




Diocesan Bulletin

Feb. 21, 2021 - First Sunday in Lent

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<https://rcdos.ca>

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

Upcoming Events

Share Lent online events: This year, the theme of the Development and Peace Share Lent program is *Share Love, Share Lent*. Webinars will be presented online each week of Lent (find info at: <https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/sharelove>)

• **Second week of Lent: "Humanitarian intervention - realities on the ground" at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27** with Rebecca Rathbone, D & P animator for southwest Ontario, Dominique Godbout, international programs officer, and Abdullah Fuad, representative of Development and Peace's partner Caritas Bangladesh discussing the Rohingya refugee crisis and the way Caritas has been working to alleviate consequences on affected communities, as well as Development and Peace's unique philosophy when it comes to humanitarian responses. Register at <http://bit.ly/3alsokJ>

• **Third week of Lent: "Change structures and promote community development through partnership" at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 2-** Join Emily Lukasik, animator for Central Ontario; Mary Durran, international programs officer; and Jose Mario Lopez, member of the territorial defense team of D & P partner in Latin America, Fundación Eric - Radio Progreso. Sign up for the March 2 webinar at: <http://bit.ly/3tDWSgl>.

Imagining A More Just World After Covid-19: An Evening in Conversation with Fratelli Tutti - This public online event will be held at 8 p.m. **Tuesday, March 2** presented by the Western Conference for Social Justice and the new STM Centre for Faith, Reason, Peace, and Justice, featuring a moderated, interdisciplinary panel. Dr. Peter Baltutis (Chair for Catholic Studies, St. Mary's University); Dr. Susanna Barnes (University of Saskatchewan); Georgina Jolibois (Mayor of La Loche, SK) and Dr. David McGrane (St. Thomas More College) will reflect upon Pope Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti to envision – together with participants – a more just post-pandemic world. Archbishop Murray Chatlain of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas will provide an initial response to the panel. Small group discussion will follow. For more information, contact Myron Rogal at mrogal@rcdos.ca or find information and registration at: <https://stmcollege.ca/store/event/>

COVID-19 Vigil online: You are invited to light a candle in the darkness through prayer at 7 p.m. **Thursday, March 11** (the one-year mark of the World Health Organization declaring a pandemic). "Together in Remembrance, Together in Hope Virtual Vigil Marking One Year of COVID in Saskatchewan" is available either via Zoom or live-streamed on YouTube: <https://www.covidvigil.ca>. This event is being organized by a community of people of diverse cultures, world views, beliefs and faiths in Saskatchewan. For more information, e-mail Blake Sittler: blake@chassk.ca

Men's Spiritual Enrichment Conference

Into the Breach III

FREE ONLINE

Saturday, March 13, 2021

8:30 a.m. to noon

Guest speaker: Fr. Stefano Penna

"Esto Vir! Be A Man In The Image Of St. Joseph"

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus
Denis Mahoney Council 8215, Saskatoon

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the conference has moved to a combination of pre-recorded and live-stream sessions for a morning of online talks and question-and-answer sessions with this year's speaker, Fr. Penna, Rector of St. Paul Co-Cathedral.

"Into the breach for our families, our Church, our fraternities and ourselves."

This year the conference will be presented free of charge.

Find more information and registration online:

<https://www.rootedconference.ca>

"Reading Our Way to God" webinar: Catholic Conscience presents a webinar featuring Word on Fire's Dr. Tod Worner at 6:30 pm **Thursday, March 11** speaking about the power of great literature for forming better Catholics, better servants of Christ — and more impactful Christian citizens. Whether you're an avid reader or want to become one, be inspired to pursue reading as more than a hobby — learn how reading can be a prayer, and a method of spiritual formation. RSVP at EventBrite <https://www.eventbrite.ca> by searching for "Reading Our Way to God."

Retrouvaille helps hurting marriages - When couples experience difficulties in their marriage, they often feel alone; like there is no one who can help them. Retrouvaille can be a life-line for your marriage. Please consider Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vie) before you consider separation or divorce. For confidential information about the **April 9-11, 2021** Retrouvaille weekend in Saskatoon, call (306) 652-7155 or e-mail: retrouvaille@sasktel.net

Diocesan Prayer - We pray as a diocesan family for all who are preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We pray especially for all those from across our diocese participating in the Rite of Election this weekend.

