their marriages. We were very blessed by the generosity of the couples as it provided Retrouvaille Saskatchewan with a firm foundation to offer future weekends to help heal other marriages as well as theirs," said Ken and Rita.

They described the weekend as "a door that opens for couples whose marriages are hurting deeply and who find themselves hopelessly caught in a cycle of pain and despair".

Jim and Adele Longstaff, the current chairs of Retrouvaille Saskatchewan, note that the program is a "proven and tested program to assist couples whose marriage is hurting or where separation is either a consideration or a fact."

The Longstaffs have been the chair couple since Retrouvaille Saskatchewan began developing in the province in 2005.

Dennis and Karen Hango were one of the main presenting couples on the weekend. They said that the ministry they provide is not simple but it is worthwhile.

"Most couples (who attend the weekend) are in a state of despair and hopelessness when they attend the program. The weekend is not a 'miracle cure' ...we encourage one another to put



**Leaders of Retrouvaille Saskatchewan, which is now offering weekend programs.** - Photo submitted by Retrouvaille

the past behind and start rediscovering our spouse," said Karen.

"The ultimate goal of Retrouvaille is solely to help save marriages," added Dennis.

Another couple, Ben and Joanne Laird, attended a weekend previously. This time, they came with the intention of becoming presenters in the future. Fr. Bill Bernard, CSsR, a Redemptorist priest in Saskatoon, recently agreed to become one of the presenting chaplains for Retrouvaille, along with Fr. J. R. Prince of Regina.

The group is working to create ties with the diocese of Prince Albert as well. The hope of those involved with Retrouvaille is that weekends will eventually alternate between the three cities of Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert.

**The next two scheduled weekends are April 18 to 20 in Regina & Sept. 19 to 21 in Saskatoon.**

For registration information contact Ken and Rita Wolfe at 652-7155; e-mail [retrouvaille@sasktel.net](mailto:retrouvaille@sasktel.net) or visit the website: [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

## Marriage Preparation / Engaged Encounter / Marriage Enrichment

### ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

*Engaged Encounter is a "weekend away" in which couples deepen their relationship and dialogue about their future together.*

#### Engaged Encounter

**St. Peter's Abbey, Muenster**

**Friday, March 7 to Sunday, March 9**

Contact: Tanya and Todd Schuler 682-0777

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION AT LOCAL PARISHES:

*Marriage Preparation is offered at several parishes. Contact your local parish to inquire about availability.*

#### Holy Family Parish

**Friday, March 7 - Saturday, March 8**

110 - 104 Street, Saskatoon

Contact: Eileen Materi, 374-7981

#### St. Paul Cathedral

**Friday, April 4 - Sunday, April 6**

720 Spadina Cres. East, Saskatoon

Contact: Brenda Connell, 652-0033

#### CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES:

**Weekend Marriage Preparation**

**Friday, March 7 - Saturday, March 8**

(Workshops run Friday 6:30 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost is \$150 per couple.)

Contact: 244-7773

### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

*A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is an opportunity for a married couple to take time to rediscover one another and focus on their relationship in a loving encounter.*

**Friday, March 7 to Sunday, March 9**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

St. Michael's Retreat Centre, Lumsden

**Friday, April 25 to Sunday, April 27**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

St Peter's Abbey, Muenster

Contact: Marc and Anita Loiselle

Phone: 306-258-2192

E-mail: [loiselle@baudoux.ca](mailto:loiselle@baudoux.ca)

Web: [www.wmcanada.org](http://www.wmcanada.org)

## FOUNDATIONS: EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

### Winter and Spring 2008

*General Information:* The cost of each course is \$5 per person, per two hour session. High school students: no charge.

The number in brackets after the title of the course indicates the number of sessions.

*Note:* Anyone is welcome to attend sessions – it is not necessary to be a member of the parish organizing the event.

**Pre-registration with the contact person is required. A minimum of 15 people required for course to run.**

Course	Parish	Dates	Contact	Speaker
<b>Eucharist and Hospitality (1)</b> All of us have a place at the table of the Lord. We are given a commission to exercise hospitality and extend welcome to all others in the name of our host, Jesus. The ministry of hospitality is more than the exercise of good manners – it is the fulfillment of a gospel mandate. In an increasingly pluralistic society, where so many are spiritually hungry, we cannot take for granted the welcome that all of us seek.	Holy Family <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Monday Feb 11	Eileen Materi 374-7981	Fr. Leo English, CSsR
<b>Eucharist and Daily Spirituality – Celebrating the Extraordinary in the Ordinary (1)</b> How do we develop a balanced spirituality that includes a commitment to justice? How do we create a balanced activism that remains gospel-centered? This session explores these questions and how we can develop a “faith that does justice.”	Holy Family <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Wednesday March 12	Eileen Materi 374-7981	Kathy & Ivan Hitchings
<b>Reconciliation and Eucharist (1)</b> This presentation will explore the intricate relationship between the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation. In the Eucharist we celebrate the very centre of our faith, which means that all the problems of our faith and our difficulties in living our faith are concentrated and intensified. What better way, then, to prepare for the sacred drama of the Eucharist than by making whole what has been broken? The sacrament of Reconciliation not only reconciles us with God and leads to reconciliation with those whom we have hurt by our sins, it also prepares us to return to the community from which we have been alienated, and thereby to enter into the communion which is the Eucharist.	Holy Family <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday April 15	Eileen Materi 374-7981	Fr. George Smith, CSB
<b>Parish Hospitality/Community Building (1)</b> All of us have a place at the table of the Lord. We are given a commission to exercise hospitality and extend welcome to all others in the name of our host, Jesus. The ministry of hospitality is more than the exercise of good manners – it is the fulfillment of a gospel mandate. In an increasingly pluralistic society, where so many are spiritually hungry, we cannot take for granted the welcome that all of us seek.	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 19	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Fr. Leo English, CSsR
<b>Eucharist and Healing Ministry to the Sick (1)</b> In the Eucharist, the core of the Christian life, the Lord nourishes us with His Word, His presence and His very self as food. This strengthens us not just for our own personal journey but to be the Body of Christ for the uplifting and strengthening of the Christian community. The Eucharist makes us the healing presence of Christ to all who are hurting, suffering, frail, troubled, or sinful.	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 26	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Fr. Mark Miller, CSsR

