

ARCHDIOCESE OF

*Regina*

**2018 Annual Report**

## **Dear Faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina,**

In Ephesians chapter 4, St. Paul speaks about the diverse gifts of the Christian community, and that we need to make “every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Unity in the Church is vital because “there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”



Maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace is a good description of one of the principal works of a bishop. Our archdiocese covers a large geographical territory, and I had the opportunity to travel through much of it in 2018: celebrating over 30 confirmations, from Consul to Cabri on the western end of the archdiocese to Yorkton and Wawota on the eastern side; attending special celebrations, from the annual pilgrimage in Lestock to the blessing of the new church of Christ the Redeemer in Swift Current; installing new pastors and administrators throughout the archdiocese; and visiting parishes or deaneries where particular issues were being addressed.

I ponder what it would be like to look down at all the life of our church from God’s perspective: to see all the births and the deaths and the living in between; our sacramental life, all of our efforts to share and pass on our faith, and to bring healing; our stumblings and failures; our striving to love and to live deeply. We are an archdiocese full of diversity, with blessings without number, and abundant challenges too; not least of which is maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the midst of all of that diversity.

The diocesan priorities have continued to be a guide for us. In our efforts to build strong parish communities, in addition to meeting with each priest, I wrote to each parish council chairperson at the beginning of the year, asking how things were going from the perspective of the parish’s lay leadership. These consultations with clergy and lay leaders have led to a closer accompaniment of a handful of parishes with particular challenges.

On the diocesan level, we set up an advisory committee which meets 3 or 4 times a year, and an operations committee which meets weekly to make sure that things we commit ourselves to actually get done. Bob Kowalchuk, who had served the archdiocese with great generosity and commitment for four years, retired, and we hired Lisa Polk, who brings tremendous organizational skills and a passion for spreading the faith to her work as director of pastoral services. There were many other staff changes, as noted in Lisa’s Pastoral Services report.

Our efforts to spread the good news of God's abiding love found expression in our parishes' weekly faithfulness, and in some special events: the hosting of St. Francis Xavier's relics for a couple of days in January; the ordination of nine permanent and four transitional deacons in June, followed by the priestly ordination of Fr. Ricardo Escalante in November; restructuring and striving to give new impetus to our communications work over the summer; and in September, reviving the tradition of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Fall gathering, now referred to as the Archdiocese of Regina Congress, with Leah Perrault (who worked with us as a consultor one day a week through 2018) as our inspirational guest speaker.

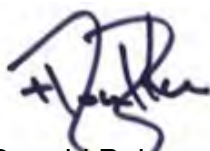
Work in the areas of healing, dialogue and reconciliation continued as major priorities within the archdiocese, none more so than our work with victims of clergy sexual abuse and creating a safe environment in all of our church activities for young and vulnerable people. This included hosting prayer services for victims of clergy sexual abuse in each deanery; the appointment of Fr. Brad Fahlman as my delegate for victims of abuse; the careful study and implementation of the CCCB's document "Protecting Minors from Sexual Abuse"; the establishment of a core working group and several other committees leading us to become more victim-centred, transparent and accountable as an archdiocese; and the posting of videos on our website for victims and anyone affected by clergy sexual abuse.

Our Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation gave special focus on the work of formation in 2018: hosting a three-week workshop for our seminarians and others working with Indigenous Peoples; and hosting study days for clergy and a Social Justice in Motion conference on walking with our Indigenous sisters and brothers in an honest, justice-oriented and reconciling way.

Finally, in terms of growing as an archdiocese in faithful and responsible stewardship, we promoted our annual appeal with the theme 'be joyful in hope' and raised more than we had ever raised before, though still falling short of our goal. We face both short-term and long-term financial challenges, and continued to work on those, including preparatory work throughout 2018 towards the launching of a capital campaign for the building of a new pastoral centre and the much-needed renovation of Holy Rosary Cathedral.

In the midst of all of that activity, we have sought to hold the people of God together on the difficult road to faithful discipleship, trusting that God is faithful and that the Holy Spirit continues to lead us.