Message Board



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Bishop's Annual Appeal - The Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation has shared a BAA 2020 "thank you" video from Bishop Mark Hagemoen. As of Feb. 16, the BAA 2020 total, including one-time gifts, pledges and monthly recurring gifts is \$1.38 million, or roughly 99% of the diocesan 2020 goal of \$1.4 million. "We are deeply humbled, yet again, by the outpouring of generosity from the faithful of the diocese of Saskatoon; generosity that, under the circumstances of the past year, is truly incredible, and we are beyond grateful," says BAA Coordinator Cathy Gilje of the Catholic Foundation. The video message can be found at <https://www.dscf.ca/baa>. Thanks to all who have supported the Bishop's Annual Appeal, prayerfully, financially, and by working and volunteering in your parishes to support and promote the BAA ministries that "Proclaim Christ and reach out in service."

Now online - Transitions program for those going through the painful experience of separation or divorce:

If you've been divorced or are separated and you are feeling disheartened and abandoned, know that you are not alone and there is help on this journey. It is hoped that by offering this program online, more people will be able to participate in this peer ministry program, facilitated by those who have already experienced divorce or separation and have found some healing. The evenings address issues experienced during the healing process, including: the process of divorce; grieving the death of a relationship; self image/self esteem; dealing with stress; anger; guilt and blame; loneliness; letting go; forgiveness and boundaries. The new start date for the next 10-week program is **Wednesday, Feb. 24**, offered weekly via Zoom from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. To register, please contact Sharon at (306) 374-1425 or: spowell@rcdos.ca

Share Lent has been a tradition in Canadian parishes since 1968. It was established to embody the two pillars of social action — charity and justice — which Pope Benedict XVI described as "not only social, but also spiritual actions, accomplished in the light of the Holy Spirit." Each year across Canada, the campaign tells the stories of our brothers and sisters in the Global South: stories of incredible strength, resourcefulness and courage; stories of people working together to change the unjust social, economic and political situations that hinder their integral human development. Development and Peace and its partners accompany and support their quest for justice thanks to gifts to the Share Lent campaign. This year, the campaign theme is *Share Love, Share Lent*, inspired by the message of social fraternity in Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*. Participating in Share Lent is a way of working so that "every person lives with dignity and has sufficient opportunities for his or her integral development." Please give generously: drop your donation in to your parish collection, or give online on Development and Peace's website at <https://www.devvp.org/> or call 1-888-234-8533 to donate. Every gift makes a big difference in the world.

Marriage Preparation - Information about upcoming courses can be found online at <https://rcdos.ca/marriage-preparation>

Expansion of Euthanasia: Opposing Bill C-7

The federal government recently introduced Bill C-7, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying), designed to loosen rules and expand eligibility for medically-provided euthanasia / assisted suicide. The legislation is now before the Senate. Find links to statements from the CCCB and from other groups opposing Bill C-7 on the diocesan website at: <https://rcdos.ca/euthanasia>

Threat to conscience and to moral dissent in Bill C-6 (conversion therapy ban)

In a statement about Bill C-6 on Oct. 7, 2020, the CCCB states: "The Bill makes no provision for legitimate diversity concerning viewpoints on human sexuality arising from religious beliefs, from philosophical debate, or from scientific and medical study; nor does it make any provision for conscientious dissent related to such matters in forums of teaching or public presentations." Links to statements and info: <https://rcdos.ca/bill-c-6-conversion-therapy-ban/>

Contact the government

Please take time to contact your elected representatives to express your opposition to these pieces of legislation (You can find contact information for Members of Parliament at: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en/search>)

Journey through Lent – The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has introduced a new video series of reflections on Gospel readings for each Sunday in Lent. As Canadian Catholics continue to experience the pandemic's challenging realities, this series is meant to be a source of spiritual solace and insightful pastoral preparation for Easter. Follow the series: the CCCB website: <https://www.cccb.ca/>; e-mail news service: <https://www.cccb.ca/news/subscribe/>; on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cccbadmin/>

Greater comfort and lower costs for non-profit organizations and small businesses

The Saskatchewan Environmental Society and Affinity Credit Union have joined forces to help non-profit organizations and small businesses learn how to operate their buildings more efficiently, through a program now available on-line. There are two sessions, each three hours in length, with a choice of dates: **Lighting & Electrical Equipment, and Water:** Friday March 5 or Friday, March 26, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. noon; **Heating, Ventilation, and Cooling:** Friday, May 7 or Friday, May 28, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. noon. Find more information, costs, and registration online at: <http://environmentalsociety.ca/programs/building-operator-training/>

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

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