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Course	Parish	Dates	Contact	Speaker
<b>Zombie Jesus or Resurrected Christ (1)</b> Every Sunday we proclaim that we believe in the resurrection of the dead but do we really understand what the resurrection is? Blake Sittler will investigate the scriptural, theological, historical and practical aspects of our hoped for glorification.	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Monday March 3	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Blake Sittler
<b>Spirituality and Social Justice (1)</b> How do we develop a balanced spirituality that includes a commitment to justice? How do we create a balanced activism that remains gospel-centered? This session explores these questions and how we can develop a "faith that does justice."	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday March 11	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Gertrude Rompré
<b>Where is Your Passion? (1)</b> This session, presented by the STM Campus Ministry team, looks at a number of different stories of passionate people, and how they make a difference in today's world. Stories will be shared by the team, and there will be a chance for participants to explore their own call, their own story and their own passion.	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday April 15	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Gertrude Rompré, Michael MacLean and Fr. André Lalach
<b>Interchurch Families (1)</b> Interchurch marriages are a particular life situation for many Christians that require special pastoral sensitivity. We will explore the realities of these families who share a baptismal and marital oneness.	St. Anne <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Wednesday April 16	Dolores Crawford 931-4700	Shirley & Bernie Karstad
<b>Movies That Matter (1)</b> We as adults will never be able to truly understand what our kids are experiencing because we have never had access to the kind of technology that they have grown up with. This session looks at a number of wonderful movies that are being produced by people who are socially conscious. When you share a good movie with your kids, oftentimes, you can make real connections with them.	St. Francis Xavier <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 26	Irene LeGatt 933-1108	Barb Wotherspoon
<b>A Journey of Healing (1)</b> Ex-offenders, First Nations, recovering addicts share with Fr. André Poilievre why youth end up in the justice system and how they have turned their lives around. Discussions on the justice system, penal system and racism in our society.	St. Francis Xavier <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday March 11	Irene LeGatt 933-1108	Fr. André Poilievre



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Course	Parish	Dates	Contact	Speaker
<p><b>Where is Your Passion? (1)</b> This session, presented by the STM Campus Ministry team, looks at a number of different stories of passionate people, and how they make a difference in today's world. Stories will be shared by the team, and there will be a chance for participants to explore their own call, their own story and their own passion.</p>	St. John Bosco <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 26	Mary Jacobi 652-1045	Gertrude Rompré, Michael MacLean and Fr. André Lalach
<p><b>Spirituality of Youth (1)</b> The presentation will look at how today's young people view and express their spirituality. Through talks, discussion, music and drama, the presenters will address the issues of how and where youth discover their relationship with God. The direction will flow from youth to youth, adult to adult, adult to youth, and youth to adult, using both pedagogical (youth education) and adagogical (adult education) approaches. Participants will be encouraged to contribute their views and observations.</p>	St. Mary <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 15	Sylvia Zakreski 382-4390	Lois and Archie McKay
<p><b>Theology of Johnny Cash (1)</b> Visiting different aspects of Catholic theology using the lyrics of Johnny Cash.</p>	St. Patrick <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Wednesday March 5	Shirley Hyshka 384-4319	Blake Sittler
<p><b>Take Time to Forgive (1)</b> The process of forgiveness can teach us much about ourselves, relationships and God. We will consider the stages of forgiveness and the lessons at each stage.</p>	St. Paul Cathedral <b>Saskatoon</b>	1:15 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 19	Keith Buzinski (St. Paul's) 652-0033	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<p><b>Walking With Jesus (1)</b> This retreat focuses on Jesus' life as we journey to the places made holy by his presence and ministry. We will then ponder Jesus' call to be our Saviour, how he carried this out in his life and teaching, and how in the end God exalted him as Lord of heaven and earth. At the same time, there will be an opportunity to reflect on our own call and journey of faith thus far.</p>	Ursuline Sisters, 125 Cree Cr. <b>Saskatoon</b>	10 a.m. Wednesday Feb. 13	Sr. Dianne Sehn, OSU, 242-5566	Sr. Rosalyn Miller, OSU
<p><b>Sunday Celebration of the Word with Communion Rite in the Absence of a Priest (1)</b> All parishes that foresee a real possibility that a time will come when their community will be in need of celebrating 'lay-led' Sunday Celebrations of the Word should take steps to prepare themselves. This workshop will begin with a discussion of the differences and concerns regarding lay-led liturgies on Sundays in the absence of a priest. We will then examine the ritual for lay-led Sunday worship services as suggested in the Sunday Celebrations of the Word and Hours ritual, a publication of the CCCB.</p>	St. Aloysius <b>Allan</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 21	Anne Moldenhauer 257-3286	Karen Schreiner



## FOUNDATIONS: EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

### Winter and Spring 2008

*General Information:* The cost of each course is \$5 per person, per two hour session. High school students: no charge.  
 The number in brackets after the title of the course indicates the number of sessions.

