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# Exploring Our Faith Together



### Covenant proclaimed

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Saskatoon church leaders participated in a 25th anniversary celebration of the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, signing a covenant committing their communities to continue to work toward Christian unity and reconciliation. Proclaiming the covenant at McClure United Church Jan. 25 were (l-r) Fr. John Sianchuk, CSsR, representing Bishop Brian Bayda of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon; Bishop Rodney Andrews of the Anglican Diocese of Saskatoon; Rev. Hugh Farmer, representing Bishop Cynthia Halmarson of the Saskatchewan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada; Renata Klassen, Moderator of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan; Bishop Albert LeGatt of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon; Rev. Deborah Walker, Chair of the United Church of Canada River Bend Presbytery; and Spencer Hanson, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada Presbytery of Northern Saskatchewan. The celebration also marked the 50th anniversary of Pope John XXIII's call for the Second Vatican Council, which included a renewed focus on the call to Christian unity.

## "Rooted in Christ" – A Diocesan Vision

Evangelization and ongoing faith formation are among the six priorities in a Diocesan Vision unveiled recently in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

A wide variety of events and programs publicized in this edition of *Exploring Our Faith* reflect efforts across the diocese to live out these priorities. This mini-newsletter contains information about Foundations enrichment sessions, youth events, the diocesan Lay Formation program, Ministry Development training, social justice activities, speakers, retreats, conferences, workshops and resources.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Dear friends,

This newsletter comes as you are well into the second part of that parish schedule of activities and programs that seems to run from September to June.

I wish you all the best in your efforts to help all to grow in understanding of our faith, in participating ever more fully in the liturgical celebrations that express and nourish our faith, and in living out that faith in greater holiness and service. The goal of all our pastoral efforts is, of course, to be "Rooted in Christ" and to be one together in Him.

These two values of life – to live in Christ and to be united to others through Him – are at the heart of the *Rooted in Christ* Diocesan Vision articulated in the fall of 2008.

The vision came about as a result of a year's work by the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Council of Priests, and the Diocesan Pastoral Centre staff. This vision was released at the Diocesan Congress in November and is being carried forth by the Diocesan Pastoral Council to the deanery and parish council levels.

The intent is that over the next five to six years, parish councils will focus on each of six priorities or major areas of pastoral life in our Church, considering how their particular parish community is called to grow. These six areas are:

1. Evangelization
2. Faith Formation
3. Liturgy and Worship
4. Community
5. Justice and Peace
6. Collaboration to strengthen unity.

Hopefully, one fruit of this effort will also be to identify areas of parish life that might be strengthened through greater cooperation with neighbouring parishes in a cluster or deanery. To reinvent everything all the time, or to try to go it alone, simply means that our efforts will be limited, when in fact our parishes would greatly benefit from cooperation and mutual support.

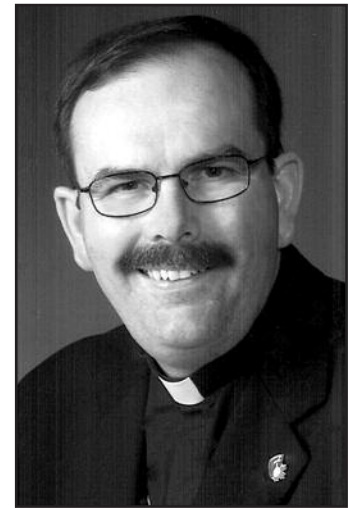
This sense of walking and working together to grow in our faith is certainly also at the centre of our *Uniting in Faith* campaign to build the new Holy Family Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Centre.

I have had the occasion over the autumn and early winter to go to many communities to speak of this project and gather your comments. Developing a sense of being a diocese, truly working together, is a huge and ongoing effort, one that can never be taken for granted.

An essential aspect in this regard is to better communicate what the Diocesan Pastoral Centre can offer parishes for their vitality and growth.

Another aspect is fostering neighbouring parishes' communication with each other about ways they might support each other in areas such as youth ministry or in training volunteers to provide pastoral care to the sick and those who are shut in. The possibilities of joint efforts are limitless.

Therefore as I ask for your solid support for the Cathedral and Diocesan Pastoral Centre, I also ask for your prayers: that this project will be but one of many efforts to truly become one in our diocese. May we indeed be "Uniting in Faith."



Most Rev. Albert LeGatt

*+ Albert LeGatt*

Bishop of Saskatoon

## NOTICE TO PARISH MUSICIANS

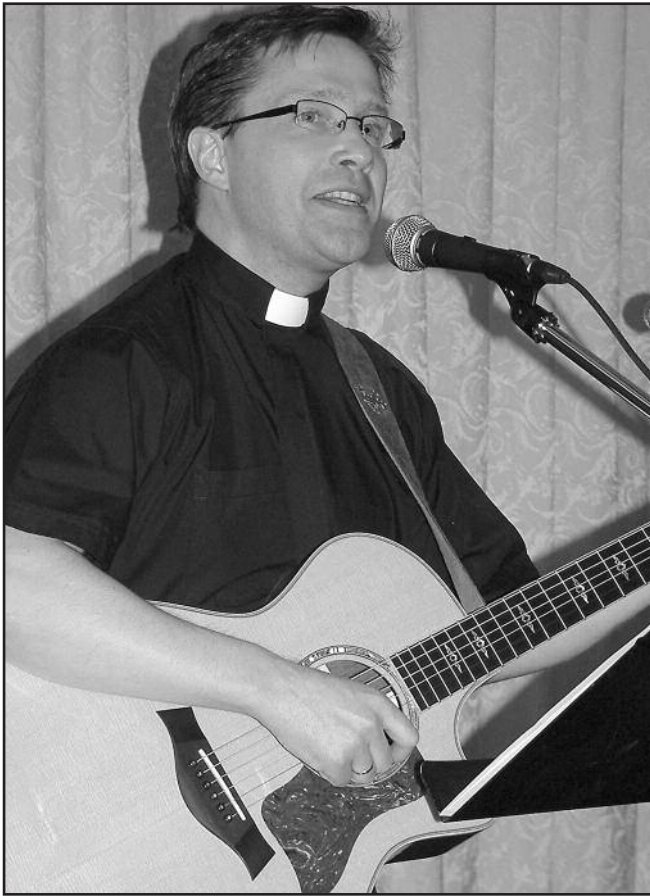
If you are interested in attending the **National Association of Pastoral Musicians, National Convention** in Chicago, **July 6-10, 2009**, please contact Fr. Ralph Kleiter, Ministry to Tourism. Full details of the convention may be obtained by visiting [www.npm.org](http://www.npm.org)

If sufficient numbers are interested in attending from the diocese an organizational meeting will be held in early March. Please indicate your serious interest by leaving a message for Fr. Kleiter at the Catholic Centre 242-1500 or e-mail: [kleiter@shaw.ca](mailto:kleiter@shaw.ca)

**Financial assistance  
is available for adult faith education  
to offset the cost of courses, conferences, workshops,  
retreats, and other educational opportunities!**

*The Adult Education Opportunities Committee:*

*For more information, contact:  
Leah Perrault at 242-1500; toll free 1-877-661-5005.*



**Uniting in Faith songwriter**

Pastor Fr. Kevin McGee was one of the performers at a fundraising evening for the *Uniting in Faith* campaign held Jan. 24 at St. Patrick Parish in Saskatoon. McGee is the composer of a *Uniting in Faith* theme song for the campaign to build a new Cathedral and Catholic Pastoral Centre in conjunction with Holy Family's construction of a new parish home. A special performance of the *Uniting in Faith* song was one of the highlights of the evening, which included Mass with Bishop Albert LeGatt to mark the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, a banquet, a silent and a live auction, and entertainment.