Sincerely in Christ,



+Donald Bolen  
Archbishop of Regina



# Department of Pastoral Services

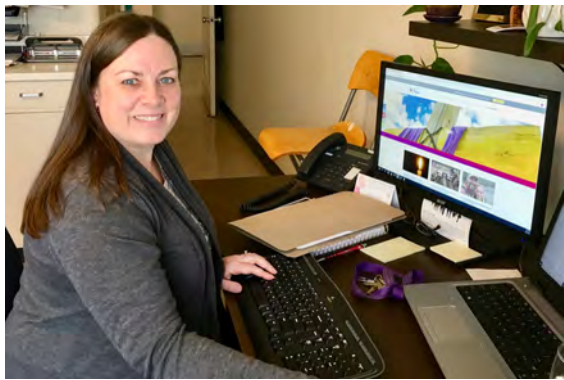
by Lisa Polk, Director of Pastoral Services

After 4 years as the Director of Pastoral Services, Bob Kowalchuk retired from his work with the Archdiocese of Regina in August. These are the words he offered at the end of his executive summary of the 2017 Parish Annual Pastoral Reports:

*"It has been a pleasure to serve as Director of Pastoral Services for the past four years. During my short tenure I have had the pleasure to work with two Archbishops.*

*Archbishop Don provided me an opportunity to work for the archdiocese and grow in faith. I am eternally grateful for his confidence.*

*Archbishop Don believes in and practices a vision of church where the shepherd reaches out and gathers his flock. Archbishop Don is committed to a vision of Church that grows through dialogue and investment in people. He has introduced and challenged us to work with and develop new structures to engage each other in growing stronger, healthier, more vibrant communities. Hope is contagious. We are a hope filled church. We also need to be more proactive in addressing the challenges, not out of fear or hopelessness but with the pragmatic realities of living on the prairies. Prairie people are a hardy bunch. Our ancestors worked, built and shaped our province, our diocese and our parishes with their sweat and prayers. Our diocese will continue to survive and hopefully thrive. We will face challenges going forward but hopefully will do so with the same gusto as our ancestors. Their legacy will not be lost."*



As I took on the role of Director of Pastoral Services for the Archdiocese of Regina in August, I was grateful for the time Bob spent with me during the role transition, bringing me up to speed on the many things happening in the department and around the Archdiocese. There truly is much to be hopeful about!

Other changes that took place in 2018 in the Pastoral Services Department: we welcomed Tashia Toupin as our Social Justice Coordinator, Joan Rink as the Lay Chaplain for Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Maria Martinez as our Archbishop's Appeal Coordinator, and

Amanda Trainor as an addition to our administrative staff. We said farewell to Bert Pitzel, Frank Flegel, Bobbi Yanko, Karen Zeigler, Denise Walsh, and Bob Kowalchuk and wished them well as they continue their journey into retirement, and also to Sr. Rufina Dubao as she moved into other ministry in our archdiocese. Deacon Eric Gurash (who was ordained as a permanent Deacon in June 2018), took on the role of Director of Communications, in addition to his role as Director of Lay Formation.

Although I was not yet employed by the archdiocese at the time, I was part of the team that coordinated the local visit of the St. Francis Xavier relic in January. The relic tour was organized by CCO (Catholic Christian Outreach) and the Jesuits of Canada. Over 3000 people had the chance to venerate the arm of St. Francis, with which, it is believed, he would have baptized over 100,000 people. There were many blessings and graces received by people throughout our archdiocese through the intercession of St. Francis Xavier.

In September 2018, we held the first of what we plan to be the annual Archdiocese of Regina Congress. This gathering brought together clergy and lay leaders from all over the archdiocese, who serve in various ways. We kicked off the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, heard inspiring words from Archbishop Don and Leah Perrault, participated in a wonderful time of praise and worship, and had various breakout sessions, all surrounded by the opportunity for fellowship.

I am very blessed to have the opportunity to serve in the Archdiocese of Regina. I look forward to connecting with many more people in 2019, and I remain joyful in hope!

## We Are Here to Serve You

### (list as of June 1, 2019)

Ali, Abdul.....	Social Justice
Andree, Rev. Ron.....	Liturgy
Bender, Sharon.....	Parish Pastoral Support Services
Bill, Rev. Stephen.....	Vocations
Bolen, Most Rev. Donald.....	Archbishop
Braden, Michelle.....	Youth Ministry
Burkhart, Leona.....	Parish Pastoral Support Services
Crozon, Very Rev. Lorne.....	Vicar General
Encarnacion, Mariphyn.....	Archbishop's Appeal
Fahlman, Rev. Brad.....	Bishop's Delegate for Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse
Feist, Sr. Bernadette.....	Indigenous Relations
Joan Fellingner.....	Pastoral Services Administrative Support
Jerry Fitzgerald.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Gettis, Bernadette.....	Archbishop's Office
Gurash, Rev. Mr. Eric.....	Director of Communications and Evangelization
Gurash, Melissa.....	Pastoral Services Administrative Support
Hilbig, Theresa.....	Visitation House
Jesson, Nicholas.....	Ecumenism & Interfaith Relations
Klein, Susan.....	Archives
Kuntz, Braden.....	Youth Ministry
Letourneau, Sr. RéAnne.....	Indigenous Relations
Luka, Lukose.....	Finance
Martinez, Maria.....	Donor Services Coordinator
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, Very Rev. James.....	Chancellor
Rafael, Rev. Danilo.....	Personnel
Polk, Lisa.....	Director of Pastoral Services
Rink, Joan.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Salkeld, Brett.....	Theologian and Diaconal Formation
Smith, David.....	Marriage Tribunal
Thiele Hunt, Bonnie.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Toupin, Tashia.....	Social Justice Coordinator
Trainor, Amanda.....	Pastoral Services Administrative Support
Tubale, Rev. Eusebio.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Wood, Rev. Mr. Barry.....	Financial Officer