*Note:* Anyone is welcome to attend sessions – it is not necessary to be a member of the parish organizing the event.  
**Pre-registration with the contact person is required. A minimum of 15 people required for course to run.**

Course	Parish	Dates	Contact	Speaker
<b>Seven Last Words of Jesus (1)</b> A meditation of Jesus' words from the cross leads us into the mystery of "letting go" and finding new life.	Sacred Heart <b>Eston</b>	7:30 p.m. Wednesday Jan 30	Karen Serfas 962-4906	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>Take Time to Forgive (1)</b> The process of forgiveness can teach us much about ourselves, relationships and God. We will consider the stages of forgiveness and the lessons at each stage.	St. Mary <b>Fox Valley</b>	7:30 p.m. Monday Jan. 28	Collette Wagner 666-4269	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>Seven Last Words of Jesus (1)</b> A meditation of Jesus' words from the cross leads us into the mystery of "letting go" and finding new life.	St. Mary <b>Fox Valley</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan 29	Collette Wagner 666-4269	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>A Funny Thing Happened on my Way Through the Bible (1)</b> A search for the use of humour in the Old and New Testament and a discussion about the importance of making the Word relevant to people today.	Assumption of Our Lady <b>Kerrobot</b>	7:30 p.m. Wednesday March 12	Trina Duhaime 834-5473	Blake Sittler
<b>Seven Last Words of Jesus (1)</b> A meditation of Jesus' words from the cross leads us into the mystery of "letting go" and finding new life.	St. Catherine <b>Quill Lake</b>	2 p.m. Sunday March 2	Margaret Odelein 383-2512	Sr. Viola Bens, OSE
<b>Take Time to Forgive (1)</b> The process of forgiveness can teach us much about ourselves, relationships and God. We will consider the stages of forgiveness and the lessons at each stage.	St. Mary <b>Richmond</b>	7:30 p.m. Monday April 21	Edith Sehn 669-2142	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>Eucharist and the Saskatchewan Soul (1)</b> A reflection on ways in which our "Saskatchewan experience" (environment, way of life) offers a unique appreciation of the Eucharist as the Body of Christ.	St. Mary <b>Richmond</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday April 22	Edith Sehn 669-2142	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>A Walk Through the Mass (1)</b> This presentation deals with the parts of the Mass, what their significance and meaning are and how they make up one act of worship.	St. James <b>Wilkie</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday March 4	Shirley Holzman 843-2493	Zita Maier

#### A REFLECTION ON THE LIFE-GIVING POWER OF THE CROSS

Join us as **Archbishop Adam Exner** explores "The Life-giving power of the Cross: making our daily crosses and self-imposed Lenten penances life-giving for ourselves and for others by living the experience of the cross as Jesus did."

**Monday, February 11, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
**at St. Augustine Church, 602 Boychuk Drive, Saskatoon**  
*(No charge)*

Archbishop Exner has been a priest for over 50 years and has been a bishop and archbishop for 30 of those years. He has a perspective on life that is honest, faith-filled, positive and wholesome (just like his prairie roots).

### Financial assistance for adult faith education

**Apply for funding to offset the cost of courses, conferences, workshops, retreats, and other educational opportunities!**

The Adult Education Opportunities Committee  
 Sr. Cecile Fahl: 242-1500 or toll free 1-877-661-5005

# Art therapy brings about growth and healing

By KIPLY LUKAN YAWORSKI

Creatively using art to promote healing, self awareness and emotional well-being is a dream come true for Felicitas Drobig, OSU.

After two years of study at the Kutenai Art Therapy Institute in Nelson, B.C., Drobig recently established an art therapy practice in Saskatoon, working with clients in both individual and group sessions. Beginning in February she will also be offering sessions at Queen's House of Retreats about using art on the spiritual journey. She is also available to present Foundations sessions in parishes.

"The beauty of art therapy is that it can address all levels: spiritual, emotional and physical," said Drobig, who has a degree in psychology and a background in photography and pastoral ministry in addition to the art therapy training which she completed in May.

"It's a gentle, non-threatening way of doing therapy," she explained. "You can put something down on paper using art materials that you can't necessarily verbalize."

Participating in art therapy does not require any particular artistic skill or experience. "You don't have to be an artist or artistically inclined to take part or to benefit from this," she stressed in a recent interview.

"The process of creating the art itself is healing," said Drobig, noting how keeping emotions, stress and unresolved issues bottled up inside will take its toll on a person's health, well being and personal development. "Actively making art will get some of that energy out. It will help to unblock things if you can put the emotion on paper."

When a client meets with Drobig, she



Sr. Felicitas Drobig, OSU

helps them to choose and use the art medium – such as drawing, painting, or sculpture. If a person is comfortable going deeper and discussing what comes out in the art, Drobig provides an active listening presence.

"We can look at the art in three ways – at the level of the concrete we talk about what's actually on the paper – for instance, an image of a boat or a mountain – we might then go to the metaphorical level of what a boat or a mountain might represent. Finally, we can go to the personal level: what does this mean to you? If someone is not comfortable talking about taking it to that level, we can always return to the concrete."

In the process, feelings can be expressed, issues explored or identified, and an inner journey of healing and self-awareness can happen. "I don't interpret

the art that is created ... the client is in charge. We go as far or as deep as a person feels able or willing to go. We don't push. If something is important, they will eventually be able to see it."

A member of the Ursulines of Prelate religious order, Drobig's interest in art therapy began during a novitiate year in Amprior, Ontario. "I started using art a lot more myself and found it really healing."

Later she participated in an interest inventory that identified art therapy as a potential area of interest, immediately striking a chord with Drobig. "It's a passion that's stuck with me since the first time I heard about it," she said.