## Pastoral care training workshop planned

A Pastoral Care Education Workshop will be held 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21 at Holy Spirit Parish in Saskatoon.

The workshop's intended audience includes pastoral care visitors and volunteers for the hospitals, parishes, senior care homes and correctional centres, explained Nancy Buttinger, diocesan coordinator of Roman Catholic Hospital Chaplaincy at Royal University Hospital and Saskatoon City Hospital.

Themes addressed in the workshop will include "The role of prayer and sacraments in the pastoral visit" and "The first few minutes of the initial visit: ways to be invited into the sacred."

To register, contact Marci Deutscher at the Catholic Pastoral Centre 242-1500; toll free 1-877-661-5005. Cost is \$15 (includes lunch).

**Hospital chaplaincy is one of the many ministries in the diocese supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.**

## Faith integral part of effort to build Cathedral and Pastoral Centre, says campaign team member

Jocelyne Hamoline's faith plays a large role in her work on the diocesan *Uniting in Faith* campaign team.

Living out our baptism; following God's will; sharing blessings received; glorifying the Lord – those are spiritual realities behind the diocesan campaign to build a new Cathedral and Catholic Pastoral Centre, Hamoline says. And they are also what keep her going when she meets with parishes to explain the project or to plan fundraising strategy.

"For me, number one, I understand that the hand of God is on this project," she says. "The bishop and others across the diocese have prayed and discerned about this ... I share their belief that through this project, bigger and better things can happen for us as a diocese. We can become more engaged, more alive in our faith and have a greater understanding of who we are as a faith community."

Hamoline sees the project as a way to give back what she's received and to bless others as she's been blessed, with faith formation and support.

"As persons of faith we're called not just to be concerned for ourselves, or even our individual families and parishes. We're called to look beyond our doors, to look to the whole diocese and beyond, to 'pay it forward' to future generations," Hamoline says.

"One hundred years ago, someone invested in my faith by building a church, by making sure I had a priest, by providing all of those components and events that we need in our lifelong journey of faith. So the question becomes: am I willing to do the same thing? Am I willing to invest in someone's



faith, to pay it forward, 10, 20, 50 years from now? We're making sure that tomorrow's generation has the opportunity to know the love and hope, forgiveness, healing, peace and joy from Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Our faith journey does not end with baptism, confirmation and first communion, she stresses. "Faith is a journey until we pass away and meet the Lord, and we do have a responsibility to accept that journey and to continue learning and to continue growing in holiness and growing in understanding."

Parishes can look to the Catholic Pastoral Centre for resources and support, but the goal is to develop the faith of people across the diocese, so they can become resources to others, she says.

"For instance, Lay Formation is about giving people from across the diocese the opportunity to learn more about who they are as Christian Catholics, and who they are in terms of their own faith journey. They can then turn around and share that walk with others, with their parish, with the world."

God can take every small action and every person's faith and make big things happen, she added, saying she firmly believes God will bless parishes and individuals through this campaign.

"Faith is an action word."



## Ten-part Foundations offering about St. Paul proves popular: next session Tuesday, March 10

Just past the half way point of a 10-part Foundations program about St. Paul led by Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU, interest remains strong.

Attendance has run from between 70 and 100 people each session, said diocesan Foundations co-ordinator Marci Deutscher. "Sr. Teresita is bringing Paul to life, and it's just so good that people keep coming back for more of his story," Deutscher said.

Offering a more intensive Foundations program is a departure from the usual talks booked by parishes and faith groups, which generally run only as a single two-hour session, she noted (see listings on Page 6-7). For the 10-part Foundations sessions on St. Paul there is no pre-registration required, and each evening is kept to one hour. A free will offering is taken at the door, and refreshments are served at the end of the evening.

Sr. Teresita Kambeitz uses a combination of storytelling, artwork, symbols and faith reflection questions to explore the life of St. Paul and to help her listeners relate Paul's journeys to their own spiritual journeys.

### SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS OF ST. PAUL

**One Tuesday each month  
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**  
St. Paul's Cathedral hall  
Presented by  
Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU

**March 10** - Paul and Forgiveness

**April 7** - Paul the Mystic

**May 5** - Paul's Masterpiece

**June 9** - Paul's Senior Years

**7:30 p.m., Monday, June 29** -  
*Celebration of Eucharist  
with Bishop Albert LeGatt  
at St. Paul's Cathedral.*



Sr. Teresita Kambeitz discusses Paul and Conflict with a participant at the Jan. 6 session in Saskatoon.

Pope Benedict XVI has declared June 2008 to June 2009 as a jubilee "Year of St. Paul" to commemorate the 2,000th anniversary of the apostle's birth. St. Paul is the patron saint of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

## Justice and Peace representatives discuss food issues

BY TONY HAYNES  
OFFICE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

The Saskatoon diocesan Justice and Peace office recently called together parish representatives of this ministry as a first step in identifying needed programs and actions for the year. Uppermost were concerns for the poor and their way of life in the diocese of Saskatoon. Less emphasis was placed on national and world issues, such as peace in Afghanistan.

In mid-November an evening of education on food security was held at St. Patrick's Parish. Close to 30 people heard presentations by director Paul Merriman of the Saskatoon Food Bank and Verna Vandale of Guadalupe Parish.

Merriman gave details about the operation of the food bank in terms of clientele, service offered and its philosophy of providing good nutritious food. Between 300 and 400 visit every day with each person allowed two visits per month. Before this can happen, the person must register by providing a provincial health card for each member of the family.

The food provided by the food bank is nutritious, he said. "Donated junk food is passed on to the schools for their special

events." A major item that must be purchased is milk, costing \$120,000 a year. Eighty-five per cent of the food distributed comes from major stores in the city.

"No one is turned away" Merriman said. Tamara House, Friendship Inn and other agencies are also served by the food bank.

It has become a one-stop service centre with a free tax service, a counseling service connected to Catholic Family Services, and in a separate building a block away, a clothing store operates. The clothing store's unique features are that for \$2 a person can fill a bag twice a week, and if the chosen items need washing, a machine with detergent is available.

Merriman ended by identifying many parishes that regularly supply food items.

Verna Vandale described the emergency pantry work at the native parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This is a much smaller operation but it does provide assistance in conjunction with the two visits allowed by the Food Bank and the monthly government assistance cheque to provide a regular food source.

Vandale emphasized that "we are a parish" and the opportunity is always there to minister to people who may come to the

parish from all over the city, often by bus.

Only non-perishables are distributed at the parish food pantry, although a stock of baby food, diapers, milk and toiletries is also available.

Vandale's observations included: "some retired people are forced back to work, unemployed people and those who have recently arrived from reservations are also included in the over 600 who visit regularly over the year."

Regular suppliers of food include the parishes of St. Anne, St. Augustine, and St. Peter and St. Paul. These parishes and other groups also supply Christmas hampers, although Vandale stressed: "January is the toughest month."

The last presentation of the evening featured a brief update of the fundraising for Station 20 West. Well over \$1 million of the early spring target of \$3 million has been raised. One group was hoping to have over 300 items sold at an art auction to raise funds for the project. The 20th Street complex will include a grocery store.

**Justice and Peace is one of many ministries in the diocese supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.**



Volunteers gathered with the Oblate Mission Team to prepare for mission outreach.

## Humboldt prepares for mission

BY MARIE-LOUISE TERNIER-GOMMERS

The Spirit-filled grace of the Oblate Parish Mission is released once you open your heart, catch the vision, and decide to participate – that was the experience of some 150 people Jan. 17-18 in Humboldt.

The Oblate Mission Team visited the community for final workshops in preparation for the Oblate Parish Mission to be held from March 8 to 21 at St. Augustine Parish in Humboldt.