# Communications and Evangelization

by Deacon Eric Gurash, Director of Communications and Evangelization



The Fall of 2018 saw several changes take place in both our Communications and Evangelization/Adult Formation Offices. In September I was officially appointed Director of Communications and Evangelization, a new portfolio that has me overseeing our communications efforts in general as well as those areas where communication overlaps with our church's evangelization needs. This new position continues to include direction of the Lay Formation Program, as it remains our archdiocese's primary evangelization formation tool.

Since that time this office has, along with the help of a number of others by way of administrative and volunteer support, worked to develop and make improvements in the following areas:

1. Website re-design and re-organization. A project begun in 2018 resulting in a new look and re-organization of information for the site going live early in 2019. The work in this area is ongoing.
2. Improved relationships and communications with local, secular media outlets resulting in what we believe to be more positive treatment of the Church in our local media, especially around very sensitive and polarizing topics.
3. Developed more proactive and robust crisis management strategies, especially where situations require both internal and external communications.
4. Developed a more intentional social media strategy that, in 2018, resulted in an 80% increase in Facebook page 'likes' and an increase in average post reach (the number of screens our posts appear on at any given time) of 70%.
5. Expanded our regular social media use to include Instagram and Twitter.

We will be continuing to work towards improvements in these and other key communications areas throughout the year.



*2018 Lay Ministry Formation Graduates*

Our Lay Formation program continues to draw individuals from a wide cross-section of parish life. In June of 2018, we graduated another 5 individuals, 2 men, and 3 women, from the program, commissioning them to be instruments and servants of the Good News of Jesus Christ in their homes, neighborhoods and parishes.

The fall of 2018 saw a nearly 50% increase in new registrants from Regina as well as a number of rural communities with a First Year class of twelve. Ongoing review of parish needs and program curriculum has enabled us to improve our program's ability to help these men and

women, many of whom are already active in local parish life, become more deeply aware of God's personal love and activity in their lives. Throughout 2018 our participants have more intentionally encountered Jesus Christ, and deepened their relationship with Christ and his Church. They have begun to discover how to more deeply integrate their faith in daily life in service to Christ. And we have given them the spiritual and formation tools they need to follow Christ's commission to "Go, make disciples of all nations".

As mentioned, this work is not that of the director alone. I would like to thank Director of Pastoral Services, Lisa Polk, for her guidance, inspiration and unflinching support. I will also extend a deep thanks to administrative staff Louise Molesky, Melissa Gurash and Amanda Trainor who in various ways ensure that things run smoothly behind the scenes. Of vital importance are the volunteers that we also have in place. These include Michelle Sanche who has been instrumental in our website work as well as Tom Kraemer, Beckey Franke, Cindy Walker and Grant Rathwell who comprise our Formation Team. These volunteers provide essential supports, and consultation throughout the year. If we are successful in what we do it is, in part, the result of their dedication and hard work.

# Archives

by Susan Klein, Archivist

Archives is about the collection! It's about the historical documents and artefacts (including correspondence, data, audio/video recordings, liturgies, sacraments and traditions). It's the physical memory of thoughts placed into action by the many archbishops, priests, religious and parishioners over a long period of time. It's about a community of families who were entrusted with the gospel, with all the economics, race, gender, social activities and culture involved. It's about celebrations and ordinary days.

2018 was all about e-learning. I participated in online discussions and webinars about museum/archive storage design, preparedness re: water damage, and fabric conservation. I studied about privilege in the archives, how to store pre-Vatican II chasubles effectively, and started thinking about digital stewardship. What is the best way to store media anyway? Am I checking to make sure the digital file is still accessible? Is there enough room on the server? Is it backed up? More than once? Am I monitoring the physical storage area in the way that is required for paper and for artefacts?

The Archives finally purchased a scanner. This tool is very valuable in the Archives as we move more into digital storage, plus I get to view more of the files as I scan them—to see the path our archdiocese has taken over the last 150 years or so.