"In 2005 I was offered the opportunity to go and study art therapy. It was like a dream come true. I was reaching for the stars, and I caught one!" She expressed gratitude for the support and prayers of her religious community in pursuing the dream.

The intensive course in Nelson, B.C. included study in psychology, psycho-analytic theory, art techniques and practical experience. During the two-year program she worked with seniors in nursing homes, with Alzheimer patients and with mentally challenged adults in a transition program.

"The second year, I worked with individuals looking for personal growth and I also worked with some individual children, which was a great joy."

Art therapy is new to Saskatoon, with only a few trained therapists offering the service in a number of settings, noted Drobig, whose Art'iculate Art Therapy Services studio is now open on College Drive in Saskatoon, 306-955-1817.

"To me the studio and working with people is working in sacred space," she said. "I've found my niche."

## Discernment retreats offered to young adults

The Sisters of the Presentation recently announced upcoming discernment retreat weekends.

A weekend retreat on "**Relationship with Christ and Prayer**" will be held Friday, Feb. 9 to Sunday, Feb. 11. Various speakers have been invited to come and speak about connecting with God through different types of prayer. During this weekend participants will learn about praying with scripture using the method of Lectio Divina, contemplation and centering prayer, creativity and spirituality, and contemplative living. Teachings from St. Theresa of Avila and John of the Cross will also be offered, examining what these saints have to say about living a deep relationship with Christ.

A discernment weekend focused on "**Christian Lifestyles**" will be held Friday, March 7 to Sunday, March 9. Participants will spend the weekend hearing about the Christian vocations offered within the Church. Speakers will share their discernment and lived experience as a married couple, single young adults,

missionaries, priests, and women and men religious. There will be time for prayer, reflection, sharing, and questions.

The discernment retreats are open to young, single, Catholic adults (18 and over). They begin at 7 p.m. on the Friday, and end with a noon meal on Sunday. The discernment retreats are offered at Discernment House, 851 University Drive, Saskatoon. The recommended offering for each weekend is \$40 (includes all talks, meals and accommodations for the weekend).

The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary also offer a live-in discernment program of eight months (running from September to April) for young women 19 years of age or older who wish to live in Christian community and/or discern vocation.

For more information about the discernment weekend retreats or the live-in program call Sr. Chantelle Bonk at 244-0726, or email [discernmenthouse@lycos.com](mailto:discernmenthouse@lycos.com) or visit the website at [presentationofmary.ca](http://presentationofmary.ca)

# Blessings abound during inaugural year at St. Therese

By GARTH WRUCK

Since St. Therese Catholic College of Faith and Mission (STC) opened its doors to its inaugural class Oct. 1, 2007 on the feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux, there has been a continuous "shower of roses," and at times it has been a full-fledged Saskatchewan blizzard of blessing.

The first trimester of classes focused on the theme of self-abandonment to the Father's love. The second trimester at STC is now underway, and the 20 students enrolled at the new college at Bruno, Saskatchewan are receiving lay faith formation from a number of Catholic leaders.

Archbishop Adam Exner (Archbishop Emeritus of Vancouver) is providing a 10-week course on salvation history.

Leah Perrault, the Director of Pastoral Services for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, is delivering a trimester on the Theology of the Body (the subject of her masters thesis), while Donna Donaldson, diocesan Vocations Coordinator, is offering instruction on the study of sacred scripture.

STC Chaplain Fr. Clair Watrin, founder of the "Live In" retreat movement, continues his course on the foundations of Catholicism.

STC School Director Jim Anderson,



Students and staff at St. Therese Catholic College of Faith and Mission in Bruno.

- Photo submitted by St. Therese College

who has a graduate degree from Franciscan University Steubenville, is teaching an introduction to practical philosophy and critical thinking, a foundation to the work of evangelization and apologetics.

Fr. Scott McCaig, superior of the Companions of the Cross, and lay evangelist Jim Murphy will also be providing courses later this spring.

As a special event Thursday March 6, Bishop Albert LeGatt will join STC for a day reflecting on the sacraments, which will also include an evening presentation open to the public.

Meanwhile, the St. Therese Healing and Growth Center has been offering programs such as monthly prayer and

praise evenings, and is currently developing its core program for personal inner healing. This program will be launched and open to the public this spring.

St. Therese Communications and Broadcast is getting ready to begin providing a full menu of media production services to the Catholic community of Western Canada. Services available will include audio and video production services (music, advertising, talks, events, promotional material, etc.). In the near future, St. Therese Communications and Broadcast will also be broadcasting a variety of Catholic media.

STC recently rescheduled its grand opening to Saturday, Feb. 23. Events begin at 11 a.m. with an open house and tours of the facility, with Bishop LeGatt celebrating Mass at 3 p.m. All are invited to attend. Visit the website for more details about the celebration: [www.StTherese.ca](http://www.StTherese.ca)

It is only through the generosity of benefactors of St. Therese College, that the college has experienced such a successful start. Many have commented on the great grace it is to have a place like St. Therese College in Saskatchewan, a province that over the years has given so much to the Church in Canada.

St. Therese College of Faith and Mission looks forward with optimism to responding to the call of Pope John Paul II's "new springtime of evangelization". Anyone seeking more information can contact STC at (306) 369-2555. STC faithfully relies on prayers and financial support to continue its mission to form disciples in Christ Jesus. Staff and students at STC welcome with grateful humility the shower of roses received through the prayerful support of the faithful.



## Vocation discernment

Fr. Marc Mireau recently organized a "Come and See" weekend for young men to discern a calling to the priesthood. Held at Discernment House in Saskatoon Jan. 4-6 the program included speakers, prayer and faith sharing.