Following a commissioning celebration at all Sunday Masses, the local volunteers walked the streets of Humboldt and drove into the countryside to deliver the mission invitation to over 1,400 Catholic households served by St. Augustine's Parish.

Already the Parish Mission is transforming the climate of the faith community, softening hearts, and bringing smiles to many faces. Home visitors say they are pleasantly surprised at the positive reception they are receiving from their Catholic brothers and sisters, including those who do not attend church.

### Development & Peace Upcoming Events:

#### Share Lent Workshops

- **Kerrobert Deanery:** Thurs. Feb. 12 (evening, location TBA).
- **Humboldt Deanery:** Sat. Feb. 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Augustine's Parish.
- **Saskatoon Deanery:** Sun. Feb. 15 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Room 344B, St. Thomas More College (parking west of the building), Saskatoon.

#### Solidarity Sunday

- In local parishes Sunday, March 29.

#### Development and Peace Provincial Assembly

- Shekinah Retreat Centre, May 1-3.

An Oblate Parish Mission is a multi-year process, featuring a pre-mission period of training and preparation, as well as home visits and one-on-one outreach before and during an intense two-week mission in the community.

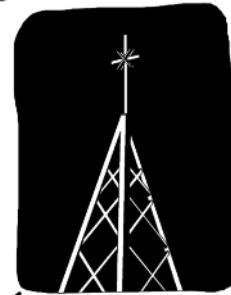
### Mission Schedule

**March 8 to 15:** A team of 20 Oblate Missionaries (two priests, one brother, and lay associates from parishes with a previous Oblate Mission experience) will visit all 1,400 households in eight days. During these visits they will offer to bless homes and offer a listening ear. The visitors will also take part in the 33 local "Listening Centres" (Small Christian Communities) which will take place all over the city on four evenings in that first week of the Mission. These Listening Centres will be hosted in the homes of St. Augustine parishioners.

**March 16 to 21:** In the second week of the Mission, starting on Monday March 16, a series of six Great Assemblies will be held in the church every evening at 7:30 p.m.

Two Masses will be celebrated each day, a daily Holy Hour will be held, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available, as well as the Sacrament of the

Welcome Home!



St. Augustine  
**MISSION**  
March 8-21, 2009

Sick. All parishioners and other interested individuals are invited to attend the Great Assemblies at 7:30 p.m. These gatherings are rich in music, prayer, preaching, drama, and witnessing.

A **youth ministry team** from Radway, Alberta, will join the Oblate Mission Team for the full two weeks.

These two young men and two young women will go into the Catholic schools in Humboldt and will organize many activities for the community's young people, including an overnight Youth Rally. The youth team is also an integral part of the presentations during the Great Assemblies.

If any other parishes in the diocese are considering taking on the Oblate Parish Mission, do not hesitate to join us for one or more of the Great Assemblies.

If needed, billets can be arranged by contacting Parish Mission coordinator Marie-Louise Ternier-Gommers by e-mail: [staug.marlou@sasktel.net](mailto:staug.marlou@sasktel.net)

For more information and ongoing updates, visit the parish website at: [humboldt.saskatooncatholic.ca](http://humboldt.saskatooncatholic.ca)



Fr. Emile April (left) commissioned parish mission volunteers at the Jan. 17-18 Masses at St. Augustine parish in Humboldt. - Photos by Br. Louis Andreas, OMI

## FOUNDATIONS: EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

### Spring 2009

*General Information:* The cost of each course is \$5 per person for a single two-hour session; \$10 for two sessions. High school students: free. 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 is required for course to run.**

Course	Parish	Dates	Contact	Speaker
<p><b>Exploring Your Relationship to God Through Art (1)</b></p> <p>You don't have to be artistic to explore your relationship to God through art. Simple creative exercises will help you on your spiritual journey.</p>	Holy Family <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Monday Feb. 9	Eileen Materi 374-7981	Sr. Felicitas Drobig, OSU
<p><b>The Male and Female Spiritual Journey (1)</b></p> <p>An examination of the different "road maps" followed by males and females in their quest for God.</p>	Holy Family <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Monday March 9	Eileen Materi 374-7981	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<p><b>Symbolism in the Liturgy (1)</b></p> <p>Our liturgy is rich with symbolism. We will look at the symbols, colors and postures used during the Mass and discuss their meaning.</p>	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday March 10	Gladys Coombes 374-1425	Karen Schreiner
<p><b>Finding Freedom as a Woman of God (1)</b></p> <p>This workshop explores the ideas we have about what a Christian/Catholic woman is "supposed" to be. These ideas, whether they are good or not, can trap us and hinder us from actually seeking who God desires and means for us to be. The workshop looks practically at how we can rid ourselves of these perceptions, and discover who it is that God is uniquely calling us to be.</p>	Holy Spirit <b>Saskatoon</b>	8 p.m. Tuesday April 14	Adele Gibbon 374-7524 <i>(Pre-registration is not required. Session is one hour as part of CWL meeting)</i>	Christy Gaudet
<p><b>Spiritual Journey of St. Paul (1)</b></p> <p>Pope Benedict XVI has declared June 2008 to June 2009 "The Year of St. Paul" to mark the 2000th anniversary of Paul's birth. We will reflect on Paul's experience of the Risen Lord, his struggles and challenges, and his growth in faith, connecting these with our own faith journeys.</p>	St. Anne <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 12	Dolores Crawford 931-4700	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<p><b>Poverty Presentation (1)</b></p> <p>We will look at the issues facing the poor in our city.</p>	St. Anne <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Wednesday March 11	Dolores Crawford 931-4700	Jenna Harder
<p><b>Picturesque Holy Land Pilgrims of the Past (1)</b></p> <p>The fascination of the Holy Land has attracted the visits of exotic pilgrims of all kinds—the pious, the biblical scholar, the archeologist, even the conqueror and the adventurer.</p>	St. Francis Xavier <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday March 17	Irene LeGatt 933-1108	Rita Gillies
<p><b>Eucharist &amp; Reconciliation (1)</b></p> <p>This presentation will explore the intricate relationship between the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation.</p>	St. Francis Xavier <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday March 24	Irene LeGatt 933-1108	Fr. George Smith, CSB
<p><b>Baptized into the Death of Jesus (1)</b></p> <p>A reflection on the contacts between the baptism of Jesus and the death of Jesus in the gospel of Mark and the meaning in our lives as Christians today.</p>	St. Francis Xavier <b>Saskatoon</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday March 31	Irene LeGatt 933-1108	Fr. Paul Fchet, OMI



## FOUNDATIONS: EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

### Spring 2009

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*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 is required for course to run.**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>Environmental Justice (1)</b> The way we treat our back yard is directly related to India's waterless 45 degree killer heat wave. Love and justice call us to walk more gently on the earth.	St. Michael <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday March 26	Myrna Wolfe 242-5150	Fr. Lawrence DeMong, OSB
<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.	St. Paul's Cathedral <b>Saskatoon</b>	7:30 p.m. Tuesday March 24	Keith Buzinski 652-0033	Blake Sittler
<b>Spiritual Journey of St. Paul (1)</b> Pope Benedict XVI has declared June 2008 to June 2009 "The Year of St. Paul" to mark the 2000th anniversary of Paul's birth. We will reflect on Paul's experience of the Risen Lord, his struggles and challenges, and his growth in faith, connecting these with our own faith journeys.	Assumption of Our Lady <b>Kerrobert</b>	7:30 p.m. Monday March 30	Wendy Tuchscherer 834-2979	Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU
<b>Theology of Johnny Cash (1)</b> Visiting different aspects of Catholic theology using the lyrics of Johnny Cash.	St. Mary <b>Richmond</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday March 26	Carey Hellman 669-2131	Blake Sittler
<b>Water: A Sacred Gift and Basic Human Right (1)</b> A presentation on the sacredness of water, which connects all life, and on the need for access to clean water to be recognized as a basic human right; followed by participant discussion.	St. Francis Xavier <b>Vanscoy</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 19	Sylvie Francoeur 668-2141	Michael Murphy
<b>Movies that Matter (1)</b> We as adults may never be able to truly understand what our children 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 children, oftentimes, you can make real connections with them.	St. Francis Xavier <b>Vanscoy</b>	7 p.m. Thursday, March 26	Sylvie Francoeur 668-2141	Barb Wotherspoon
<b>Symbolism in the Liturgy (1)</b> Our liturgy is rich with symbolism. We will look at the symbols, colors and postures used during the Mass and discuss their meaning.	St. James <b>Wilkie</b>	7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19	Shirley Holzman 843-2493	Karen Schreiner

