

Dear Faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina,

The mission of the church, at every time and place, is to proclaim the mercy of God, made known to us in Jesus, and to live by that mercy, guided by the Holy Spirit. But history and experience tell us that proclaiming and living God's mercy gives rise to different initiatives and communal expressions at each time and place.



In 2017, my first full year as Archbishop of Regina, we undertook an extensive consultation with Archdiocesan clergy, consecrated women, staff, parish leaders and lay faithful, to discern our priorities for the next 2 to 3 years. We settled on four priorities, and guided by them, here identify some initial steps we are seeking to take at a diocesan level.

The first priority is to help build vital and viable parish faith communities.

By definition, most of the work to be done on this priority needs to happen on the parish level, but with the support and assistance of archdiocesan staff. An initial step was to listen deeply to what is happening in the parishes. We decided to have an annual meeting with each priest, and to send a letter to each parish council chairperson, in both instances asking how things were going, what was working well, where the parish was struggling, and where help was needed. Coupled with annual reports from the parishes, this increased communication with parish leadership has led to a greater understanding of what the needs are. Finding the means and resources to address them is part of our challenge going forward.

The second priority is to better live our Christian discipleship and call to evangelize by facilitating encounters with Jesus; equipping disciples to live as authentic witnesses; and forming and supporting strong lay leaders and clergy. The invitation here is to move from a 'maintenance' model of church to becoming communities of disciples living from and proclaiming to others the heart of the Gospel. With this in mind, we expanded and revamped the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, held a catechetics workshop and clergy study days, and sought to strengthen our relations with our Catholic schools. On this priority, we have a long way to go!

The third priority covers a vast territory: to be a church in dialogue, a reconciled and reconciling community, seeking justice and right relationships. Pope Francis has noted that "the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the



faithful." He has implored bishops and church leaders, saying "heal the wounds, heal the wounds." We are indeed a wounded church, and a church that at times has inflicted wounds on others. Over the past year, I have had the chance to walk with and learn from several victims of clergy sexual abuse. With their help, we have taken some steps towards coming to terms with our past, and protecting children and vulnerable people going forward. Many more steps are needed. We established an Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, and with our

Indigenous brothers and sisters, identified the work needed in our schools and parishes, in the formation of our clergy, and in standing in solidarity for justice. We strengthened relations with ecumenical partners, and with the Jewish community in Regina, with the help of a full-time staff person for ecumenical and interfaith relations. A goal is for more of us to be engaged in the work of dialogue, healing and reconciliation.

A final priority is to grow as an Archdiocese in faithful and responsible stewardship.

As you can read in this report, we strengthened our Archbishop's Appeal. Looking at the increasing rent of our current Diocesan Centre and our needs going forward, we made the decision to begin fundraising for a new Diocesan Centre which will be on the grounds of the Holy Rosary Cathedral. We supported the work of Emmanuel Care and their decision to build a new Catholic facility in Regina, Trinity Manor in Westerra, which will have 200 suites for independent and assisted living. And we have sought to be increasingly transparent and accountable stewards of the resources we have.

It was a very busy year. 2018 has picked up where 2017 left off. May our faithful God guide and sustain us as we continue the journey together.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Donald Bolen
Archbishop of Regina

PASTORAL SERVICES MESSAGE

by **Bob Kowalchuk, Director of Pastoral Services**



"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

In 2017, Archbishop Bolen invited the diocesan leadership and consultative bodies to participate in a discernment process about diocesan priorities. Our work for the past year has been driven by the process of discerning how we are being called to serve the needs of the faithful. We have met with the clergy, staff, religious, Council of Priests, Archdiocesan Advisory Committee, Archdiocesan Finance Council, Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, Conseil Pastoral Francophone de L'Archdiocese de Regina (CPFAR, Francophone Archdiocesan Pastoral Council) and Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC) to outline our priorities. Leah Perreault, an external consultant, was contracted to lead the process. It was through these dialogues that we finalized the Archdiocesan Priorities, found on the next page in this report. The priorities document has been translated into some of the languages that reflect our diocesan populations, such as French, Malayalam, Filipino and Vietnamese.

In addition to the feedback from the diocesan leadership and consultative bodies, annual parish reports from across the Archdiocese have helped us as a pastoral staff identify that we need to work towards...

- strengthening leadership
- building trust and positive relationships between the Diocesan Centre and parishes
- modelling an organizational culture where everyone matters and everyone counts
- strengthening our church membership and stewardship
- increasing our efforts to provide education and faith formation opportunities for our children and families.

We have much to be grateful for. We are grateful for our archdiocesan shepherd, Archbishop Donald Bolen, who is open and willing to lead the dialogue which challenges us to build a stronger and healthier Church. We are also grateful for diocesan leadership and consultative bodies who wanted to talk and are on fire with hope, energy and excitement about the future. Going forward, it is our desire to capitalize on this renewed energy in the projects and tasks which will be driving our work as the pastoral staff.

It is my hope that a year from now we will be able to report on tangible outcomes.

ARCHDIOCESAN PRIORITIES 2017-2020

Following a consultation and discernment process in the Spring and Summer of 2017 with lay leaders and staff, religious women, and archdiocesan clergy, I have heard, prayed on, and now offer the following priorities for the Archdiocese of Regina for the next 2 to 3 years. I look forward to working alongside Archdiocesan clergy, staff, parish leaders, the lay faithful, Catholic organizations and community partners in reflecting on and setting goals towards these priorities, which our loving God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit - has set upon our hearts.

Since God has "shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor. 4:6), we, in the Archdiocese of Regina, feel called to sustain and strengthen a church that is:

1. Building vital and viable parish faith communities

A healthy archdiocese and strong parishes are intrinsically bound together. Each of our parishes is unique: rural or urban, large or small, with its own vibrancy and challenges. And each, with its own dynamics, is called to be a genuine community of faith, where those who come feel that they belong, can grow in their Christian discipleship through the Church's sacramental life and teaching, and are strengthened to live and love well in their homes, workplaces, and communities. Healthy parishes need effective spaces for ministry, with people prepared to serve and effectively live out God's mercy within and beyond the parish, and with sustainable spiritual, financial, human, and capital resources.

2. Living evangelization and discipleship

Jesus, the Word made Flesh, longs to meet us and draw us into love. Our world needs to meet Jesus, and each of us needs to meet Him over and over again. This is the heart of a world transformed by God (cf. Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 1, 3, 8-11).

a. by facilitating encounters with Jesus

We need to go out to where people are, with strengthened ability to speak about Jesus, to introduce others to Him, to trust God to speak and act powerfully in our lives. Our personal and collective communication should always be an invitation to meet and follow Jesus as disciples.

b. by equipping disciples to live as authentic witnesses

The world needs witnesses to Jesus, to the changes the Lord makes in our lives, to the hope, peace, forgiveness, love, and true joy that come with faith (cf. Gal 5:22-23). We need to support and seek out continual education, formation, and deep personal growth as the disciples of Jesus, for our own salvation and so that we can be signs of God's constant loving work in the world.

c. by forming and supporting strong lay leaders and clergy

We need to foster leadership and grow lay and ordained leaders on a parish and on a diocesan level who can develop new skills, practice effective approaches to discipleship, and build unity among God's people.

3. Listening, engaging in dialogue, and seeking justice and reconciliation

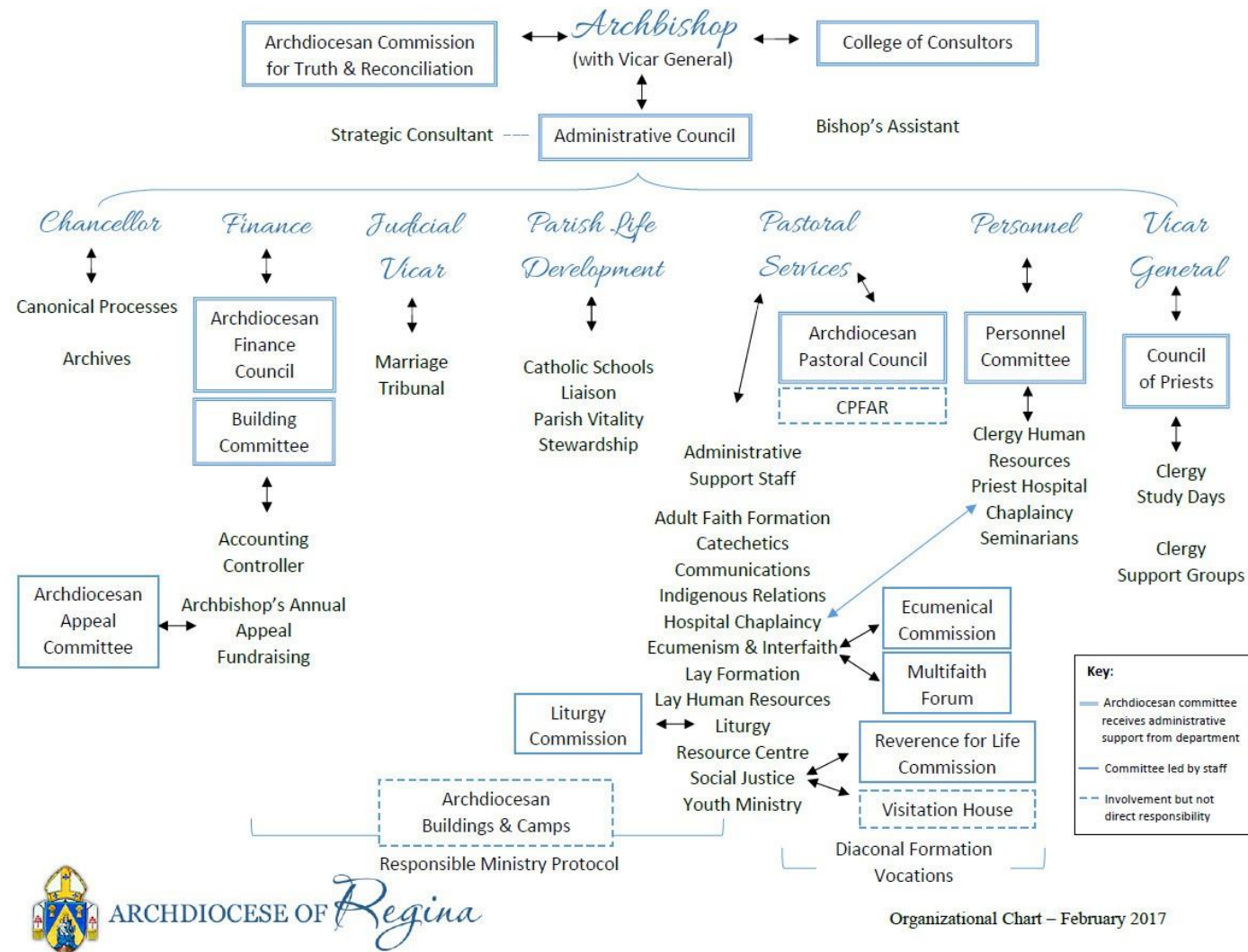
Pope Francis has called us to be a church in dialogue, a reconciled and reconciling community, giving witness in a world that often questions faith's relevance and credibility. We need to love one another and our neighbours with an openness and humility that invite relationship and engagement in many areas: seeking truth and reconciliation between peoples; working for justice and the common good, and to uphold the dignity of the human person; reaching out to those who have been hurt or alienated by the church; fostering relationships and cooperation with ecumenical partners and other faith communities; engaging the culture in dialogue; and learning to deal with personal and ecclesial conflicts and tensions in a Gospel-informed way.