# Centering prayer method introduced

By Fr. Kevin McGee

“Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10). Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m., a small group gathers at St. Michael’s church in Saskatoon to respond to this ancient invitation.

The group spends 20 minutes in silence using a method of prayer called “centering prayer,” and then watches a video presentation that provides further background and teaching on the contemplative life.

The video presentation usually features Fr. Thomas Keating, a Trappist Monk from St. Joseph’s Monastery in Snowmass, Colorado. Fr. Keating helped develop this method of prayer in the early 1980’s and started Contemplative Outreach as a way to revive and adapt the Christian contemplative heritage to modern times.

Centering prayer is simply a method of prayer in which we open our heart and mind to God and consent to God’s presence and action within us. It’s a way of responding to Jesus’ invitation from Matthew 6:6 to enter our secret room, close the door and to pray to our Father in secret. In our secret room, we let go of all thoughts and turn our ‘heartful’ awareness to the Divine Presence within; here we encounter the One who is greater than any thought, concept or idea we have of God. We simply ‘rest in God’ as God is, and let God affirm the core of our basic goodness and grow in our deepening consent to be transformed in Christ. From our centering prayer, we move out into the world to encounter Christ present in our relationships, responsibilities and the daily events of our lives.

On Saturday mornings at St. Peter the Apostle parish there is another opportunity to sit together in silence. At 9 a.m. a group gathers for two 20-minute sessions of centering prayer with a meditation walk in between.

At 7 p.m., on the first Friday of every month, a contemplative Mass is celebrated at St. Patrick’s Parish. This is a subdued celebration with 20 minutes of silence after communion.

Anyone wishing to learn more about centering prayer and the Christian contemplative heritage can contact Fr. Kevin McGee at 382-5503 or 384-1100.

## CHAS convention plans set

By Sandra Kary

The 65th annual convention of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS) will be held in Saskatoon Oct. 24 to 26 at the Delta Bessborough.

The 2008 convention theme is ‘Bridging Healing Communities’ and the focus of the convention will be to highlight and connect with other organizations that share a similar mission of continuing the healing ministry of Jesus.

Keynote speaker will be Megan McKenna, an internationally known author, theologian, storyteller and lecturer, who teaches at several colleges and universities, and provides workshops and parish missions.

CHAS will also highlight L’Arche, a well-known, yet fledgling organization in Saskatchewan. L’Arche is an international organization of faith-based communities that creates homes and day programs with people who have developmental disabilities. A national representative from L’Arche will present the convention’s public lecture 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24.

A weekend format is new for the CHAS convention, which typically has been held during the week. In order to attract registrants from different faith communities and faith-based organizations, a weekend seemed most appropriate. Also, to bring exposure and teaching about community-based programs and initiatives, several concurrent workshop sessions will be held on the Saturday afternoon.

For more information, contact CHAS at 306-655-5330 or by e-mail: cath.health@sasktel.net

### Special Invitation

A wonderful way to begin your summer vacation is to journey to Quebec City and participate in the

#### 49th International Eucharistic Congress

offering extraordinary religious, cultural and fully enriching opportunities for people of most backgrounds.

Ministry to Tourism, Diocese of Saskatoon, is facilitating your participation by inviting you to join a “Pilgrim Journey”

#### Pilgrim Journey ONE – “To the Eucharistic City”

Quebec 2008. June 14-23, Saskatoon return, all inclusive per person sharing \$2935 **Deadline: Feb. 4, 2008**

**Pilgrim Journey TWO** – designed to assist independent attendees by registering through Fr. Ralph Kleiter’s office (diocesan representative) and enabling you to join the diocesan delegation at some of the sites and optional activities.

**Reduced Registration fee (\$200) in effect until Feb. 15, 2008.**

For full details and Booking/Registration Form visit [www.pilgrimjourneys.ca](http://www.pilgrimjourneys.ca)

Contact Ministry to Tourism for information as well as details on post-Congress travel opportunities in and around Quebec: 306-244-3747; E-mail: Kleiter@shaw.ca or Rhonda at Sinfonia/Mytravel 306-934-5601; 1-800-667-6961

## Retreats

FOR: Youth  
BY: Youth

### Diocesan Youth Retreat Team

is available to facilitate retreats, sessions and workshops with enthusiasm and the courage of discipleship

music

talks

drama

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To book the  
Diocesan Youth  
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call Sarah Farthing  
at 242-1500 or toll free:  
1-877-661-5005

Fee: \$30 per hour,  
plus mileage.  
Available Oct. to June



# Columbian Manor opens new assisted-living units

BY KIPLY LUKAN YAWORSKI

Knights of Columbus members gathered Dec. 14 to bless an expansion at Columbian Manor, which adds 51 assisted-living units to the faith-based seniors housing complex in southeast Saskatoon.

Bishop Albert LeGatt blessed the crucifixes that will hang throughout the new centre, before walking the hallways to bless areas that will soon be home to elderly residents requiring enhanced services such as three meals a day and 24-hour supervision.

Constructed in 1997 and expanded shortly afterwards, Columbian Manor has offered wheelchair accessible rental accommodation to seniors in 78 independent-living units for the past decade, as well as providing amenities such as a chapel and a common area. The expansion brings the number of suites to 129, and includes a new dining area.

During the dedication celebration, several areas of the building were named to honor the contributions of Knights of Columbus members behind the project, including the "Bob Jeanneau Assisted Living Centre," and the "Peter Harvey Commons Room." Jeanneau and Harvey were instrumental in making the dream of Columbian Manor a reality, the gathering heard.