## Projects combating poverty described at peace gathering

BY KIPLY LUKAN YAWORSKI

"Combating poverty, building peace" was the theme of a New Year's Eve multi-faith prayer gathering at St. Paul's Cathedral in Saskatoon.

Some 60 people braved stormy weather to attend the annual evening of prayer for peace Dec. 31, which began with participants lighting vigil candles and placing them on a large fabric map of the world.

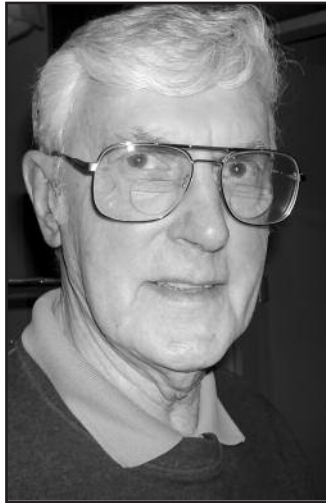
Two grassroots projects combating poverty – one in Africa and one in Saskatoon – were highlighted during the evening program, which included prayers and readings in different languages and from different faith traditions.

In sessions entitled "Sharing the Voice of Peace," Maria Zalesak and Betty Jmaeff spoke about the work of Friends of VAKU (Victims of AIDS in Kidera, Uganda), while Tony Haynes described the Station 20 West project, which will bring needed services to Saskatoon core neighbourhoods.

Zalesak related how the Friends of VAKU was formed in September 2005 to raise funds to aid widowed grandmothers and mothers raising children and orphans in the AIDS-devastated village of Kidera, 123 miles from Kampala. The group was created after Saskatoon resident Judith Amolo (who immigrated to Canada in 1992) returned to her home village of Kidera to find most of the women infected with HIV AIDS, and struggling to raise their families by themselves, Zalesak said.

A board of seven Catholics, mainly from St. Mary's parish, raises funds through steak nights, garage sales and donations.

"The money we have been sending to Kidera has been used mainly to pay for students' school fees, texts, and uniforms. Some money has been used for livestock, seeds



**Tony Haynes, director of the diocesan Office for Justice and Peace, described the Station 20 West project.**

and repairing homes. The goal is to help as many people as possible to become self-sustaining," Zalesak said.

Betty Jmaeff described her June 2008 visit to the Ugandan village with Judith Amolo. "At the time of our visit there were 47 women in Kidera – some mothers, some grandmothers – all widows, all living with AIDS."

In nine days they were able to visit 37 homes in the community, where women welcomed them with joy, and were eager to share what they had with the visitors.

Jmaeff and Amolo also visited the two primary schools in the village. Jmaeff described one Grade 1 classroom with an enrolment of 160 students.

In a meeting with high school students who are able to attend school because of support received from Friends of VAKU, the visitors "learned of their difficulties and determination," Jmaeff said, describing how high school students from Kidera must walk a minimum of two hours to school every day and two hours back, often arriving home after dark. "Our goal for 2009 is to provide boarding costs for more students, as well as the school fees," she said, recalling how



**Betty Jmaeff spoke about Friends of VAKU, a local grassroots project helping women with AIDS in Uganda. During the gathering New Year's Eve, candles were placed on a fabric map of the world**

on their last day in the village a student came to say thank you and goodbye, adding quietly: "please don't forget about us."

Station 20 West is an effort to revitalize core neighbourhoods in Saskatoon by providing a source of nutritious food, health services and community support, in conjunction with affordable housing, described Tony Haynes, director of Justice and Peace for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

When provincial funding was cut for the project earlier this year, the community rallied to express support for the project, Haynes said. "We look at what we are doing as a non-political effort," he said. "It's an example of taking a further step to enhance the life of people in our community."

As with the recent political campaign of president-elect Barack Obama in the United States, many small donations are making a difference, Haynes said, noting that close to \$1.6 million has now been raised. He said such donations are helping to create a "civilized society for all of Saskatoon."

Several speakers from different faith traditions spoke

during the evening program, including Bishop Albert LeGatt, who took up Pope Benedict XVI's theme for the World Day of Peace Jan. 1, 2009: "fighting poverty to build peace."

"In linking peace and poverty together, the Holy Father calls us to reflect on the negative repercussions for peace when entire populations live in poverty," LeGatt said.

"Areas of solidarity and international cooperation must be developed in the fight against poverty if peace is to have a chance to grow in our world."

LeGatt quoted Pope Benedict's message that "effective means to redress the marginalization of the world's poor through globalization will only be found if people everywhere feel personally outraged by the injustices in the world."

Where justice and solidarity take root, peace will flower, added the bishop. "Let us pray that each of our hearts will open to the needs of the poor and that we will seek the changes of lifestyle and commitment of time and self that will indeed bring greater solidarity and so greater peace."



# MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT SPRING 2009

TOPIC AND FACILITATOR	REGISTRATION
<p><b>Presiding at a Children's Liturgy of the Word</b>  <b>Facilitator: Marie Dewald</b>            This workshop will focus on the most important aspects of presiding over a Liturgy of the Word for children.</p>	<p><b>Kerrobert Deanery</b>  <b>St. Mary, Macklin, SK</b>  <b>Jan. 27 and 28, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.</b>            No charge for this workshop            Contact: Michelle Sieben 306-358-2057</p>
<p><b>Lay Presiding at a Sunday Liturgy of the Word</b>  <b>Facilitator: Sr. Charlotte Beler, OSU</b>            This workshop guides those called to this role through the Sunday Celebration of the Word in the Absence of a Priest and provides a step-by-step understanding of the various aspects of the liturgy. The principles for presiding are studied and participants are invited to reflect on the spirituality of the presider.</p>	<p><b>Eatonia Deanery</b>  <b>Sacred Heart, Liebenthal, SK</b>  <b>Saturday, Feb. 28, 9 a.m - 3:30 p.m.</b>            \$15 (includes lunch)            Contact: Marci Deutscher 242-1500, ext 222 or toll free 1-877-661-5005</p>
<p><b>Presiding at a Children's Liturgy of the Word</b>  <b>Facilitator: Zita Maier</b>            This workshop will focus on the most important aspects of presiding over a Liturgy of the Word for children.</p>	<p><b>Saskatoon Urban &amp; Rural Deaneries</b>  <b>St. Anne, 217 Lenore Dr, Saskatoon</b>  <b>Saturday, Feb. 28, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</b>            \$15 (includes lunch)            Contact: Marci Deutscher 242-1500, ext 222 or toll free 1-877-661-5005</p>
<p><b>Pastoral Care Education Workshop</b>  <b>Facilitators: Nancy Buttinger (Hospital Chaplaincy)</b>  <b>Fr. Bernard de Margerie (Sts. Martyrs Canadiens)</b>  <b>Madeline Oliver (Holy Spirit)</b>  <b>Blake Sittler (Ministry Development)</b>            The day will include discussions about the importance of prayer in pastoral care. As well, there will be training in the communication skill of how to discern the most urgent spiritual distress of the person you are visiting.</p>	<p><b>Saskatoon Urban &amp; Rural Deaneries</b>  <b>Holy Spirit, 114 Kingsmere Pl., Saskatoon</b>  <b>Saturday, March 21, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.</b>            \$15 (includes lunch)            Contact: Marci Deutscher 242-1500, ext 222 or toll free 1-877-661-5005</p>
<p><b>Parish Pastoral Council Workshop</b>  <b>Facilitator: Blake Sittler</b>            This workshop will give all members, including the pastor, of Parish Pastoral Councils the opportunity to reflect on how they can more effectively model the pastoral model of parish councils that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon has been promoting for many years.</p>	<p><b>Eatonia Deanery</b>  <b>Little Flower, Leader</b>  <b>Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</b>  <b>8:45 a.m. - registration</b>            \$25/person or \$150/parish (includes lunch)            Contact: Marci Deutscher 242-1500, ext 222 or toll free 1-877-661-5005</p>
<p><b>Parish Pastoral Council Workshop</b>  <b>Facilitator: Blake Sittler</b>            This workshop will give all members, including the pastor, of Parish Pastoral Councils the opportunity to reflect on how they can more effectively model the pastoral model of parish councils that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon has been promoting for many years.</p>	<p><b>Humboldt Deanery</b>  <b>St. Peter's Abbey, Muenster</b>  <b>Date TBA, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.</b>  <b>8:45 a.m. - registration</b>            \$25/person or \$150/parish (includes lunch)            Contact: Marci Deutscher 242-1500, ext 222 or toll free 1-877-661-5005</p>