4. Growing in faithful and responsible stewardship

To be able to share the gifts that we have been given (1 Pet. 4:10), we need to work together in planning transparently for our future, in the archdiocese and in our parishes. We need to build on and grow our working together towards generosity and accountability, financial stability and responsible stewardship, trusting always that God will provide what we need in His abundant generosity.



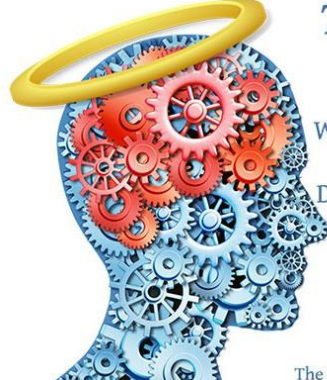
ARCHDIOCESE OF *Regina*



We Are Here To Serve You
(list as of June 1, 2018)

- Ali Abdul Social Justice
- Andree, Rev. Ron Liturgy
- Bender, Sharon Responsible Ministry Protocol, Catechetics
- Bill, Rev. Stephen Vocations
- Bolen, Most Rev. Donald Archbishop
- Braden, Michelle Youth Ministry
- Burkhart, Leona Responsible Ministry Protocol, Catechetics
- Crozon, Very Rev. Lorne Vicar General
- Dubao, Sr. Rufina Resource Centre
- Encarnacion, Mariphyn Archbishop's Appeal
- Feist, Sr. Bernadette Native Ministry
- Fellinger, Joan Pastoral Services Administrative Support
- Fitzgerald, Jerry Health Care Chaplaincy

- Flegel, Frank Communications
- Gettis, Bernadette Archbishop's Office
- Gurash, Eric Lay Formation & Evangelization
- Gurash, Melissa Pastoral Services Administrative Support
- Hilbig, Theresa Visitation House
- Jesson, Nicholas Ecumenism & Interfaith Relations
- Klein, Susan Archives
- Kowalchuk, Robert (Bob) Pastoral Services Director
- Kuntz, Braden Youth Ministry
- Letourneau, Sr. ReAnne Aboriginal Non-Aboriginal Relations Community
- Luka, Lukose Finance
- Miller, Marlene Spiritual Direction
- Molesky, Louise Pastoral Services Administrative Support
- Myers, Joan Marriage Tribunal
- Newton, Bob Health Care Chaplaincy
- Nguyen, Very Rev. Thomas Judicial Vicar
- Ochieng, Jennifer Finance
- Owolagba, Ver Rev. James Chancellor
- Pitzel, Bert Social Justice
- Rafael, Rev. Danilo Personnel
- Rink, Joan Health Care Chaplaincy
- Salkeld, Brett Theologian & Diaconal Formation
- Smith, David Marriage Tribunal
- Thiele-Hunt, Bonnie Health Care Chaplain
- Toupin, Tashia Social Justice
- Tubale, Rev. Eusebio Health Care Chaplaincy
- Urquico, Rev. Arpee Health Care Chaplaincy
- Walsh, Denise Archbishop's Appeal
- Weckend, Rev. Fr. John Stewardship
- Wood, Rev. Mr. Barry Financial Officer
- Yanko, Bobbi Communications



Thinking Faith!
With Eric Gurash And Dr. Brett Salkeld

A Production of The Archdiocese of Regina

Join us for our weekly podcast as we navigate this winding road of faith in Jesus Christ so that we might know him more intimately, love him more profoundly and together serve him more deeply in our daily lives!

<https://archregina.sk.ca/thinkingfaith>

Lay Formation & Evangelization

by Eric Gurash, Coordinator of Lay Formation and Evangelization

Our mandate in the Lay Formation Program is to answer Pope Francis' emphatic recognition that the Church today needs "well-trained lay people animated by a sincere faith...whose life has been touched by the personal and merciful love of Jesus Christ". In addition to this papal mandate, we as a Pastoral Staff have also been blessed to have our Archdiocesan priorities serve as a lens through which we might hone the work that we do in order to better serve our Church.



The adult formation work that we do incorporates nearly the entire scope of these priorities from forming leaders for viable parishes to fostering dialog and communication skills to healing and seeking justice and reconciliation. We would like to focus our attention in this report on an area that has been bearing much fruit over the past year.

For this report, the focus is the second point of our Archdiocesan priorities - the need for our Church to foster a culture of living evangelization and discipleship. In particular, we are called to facilitate transformative encounters with Jesus Christ and equip disciples to live as authentic witnesses. Over this past year, we have focused on fostering just such transformative encounters. Below you will be introduced to three of our participants as they witness, in their own words, to the ways that Jesus Christ is inviting them to more profoundly know, love and serve Him in their daily lives.

During Lent, Lorraine completed a series of retreats known as the First Spiritual Exercises. These retreats not only aid the individual in deepening a life of prayer and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, but encourage and invite the kind of active, missionary outreach that our 'field hospital Church' is in need of today...

"Lent is giving me the chance to expand prayer into my daily life and by using these steps I hope to become more aware of the movement of the Holy Spirit in my life and to do what God wants me to do, to understand my mission and how that ties into the mission of the Church. How will I share the Good News, how do I show others the love and mercy that Jesus shows me everyday?" – Lorraine Anderson, Year 2, Christ the King Parish, Regina.



Each year our participants receive more than just an academic knowledge of the faith. Participation in several retreat-like activities through the year introduce them to the face of God's abiding love and mercy in ways that leave them forever changed...

"I am very thankful that God has not forgotten me or given up on me. I feel so grateful for his love and patience, and for granting me the grace to finally see and feel that I needed transformation, and the hunger he has laid upon my heart to seek the truth. I know that he has put me on this current journey, and I am supposed to be where I am right now." – Shelley Kreutzer, Year 2, Holy Trinity Parish, Regina.



The central purpose of our Lay Formation program is to form intentional disciples of Jesus Christ who, having met the risen Lord in the midst of their own very real struggles and challenges, are intellectually and spiritually empowered to be sources of healing and grace for those whom they meet...

"We are interconnected by God's love and intentions. Our lives are broken vessels, continuously being filled and overflowing by God's grace that is in turn poured



out for others to help them in their lives. It is such a typical experience that we don't even notice it. In our pain we receive a welcome gesture and word of comfort and this becomes an experience that furthers our acceptance, understanding and faith. When we meet another in pain, we share our experience, wisdom, and faith, and through our brokenness God's grace and love pours out of us to the other." – Bob Wihlidal, Year 2, Holy Child Parish, Regina.

These stories, and the dozens of others that could be shared, proclaim the Good News that the hearts of each of our 22 participants have received this year. They give true flesh and true blood to the vision of the Church presented by Pope Paul the VI in his watershed document on evangelization, "Evangelii Nuntiandi";

"Evangelizing is in fact the grace and vocation proper to the Church, her deepest identity. She exists in order to evangelize, that is to say...to be the channel of the gift of grace..." (EN 14).

ARCHIVES



"Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes" Gisele Bauche (used with permission)

by Susan Klein, Archivist

The Archdiocese of Regina Archives assists parishes by maintaining and sharing the sacred vessels and objects brought to the Archives by parishes which no longer need the items, or have closed. This past year alone, many items have been shared, including but not limited to vestments, crucifixes, pyxes, statues, cruets, censers/boat and spoons, candleholders, brass vases and a monstrance and chalice. It is a blessing to be able to provide these items to the parishes that need them.

We are available to parishes as they write their parish histories, providing documents, priests' photos and other photos where we can.