Along one wall of the newly-named "Presidents' Dining Room," board member Bill Coumont also placed pictures of the eight presidents of Knights of Columbus Charities from 1985 to the present: Bob Walbaum, Pat Sullivan, Bob Jeanneau, Pat Bitz, Peter Harvey, Wally Servetnyk, Doug Vaughn and Ron Martens.

The construction and operation of Columbian Manor has become a priority project for KC Charities, said current president



**Saskatoon Bishop Albert LeGatt walks through the hallways to bless and dedicate a new assisted living centre at Columbian Manor seniors housing complex in Saskatoon. Owned and operated by KC Charities, Columbian Manor recently added 51 assisted-living units to an existing 78 independent-living units.**

Martens. "Our sole purpose now is to operate KC Manor. Our mission statement is to provide faith-based affordable housing for seniors. We feel it's a very powerful statement," he said, adding that the addition of assisted living units to Columbian Manor brings about a new era and a new set of challenges for KC Charities.

The work of Bob Jeanneau – who helped initiate Columbian Manor and who served on the building committee for the recent expansion – was recognized at the celebration Dec. 14. Jeanneau spoke about the history of the facility, describing how negotiations with different levels of government have secured support for the project from such sources as the provincial Centenary Affordable Housing Program and Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Peter Harvey was also honoured for his work to bring about Columbian Manor. "The Columbian Manor project has always been very dear to me," Harvey said. He recalled the words of Bishop James Weisgerber at the opening of the first stage of the building ten years ago that "you have built a house and now you must make it a home." Harvey added: "we have indeed made it a home."

Bishop LeGatt also spoke of the family spirit at Columbian Manor. "Now, another room has been added to the house, other family members are being welcomed. I would hope and pray that as these new residents come in, that spirit – a spirit of welcome, of cooperation among residents, of being a family based in faith, of mutual support, of concern for one another, of caring and love – would continue."

He commended the Knights of Columbus for their long history of "rolling up their sleeves" to address the needs that present themselves in parishes, in communities and in society. "We know there is a huge need as church and as a community to see to the elderly," LeGatt noted.

The project has been a success because of the support of Knights of Columbus members throughout the area, the bishop added. "Without the support of a broad body of all of the Knights in Saskatoon we would not have this facility. It is through your prayers, your support, your encouragement and your participation that this has become possible."

**BISHOP'S  
DINNER**

**Friday, May 9**

TCU Place, 35 - 22nd St. E., Saskatoon

*Join us for this fund-raising evening of wonderful food and exceptional entertainment in the company of friends in support of the new Cathedral and Catholic Pastoral Centre.*

*Building a new spiritual home for our entire diocese*

Tickets: \$300 (Partial donation tax receipt will be issued)

For further information contact Chelsey Hagerty at (306) 244-6667

## People of many faiths gather to pray for peace

By KIPLY LUKAN YAWORSKI

On the eve of a new year Dec. 31, people of all faiths gathered at St. Paul's Cathedral to pray for peace and to reflect upon violent struggles throughout the world.

"The Human Family" was the theme of the annual multi-faith Gathering for Peace organized by the Justice and Peace Office of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

Participants began the evening of prayer, song and reflection by placing a candle upon a map of the world laid out on the floor at the front of the church.

It is timely and appropriate to welcome 2008 with a reflection on peace, said Dr. Brian Colquhoun, noting that the new year marks the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the World Day of Peace, and the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Charter of the Rights of the Family by the Holy See.

The New Year's Eve program began with Carol Zubiak reading from the Book of Isaiah. Others bringing prayers, reflections and sacred readings to the gathering included Rabbi Roger Pavey of the Saskatoon Jewish community, Yvonne Leduc of the Buddhist community, Dr. Mateen Raazi on behalf of the Muslim community, Roman Catholic Bishop Albert LeGatt, Rev. Amanda Currie of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and Alfred Bond of the Baha'i faith community. Patricia Pavey of Multi-Faith Saskatoon and Ursula Wiig of the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism also presented reflections.

LeGatt reflected upon Pope Benedict XVI's message about "The Human Family, a Community of Peace" for this year's celebration of the World Day of Peace. "Tonight we come to say that yes to one another, and to all others as brothers and sisters," LeGatt said, adding that all are called to treasure the environment as the home of the human family, to work for sustainable development, and to ensure the resources of the earth are justly shared and distributed.

Several speakers reflected on situations throughout the world, including the Middle East, Iraq, Pakistan and Myanmar.

Hamid Javed of the Saskatoon-based Fellowship for Reconciliation and Peace (FRAP) spoke about that local group's efforts to promote peace and increase understanding about conflict in the Middle East.



Participants placed candles on a map of the world.

Dr. Mateen Raazi described the situation in Pakistan. "As Canadians we can keep up pressure on our government ... to make sure it conveys to the Pakistani government and the key players there, the necessity of democracy ... the necessity of protecting and preserving human life," Raazi said.

Burma, now known as Myanmar, is an example of how the collapse of the democratic process has caused widespread suffering, loss of life and human rights abuses, said Dr. Brian Colquhoun in his presentation about the situation in that country.

Colquhoun spoke of the military government's brutal repression of peaceful protests, and the displacement of thousands of refugees fleeing the violence in Myanmar.

Tony Haynes encouraged the gathering to recognize the miracles that prayer and song can bring about in the world. "We have marked out our prayers with candles," he observed. The event concluded with a social gathering.

## Advent program offered in Denzil

By JOAN KUCHAPSKI

Sacred Heart parish in Denzil held a unique program during Advent this year.

The Parish Pastoral Council planned a combination prayer service and concert which was held Dec. 16, the third Sunday of Advent, specifically because it was the Sunday of joy in the liturgical calendar.