*The Last Supper by Fr. Charles Maillard  
(oil on canvas, glued to wall)*



*A painting with stabilizing  
tissue, ready for transport*

With the closure of the Immaculate Conception Church building in Qu'Appelle, the decision was made (with the help of Archbishop Don Bolen, Fr. Francis Hengen, Chad Geis and Judy Klenk) to save the three Fr. Charles Maillard paintings that were attached to the walls. The work took many people: Chad, local conservator Brenda Smith, Bob Kowalchuk, Les Boehme, my sister Lorna Riffel, myself and others, to prepare the paintings for removal, and then remove the paintings. Gordon Domm photographed the Last Supper painting above the sanctuary before we knew if it was viable for removal. It was. The paintings are held in storage at the MacKenzie Art Gallery until they can be restored. It was a blessing for me to work with the parish on this project.

We have received a few gifts to the Archives this past year. Some are: a small German prayer book (1902), a Sister doll and travelling altar kit from the Sisters of the Missions, a relic of St. Anne brought in for safekeeping, plus several pamphlets, event invitations, and photos. I am glad the Archives is remembered when people are going through their memories.



*German prayer book (1902)*

# Visitation House

by Theresa Hilbig, Executive Director



*Fr. John Weckend and Theresa Hilbig*

Visitation House is a thriving community. In our community, we joyfully read God's Word, and share our experiences, strengths and hopes. We share bread together, share our struggles and disappointments. While we are open 12-14 days a month, we never lose touch with each other. We wait in joyful hope because we have a place and community of people who pray for us even when we are not physically together. We are always in relationship with each other while promoting evangelization and discipleship in an informal, loving, caring and accepting environment.

Our mission is to offer support for whatever the participant needs at that particular moment. In the past year, women have requested assistance with furniture, clothing, hygiene items, food, and many kinds of kitchen items. As a result of the generous larger community we are connected to, we have many of these items to offer.

Women also request help with financial situations, such as looking over a statement/invoice to make sure it balances or filing income taxes for the first time. We have a volunteer who comes one day a week to assist in this task. Many women require help with parenting, relationships and education needs. We have assisted many in filling out forms: applications for education facilities, requests for a lawyer, and health-related questionnaires.

We continue to hold our morning prayer/circle time, which gives the women a chance to hear God's word, reflect on the meaning of the Gospels and meditate on how to apply this knowledge to their lives. Although they do not always like each other, they are able to be polite and accepting when they are at Visitation House.

Approximately 15 years ago, I spotted a young woman sitting at the public phone and crying. After her phone call, I approached her and inquired if there was anything I could help her with. This began a long and compassionate relationship with her. In the past year, my involvement has become more intense. I have accompanied her to the dentist, assisted her move, helped her daughter and new baby escape from a violent relationship, and attended court with her. In order to really help a person, sometimes it is necessary to go above and beyond just listening!

We have had another busy year as we mark the liturgical celebrations. The winter season is always a time for reflection. This time of the year, many women are moving and looking for help with finding a new place to live and items needed to complete their homes. One young woman who had just given birth found herself alone, struggling with looking after her 3-year-old and 14-year-old. I was able to refer her to some young women's groups to help with her questions and offer parenting advice. When it became clear that she needed more help than she was able to find in Regina, she moved to BC to be with her parents and extended family.

We celebrated Lent, and had many interesting discussions about forgiveness and healing. As has been our tradition, we offered a Holy Thursday celebration. I washed the hands of the women and we served them a special meal. After Easter, many women shared that they had found some churches in which to attend Easter services! In April, we had a lovely Volunteer Appreciation Lunch for over 30 volunteers.

*continued...*

## Visitation House cont'd

On May 12, the Holy Rosary Youth Group, under the direction of Petra Benson, offered a Mother's Day Tea for the women. It was a joyful event! The youth group brought fruit, muffins, salads, veggies and various desserts. They brought vases of flowers for the women as well. I had received a donation of Miraculous Medals and the young women went around, measured cord for each woman and offered them a medal!

Also in the month of May, Grace Lutheran Church ladies provided a meal of soup, sandwiches and dessert. They have since returned with subsequent offerings!

We had a full relay team for the Queen City Marathon in September, coached by Fr. John Weckend. Thanks to all the parishes who continue to sponsor this event, we were able to collect over \$10,000.00. We have many kind and generous benefactors who continue to offer their financial resources. We are truly grateful for their support.

The Knights of Columbus built us a beautiful set of cupboards for our kitchen area and shelves in the back storeroom! The volunteers were over the moon when they saw the beautiful efficient new working space. May God bless you wonderful gentlemen, and Resurrection Parish for donating everything needed to create this masterpiece!

When we celebrated the Advent season, the women shared in the waiting and excitement of the birth of Christ into all our lives. As we neared the Christmas season and prepared for the Great Feast, the women shared stories of Christmases past; parents and relatives now at rest. As we listened to the stories, we honored the memories of their loved ones.