Part of archives work is caring for the patrimony (designated and heritage Church properties/funds). This past year, one special event was the care of the Gisele Bauche painting "Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes", (a gift of the artist). It hung at the John Paul II Centre from 1999 until that centre closed in 2008, when the painting was moved to the Diocesan Centre. This past October, Gisele came to make a small repair on the artwork, and stayed to repaint the background, from cream to bronze. It totally changed the look of the work. It is a beautiful addition to the Archdiocesan Centre.

The appraisal, description, and preservation of the official and historical records and of the artefacts of the Archdiocesan Centre is an ongoing work.

RESOURCE CENTRE

by Sr. Rufina Dubao sihm, Librarian

The Resource Centre has a total of over 6,000 volumes of materials that includes books, DVDs, CDs and other items. We invite and encourage you to come and see for yourself our collections to help you in your faith formation, spirituality, and family DVD entertainment. If you are unable to come to the Resource Centre, contact us through the Archdiocesan website and we can send you the materials requested.

In 2017, we downsized our collections by removing some duplicates and outdated materials. They were advertised for pickup and we were very pleased that many of these materials went to parishes or people's personal collections.

The Resource Centre again hosted Veggie Tales during Advent and Lent. Children aged 3-10, along with their parents, came and watched a Veggie Tales video and did a craft. It was a time for bonding, learning, socializing, and praying. We always enjoy the joy these children bring to our office!



SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

by Bert Pitzel, Social Justice Coordinator

Can anyone truthfully say, "I'm satisfied with the part I am playing to improve life on earth."? Our faith doesn't allow us to sit on the sidelines as bystanders; each one must learn what their personal response is going to be. In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis tells us that we will have to undergo a heart-felt life change if we are going to play our part in reinvigorating our environment and transforming the institutions that will support, not threaten, life on earth.

Accordingly, the Social Justice Department is now actively engaged in forming parish discussion groups, composed of individuals who are willing to embrace the *Laudato Si'* dialogue guidebook. The guide-book called "*On Care for Our Common Home: A Dialogue Guide for Laudato Si'*," was produced by the Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice. Its intent is to have participants work through *Laudato Si'* in a way that leads each to focus on key themes that make up Pope Francis' encyclical.

The guide employs an interesting strategy - group members are asked to make the sessions not so much an academic workout as an exercise of recalling and sharing personal stories that are triggered by the themes. Such an approach serves to engage participants in sharing and listening, a dynamic which can serve to more deeply engrain the messages of the encyclical. The Social Justice Department has already offered six such discussion group sessions, hoping that they will serve as springboards for the formation of additional discussion groups. This approach gives us reason to hope that through us, a more thoughtful, engaged and kinder world is on the way!

We ask Fr. Bill Ryan, one of the authors of the guide, who passed away this year, to intercede for the success of this archdiocesan endeavour.

For over a decade now, different parishes in the archdiocese, in collaboration with the Social Justice Department of the Archdiocese of Regina, have hosted Social Justice in Motion Conferences. The 2017 Social Justice in Motion Conference, called Listening, Learning and Walking Together, was held at Holy Child Parish on June 24. The attendees heard from Jason Worm, who shared his experience of growing up in Saskatchewan as a Metis person. Other presenters included Bishop Don, Sr. RéAnne Letourneau and First Nations friends who, by presentations and shared experiences, reinforced the calls to action named by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The conference provided the 65 participants the opportunity to discuss how they might personally engage in Indigenous and non-Indigenous truth and reconciliation

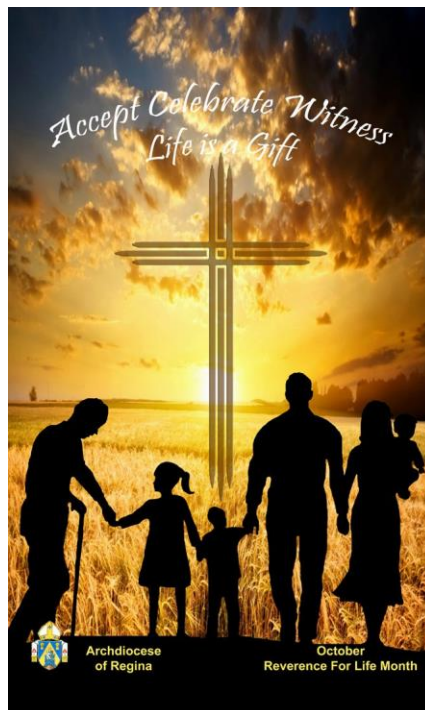
activities.

At the conclusion of the conference, it was announced that the Social Justice Committee from St. Henry's parish in Melville would help plan and host the 2018 Social Justice in Motion Conference. The focus of that conference will be to give attendees a number of different tangible experiences which they can take back into their home parishes. The overall goal will be to spread the understanding that there is need for all citizens of our country to concretely engage in work that will result in justice and reconciliation with Canadian Indigenous peoples.

Throughout 2017, the Social Justice Department supported and promoted both Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) and Friends on the Outside (FOTO). CoSA supports sex offenders as they seek to reintegrate into society and FOTO offers friendship, support, hope and encouragement to former inmates and their families. These groups act out of the belief that friendships can assist and inspire the less fortunate to find healthier ways of thinking and acting. The CoSA and FOTO meetings occurred weekly. Currently CoSA has almost 20 active circles. In the case of FOTO, we sometimes find that new people come to the Thursday night meetings. Recommendations by friends have brought them there --they want to find out for themselves what is going on and perhaps receive for themselves the benefits their friends speak about.

The 2017 information sent to all parishioners through their parishes during the Reverence for Life month of October contained thought-provoking content, accompanied by calls to action on behalf of the unborn and the terminally ill. The pamphlet, endorsed by Bishop Don, was developed under the supervision of the Reverence for Life Commission.

The Department seized every opportunity it had to expose and challenge the power of the prevailing "money must make more money" global economy. Lay Formation sessions, conferences, and workshops co-sponsored with Development and Peace provided opportunities to scrutinize and explore actions required to challenge the existing dysfunctional economy. Replace it with what? Economies must become as local as possible. At a larger level, one essential idea, alluded to in *Laudato Si'*, is that a worker cooperative approach can gradually replace the dominance of the profit-driven transnational corporations. A worker cooperative model is able to focus on dignity, common good, subsidiarity, care for our earth, and solidarity. Not only does an approach resonating with these Catholic social teachings offer hope for a more just society, it also offers a strong sense of fulfilment.



VISITATION HOUSE

by Theresa Hilbig, Executive Director



Visitation House has experienced another year of living gospel values while promoting evangelization and discipleship in an informal, loving, caring and accepting environment.

Women come to the centre seeking acceptance, advice and comfort for a wide variety of issues and situations. With each encounter, we

have the opportunity to be the hands, heart and feet of Jesus. Our mission is to offer support for whatever the participant needs at that particular moment.

Our morning prayer/circle time is an excellent opportunity to read God's word, reflect on the meaning of the Gospels and to encourage the women to share their experience, strength and hope. It is around this table that the women share with each other stories of injustice, forgiveness and grief. They find hope even in the saddest and most difficult situations.

One woman, whom I have known for at least 10 years, only began coming to our prayer circle last fall. She used to come for the odd bag of groceries or the occasional lunch, and always kept to herself. Recently she started coming earlier and listening to our readings and sharing. One day, she shared for a long time. All her hardship came pouring out and as she spoke, the tears rolled down her face. It seemed her burdens were so great that she would crumble under the weight. Gradually, she began to listen and share her growing faith. Her stories were of relationship, parental, and legal issues. One at a time, she worked on each issue, asking advice, and more importantly, asking God to help her. She sat by the bedside of her critically ill ex-husband, along with her children, and prayed over him at the hospital. She called upon the Lord for the courts to be lenient on her 17-year-old son, who was faced with many years in prison. One day, she came to our circle, hardly able to contain herself.



Her son was given probation, and a strict warning to get his life in order. She thanked God, and our wonderful supportive place for this "miracle!"

We have had another busy year, being the recipients of a wonderful new storage space, a large shelving unit in this space, and new cupboards in the main area.

The centre has been blessed with volunteers from all walks of life such as the gentlemen from the Knights of Columbus at Resurrection Parish, who built the shelves and cupboards. I believe a thank-you goes out to Joan Fischer who initiated this project. We have gained a new Advisory Board member, Michelle Jensen, who has been in the "shadows" for many years. Michelle, along with her family, Dwight and Josh, have held food drives, pillow give-aways, provided maintenance assistance, and delivered many useful items to the centre. Many other volunteers, such as the ladies from the Regina Catholic School Board have contributed in many ways to make this centre the wonderful place it is.

continued



VISITATION HOUSE CONT'D....



Our benefactors continue to offer financial assistance to keep the centre open. We are truly blessed to have the Catholic community of priests, churches, schools and women's and men's groups offering continued financial donations. Many teachers from our Catholic schools reach out with food drives, rosaries from school projects, assistance at the centre, and clothes and toys. Special thanks to our faithful runner, Fr. John Weckend who has participated in the Queen City Marathon for 18 years raising funds for Visitation House.