**NOTE:** Ministry Development workshops will be **automatically cancelled** if the Saskatchewan Department of Highways advises that travel is not recommended.

*Please use your own discretion if weather conditions such as freezing rain, dense fog, heavy rain or severe dust storms impair visibility or otherwise cause dangerous travel conditions or if the temperature is below -40 ° C.*

***The Office of Ministry Development is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.***

## Couple inspired by Retrouvaille meeting in Rome

BY BLAKE SITTLER

An international Retrouvaille gathering in Rome this fall, which included a meeting with Pope Benedict XVI, was an inspiring event for a Saskatchewan couple.

"Such affirmation of our baptismal call and our vocation as married couples to act as God's servants is beyond anything we could ever have imagined," said Joanne Laird, who along with her husband Ben attended the September gathering in Rome as representatives of Retrouvaille Saskatchewan.

Retrouvaille is a ministry of healing and reconciliation to couples whose marriage is going through difficulties, including those who may already be separated from each other. The ministry consists of a weekend retreat, led by presenting couples who have also struggled in their relationship, as well as by a priest. The ministry originated in Quebec but is now international in scope. Retrouvaille reports a high success rate, based on the number of marriages that are happily intact five years after the weekend.

Three hundred couples and 50 priests, representing 17 countries, participated in the international Retrouvaille conference in Rome, hosted by the Italian Retrouvaille Community and the Italian Family Life Office.

Joanne Laird noted that the international flavour of the event in Rome was inspiring and that it nurtured both her personal faith and her desire to share Retrouvaille with others.

"The knowledge and direction we experienced at the International Conference is absolutely something you would never experience anywhere else," said Ben.

In his address to the group, Pope Benedict XVI reflected on the 30 years of Retrouvaille and noted that he had, "recognized

the finger of God that is the action of the Holy Spirit which inspires in the Church answers to the needs and emergencies of each time."

The Holy Father continued: "in their darkest moments, couples have lost hope... They need some 'us'; a company of friends who ... are ready to share part of their hope with those who have lost it." Pope Benedict described the Retrouvaille ministry as a rescue hook that could be offered to couples attempting to climb over a mountain of strain.

Speaking to Retrouvaille representatives, the Pope affirmed their ministry and imparted on them his official apostolic blessing.

The Lairds have been involved in Retrouvaille in leadership for the last year, but have been active in promoting the ministry to those in need since they experienced their first weekend four years ago in Spokane.

"Retrouvaille has the tools for ... couples to rebuild their marriages," Ben said of their experience with the program. "I have learned so much about myself, my feelings and a deeper way of communicating with the help of the Retrouvaille Program".

Retrouvaille has been active in Saskatchewan for two years, offering annual retreats in both Saskatoon and Regina. Organizers are now in conversation with the diocese of Prince Albert about holding weekends there.

"We have held three weekends followed with twelve post sessions this past year. We have served 46 hurting couples. Our hope is that we can continue to reach out to those couples struggling in their marriages," said Ben.

The next Retrouvaille weekend in Saskatoon will be held April 24 to April 26. Call (306) 652-7155 for information or visit the website: [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com)



Presenting the 7th Annual

### Marriage Appreciation Banquet

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Keynote address by Glenn and Judy Hilton

**"Living in this Moment and the Next:  
We Are Not in Charge of Our Life"**

St. Patrick Parish Centre, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon

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: \$40 per couple

**Everyone is welcome!**

Note: this banquet is free to those involved in marriage preparation or enrichment in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon. Contact your parish to register for free tickets.

For tickets or information call the Catholic Pastoral Centre:  
306-242-1500 or toll free: 1-877-661-5005



- Is your marriage hurting?
- Are you thinking about separation or divorce?

**There is hope for your relationship!**



**Retrouvaille** is a program that helps couples rediscover love, trust and healthy communication.

**The next weekend is being held in Saskatoon April 24-26, 2009**

For more information contact Ken & Rita Wolfe

Phone: 306.652.7155

E-mail: [retrouvaille@sasktel.net](mailto:retrouvaille@sasktel.net)

Visit us online: [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com)

**Transitions** is a ministry to those who are separated and divorced, offered within the diocese of Saskatoon. For more information contact Blake Sittler of the office of Marriage and Family Life, Catholic Pastoral Centre, 242-1500 or toll free: 1-877-661-5005.

## Catholic Family Services

To register for any of these programs:

PHONE: 244-7773 or E-MAIL:

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  
April 2-June 11

**“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  
April 1 - May 27

**“The Perfection Trap”**

For those interested in exploring the impact perfectionism has on life and how to make some healthy changes..

7 - 9 p.m. Wednesdays  
April 22 - May 13

**“Blended Families: Yours, Mine and Ours”** This workshop is designed to explore strategies that encourage harmonious relationships in blended / step families.

6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 1

**“Good Grief ... Kids Talk”** This group is designed to support children ages 7 to 12 years who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. A parent or caregiver is required to attend a concurrent group.

4 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
April 20-June 8

**Reaching Out: When Teens Are Out-Of-Control”** 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  
April 2-June 11

**“Bridging the Gap – a group for Parents of Out-of-Control Teens”** For information contact Terry Lowe at 244-7773.

7 - 9 p.m. Thursdays (ongoing group)

### 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.**



Theology of the Body conference planning committee: (standing, l-r): Val Witzaney, Veronica Ridding, Rhea Johner, Deb Lamour, Chris Cassidy and Blake Sittler; (seated, l-r) Nancy Smith, Marcy Millette, Annette Bentler and Garth Wruck.

## National conference about John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body* will be held in Saskatoon

World class speakers will be in Saskatoon June 5-7 providing a unique opportunity to learn more about Pope John Paul II’s *Theology of the Body*.