We continue to prepare as many as 275 gifts for women and children, to help make their Christmas joyful. The churches, schools and local benefactors came together to bring many gifts for us to give to the families. Our celebration was once again a success as we entertained over 85 women and children for our Christmas dinner. The Myriam Family gifted us with their incredible singing and musical talents. 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.

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.

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



*Christmas at Visitation House*

# Archdiocesan Theologian & Permanent Diaconate

by Dr. Brett Salkeld, Archdiocesan Theologian

## Permanent Diaconate

On June 15, 2018, the archdiocese celebrated the ordination of 9 men to the permanent diaconate at Holy Rosary Cathedral. Each new deacon was then placed in both parish ministry and, by the fall of 2018, a service ministry beyond the parish. The new deacons have been active in a wide variety of ministries, from preaching Advent retreats, to spearheading new initiatives like Dying Healed, to celebrating weddings, funerals and baptisms, to visiting in health care facilities. At the same time, the faithful of our archdiocese have been getting to know more deacons and more about the ministry of the diaconate. This ministry is a great blessing to our archdiocese.



In the fall of 2018, rather than immediately beginning formation of a new group, we began both a program review and a promotional campaign with plans to begin a joint group in collaboration with the Diocese of Saskatoon in the fall of 2019. This cohort will have the blessing of the presence and mentorship of those who completed the first program last year.

## 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 doing research and reviewing documents and communications;
- delivering talks on a wide variety of subjects to lay associations (e.g., Catholic Women's League, Regina Catholic Teachers' Guild), parishes, marriage preparation programs and RCIA groups;
- working with Newman Theological College in Edmonton to make a Masters in Religious Education degree locally available in our archdiocese;
- serving the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the national Roman Catholic - Evangelical Dialogue;
- posting answers to theological questions on my sASK-a-Theologian page on the archdiocesan website; and
- recording our 'Thinking Faith' podcast alongside Deacon Eric Gurash.

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.

# Parish Pastoral Support Services

by Sharon Bender and Leona Burkhart, Parish Pastoral Support Services Coordinators

During 2018, we saw a change to the name of our department from Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry to Parish Pastoral Support Services. The name change occurred when the scope of our responsibilities was expanded to not only include the protocol for parish volunteers but also to include employment policies, catechesis and parish support.

We continued to assist Parish Volunteer Screening Committees to ensure parish volunteers were screened for the safety of our youth and vulnerable people. Parish protocol files were audited to help parishes ensure that they were following the process outlined in the archdiocese's Protocol Manual.

Providing advice and information to deaneries and parishes on employment policies remained an aspect of this department. By assisting parishes with creating job descriptions, employment contracts and staff evaluations, we helped assure that employee-parish relations complied with the civil laws surrounding employment, plus canon law.

Some of the most fun we had was doing Confirmation retreats. We had a chance to use our teaching backgrounds to help young people in their preparation process for Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Providing suggestions for resources that catechists can use to help young people prepare for their sacraments is also one of our responsibilities.



*Confirmation retreat, St. George's Parish, Assiniboia*

In May we had the honour of sponsoring the Annual Western Safe Environment Conference in Regina. This is a chance for the people who oversee volunteer screening and employee policies in the archdioceses and dioceses of western Canada to share their knowledge and understanding of the issues related to protecting our youth and vulnerable people.

Throughout the year we conducted workshops on a variety of topics at the archdiocesan, deanery and parish levels. Topics included 'Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry', 'Employment Policies', 'Parish Administrative Assistant Skills', 'Parish Re-energizing', and 'Deanery and Parish Collaboration'.



*Moose Jaw-Gravelbourg Deanery meeting in Lafleche*



*Moose Jaw-Gravelbourg Deanery meeting in Lafleche*

## Social Justice

by Tashia Toupin, Social Justice Coordinator

2018 was a time of transition for the Social Justice Department. In early April, Bert Pitzel, who was the Coordinator for the past 22 years, stepped down from his role. Pitzel did a wonderful job of laying a foundation for a multifaceted approach to engaging in the many areas of Social Justice. He should be commended on his years of service and dedication to building the kingdom. I have now stepped into the role of Coordinator and have had a whirlwind of a first year.

Everything that the department does is tied to the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church. The two main guiding principles are the dignity of the human person and the inherent goodness of Creation. Through various ministries the Social Justice Department works to uphold these in all of God's children throughout the archdiocese.



*Esterhazy Deanery TRC event*

In 2018, there were two deanery events that focused on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action to help rebuild a healthy and respectful relationship between members of our communities. St. Henry's Parish, Melville hosted one such event in April. We gathered together as an ecumenical family to learn about the Smudging Ceremony, and Canada's history through the Kairos Blanket Exercise facilitated by students and staff from the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies. We developed our understanding of Treaty from an excellent presenter from the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, and debriefed through a traditional talking circle. We repeated this format at Our Lady of Victories Parish, Esterhazy in October.