We continue to decorate the centre to give glory to God in the seasons and Liturgical Calendar. We offer a joyful Christmas Party, Holy Thursday Celebration complete with "washing of the hands", and other celebrations such as St. Patrick's Day and St. Valentine's Day. We use these occasions to celebrate the Saints, and the women as well. On Victoria Day, which would normally be a day that the centre is closed, we offer a "Mother's Day Tea" sponsored by the Holy Rosary Youth Group, and led by Petra Benson,

Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry

by Leona Burkhart, Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry Coordinator

2017 was our fifth year ensuring all parishes have completed their due diligence when selecting volunteers, especially high security volunteers. High security volunteers are those individuals who work with vulnerable people, handle finances or have keys to the facilities. In the majority of parishes, that work has been completed. These parishes are now in maintenance mode, which includes screening new volunteers and ensuring the required criminal record checks or vulnerable sector checks are kept up to date. Electronic and in person audits are conducted yearly by the Archdiocesan Protocol Department. The Protocol Department will continue to assist all parishes to create a community that is safe and nurturing for all. The Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry Manual is accessible on line through the Archdiocesan webpage.

Employment Policies

It is crucial that all employees of the Archdiocese of Regina are treated with dignity and respect and that these employees are aware of their benefits, rights, duties and



an exciting day of games, refreshments and community-building.

We look forward to another year of caring, sharing, mercy and joyful participation in building God's Kingdom on earth!



expectations. The Archdiocese of Regina Employment Policies Manual was designed to achieve these goals. Starting in February 2017, in our role as Archdiocesan Employment Policies Coordinators, we began meeting with priests, parish councils and parish employees to discuss the details and implementation of these employment policies. We continue to be available in the event parishes require clarification about these policies.

Catechism

We are extremely excited that, together with OnReelMedia productions, we were able to create a video called *The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist*, starring our own Archbishop Donald Bolen. In it, Bishop Don explains to the catechumens what will occur when they receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. An Oscar worthy production and performance by our actors, provides the viewer with an opportunity to see what will take place at their upcoming celebration. It is hoped that this video will be the beginning of a collection of locally made materials that can enhance the parishes sacramental programs.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS CONTINUE SERVING

by Jerry Fitzgerald, Chaplain

In 2017, the Archbishop's Appeal provided funds to support three full time lay chaplains in Regina's health care facilities: Karen Zeigler at Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Jerry Fitzgerald at Regina General Hospital and Linda Smuk at Pasqua Hospital. We also have a part time Pastoral Care Coordinator (Bob Newton) who provides support at Regina Pioneer Village. Fr. Eusebio Tubale is the full time priest chaplain who provides support to all four sites with Fr. Arpee Urquico filling in on a part time basis. Fr. Jeffrey Burwell also assists when necessary.

(Update of personnel changes at time of printing: Joan Rink - Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Bonnie Thiele-Hunt - Pasqua Hospital. Thank you to both Karen Zeigler and Linda Smuk for their dedicated service!)

The Chaplains provide spiritual and sacramental care to Roman, Ukrainian, and Greek Catholic patients and their families, in addition to providing support to staff members working in the facilities.

There are a large number of spiritual care volunteers who assist the chaplains in providing this vital ministry. The volunteers visit and pray with patients, distribute Holy Communion, and assist patients to attend Mass or other services. The dedication and assistance of our volunteers is an important factor in providing spiritual care to patients, and their involvement is very much appreciated.



Chaplains, along with the spiritual care volunteers, journey with patients and residents in the facilities in which they serve. They help patients find meaning in their suffering, bringing hope and consolation, and reveal the compassionate love and healing of our God. On many occasions, patients, their families and staff have expressed their deep gratitude to us that we were there to journey with them during their challenging time. And we are deeply humbled to be alongside them.

This past year, the chaplains helped in the formation process of our permanent diaconate candidates by providing each of the nine candidates an opportunity to be alongside an experienced lay chaplain and journey with the sick and dying.

There were a number of changes that occurred during 2017 that negatively impacted the ability of the chaplains to provide spiritual care in our health facilities. The provincial government withdrew funding for the provision of pastoral care in those facilities that are directly operated by regional health authorities.

In Regina, this loss of funding resulted in a loss of office space, computer access and other supports provided by the Regional Health Authority Spiritual Care Department. It also resulted in the loss of the chaplain's ability to access information regarding a patient's religious affiliation, making it difficult to know when Catholic patients are admitted. The onus is now placed on the patient or patient's family to request a spiritual care or clergy visit when needed.

We are experiencing challenges with the regional health authority's new process designed to assist patients with access to spiritual care. However, the lay chaplains remain committed to working through these new circumstances to provide patients with this much needed care. We are hopeful that the new provincial health authority will work with us to improve patient access to spiritual care.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

Catholic chaplains visit patients and their families to address any spiritual needs, to pray, to provide a friendly face and comforting presence, to talk about people's fears and concerns, to bring Communion, and to contact a priest for anointing of the sick.

Pasqua Hospital Chaplain Bonnie Thiele-Hunt 306-519-1380	Wascana Rehabilitation Centre Chaplain Joan Rink 306-530-6511	General Hospital Chaplain Jerry Fitzgerald 306-519-1405
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Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations

by **Nicholas Jesson, Ecumenical Officer**



Bishop Don blessing Anglican Bishop Robert Hardwick at a joint Roman Catholic Anglican staff retreat in fall 2017.

I am not the principal ecumenist in the Archdiocese. You are! The cause of Christian unity belongs to every baptized Christian. The body of Christ, His church, is wounded by the sins of our divisions. Vatican II teaches us that the responsibility for these divisions lies within all of us. Our work for Christian unity is a grace-filled response to God's gift of faith. In reaching out to others who bear the name of Christ and share in Christian baptism, we proclaim to the world that hatred and division cannot prevail over Christ's prayer that His disciples be one. Similarly, our interfaith responsibilities as a church are also an aspect of our baptismal call. We are all called to promote peaceful sharing in the community of faith, to build a pluralistic society, and to be ready to give an account of the hope that is within us.

I began as Ecumenical Officer in August 2017. This is the first time that the Archdiocese has had a full-time Ecumenical Officer. The work of the Ecumenical Commission and the Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant Committee has built strong foundations for ecumenical relations. My task as Ecumenical Officer is four-fold. Firstly, I provide ecumenical leadership and support to the Ecumenical Commission, other diocesan ministries, as well as parishes, schools, and other Catholic entities. An important focus of this work is ecumenical education and formation. Secondly, I work to establish and strengthen relationships with other Christian communities and to identify ways that our churches can join in common witness and service. Here, the focus is to assist in identifying areas of common interest and concern, and to build coalitions with other interested faith communities. Thirdly, I work to promote understanding of non-Christian religions, such as Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Hinduism. Together with these other faith communities we seek to build a healthy pluralistic society and contribute to the formation of public policy. Fourthly, I assist the archbishop with special projects and assignments. Many of these will draw upon my ecumenical and interfaith

experience. For example, since August, I have convened an Interfaith Working Group on Spiritual Care. The purpose of this new group is to establish a network between the faith communities to assist us in providing spiritual care in the hospitals following the provincial government's cuts in the 2017 budget. In other cases, I bring a specific ecumenical or interfaith perspective to the planning and implementation of the Archdiocesan Priorities.

One of the priorities for the Ecumenical Commission this year is to support local parishes in their own ecumenical outreach. We would like to assist parishes to strengthen local ministerial associations, to plan the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (in January each year), and to develop an ecumenical or interfaith visitation project. If you are interested in working on these or any other ecumenical or interfaith issue, please call me at the Diocesan Centre (306-352-1651, extension 220). My role is to accompany you in promoting the healing of the body of Christ.

REGINA MARRIAGE TRIBUNAL

by **Joan Myers, Case Instructor**

The Catholic church protects Jesus' teaching regarding the sacredness and permanence of marriage. The Church also provides justice for anyone whose marriage has failed when it can be proven that the marriage initially lacked some essential element for a true sacramental bond.

The Tribunal staff consists of dedicated priests and lay persons who provide an important ministry to divorced persons wishing to remarry in the Catholic church or join the Catholic faith. Many people have questions regarding this process and we are happy to provide those answers. In 2017, we continued to answer inquiries regarding annulments, provided application forms to interested persons and conducted the interviews required. We were also able to complete many cases in 2017, partly due to the new shortened timeframe for annulments. This shortened timeframe is a result of Pope Francis' reforms to the canons in the Code of Canon Law that relate to annulments (*Mitis iudex Dominus Iesus*).



Fr. T. Nguyen

In May 2017, Father Thomas Nguyen completed his Canon Law Degree and became our current Judicial Vicar, replacing Father James Owolagba who had been Judicial Vicar since November 2014.

In November, a workshop was held for the priests of our archdiocese to review with them which previous marriage situations require an annulment or other special paperwork, in order for a couple to celebrate the sacrament of marriage. Because our priests often have the first contact with a couple, it is important that they know all the details to allow that couple to be welcomed to celebrate the sacrament of marriage.

ARCHDIOCESAN THEOLOGIAN & PERMANENT DIACONATE

by **Dr. Brett Salkeld, Archdiocesan Theologian and Director of Academic Programs**



Diaconate Candidates at Rite of Candidacy - left to right: Harper Boucher, Lamont Dyck, Norbert Gaudet, Eric Gurash, Dennis Zeigler, Arron Polk, David Hudy, Kevin Harty, David Hagel.

Permanent Diaconate

This has been an eventful year in our Permanent Diaconate Program. The nine men journeying toward their Permanent Diaconate Ordination started their final year of study in September. This fourth year of study involved many classes on subjects such as theology, liturgy and learning about Indigenous Peoples with presentations from Indigenous educators, Elders and Sr. RéAnne Letourneau. The candidates also received the Rite of Candidacy, in which they publically declared before the Church their intention to become a deacon, and the Church officially accepted their request and recognized them.