Speakers will include Dr. Janet Smith, consultant to the Pontifical Council on the Family; Christopher West, internationally-renowned presenter from the Theology of the Body Institute; Dr. Michael Waldstein, of St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology; and Dr. Mary Martin, Natural Family Planning doctor.

The weekend program at St. Patrick’s parish includes talks, question and answer sessions,

a Saturday evening banquet, liturgies, and Eucharistic devotion. Sunday Mass will be celebrated with Bishop Albert LeGatt and Bishop Bryan Bayda. Sunday’s schedule also features a family brunch, and presentations for children and youth by Cat.Chat, LEAP Ministries and FacetoFace Ministries.

For more information visit the conference website at [www.tobconference.ca](http://www.tobconference.ca) or call One More Soul Canada at 1-866-966-7685.

Register before April 30 for reduced rates.

**Marriage and Family Life is one of the many ministries in the diocese supported by the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.**

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION / ENGAGED ENCOUNTER / MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

AT LOCAL PARISHES:

St. Paul’s Cathedral

7 - 9 p.m., Thursday evenings

Jan. 29 to March 19

720 Spadina Cres. E., Saskatoon

Contact: Brenda Connell 306-652-0033

### CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES:

Marriage Preparation Weekends:

March 13 & 14

April 17 & 18

May 22 & 23

Contact: Christie Meinema 306-244-7773

E-mail: [cmeinema@cfssaskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:cmeinema@cfssaskatoon.sk.ca)

### ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

*Engaged Encounter is a “weekend away” in which couples deepen their relationship and dialogue about their future together. This is a recognized form of marriage preparation in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.*

Engaged Encounter is held at St. Peter’s Abbey in Muenster

Friday, March 20 to Sunday, March 22

or

Friday, April 15 to Sunday April 17

Contact: Todd & Tanya Schuler 306-682-0777

### 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, May 1 to Sunday, May 3, 2009

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.wwmecanada.org](http://www.wwmecanada.org)





### **Prison outreach**

Volunteer Marci Deutscher (left) and diocesan Restorative Ministry coordinator Dianne Anderson were among those preparing Christmas packages to be delivered to prisoners over the Christmas season in Saskatoon. A total of 433 packages containing gifts of white socks, underwear, playing cards and chocolates were delivered to inmates at Saskatoon Correctional Centre and two other local institutions, with donations coming from a number of parishes in the diocese, as well as from local businesses. Five volunteers from St. Peter the Apostle and St. Anne parishes helped Anderson with delivery of the packages on Dec. 24. Volunteers from the Catholic community also assisted in a Christmas Eve liturgy celebrated by Fr. Kevin McGee at the correctional centre.



Children constructed wreaths at an Advent Retreat in Macklin Nov. 30 organized by area parishes. The retreat included a full day of sessions and faith growth for people of all ages.

Watch for more coverage of this event in the spring edition of *The Diocesan Newsletter*.

*The Diocesan Newsletter is produced by the diocesan Communications office, one of the many ministries supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.*

## **Allan, Colonsay and Viscount parishes welcome new pastor**

By ANNE MOLDENHAUER  
ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH, ALLAN

Christmas season marked a time of good-byes and hellos for the parish cluster of Allan, Colonsay, and Viscount.

During Christmas Masses, each parish bid adieu to Fr. Joseph Gyim-Austin, and wished him well in his appointment to the parishes of Davidson, Kenaston, and Outlook.

Fr. Gyim-Austin is originally from Ghana, and has spent several years of ministry in Europe and North America. Upon his recent arrival from the United States, he accepted a temporary appointment as hospital chaplain at Royal University Hospital, associate pastor at St. Paul's Cathedral, and was providing Sunday ministry at Allan, Colonsay, and Viscount. Fr. Gyim-Austin quickly became affectionately known as Fr. "Joseph the Third" in the rural cluster of parishes – since his immediate predecessors were Fr. Joseph Choji and Fr. Joseph Nsiah.

Fr. Gyim-Austin's permanent appointment as pastor in Davidson, Kenaston, and Outlook became effective Dec. 26, when Fr. Francis Geraldo returned to Ghana.

Bishop Albert LeGatt introduced Fr. Theophilus (Theo) Habadah to the parishes of Allan, Colonsay, and Viscount at the Masses Dec 27 and 28. In his homily, Bishop Albert related the readings for the Feast of the Holy Family to the nature of the parish as a family community of the faithful.

Fr. Habadah told those assembled a little about himself. He is from Ghana and was ordained in 1989. Since his ordination, he has been a parish priest in a number of parishes in Ghana, as well as chaplain for various hospitals and diocesan groups. He is on an active two-year sabbatical from Ghana – his appointment to the diocese of Saskatoon also includes work as associate pastor for St. Paul's Cathedral, and providing hospital chaplaincy at Royal University Hospital.

Following the homily and Fr. Habadah's introduction, Bishop LeGatt led the ceremony of installation of a pastor. During the installation, Fr. Habadah renewed his priestly promises, and those assembled were asked to pray for the priest and bishop.

Bishop LeGatt then led Fr. Habadah through the church, showing him the places where he will exercise his priestly ministries and fulfill his call to love and serve the people in his care.

They went together to the church entrance, the baptismal font, the ambo, the altar, the reconciliation room, the tabernacle, and the presider's chair. At each location, Bishop LeGatt recalled in prayer the ministry associated with the location.

Many of those who were in attendance mentioned that they found the installation ceremony to be rich in meaning, and felt privileged to be able to witness it and be part of the celebration.

# Affirming Hope: Catholic education provincial conference will include Youth Day on April 24

BY SARAH FARTHING

Hundreds of high school youth from across the province will gather in Saskatoon Friday, April 24 for the first-ever Affirming Hope Youth Day.

The event is planned in conjunction with a provincial Affirming Hope conference organized for all those interested in Catholic education. Youth Day is being organized through the cooperation of eight Catholic school boards, three Roman Catholic dioceses in the province, the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, and the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association.

The selected theme for the Youth Day is "Give reasons for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Organizers say that their own hope for Affirming Hope Youth Day is to affirm youth in their faith and challenge them to be witnesses of the gospel in their schools and communities.

Mike Patin, a renowned speaker, award-winning "youth ministry guru," and self-proclaimed "faith horticulturist" from Louisiana, will be the keynote speaker. Patin is praised for his energetic, humorous, and insightful approach to the gospel message.

In areas where there are Catholic high schools, it is expected that transportation, registration and attendance will be coordinated through the school. In areas that have no Catholic schools, parents and parishes are invited to organize and bring young people. Although the event will occur on a school day, all youth are encouraged to attend as an investment in faith.

Youth Day will begin at 10 a.m. at the Sheraton Cavalier, with closing Mass concelebrated by Bishop Albert LeGatt and Bishop Bryan Bayda at St. Paul's Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. The registration fee is \$15 (includes lunch), and the deadline is Friday, April 3.

For more information contact the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon Youth Ministries Office at 242-1500, toll free 1-877-661-5005; or your local Catholic school district (in Saskatoon, Gilbert Chevrier of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools).



Members of the Affirming Hope Youth Day planning committee (l-r): Laurie Friesen, youth minister for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon; Ken Loehndorf, executive director of the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association; Gilbert Chevrier, religious education coordinator for Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, and Sarah Farthing, youth minister for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

**Affirming Hope V**  
**Catholic Education Conference**  
*presented by the Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association*  
*"Give reasons for the hope that is in you"*

**April 24, 25, 26**  
**Sheraton Cavalier, Saskatoon**

Affirming Hope is a conference for everyone who believes in Catholic education and its value for Saskatchewan's young people.