There was also a two-day ecumenical conference in November in Regina where Christians were invited to listen to the voices of other Christian Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island about their experience with Church, Land, Residential Schools, and how to Mino-maawanji'itiwag "come together in a good way," (Saulteaux).

In October the Reverence for Life Commission produced and shared a wide range of materials including prayers, liturgical aids, videos, and reading materials that focused on the theme of Choose Life: because every person from their conception to their death has an immeasurable worth, a dignity that is given to them from God which can never be removed. We focused on four topics, Choose Life 1) For The Unborn and Those Their Lives Affect, 2) For the Poor, 3) For the Elderly, Sick, and Dying, and 4) For the Victims of Violence.

2018 also provided many opportunities for collaboration with Development and Peace. There were deanery workshops in Esterhazy and Swift Current, which served as great opportunities to get out and meet the people of the archdiocese. The "May Peace be with Her" campaign was successful. In our diocese alone 1195 action cards were sent to the Prime Minister; meetings with MPs Ralph Goodale and Cathay Wagantall were held; Canada announced the creation of a Women, Peace, and Security Ambassador; \$19,000 has been raised for the Rohingya crisis, and the Share Lent Campaign raised \$237,000. Development and Peace also contributed to the development of Canada's ambitious National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security. These are all huge wins for Canada and for elevating the dignity of the poor, marginalized, and victims of violence in our world.



*Swift Current Deanery members "Sharing the Journey"*

## Social Justice cont'd

St. Martin's Parish hosted the Honourable Douglas Roche for a presentation titled "Fear Not Hope: Building Peace in a Fractured World." Mr. Roche is one of only three Canadians to have been a member of parliament, senator, and a diplomat for Canada. He spoke to a group of approximately 40 people about signs of hope and how we can be peace builders in today's post-modern world.

The archdiocese is a partner in two Restorative Justice initiatives, Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA), and Friends on the Outside (FOTO). Both of these life-changing organizations help to restore the dignity of past offenders who often themselves have been victims of violence and abuse and have, sadly, perpetuated this cycle by victimising others. CoSA allows local communities to play a direct role in the reintegration and risk management of people who are often seen with only fear and anger. Studies have shown that re-offending rates for CoSA core members are 80% lower than those people not supported in a Circle! FOTO offers friendship, support, hope, and encouragement to former inmates and their families. Friendships can assist and inspire all of us to find healthier ways of being.

Caring for our common home is one of the most pressing global issues that we as a human family face today. There were a few study groups of Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* that wrapped up. Hopefully these study groups have planted some seeds for how we as Church can respond to the groaning of creation. Hope does spring eternal as the national CWL has announced that their theme for 2019 is "Care for Our Common Home".

If you are interested in learning more, or if you have an idea about something that you would like to do in your community, please contact me at: 306-532-1651 ext. 222 or at [ttoupin@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:ttoupin@archregina.sk.ca)

## Refugee Sponsorship

Currently the UN estimates that there are 68.5 million refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people world wide, and this number is growing. As Catholic Christians, we are called to care for the poor and vulnerable and have a rich and long tradition of doing so. Serving others, especially those in the most desperate of need, is one of our defining evangelizing tools. In the words of Jesus, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matt 24:40).

It is with this in mind that we continue to help our sisters and brothers through refugee sponsorship. In 2018 we were able to sponsor 46 people to begin their journey to safety and a peaceful life here in Canada. St. Joseph's Parish, Indian Head sponsored a family of seven, St. Anne's Parish, Regina a family of two and Resurrection Parish, Regina sponsored a family of five, and welcomed a Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) family of seven. The BVOR family application is expedited and half of the financial support is given from the federal government. This family arrived at the end of May.

The remainder of the sponsorship spots were for individuals and are part of a family reunification process. Many brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, husbands, and wives are now on their way to coming to Canada to be reunited with their families, sometimes after years of being apart.



*A refugee sponsorship application, ready to be submitted*

Moving into 2019, there will be quite a bit of development in regards to the policies and procedures that we need to have in place to continue sponsoring our vulnerable sisters and brothers in a fair, transparent, and responsible way. We are working as well to be able to provide a broader range of tools, resources, and workshops to make it easier for more people and communities to become involved in refugee sponsorship.

Please pray for the continual success and support of the many people who have dedicated time, talent, and treasure to this end. If you have questions or want to learn more about this life-changing process, please contact the office at 306-532-1651.

## Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care

by Joan Rink, Chaplain

Spiritual Care in our health facilities and long-term residences has involved a consistent effort to provide the support needed by those who are struggling with health or life needs. To provide Spiritual Care entails a diverse set of skills and tools in the box. Yes, there are the prayers for the family and person who is dying, the calling in of a priest for anointing, and the support and help to provide a memorial or graveside service. However, Spiritual Care means to “journey with”. It means helping people make life decisions through a faith-drawn grid.