The Permanent Diaconate Ordination is on June 15, 2018 and will be a time of great joy for our archdiocese! In preparation for their ordination, we have been working with Bishop Don and the personnel committee to secure placements for each of the deacons once they are ordained. Each deacon will have both a parish and a service placement. We are looking forward to the ways in which their ministries will impact God's people right here in the Archdiocese of Regina.

We initiated a program review that will include discussions with candidates, their wives (who have also journeyed through the program) and presenters. And, as we prepare for another group to begin formation in 2019, this next year will be a time for recruiting and discernment. These will kick into high gear in the fall of 2018 and we will be able to take advantage of the experience and presence of the newly ordained deacons in our communities!

Archdiocesan Theologian

Working as Archdiocesan Theologian continues to be an exciting challenge. This work keeps me very busy and takes many forms such as:

- consulting with our partners in the Catholic community such as Catholic school boards and Archdiocesan commissions
- providing support to our archbishop by reviewing documents and communications
- delivering talks to parishes on topics such as the domestic Church or the Church's teaching on end-of-life issues
- recording our 'Thinking Faith' podcast alongside Eric Gurash, our Evangelization Coordinator



In this work, I am grateful to meet so many dedicated and faithful people and for the opportunity to use my training in theology to help you navigate real issues in our Church.

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION (ACTR)

by Sr. RéAnne Letourneau p.m.

We are in a period of history in Canada where relations with Indigenous people have become a priority. Within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Report there are specific *Calls to Action* addressed to the churches. In response, one of the initiatives coming from the Archdiocese has been the creation of an 'Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation' (ACTR) made up of approximately 10 Indigenous and 10 non-Indigenous people who have met to listen to one another, build relationships and discern together what steps and initiatives the Archdiocese can take.

Through a series of gatherings where we listened to one another, we heard the range of concerns that must be our foundation in what we are being called to as an Archdiocese, including support for and engagement with Indigenous spirituality, culture and language; education about Indigenous Peoples, their history on this land (including the impact of colonization and Indian Residential Schools), and Treaties; dialogue and relationship building; and working together for justice with Indigenous Peoples.

We learned that all engagements responding to the TRC and the pastoral needs of Indigenous people need to flow from relationship with them, including the survivors of residential schools, intergenerational survivors, and all who have been affected by the legacy of colonialism. The saying 'nothing about us without us' is shaping our path forward.

We identified 4 circles of activity and engagement wherein we can strive to strengthen relations, respond to the TRC *Calls to Action*, and connect pastorally with our Indigenous brothers and sisters:

1) in schools and academic institutions; 2) in parishes; 3) through formation for those in leadership (priests, seminarians, diaconal candidates, lay formation candidates); and 4) working with ecumenical and interfaith partners and other agencies in the wider community in the pursuit of justice for Indigenous Peoples.

One of our first steps was to begin by laying a spiritual foundation, by having a Pipe Ceremony and Feast in December 2017 asking for guidance and direction for these initiatives that will help us respond. We are now at the stage where we can begin giving attention to each of the 4 circles of activity and engagement, and create a framework wherein our Catholic community, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, may feel called to engage more deeply.

The following are some examples within these 4 areas that have taken place with the collaboration of other groups/ministries within the Archdiocese, as well as initiatives that we hope to embark on.

Schools: Many wonderful initiatives are happening within our educational facilities, especially in the area of curriculum



development. One particularly interesting initiative was the making of a Winter Count Buffalo Robe that tells the story of colonization and residential school history through art on a Buffalo hide, prepared by an Indigenous artist, Wayne Goodwill. It is our hope that this sacred bundle will be given to Pope Francis. In the meantime it will travel to different schools/communities to tell the story and educate people, with the hopes of healing, reconciliation and right relationships. Some members of the ACTR group had an opportunity to show the Buffalo Robe to the Papal Nuncio on November 27, 2017.

Parishes: Various parishes have hosted the KAIROS* 'Blanket Exercise', which is a teaching tool to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada. This exercise is an interactive learning experience covering over 500 years of history in a two-hour participatory workshop. Other initiatives on a parish level have included welcoming an Indigenous Elder to come and share personal experiences, and the invitation of a speaker from the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. Social Justice in Motion conferences have also helped guide towards possible parish-based activities in support of healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

**Canadian churches working together for justice and peace*



ACTR cont'd ...

Formation for those in leadership: In November 2017 the Diaconate Program candidates, along with the Lay Formation Program participants, heard presentations such as: TRC Calls to Action involving the Churches; social justice issues such as United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), land issues, and personal storytelling from some of the Elders on their residential school experiences. The Western Diocesan and Eparchial Coordinators for Ecumenism (WDECE) had their gathering in Regina at the same time, and were able to take part in some of the TRC presentations.

Formation for our seminarians has been in the planning stages this past year and in August 2018 they will take part in a 3-week program of Formation for Indigenous Relations and Ministry. Part of this will be open to priests who are serving in the rural areas which includes reserves, or others who are involved in Indigenous relations in some way.

Solidarity and Justice initiatives: The Aboriginal-Non Aboriginal Relations Community (ANARC) holds a monthly ecumenical potluck and sharing circle at St. Mary's Anglican Church. This time of sharing food and listening to the personal stories of those present helps to enter into the lives of Indigenous people, to hear their truth being spoken in a sacred circle. Relationships have been deepened and this has led to concrete acts of justice and solidarity within the wider community.

The Regina Council of Churches held a city-wide prayer service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at First Presbyterian Church, which had a focus on Indigenous relations and reconciliation. Some of the Indigenous kokums ('grandmothers' in Cree) took part in this service.

Collaborating more closely with ecumenical partners has been identified as an important step as we move forward. We are currently planning a gathering of ecumenical church leaders and representatives, to meet with Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Keepers to discern what steps we might take in terms of supporting Indigenous efforts for justice, and walking in solidarity.

A few members of the ACTR group have been involved in 'Reconciliation Regina', which is comprised of community leaders, organizations, educators, Elders/Knowledge Keepers, newcomers, survivors, healers, cultural and arts organizations, governments, youth, business, service agencies, faith groups, and individuals committed to working in partnership to create a strengthened, healthy, vibrant, inclusive community. Its mission is to facilitate truth and reconciliation by creating a public awareness campaign and a community Action Plan. Reconciliation Regina forms part of a provincial movement for Reconciliation Saskatchewan.

There are opportunities for interested people to become involved in our efforts in a variety of ways. The person to contact to learn more is Sr. RéAnne Letourneau: 306-540-3686.

VALLEY NATIVE MINISTRY

by Sr. Bernadette Feist, osu

2017 was a year of transition, getting to know the new priests appointed to First Nations communities, and helping to build faith communities. I travelled over 11,000 km in 2017 to Peepeekisis, Fort Qu'Appelle, Okanese, Muskowekwan, Lestock, Carry The Kettle, Regina, Little Black Bear, Balcarres, Abernethy, Starblanket, Pasqua and Muscowpetung. I spent much time listening, engaging in dialogue, hoping for reconciliation while focusing on building relationships with First Nations and non-First Nations. Travel also included twenty-three funerals and fundraising activities at "Too Good To Be Threw".

"Too Good To Be Threw" happens in Lebret on Fridays from 10am to 2pm. During these times we offer two things: lunch and shopping!

For \$2, we serve either a sandwich or hot dog, a dessert, and a drink (coffee, tea or water). On an average week, 60-70 people, First Nations and non-First Nations, come for lunch. It is a place for the community to share a meal together.

For shoppers, second-hand clothing, bedding, kitchen items and toys are offered. These are donated through Catholic Women's Leagues (CWL) and by donors near and as far away as Ontario. All items are priced at less than \$5. Shoppers are: First Nations, non-First Nations, seniors, and families. Standing Buffalo First Nation's Lakeview Lodge brings a van with seniors in wheelchairs, for lunch and shopping.

"Too Good To Be Threw" has been operating year-round for the last 26 years. Proceeds go to space rental and Valley Native Ministry projects. All workers are volunteers, and are First Nations and non-First Nations. If anyone in or near Lebret wants to join as a volunteer, they can call me, Sr. Bernadette, at 306-332-6838.

Every month a newsletter, "GATHERING THE FOUR WINDS" is printed, sharing activities of the past month, articles that deal with First Nations culture, Archdiocesan and Church news, funerals and coming events. Other hours are spent giving presentations or coordinating volunteers. There are eighteen CWL groups which support Valley Native Ministry with prayer, phone calls, financial help and donations to "Too Good To Be Threw."

Valley Native Ministry also sponsors the Lebret Museum which is open from May to September. We have a rich history of First Nations, Metis, missionaries and early settlers in Lebret. We host school tours and share this history of the valley, the Church, pioneers...where we come from, where we return and our hope for the future.



ABORIGINAL - NON ABORIGINAL RELATIONS COMMUNITY (ANARC)

by Sr. RéAnne Letourneau p.m.

"Listening, engaging in dialogue, seeking justice and reconciliation."

This Archdiocesan priority is the heart and soul of ANARC's mission. We try to create safe places where we can listen to and hear the painful truths of how we as a church and society have contributed to the wounding of Indigenous people. We can then enter into dialogue, embrace the truth and move towards justice and reconciliation.

This is our monthly experience when we gather to have a potluck and afterwards participate in a traditional sharing circle. Community is built and friendships are formed over the sharing of a meal. Then as we gather in a sacred circle we listen to one another's stories, and enter more deeply into each other's lives, our struggles and our joys. As we enter into the "wounds" of one another we become healing for each other. It becomes a "Eucharistic" experience as our lives are broken open together on this sacred journey! These monthly gatherings of "listening and engaging in dialogue" have led people to "seek justice" in concrete ways.