*Keynote speakers:*  
 Sr. Anne Bryan Smollin and Mike Patin

For more information contact 306-445-7744

## STEPS IN FAITH THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES

### Youth invited to affirm their faith

Between now and 2011, parishes will begin to phase in a **Steps in Faith** program in the diocese of Saskatoon. **Steps in Faith** includes teaching on the Creed, as well as retreat and prayer experiences, a service project and an invitation for young people to re-affirm their faith publicly at a parish celebration. Aimed at youth in about Grade 8, the **Steps in Faith** program is part of Bishop Albert LeGatt's call for ongoing faith formation after baptism, confirmation and first Eucharist – a life-long journey for people of all ages!

*For more information check with your local parish, or contact Agnes Rolheiser, diocesan Rural Catechetics department, or Sarah Farthing, Youth Ministries, at the Catholic Pastoral Centre in Saskatoon: 242-1500 or toll free: 1-877-661-5005.*

**Youth Ministries and Rural Catechetics are supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.**



# St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission in Bruno prepares to launch Healing and Growth Centre program

St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission at Bruno will announce its new Healing and Growth Centre program at a prayer conference Feb. 27-March 4.

The Healing and Growth Centre operates alongside the St. Therese Catholic School of Faith and Mission, which opened in fall of 2007 at the former Ursuline convent in Bruno.

Prayer conference leaders are the Intercessors of the Lamb from Omaha, Nebraska, who are working with St. Therese Institute to finalize core programming for the Healing and Growth Centre.

The week-long conference about intercessory prayer and "spiritual burden bearing" will be highlighted by a public talk featuring Mother Nadine, superior and founder of the Intercessors of the Lamb. Mother Nadine is the author of *Bathe Seven Times*, a book on intercessory and healing ministry.

The prayer conference in Bruno will form part of the training for those God may be calling to the intercessory prayer team at St. Therese, said institute executive director Andras Tahn. "St. Therese has been examining various healing and growth



**Bishop Albert LeGatt met this year's students at the St. Therese School of Faith and Mission, during a visit Oct. 20. Bishop LeGatt will return to St. Therese Friday, Feb. 27 to celebrate Mass and provide sessions to the students on the sacraments. He will also provide opening remarks for an evening session with Mother Nadine of the Intercessors of the Lamb, the start of a week-long prayer conference launching a new program at the Healing and Growth Centre, which is also part of St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission. - Photo by James Riley**

## Upcoming at St. Therese Institute:

- Feb. 27** - Bishop Albert LeGatt with students (Mass at 8 am).
- Feb. 27 to March 4** - Prayer conference with Intercessors of the Lamb; public keynote address 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27.
- March 7** - Providing music for the Provincial Catholic Charismatic Conference in Zenon Park.
- March 8 to 9** - United Church of Canada Holy Days Retreat.
- March 27 to 28** - "Come & See" weekend at St. Therese School of Faith and Mission.
- April 17 to 19** - Rachel's Vineyard psychological and spiritual journey for healing after abortion.
- April 24 to 25** - National Evangelization Team interview weekend.
- May 2009** - St. Therese Theatre Tour of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba.
- June 13** - Pilgrimage to National Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, Wakaw, SK.
- June 14** - Commissioning Mass and celebration
- July 24 to 26** - Bruno Cherry Festival
- Aug. 4 to 6** - Bruno Bible Camp
- Aug. 16 to 22** - Face to Face Ignite Retreat

For more information contact St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission at Bruno, SK. 306-369-2555 or visit the website at [www.StTherese.ca](http://www.StTherese.ca)

programs from a variety of apostolates and ministries throughout the world, with the goal of developing a totally Catholic and uniquely 'Theresian' program," Tahn said.

As well as the week-long conference, Mother Nadine's keynote address 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 is open to the public. Bishop Albert LeGatt will provide the opening remarks.

The Intercessors of the Lamb is a mixed community of priests, brothers, sisters and laity whose primary charism is to pray for priests. "The apostolate of the Intercessors is continuing the redemptive mission of the Lamb of God through His powerful 'burden-bearing' ministry of intercession," said Tahn. On May 27, 1998, the Intercessors of the Lamb were recognized as a Public Association of the Christian Faithful, the second step in becoming an Apostolic Society.

"The goal of the Healing and Growth Centre is to bring the healing love of God through Jesus Christ to every heart that asks. We rely on the intercession of Mary and St. Therese to accomplish the mission of love which proclaims that our worth does not come from our mission or vocation in life, but from our identity as sons and daughters of God. We have a hope and a calling which Jesus Christ came to affirm and to draw out from each one of us," Tahn said.

"We at St. Therese Healing and Growth Centre desire to walk in the simplicity of St. Therese as her children. We desire to learn from the Little Flower, who teaches us the extraordinary love of God in the ordinariness of our daily lives and struggles. We desire to entrust our littleness, through the hands of Our Blessed Mother, to the heart of Him who loves us," he added.

The Healing and Growth Centre will be announcing its own core program at the prayer conference, Tahn said.

In addition to the Healing and Growth Centre's nine-day core program, which will be repeated as need demands, the Centre also hosts programs such as "Healing the Feeling," facilitated by Sr. Teresita Kambeitz, OSU, in November, which focused on forgiveness as a door to inner healing.

The Healing and Growth Centre is open to people of all ages and faiths, noted Tahn.



# Queen's House nurtures faith

BY LUCIE LEDUC  
QUEEN'S HOUSE  
RETREAT & RENEWAL CENTRE

The New Year has just begun and already we have experienced some wonderful moments for nurturing and exploring faith at Queen's House.

A three-part, Tuesday supper evening series began Jan. 13 on "Christian Discoveries in the Prayer and Meditation Traditions of the East" with Alan Reese as facilitator and presenter. Parallels between Hindu traditions of prayer and the Christian traditions of prayer were explored.

A Day Away retreat, held on the second Wednesday of each month, features an in-depth encounter with the Christian mystic Hildegard of Bingen. January's retreat was on "The Call of the Prophet" which invited participants to consider how each of us is called to name the present moment and to challenge ourselves and others for ongoing conversion for the good of community.

Journeying with Scripture takes place on the first Wednesday of each month until June. Fr. Paul Fachet, OMI, is leading participants to discover graces by reflecting on eight selected passages from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians.



Fr. Paul Fachet, OMI

## Upcoming events Queen's House of Retreats

Silent Directed Retreat, *Queen's House Staff*, Feb. 9-11.

Drawing from the Heart: Dealing with Grief and Loss, *Felicitas Drobig, OSU*, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10 - Tuesdays, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Couple's Valentine Weekend Retreat, *Blake and Brooke Sittler*, Feb. 13-15.

Women in Ministry, *Marie-Louise Ternier-Gommers and Team*, Feb. 15-17.

Parish Secretaries' Retreat, *Gisele Bauche*, Feb. 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lenten Retreat: Encountering Jesus Christ, *Bishop Albert LeGatt*, March 27-29.

For further information on upcoming retreats or workshops at Queen's House Retreat and Renewal Centre, please check on-line at the website: [www.queenshouse.org](http://www.queenshouse.org) or call 306-

A Morning Retreat for Moms was held Jan. 19 with 13 women in attendance for a session facilitated by Presbyterian Minister Donna Hagen. The morning granted moms a time to simply be, pray, and reflect, as their children were attended to by volunteers.

In other news, a "Restoring the Rest" campaign to raise funds for renovation of bedrooms at Queen's House has successfully reached the campaign goal of \$100,000. On behalf of Development Officer Gerry Weinkauf, and all of the staff and Oblates of Queen's House, thanks to all who so generously donated.