Pastor Fr. Marvin Lishchynsky, led the prayer service which included scripture readings and hymns.

Paul Gottlob was master of ceremonies for the concert. Members of the community presented various musical numbers and story readings. The parish youth group, under the guidance of Dawn



A special advent program was held this year at Sacred Heart parish in Denzil.

- Photo by Joan Kuchapski

and Shane Doyle, presented the nativity story. Several of the Parish Pastoral Council members sang familiar Christmas carols, gave the history of the carols and

read complementary excerpts from scripture. After the program, participants and spectators enjoyed a festive lunch and fellowship.

# Hockey game part of St. Mary parish outreach

BY TAMMY KNOWLES

One recent cold November evening about 40 local children, parishioners and volunteers from St. Mary's parish in Saskatoon boarded a bus to attend a Saskatoon Blades hockey game.

Participating children were selected from neighbouring schools of St. Mary's parish, which includes St. Mary Community School and St. Maria Goretti Community School. These youngsters would not likely be able to attend a game if it were not for the generosity of donors supporting the Youth Ministry program.

Not just an ordinary hockey night, this was also a time of faith, fellowship and outreach to children of the parish neighbourhood. The game was exciting and the trip included much laughter, talk, cheering, and making friends – as well as the consumption of everything that could possibly be eaten at a Blades game. The warmth of new-found friends and the fellowship that was shared made winners of each and every one of the group.

"Special projects such as these are



Children and volunteers from St. Mary's recently travelled to a hockey game.

- Photo by Fr. Remi Hebert, CSsR

win-win, our parishioners get better acquainted with our neighbourhood and the children from the neighbouring schools love the events" said Fr. Remi Hebert, CSsR, pastor of St. Mary's parish.

During another recent outing, children and volunteers boarded a bus at St. Mary's parish and headed to a lunchtime performance of "Aladdin and His Magical Lamp," at the Off Broadway Children's Theatre. The group was treated to hotdogs, chips and ice cream. The show

began with an ethnic dancer attempting to teach the children some fancy dance moves that related to the Aladdin theatre production. Laughter was the order of the day for both children and adults.

"It is vital to our parish life that we create events such as these that will involve us in the lives of others. Parish evangelization and outreach is at the core of mission as church and as disciples," said Fr. Remi Hebert, reflecting on the parish's outreach efforts.



## Singing for L'Arche

L'Arche Saskatoon community leader Wyndham Thiessen performs at "Coffee House Connection" held at The Refinery in Saskatoon Dec. 9. Gabe Penna and Co. also performed at the event, held to raise funds in support of L'Arche Saskatoon, which is preparing to open the first L'Arche home in the province.

# Development and Peace sends Share Lent material to parishes

BY MICHAEL MURPHY

Development and Peace is presently between campaigns – the 2007 Fall Campaign is well under way, while preparations for Share Lent 2008 have already begun.

The focus of the Fall Campaign is again on mining and the call is for the government of Canada to appoint an ombudsperson to oversee the mining operations of Canadian corporations in the global south – Africa, Asia and Latin America. The campaign is being well received across the province and the number of signed cards already exceeds that of last year. To be part of the campaign or for more information, contact Diocesan Chairs Mike Pirot at 374-2863 or Gertrude Rompre at 966-8929.

Share Lent 2008 will have as its theme "I believe: I give" and kits have already been mailed to parishes across the country. Contact Saskatchewan Animator Michael Murphy if you would like a kit or the 22 minute DVD "After the Tsunami"

produced for Share Lent this year – email mmurphy@devp.org or call the Saskatoon office 653-5636.

Lent is early this year and Solidarity Sunday, when the special collection authorized by the bishops for Development and Peace is taken, is on March 9. Development and Peace depends on this collection to support its many project partners in the global south as well as to fund the vitally important education programme in Canada.

The 2008 provincial meeting for Development and Peace will take place at Arlington Camp on Last Mountain Lake, from the evening of Friday, May 2 to noon on Sunday, May 4. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting which will combine education on Catholic social teaching, information on overseas partners, community building and planning for the growth of Development and Peace's work in the province.

For more information about the work of CCODP visit the website: www.devp.org



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Time Out for Moms

Jan. 23 to April 9

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, 130 Kingsmere Place**

Each week mothers gather for a morning of Catholic faith enrichment, discussion, friendship and fun, while their children are cared for by dedicated volunteers. Contact: Nancy Smith 373-4350.

## Basic Directions in Aboriginal Ministry

7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31

**Guadalupe House 426 Ave. J. South, Saskatoon**

Sr. Kateri Mitchell, SSA, is a member of the Turtle Clan from the St. Regis Mohawk Reserve (Akwasasne) and is the executive director of the Tekakwitha Conference National Center in Great Falls, Montana.

## Purity Rally 2008: "Waiting for You!"

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2

**St. Patrick's Parish, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon**

Bishop Albert LeGatt will preside at celebration of the Eucharist at 5 p.m. Cost is \$20/person or \$100/family (includes two meals, snacks, and the all-day rally). Programming for teens/adults, as well as for youth 4-7 year olds and for youth 8-11 year olds, will run throughout the day. There will be an evening program after supper for the whole family. Please call 369-2523 or 934-3511 with numbers and ages.

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter "Lovers' Dance"

Saturday, Feb. 2

**Bishop Klein School, 1121 Northumberland Ave., Saskatoon**

This dance is open to all married couples. Tickets are \$30 per couple, midnight lunch included. For more information contact Ray and Kathleen Prima at 374-8410 or randkprima@shaw.ca

## Theology on Tap

7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4 at Lydia's on Broadway

Sr. Kateri Mitchell will speak about "Aboriginal Spirituality and Catholicism" at a Theology on Tap session for young adults ages 19 to 35 years at Lydia's on Broadway local pub 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4. For more information call Sarah Farthing at 242-1500.