One of the things we have become aware of is the intergenerational effects of residential schools. As the elevated number of Indigenous children in foster care, and the Indigenous inmates in the correctional system, are examples of these intergenerational effects, some members of ANARC have supported the kokums ('grandmothers' in Cree) working to get their grandchildren out of foster care, and ex-inmates reintegrating back into society.

Networking with various groups that support Indigenous people (e.g. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women; Colonialism No More; Coalition Against Racism, etc.) is an ongoing commitment.

Participating in ceremonies (in the city and on the reserves), has been one of the best ways to build bridges of healing and reconciliation. In particular, Feasts and Round Dances not only help us to engage with the Indigenous community but also help to network with community organizations that host these events, e.g. First Nations University of Canada, University of Regina Indigenous Student Association, Regina Police Service, Circle Project, etc.

We've started connecting more with Sacred Heart School, attending student assemblies, as this is where we have been meeting with some of the kokums as an extended leadership community. Their advice and wisdom on the journey is so valuable.



Initiatives are underway to raise awareness of the impact of Residential Schools, such as having Indigenous Elders and women share their personal stories at various parishes and CWL gatherings. Connections with parishes and other diocesan groups are growing, such as collaborating with the MyGen Youth Rally, as 25 youth came over to the Indigenous Christian Fellowship in the North Central for their service project experience. Two of our kokums taught beading and how to make bannock. We had an enjoyable sing-along with those waiting for their bannock to cook, including some songs in Cree!

Some members of ANARC have been involved with the Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation, ACTR (see ACTR report), to see how our church can respond to the TRC *Calls to Action*.

Steps of justice lead to "reconciliation". Where does it begin? By just "showing up"...BEING PRESENT, especially at Indigenous events and ceremonies. If an Indigenous person sees a non-Indigenous person present, listening respectfully, engaging in a relationship, participating in ceremony, then the doors to reconciliation open and a new relationship can be born! In the words of one of the kokums: "Reconciliation to me is when Sister comes out to our ceremonies and sits on the ground with us, close to Mother Earth." The time has come when more non-Indigenous allies are coming forward, "sitting on the ground," listening, learning, building bridges and walking together, one step at a time.

There are opportunities for interested people to become involved in our efforts in a variety of ways. The person to contact to learn more is Sr. RéAnne Letourneau: 306-540-3686.

Youth In Action!

by Michelle Braden and Braden Kuntz, Youth Ministry Coordinators

2017 was a busy year for the Youth Ministry Office, and with the adoption of our new Archdiocesan Priorities, we have been able to take a new look at the work we are doing and how it fits within these priorities.

"Living evangelization and discipleship", "by equipping disciples to live as authentic witnesses" is what the Youth Office is focused on. Below is a list of just some of the ways we have attempted to do this in 2017:

- **MyGen Youth Rally:** We work together with over 70 young adult leaders, the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League, Regina Catholic School Division employees, and clergy to make this event possible.
- Regular meetings and professional development with Youth Ministry Coordinators in our parishes.
- Meeting and working with the Catholic camps in our archdiocese, in addition to leading our own Archdiocesan Leadership Camps.
- Encouraging young people to share their testimonies with other young people, especially during the many high school retreats we lead each year.
- Visiting many parishes, both in and out of Regina, to lead retreats, workshops, and to meet with parish staff.

We are quite passionate about "...facilitating encounters with Jesus." It plays a huge role in the activities we plan during our events. For example, one of the highlights of MyGen is always our evening Adoration. To spend time with Jesus is always an incredible experience, but for many of these young people, it has more impact than we may realize. To be able to see your peers worshipping the God of all Creation, to witness visible gifts of the Spirit, to have others pray for you, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation – it's truly an incredible evening for not just the youth, but for every single volunteer there. MyGen has grown to be an annual highlight for many people, not because we have done anything special, but simply because it is an opportunity for our youth to encounter Jesus in a real and tangible way.

In much the same way, the high school retreats, summer camps, assistance at both the Kronau and Ponteix Pilgrimages, and our Inner City Missions Trip to Saskatoon have all provided opportunities for young people to encounter Christ. Facilitating an encounter with Jesus is one of the most important things we do, whether it is through a prayer experience, sharing a Church tradition with our



youth, or providing opportunities for youth to experience Jesus in each other.

I want to share with you our Missions Trip to Belize that we made at the end of 2017. Immediately

following Christmas, 27 young adults, parents, and youth hopped on a plane and made our way down to Belize, where we were blessed to spend eight days at the King's Children's Home, just outside of Belmopan. In truth, we weren't totally sure what we would encounter – what we did know was that this home is home to anywhere from 50 to 100 children at any one time, and that there is always work to be done. So, off we went!

For some, it was a great experience. For others, it was life-changing. To quote one of the young adults who came on the trip with us:

"I had spent the last couple years in my life with a void in my heart. A void that seemed like no one or anything could fill it. But although the teen club [that we ran each evening] had a rocky start, the time spent with them showed me a community of love, God's love, and self-love. The friendships I made at King's Children's Home have become forever friendships.... God showed His love through the love the children had for us and the love we had for them. We were not only there to minister to the King's Children's Home but for them to minister to us as well. Since being home, I have noticed my desire to know God, instead of just knowing of Him. This has become a strong force in my heart. I want to live my life in the same humble way that these children and young adults live their everyday lives. Since visiting Belize, the void I once felt is now overflowing with joy."

This trip had an incredible impact on the lives of many of the pilgrims who came with us. The work we do in the Youth Office has given hundreds, if not thousands, of young people over the years these types of opportunities to encounter Christ in a real and meaningful way. Whether it's through a missions trip, World Youth Day, or any of the camps, retreats, youth rallies, or Leadership Team events that we run every year, the Youth Office has and will continue to facilitate encounters with Christ for as long as we are able to do so. And the part that you may not realize is that these opportunities are available for everyone! If you're a member of our Archdiocese, then the trips, camps, retreats and events that we run are for you!

To everyone who has supported the Youth Office, and continues to support us, we thank you.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

by **Marlene Miller, Spiritual Direction Coordinator**

The overall purpose of spiritual direction is to help individuals to grow in a personal relationship with God. When we spend time with God we are changed and are invited to change and to grow and to transform. Spiritual Directors of the Archdiocese of Regina have been formed and trained to be listeners and guides for individuals. They have served in this way for about twenty-five years. In this way, they have been fulfilling the Archdiocesan priority: Living evangelization and discipleship by facilitating encounters with Jesus, by equipping disciples to live as authentic witnesses, and by forming and supporting strong lay leaders.



In 2017, the Spiritual Directors group continued their ministry with any person looking to journey one-on-one with a spiritual director. This includes journeying with some persons through Annotation 19 of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. In this way of prayer, a person prays one hour a day with specific prayers for 30 weeks and sees a Spiritual Director once a week for guidance.

The First Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius' way of prayer was introduced to the Archdiocese in 2016. Throughout 2017-2018 numerous individuals and groups were guided through this prayer experience.

The First Spiritual Exercises are a set of daily prayer exercises, structured in a four-week program with a particular Ignatian dynamic. They are a single, progressive and powerful experience of grace built around personal prayer at home and guided spiritual conversation in a small group. Those making the First Spiritual Exercises meet weekly in a small group with a trained spiritual conversation guide, who leads the process of prayer, listening, sharing and discernment.

Spiritual directors also journey with the participants of the Lay Formation Program both by giving presentations to the groups and by volunteering to serve as prayer companions to one or two participants, a monthly commitment for 2 years. This past year, some directors also guided the Year 1, 2 and 3 candidates through the First Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

In addition, Spiritual Directors often conduct retreats, reflection evenings and workshops on topics of spirituality for various parish ministries such as RCIA, CWL, ALPHA and parish councils as well as groups from other denominations.

There is an on-going need for the formation and training of Spiritual Directors because people move to other locations or retire for various reasons. The Spiritual Directors Group is proposing to conduct another two-year "Compassionate Listening: A Formation Program for the Ministry of Spiritual Direction" from 2018 to 2020. A planning committee has been preparing for this program since October 2017 after a discernment day with all Spiritual Directors.

For more information on the Ministry of Spiritual Direction, contact the Archdiocesan Office and ask that Marlene Miller contact you.

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

by **Bert Pitzel, Social Justice Coordinator**



Refugee Sponsorship is anchored in welcoming Christ found in the stranger. The Archdiocese of Regina is a Sponsorship Agreement Holder with the Government of Canada. That means we have agreed to help support refugees from abroad when they resettle in Canada. Each year, we are allotted a specific number of refugee applications. In 2017, that number was 61 and with the aid of parishes and other community groups, we were able to sponsor all 61! Due to the length of time required for the application process, none of those 61 refugees arrived during 2017. However, we did welcome just over 20 refugees, whose applications were submitted in prior years.

Abdul Ali is our Refugee Field Worker and is extremely adept in completing refugee applications. Abdul handles the bulk of the initial application, while the parishes and other community groups look after the practical and financial needs of the refugees. We are extremely grateful for the involvement and cooperation of our parishes and community groups as we navigate through the sponsorship process together.

Abdul Ali is Muslim, so as he and I and others work together, we actively promote Muslim-Catholic dialogue in a powerful and practical hands-on way!

Vocations

by **Father Stephen Bill, Vocations Director**



It's been a great year with many blessings from the Lord. The highlight of 2017 was the ordination to the priesthood of Arpee Sacramento Urquico who is now serving as an Associate Pastor at Resurrection Parish and a Health Care Chaplain.