Do we put dad on a feeding tube now that the food is dropping out of his mouth? Do we take my sister or brother off of oxygen? How does mom decide if it is time to stop dialysis? How do I keep my children’s welfare at the forefront in all my decisions? Why are my caregivers not listening to what I am trying to say? Can you pray with our family? Can you call in a priest? I need to say my confession.

Also in play are the big questions of life. Why did God make me with a disability? Why did I have this car accident or stroke? What is God asking from me now? My health is declining. I just got bad news. How do I cope? Can you hold my hand? Can you stay with me? I just need a friend right now. I feel so lonely. I need someone to talk to.

We understand that the spiritual component of any person decides their level of health, joy and satisfaction in life. As Spiritual Care givers, we are an integral part of the circle of care needed to minister to the needs of people. For many, it means the difference between living in a survival mode and living to the fullest potential that God intends.

So often people in palliative or long term care feel forgotten and lonely. This ministry is crucial in the support needed for the marginalized and forgotten of society. Jesus is very forthright in saying that when we visit the jailed or isolated members of our society we are following in His footsteps. Many have indicated their gratitude in the Archdiocese of Regina for supporting this ministry.



## Marriage Tribunal

by Joan Myers, Auditor, Notary and 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 is composed of specially-trained priests and laypersons appointed by the Archbishop of Regina: Fr. Thomas Nguyen—Judicial Vicar & Judge; Fr. Andrei Kachur & Fr. James Owolagba—Judges; Fr. Louis Abello—Advocate & Procurator; Fr. Michael Fahlman & Mr. David Smith—Defenders of the Bond; Mrs. Joan Myers—Auditor, Notary, Case Instructor. This team provides an important ministry to divorced persons who wish 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 2018 we continued to answer inquiries regarding annulments and provided application forms to interested persons. We help the applicants with the application process and then conduct the interviews required. In 2018 we received a new case every four weeks to process for the Regina Office. These cases were 8 from rural parishes and 5 from city parishes. The timeframe for cases to be completed is on average 9 months to a year. Some cases may take longer. This has been reduced from the previous average of 18 months to two years, partly due to the new shortened timeframe for annulments in Pope Francis’ reforms to the Code of Canon Law (*Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*).

We continue to work with archdiocesan priests since they are often the first contact with persons who require an annulment. The priests in the rural areas are the ones that we call upon to do the interviews that we require in their area. Interview requests are sent to any diocese across Canada, US and sometimes overseas. We also do interviews from any dioceses that request our help. In addition, our office is the Regional Tribunal, which covers the Dioceses of Keewatin-LePas, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, St. Boniface & Winnipeg.

# Spiritual Direction

by the Spiritual Directors' Team

In 2018, the Spiritual Directors' group continued their listening and guiding ministry with persons looking to grow in a personal relationship with God by journeying with a spiritual director. In this way, they have been fulfilling the archdiocesan priority of 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.

Spiritual directors journey with the participants of the Lay Ministry Formation Program (LMFP) and the Diaconate Program both by giving presentations to the groups and by serving as spiritual directors to participants, a monthly commitment for 2 to 4 years. This past year, directors guided the Year 1, 2 and 3 LMFP candidates through the First Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius and some deacons through the 10-month Ignatian Spiritual Exercises.

In addition, Spiritual Directors 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 for groups from other denominations.

There is an ongoing need for the formation and training of Spiritual Directors because people move to other locations or retire. As a result, the Spiritual Directors' group began conducting a two-year "Compassionate Listening: A Formation Program for the Ministry of Spiritual Direction" in September of 2018. There were nine candidates in this formation program, including one from a rural Saskatchewan area, one from Manitoba and the rest from Regina.



*Compassionate Listening Formation Program candidates*

Here are the comments from one of the candidates:

"I have been prayerfully discerning taking the Compassionate Listening Course for the last ten years. When I saw the program being offered, I entered more deeply into discernment with my spiritual director and decided that this was a path that God was calling me to take. This past year has been a lot of learning about compassion, both with myself and others. My heart has been so full with all of the gifts that this past year has given to me personally and I have grown more deeply in my relationship with Christ."

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

# Indigenous Relations

by Sr. RéAnne Letourneau p.m.

## Archdiocesan Commission for Truth and Reconciliation (ACTR)

When the ACTR began, it identified circles of activity and engagement wherein we can strive to strengthen relations, respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action, and engage pastorally with Indigenous peoples: 1) schools and academic institutions; 2) parishes; 3) formation for those in leadership (priests, seminarians, diaconal candidates, those in lay formation); 4) ecumenical and interfaith partners and other agencies in the wider community which are pursuing justice for Indigenous peoples.