For further information on upcoming retreats or workshops at Queen's House Retreat and Renewal Centre, please call 306-242-1916 or check on-line at [www.queenshouse.org](http://www.queenshouse.org)



## Are you ready for FORMATION?

### How about a **TRANSFORMATION!**

### Come and join us in September 2009

Bishop Albert LeGatt invites and encourages all to join the Lay Formation Program where "participants have been excited to learn more about their Catholic faith, to grow in their spiritual life and in closeness to God, and to participate in a strong experience of community."

### Come and be part of the Lay Formation Experience!

Contact the Catholic Centre: 242-1500 or toll free: 1-877-661-5005

Kathy Hitchings / Mona Goodman / Vivian Whitehawk

E-mail: [layform@saskatoonrcdiocese.com](mailto:layform@saskatoonrcdiocese.com)

Website: [www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/lay\\_formation/lay\\_formation.cfm](http://www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/lay_formation/lay_formation.cfm)

**Lay Formation is supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**World Day of the Sick Eucharistic Celebration**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7 p.m., St. Philip Neri Parish, Saskatoon**  
 Celebration of the Eucharist, including the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. All are welcome to attend.

## World Day of the Sick

**Pastoral Care Volunteer Appreciation Event, Wednesday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m., St. Anne Parish Hall, 217 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon** - Sponsored by the diocese and eparchy of Saskatoon and the Knights of Columbus. RSVP to the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 242-1500 by Feb. 6.

## Christopher Leadership Course, Saskatoon

**Beginning Tuesday, Feb. 24** - A powerful course in public speaking and leadership, offering 10 lively weekly sessions designed to help you become a more effective communicator. For more information or to register call 955-8980 or visit the website: [www.thelumen.com](http://www.thelumen.com)

## Exodus 2009: 40 Days of Prayers for Life

**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25 to Palm Sunday, April 5**  
**4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. daily in front of City Hospital, Saskatoon** - A prayer walk for life, praying for an end to abortion. Anyone wishing to sign up for a day or more is asked to call Elaine at 229-3557.

## Purity Rally 2009: Beyond Your Wildest Dreams

**Saturday, Feb. 21, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Holy Cross High School, 2115 McEown Ave., Saskatoon** - A family and youth event featuring inspirational speakers, music, activities for all ages, celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Albert LeGatt, and Eucharistic adoration. Cost is \$25 per person, \$120 per family, with lunch and supper provided. Contact: Carmen Marcoux at 651-3465. Registration forms are available at [www.courtshipnow.com](http://www.courtshipnow.com)

## Diocesan Rite of Election Mass

**Sunday, March 1, 3:30 p.m., St. Patrick Parish Centre, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon** - On the First Sunday of Lent join Bishop Albert LeGatt to celebrate with catechumens and candidates of our diocese.

## Prairie Centre for Ecumenism Lenten Series

**Five Monday evenings beginning March 2, 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m., St. James Anglican Church, 607 Dufferin Ave., Saskatoon** - "This Old House: The Renovation of the Christian Church in the 20th Century" is the theme of this ecumenical Lenten series. Contact: Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, 653-1633; website: [www.ecumenism.net](http://www.ecumenism.net)

## Discernment Retreat Weekend: Christian Lifestyles

**March 6-8, Discernment House, 851 University Drive, Saskatoon**  
 A discernment weekend for young, single Catholic men and women, ages 19 years and over, about Christian lifestyles: marriage, religious life, priesthood, single life, missionary life. The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary also offer an eight-month Live-in Discernment Program for young, single, Catholic women, ages 19 or older. Experience opportunities for growth in faith, community life, prayer and spiritual direction as you discern God's call in your life Contact: Sr. Lucie Hamel or Sr. Evelyn Nedelec, 244-0726 or email [discernmenthouse@lycos.com](mailto:discernmenthouse@lycos.com)

## Diocesan Youth Event for Grades 9 to 12

**Ski trip to Table Mountain, Saturday, March 7** - For Grade 9 to 12 youth. Contact Matthew Courchene at St. Peter the Apostle Parish for more information: 362-5503.

## ThinkFast, Diocesan Youth Event for Grades 9-12

**Friday and Saturday, March 27-28** - A diocesan-wide ThinkFast for high school youth will be held to raise awareness and funds for Development and Peace. Contact Erin Gratton at St. Anne Parish, 931-4700. E-mail: [stannesyouth@hotmail.com](mailto:stannesyouth@hotmail.com)

## Face to Face Family Retreat, Fox Valley, SK.

**March 28 and 29** - For information contact Joanne Hudec at 666-2146, e-mail: [pnjhudec@sasktel.net](mailto:pnjhudec@sasktel.net)

## St. Ann Senior Citizen's Village Spring Gala

**Sunday, April 19, noon to 2 p.m. Sheraton Cavalier, Saskatoon**  
 Entertainment, brunch, a silent and live auction. Tickets are \$50 each (with \$25 tax receipt) and are available at St. Ann's: 374-8900

## Diocesan RCIA Coordinators' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Anne's Parish, 217 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon** - A meeting for all RCIA coordinators and those interested in implementing the RCIA process in their parish. Begins with resource people discussing how to teach catechumens and candidates to be people of prayer. The afternoon will feature group discussion of issues brought forward by participants. Please bring a bag lunch. For information contact: Dolores Crawford, 306-374-1425.

## Affirming Hope Youth Day for Grade 9-12, Friday, April 24, Saskatoon

- Cost: \$15 (includes lunch and t-shirt). Contact Sarah Farthing at the diocesan Youth Ministries Office for more information: 241-1500 or by e-mail: [youthmin@saskatoonrcdiocese.com](mailto:youthmin@saskatoonrcdiocese.com)

## Swing Into Spring Fashion Show and Dinner

**Thursday, April 30, 5:30 p.m. doors open, TCU Place, Saskatoon**  
 The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation's annual Swing Into Spring event includes a buffet dinner, draws for door prizes, and a look at the latest in fashions. Tickets are \$50 each and are available from the Foundation office at 659-7003.

## Spiritual Discernment Workshop: "I'd say yes God, if I knew what you wanted", Saturday, May 2, St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon

- The Vocations Commission for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon is hosting this spiritual discernment workshop facilitated by Nancy Reeves, psychologist, spiritual director, and author. For more information contact Donna Kristian at the diocese vocations office at 382-4240.

## Bishop's Dinner, Friday, May 8

**TCU Place, Saskatoon** - An evening gala featuring fine dining and entertainment, with proceeds going to the highest priorities of the diocese. Tickets are \$300, with a partial tax receipt. For tickets contact Chelsey Hagerty at 244-6667 or e-mail [chagerty@unitingfaith.ca](mailto:chagerty@unitingfaith.ca)

## National Parish Nursing conference

**May 21-24, Saskatoon** - The annual conference of the Canadian Association for Parish Nursing Ministry (CAPNM) will be held in Saskatoon May 21 to 24, exploring the theme "Bridging Spirituality and Health." Parish Nursing is an inter-denominational ministry which works alongside government-funded healthcare with a focus on wholeness and health of body, mind and spirit. For information contact the Parish Nurse office at St. Philip Neri, Saskatoon, 343-0325.

## Summer Ecumenical Institute

**June 2-5, Queen's House of Retreat and Renewal, Saskatoon**  
 This national gathering hosted by the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism in Saskatoon will feature Fr. Tom Ryan, renowned speaker and retreat leader, and United Church of Canada musician Bruce Harding. Contact: Prairie Centre for Ecumenism at 653-1633.

## CHAS annual convention

**Oct. 26-27, St. Mary High School, Prince Albert, SK.** - The 66th annual Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan convention's theme is "Circle of Care: People Caring for People." Contact: CHAS at 655-5330 or [cath.health@sasktel.net](mailto:cath.health@sasktel.net)