## STM President's Gala

Saturday, Feb. 9, St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon

A gourmet dinner with entertainment by John McDermott. Tickets are \$225 with proceeds going to the scholarship fund. Call 966-8940.

## Rite of Election

3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, St. Patrick Parish, Saskatoon

Everyone is welcome to attend this diocesan-wide celebration with those in the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) process who will be joining the church at Easter.

## Parish Missions with the Redemptorist Team

Feb. 10 to Feb. 13, St. Francis Xavier, 222 Willow St.

Feb. 17 to Feb. 20, St. Joseph, 535-8th St. East

Feb. 24 to Feb. 27, St. Patrick, 3339 Centennial Dr.

March 2 to March 5, St. Mary, 211 Ave. O South

7 p.m. each evening - All are welcome to attend these Lenten events.

## Pastoral Care Volunteer Appreciation event

7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13

**Holy Spirit parish, 114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon**

An evening of appreciation for all those in the diocese and the eparchy of Saskatoon who volunteer in pastoral care, visiting the sick and elderly. RSVP by Feb. 8 to the Catholic Pastoral Centre at 242-1500.

## St Therese College of Faith and Mission Grand Opening

Saturday, Feb. 23, at Bruno, Sask.

Open house will begin at 11 a.m., with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 2 p.m. and Mass with Bishop Albert LeGatt at 3 p.m. All are welcome to attend. For more information call 306-369-2555 or visit the website at [www.StTherese.ca](http://www.StTherese.ca)

## Growing in Holiness: a conference about the sacraments

Feb. 29 to March 2

**St. Patrick's Parish Centre, 3339 Centennial Dr. Saskatoon**

Speakers include Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop of Quebec; Fr. William Casey, CPM; and Fr. Daniel Callam, CSB. Conference fees are \$35 for adults, \$25 for post-secondary students and \$20 for high school students, with a reduced rate for early registration before Feb. 10. Contact: 374-2079; e-mail: [growinginholiness@gmail.com](mailto:growinginholiness@gmail.com)

## Marriage Appreciation Banquet

5 p.m. Saturday, March 29

Mass at 5 p.m. at St. Patrick parish, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon, followed by banquet, speaker and dance. Cost is \$35 per couple. For more information contact your local parish or the Catholic Pastoral Centre 242-1500 or toll-free 1-877-661-5005.

## Justice and Peace Outdoor Way of the Cross

10 a.m. Good Friday, March 21

This prayerful walk through the streets of Saskatoon features a reflection on the Way of the Cross focusing on justice and peace issues in the world today. For information call Tony Haynes, diocesan Justice and Peace office, 242-1500 or toll free 1-877-661-5005.

## "Swing into Spring" Fashion Show and Dinner

Thursday, May 1 at TCU Place

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation presents its 8th Annual "Swing Into Spring" Fashion Show & Dinner, featuring a gala buffet, draws for diamond jewellery, prize draws, table gifts, and the latest in fashions. Tickets are \$45 each. All tickets purchased before Feb. 29 are eligible for the "early bird draws." Tables of 8 qualify for DeVille Limousine Service to and from the Fashion Show and all others qualify for two tickets to "Phantom of the Opera." For more information email: [catholicschoolsfoundation@scs.sk.ca](mailto:catholicschoolsfoundation@scs.sk.ca) or call 659-7003. Visit the website at [www.scs.sk.ca/foundation](http://www.scs.sk.ca/foundation)

## Bishop's Dinner

Friday, May 9 at TCU Place

A fund-raising evening in support of the Roman Catholic Cathedral building fund, creating a space for the entire community to gather and share faith. It will be an evening filled with music and fun. Tickets: \$300 each (partial tax receipt). Call Chelsey Hagerty at 306-244-6667.

## Knights of Columbus Show and Shine

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 7

**Canadian Tire, Preston Crossing, Saskatoon**

Knights of Columbus of Saskatoon 7th Annual Show 'n' Shine fundraiser for the L'Arche project, a home for mentally challenged adults. Fee \$10 per vehicle includes a grab bag and trophy presentation at 5 p.m. Features: door prizes, a raffle for a jacket, and an all-day barbecue. E-mail: [carguybruce@sasktel.net](mailto:carguybruce@sasktel.net)

## Invitation to Parents/Grandparents

Make a Canada & New England Discovery

Montreal-Boston, June 28-July 5, 2008

This vacation is great for Parents and/or Grandparents to begin an enriching summer with young people, especially if they are unable to attend Quebec City's Eucharistic Congress or WYD in Sydney. The 7-Day *ms. Maasdam* cruise up the St. Lawrence River to Atlantic Canada and New England commemorates the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's founding of Quebec City in 1608. Enjoy some of these calm waters and ruggedly beautiful coastline that gave rise to generations of seafarers and Champlain's legacy. Book a valued time while

our dollar is strong. Cruise fares are from US \$1,019. HAL's Special youth programs at sea will assure a good time for all. "Travel is the best investment to keep kids interested in education!"

Contact us for details and become a "Travel Pilgrim"

Rev. Ralph Kleiter, Tour Director

Ministry to Tourism, Diocese of Saskatoon

E-mail: [kleiter@shaw.ca](mailto:kleiter@shaw.ca) Visit: [www.pilgrimjourneys.ca](http://www.pilgrimjourneys.ca)

306-244-3747 to Rhonda at Sinfonia / Mytravel

306-934-5306; 1-800-667-6961