2017 Seminarian Interns



Parker Love
Resurrection Parish Regina



Ricardo Escalante
Holy Child Parish Regina



Buu Phung Tran (Anthony)
St. Cecilia Parish Regina



Vu Van Chinh
Christ the King & St. Anne Parishes Regina

We also had four seminarians in our parishes on their pastoral internship year. All four had a great experience and will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on Friday June 29, 2018 at Holy Rosary Cathedral by Archbishop Donald Bolen. If all goes well, they will be ordained priests in spring 2019.

We also have nine men who are completing their formation for the permanent diaconate and will be ordained on June 15, 2018 at Holy Rosary Cathedral. Brett Salkeld has been journeying with them for the past 4 years and they will be the first ordinations from the Permanent diaconate Program.

Beginning August 2018, we will be having three more seminarians beginning their pastoral internship year.



The three who are beginning their internship this year include (above left to right):

Christopher Juchacz - Resurrection Parish, Regina
Reed Miller - Christ the King Parish, Regina
Andrew Lindenbach - Holy Family Parish, Regina

They will join the four who will be ending their internship year in taking part in a program of Formation for Indigenous Relations and Ministry. Hopefully this will become an annual workshop for both our seminarians and priests.

Besides the seminarians already mentioned, we also have Daniel Malone and Christian Lindenbach. Daniel will be doing his spiritual year at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto this fall, and Christian will be entering third year theology at St. Augustine's Seminary.

Please continue to pray for all to hear the call of God in their lives.

ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

Thank YOU to our 4900 Donors who joined together to raise \$1,400,000.

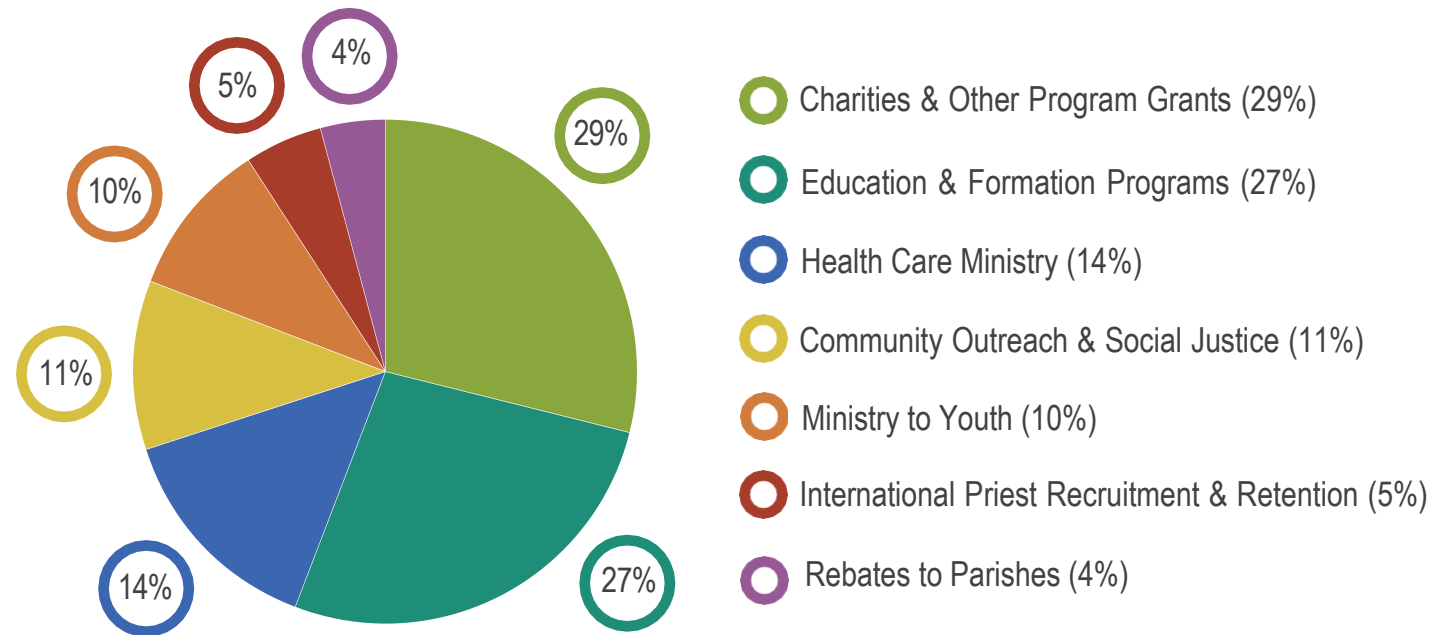
These 38 parishes met their 2017 Appeal Goal – Congratulations! \$60,900 will be given out in Rebates.

Holy Family.....Admiral	St. Wenceslaus *	Gerald	Holy Child.....Regina
St. Raphael.....Alida/Cantal	St. Columbkille	Grenfell	Holy Rosary.....Regina
St. George	St. Ann.....Gull Lake		Little Flower.....Regina
St. Maurice	St. Anne.....Lac Pelletier		Resurrection.....Regina
Sacred Heart	St. Blaise.....Lake Alma		St. Anne.....Regina
St. Joseph.....Cabri	Sacred Heart.....Lebret		St. Jean Baptiste.....Regina
Our Lady of Confidence.....Cadillac	Mary, Queen of the Apostles.. Maryland		St. Mary.....Regina
St. Mary	St. Eugene	Minton	Our Lady of Grace.....Sedley
St. Joseph.....Claybank	Sacred Heart of Jesus	Montmartre	Mater Dolorosa
St. Charles.....Coderre	St. Louis.....Mossbank		Spring Valley
St. John the Baptist	St. Thomas.....Norquay		St. Patrick
St. John the Baptist	Sacred Heart.....Raymore		Spy Hill
Our Lady of LaSalette.....Forget	Christ the King	Regina	St. Rita.....Strasbourg
			St. Augustine.....Wilcox

* Donated Rebate to Education of Priests – Thank you!

Your Gifts At Work

Archbishop's Appeal Funds Distributed in 2017 - \$1,265,514



Funds Raised in 2016	\$1,283,225
Less:	
Fundraising Costs (9%)	\$120,441
Administration Costs (4%)	\$51,585
Amount Available for Disbursement in 2017	\$1,111,199
Plus:	
Surplus Utilized from Previous Years	\$154,315
Total Disbursements in 2017	\$1,265,514

Some Successes for 2017!

The Archbishop's Appeal supported many of the activities mentioned in this Annual Report!

The number of parishes who met their goal increased over last year!

Online Giving increased again this year. It's easy – just look for the Donate Now link on the Archdiocese website.



Financial Officer's Report

by Rev. Mr. Barry Wood



It is my pleasure to present the following Auditor's Report and Summary Financial Statements for the fiscal year 2017.

We are grateful to the faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina who have shared their time, talents, and resources to build our faith community. We aim to be a careful steward of these gifts and to provide faithful and professional services to parishes and the community.

In particular, as Financial Officer of the Archdiocese, I am especially grateful to the following members of the Archdiocesan Finance Council.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Ron Kruzeniski – Chair | Gwen Hermann | Gay Patrick |
| Very Rev. Lorne Crozon | Penny Malone | Dale Scrivens |
| John Dipple | Rev. Brian Meredith | Karen Vey |
| Ed Gebert | | |

These members provide oversight and governance of the financial resources to the faithful of the Archdiocese, the Archbishop and the Financial Officer. We would also like to express our gratitude to Gerry Hiebert, who retired from the Finance Council this year, for his many years of service to the council and to Rev. Carlos Jimenez for his service to the Finance Council the last few years.

Archdiocesan revenues declined by \$200,000 to \$3.5 million in 2017. Decreases in recoveries, bequests, and lower unrealized investment gains of \$340,000 were partially offset by increased appeal funding of \$142,000. Total expenditures of \$3.658 million increased about \$27,000 from 2016. A deficit of \$148,510 was incurred in 2017, caused by lower donations and emergency social assistance needs for clergy.

The Archbishop's Appeal and assessments on the income of parishes account for almost 74% of the annual revenue. Declining rural communities, declining church attendance, and the annual economic success of those involved in farming are key elements affecting support of our parishes and Archbishop's Appeal. Appeal Revenue recognized in 2017 grew by \$142,000 to \$1.4 million. These revenues were used to support Archdiocesan ministries - \$980,000, grants to other charities - \$236,000, appeal administration and fundraising - \$180,000, and parish rebates - \$44,000.

Ministry and Services expenditures of \$958,000 increased by almost \$140,000 from 2016. The education of priests and seminarians, social assistance needs of priests, and provision of international priests comprise 70% of this amount or \$670,000. The Archbishop's Appeal funded \$387,000 of these expenditures.

The diocesan church is called upon to provide pastoral services that aid and enhance the pastoral work of our parishes. Expenditures on these services in 2017 declined by \$134,000 to \$1.152 million. Youth Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy, Pastoral planning and admin support, Lay Formation, and the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program are the five largest pastoral activities and comprise 71% of the \$1.152 million in expenditures. The Archbishop's Appeal funded \$593,000 of the pastoral

services expenditures with Youth Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy, Formation, and the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program receiving \$454,000 of this funding.

The Chancery and Administrative functions had expenses of \$817,000 in 2017 representing an increase of \$67,000 from 2016. Most of this increase is due to increased auditing fees of \$34,000 and capital expenditures of \$20,000 for the Archbishop's residence.

Cash represents the funds required to meet the day to day financing needs to support the work of the Archdiocese. The cash balance of \$1.4 million declined from 2016 as investments grew by \$283,000 and the operating deficit of \$148,500 was covered.

There are external and internal restrictions on the use of \$3.1 million of the \$4.872 million of investments held by the Archdiocese. Most of the investments are restricted as to the use of the principal, with the intent that the investment income be used to assist in funding pastoral activities.

Loans receivable of \$200,000 reflect Archdiocesan support for the replacement of foundation walls at the Marian Center.

Total Liabilities of \$3.6 million are about the same as last year and \$1.259 million reflects diocesan collections due to other Catholic Charities.

Unrestricted net assets of the Archdiocese are \$1.435 million and are available to support the general operating purposes of the Archdiocese.





Crowe MacKay LLP
Member Crowe Horwath International

202, 2022 Cornwall Street
Regina, SK S4P 2K5
+1.306.347.2244 Tel
+1.306.347.2247 Fax
www.crowemackay.ca

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS
ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**To the Archbishop of:
Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina**

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2017, summary statement of operations, summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes are derived from the audited financial statements of the Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina for the year ended December 31, 2017. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events subsequent to the date of the auditors' report on the audited financial statements dated April 13, 2018. In common with many not-for-profit organizations, we expressed a qualified opinion in our report dated April 13, 2018, related to donations and fundraising activities, the completeness of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures present in the audited financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in notes 2 and 3. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in Note 1.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of the Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina for the year ended December 31, 2017 are a fair summary of those financial statements on the basis of the criteria described in Note 1.

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Notes 2 and 3 to the summary financial statements, which describe the basis of accounting used in the preparation of the audited financial statements from which these summary statements have been derived and the significant differences between the accounting policies used and Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The audited financial statements were prepared for the information of the Archbishop, internal management, and for income tax filing purposes. As a result, these summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Regina, Canada
May 22, 2018

Crowe MacKay LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina
Summary Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31,	2017	2016
Revenues		
Diocesan appeal (Note 4)	\$ 1,439,862	\$ 1,297,987
Diocesan assessments	1,149,007	1,168,309
Recoveries	242,695	341,610
Donations and bequests	227,373	268,614
Grants	89,000	88,000
Investment and other income	299,257	285,260
Unrealized investment gains	62,227	260,321
	\$ 3,509,421	\$ 3,710,101
Expenditures (Note 5)		
Appeal expenses	\$ 460,809	\$ 391,773
Ministry and services	957,744	818,762
Pastoral services	1,152,286	1,286,789
Chancery and administration	817,481	750,710
Rental and other	127,310	250,898
Marriage Tribunal	142,301	131,589
	\$ 3,657,931	\$ 3,630,521
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	\$ (148,510)	\$ 79,580

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina
Summary Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31,	2017	2016
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,411,267	\$ 1,872,075
Accounts receivable	428,275	595,208
Prepaid expenses	27,163	20,730
Investments	4,872,935	4,589,930
Loans receivable	200,256	49,132
Invested in property	1,907,029	1,902,181
Trust assets	1,258,940	1,276,728
Total Assets	\$ 10,105,865	\$ 10,305,984
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 267,649	\$ 288,367
Deferred contributions	4,479	-
Deferred appeal contributions (Note 4)	1,444,774	1,491,837
Insurance account	651,452	621,971
Trust liabilities	1,258,940	1,276,728
Total Liabilities	\$3,627,294	\$ 3,678,903
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,435,939	\$ 1,677,094
Invested in Property	1,907,029	1,902,181
Externally Restricted Net Assets	186,775	185,698
Internally Restricted Net Assets	2,948,828	2,862,108
Total Net Assets	\$ 6,478,571	\$ 6,627,081
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 10,105,865	\$ 10,305,984
Contingencies (Note 6)		

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina
Summary Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31,	2017	2016
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ (212,939)	\$ (19,914)
Cash flows from investing activities	\$ (247,869)	\$ (65,434)
Net (decrease) in cash	\$ (460,808)	\$ (85,348)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	\$1,872,075	1,957,423
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$1,411,267	\$ 1,872,075
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year are comprised of:		
Cash	\$ 1,405,694	\$ 1,228,274
Cash equivalents	5,573	643,801
	\$1,411,267	\$ 1,872,075

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina
Notes to Summary Financial Statements
December 31, 2017
1. Preparation of Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements are derived from the audited financial statements, prepared in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Notes 2 and 3, as at December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 and for the years then ended.

The preparation of these summary financial statements requires management to determine the information that needs to be reflected in them so that they are consistent in all material respects with, or represent a fair summary of, the audited financial statements.

Management prepared these summary financial statements using the following criteria:

- (a) The summary financial statements include a statement of financial position, statement of operations, and statement of cash flows;
- (b) information in the summary financial statements agrees with the related information in the audited financial statements;
- (c) major subtotals, totals and comparative information from the audited financial statements are included; and
- (d) the summary financial statements contain the information from the audited financial statements dealing with matters having a pervasive or otherwise significant effect on the summary financial statements.

2. Basis of preparation

The Office of the Archbishop is under no obligation to issue any financial information except, as required by Canon Law, to the Archdiocesan Finance Council. The audited financial statements from which these summary financial statements have been derived are therefore presented in a manner consistent with internal information needs of the Archdiocese and differ materially from financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The Archdiocese has title to all property of approximately 136 Parish locations with a total insured value of in excess of \$293 million. Each Parish is recognized in Canon Law as having rights of ownership of property and the administration and funding for the acquisition of these assets are organizationally the responsibility of the Parishes. Accordingly, these assets and any related liabilities are not carried in the accounts of the Archdiocese.

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina

Notes to Summary Financial Statements

December 31, 2017

2. Basis of Preparation (Continued)

The operations reported in the audited financial statements from which these summary statements have been derived relate to the day to day provision of pastoral and community services by the Office of the Archbishop. The master insurance program is accounted for in a separate account entitled "Insurance account" on the statement of financial position. The financial services offered to the Parishes through the Inter-Parochial Sharing Fund in the form of deposit taking and lending activities are not consolidated in the audited financial statements from which these summary financial statements are derived, but rather are reported as a separate entity.

Financial information about the Priests' Pension Plan is accounted for separately and reported upon by another auditor. Contributions by the Archdiocese to the Plan are reported as expenditures of the Archdiocese in the year made.

3. Significant accounting policies

Due to the special circumstances arising from the organization of the Archdiocese and the nature of its operations and relationship with its constituent Parishes and other entities, as described in Note 2, a comprehensive application of Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations is not required by management, nor the Archbishop.

The audited financial statements from which these summary statements have been derived differ materially from Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, including:

- The financial statements of controlled entities are not consolidated, nor is summary financial information provided. The details of related party transactions are not separately disclosed by each related party in the audited financial statements.
- Except for certain land and buildings, property and equipment are fully charged to operations at acquisition. Certain land and buildings, although capitalized, are not amortized.
- Segregated amounts entitled "trust assets" and "trust liabilities" have been recognized. The trust liabilities are amounts intended to be transferred to other entities or held for future uses as stipulated by other individuals or by Canon Law. However, partial discretionary control over the assets intended to extinguish such liabilities remains with the Archdiocese (including risk of loss); therefore, such amounts do not fully meet the regular definition of trust assets and trust liabilities.
- Revenue may be deferred as stipulated by the Archbishop and the timing and condition of such recognition and deferral remains fully within his discretion.

Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina

Notes to Summary Financial Statements

December 31, 2017

4. Diocesan Appeal

Diocesan appeal revenues are generally collected in the last few months of each year, but are not recognized in revenue until the following year(s) when the corresponding expenses to which they relate are incurred. A portion of the current year appeal revenues are recognized immediately to offset expenditures incurred to administer the current year's appeal campaign.

5. Description of Expenditures

Provided below is a further breakdown of the types of expenses contained within the major expenditure categories on the statement of operations:

- (a) Appeal Expenses - Includes Rebates to Parishes, Partner Grants, Fundraising Costs, and Administration of the Appeal.
- (b) Ministry and Services - Includes Education of Priests and Seminarians, Assistance to Parishes and Priests (including costs associated with recruitment and retention of international priests), Visitation House, Special Project, Protocol Office and Abuse Treatment, Council of Priests, Ecumenism, Personnel Support, Vocation Awareness, Committee for Truth and Reconciliation, Spiritual Direction, Liturgy, Archdiocesan Pastoral Council and Stewardship.
- (c) Pastoral Services - Includes Youth, Health Care, Lay Ministry Formation, Permanent Diaconate, Pastoral Services, Communication, Native Ministry — First Nations, Social Justice, Aboriginal Non-Aboriginal Relations Community, Catechesis, Resource Centre, French Pastoral, Indigenous Peoples Ministry, and Adult Faith.
- (d) Chancery and Administration - Includes Finance & Administration, General Administration, Archbishop's Office, Diocesan Centre, Archives, Archbishop's Residence, and Development Office.

6. Contingencies

Various claims have been made against the Archdiocese for damages arising from improper activities of certain third parties associated with the Archdiocese. Management has assessed a significant risk of liability relating to some of these claims. Estimated potential costs are \$105,000 if these claims are pursued and are successful. Management believes that it has a reasonable defence against all other claims if they are pursued. The estimated costs of defending such claims is not determinable however they could potentially be significant.



Archdiocese of Regina

**445 Broad Street North
Regina, SK S4R 2X8
(306)352-1651**

<https://archregina.sk.ca>