This past year we wanted to highlight the circle of "Formation for those in leadership". The TRC's Call to Action #60 encourages churches to educate clergy about Indigenous spirituality, the history and legacy of residential schools, and our shared responsibility to build respectful connections with Indigenous families and communities. That was the inspiration for the decision to set up a formation program in August, and was the focus for the Clergy Study Days in October.



*Seminarians learning how to set up a teepee*

The new program our archdiocese pioneered for seminarians in August was called "Formation for Indigenous Relations and Ministry." Our seminarians, along with priests, sisters, deacons and laypeople, spent 15 days connecting with and learning from Indigenous Elders and leaders. Archbishop Don Bolen and Sr. RéAnne collaborated with Indigenous Elders and leaders to plan and organize the program. With 20+ Indigenous community members as well as non-Indigenous leaders and friends, the team put together activities and opportunities for friendship and connection, focusing on "education, experiences, and encounters".

Here are some of the comments from the participants:

"I never fully grasped the gravity of the residential school experience until I heard several survivors share their stories. This experience has motivated me to try to be a bridge of healing and reconciliation for my Indigenous brothers and sisters who have been hurt by the church."

"Seeing how open they were to learning about our culture and trying to understand where I was coming from really touched me, and as a Residential School Survivor I experienced a lot of healing; I'm starting to learn how to forgive and for that I want to thank them with all my heart!"

"Our presence there was vitally important because it shows that the church is not just talking the talk, but rather that it is actually striving to walk the walk. This experience illustrated to me that what we need to do as church is be present; it's not always about doing, instead it's more about being present and loving First Nations people."

"What stays with me is the people: some that, despite having been hurt by the Church in the past, welcomed us seminarians into their communities to share their stories and culture, despite what the broken humanity within the church did in the past to some. It makes me excited to be preparing and discerning for ministry in Regina."

More on the formation program can be found in the Indigenous Relations section of the archdiocesan website. Sr. RéAnne and Sr. April Moreau presented about the program to the Saskatchewan bishops and provincial superiors/ leaders of congregations in November, 2018.



In October the Clergy Study Days had the theme: "Walking Together on the Path of Truth & Reconciliation: Engaging in Indigenous Relations." Educational and interactive experiences came in the form of a Treaty Presentation through the Office of the Treaty Commissioner; sharing the story of the Winter Count Buffalo Robe; and the Blanket Exercise. The Bellegarde family did Pow Wow demonstrations with teachings on the different dances and drum songs. An ecumenical study day helped develop skills for engaging parishes/congregations in intercultural learning and the pursuit of justice. These educational and cultural experiences are examples of what could be offered in our parish communities.

## Aboriginal Non Aboriginal Relations Community (ANARC)

Throughout the year, our ANARC community has grown in relationships rooted in truth, reconciliation and justice. It continues to create safe places/circles where we can listen and acknowledge the painful truths of how we as a church and society have contributed to the wounding of Indigenous people.

Our monthly potluck and sharing circle continues to be the core event that gathers Indigenous and Non Indigenous people together where community is built and friendships are formed. We enter more deeply into the lives of one another, our struggles and our joys and become a healing presence for each other. It is a celebration of the family as many children and youth attend and while the adults participate in the sharing circle, child care is provided. It's great to see the kids have so much fun with games and different activities. We are witnessing reconciliation and new life through these encounters and relationships!



*Sr. RéAnne Letourneau*

We continue to connect with various community groups and many people. Participating in ceremonies (in the city and on the reserves) this year continues to be 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 different community organizations who host these events. e.g., First Nations University of Canada, Indigenous Student Association at the U of R, Regina Police Service, Circle Project, etc.

This year we have focused a bit more on our extended leadership circle made up of some of the Indigenous kokums that attend our monthly potluck and sharing circle. We meet at Sacred Heart School, and this is also a wonderful way to connect with staff and students as we participate in their student assemblies.

Some parishes or CWL groups have requested an Elder to come and share their personal stories or teachings, as well as hosting a Blanket Exercise. We were also involved in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, ecumenical gatherings, a service project for the My Gen Youth Rally, and many other events.

## Valley Native Ministry

by Sr. Bernadette Feist, osu



*Sr. Bernadette Feist*

2018 was a busy year for Valley Native Ministry. Liturgies were once a month in Sakimay, Lestock/Muskowekwan, and Standing Buffalo Lakeview Lodge, and twice a month in File Hills: Peepeekisis, Starblanket, Okanese, and Little Black Bear. We had a busy year with sacraments: 10 Baptisms, 3 Confirmations, and 3 first Eucharist celebrations. I also took part in 32 funerals, ranging from conducting the wake and ceremony, saying prayers along with Elders at the wake and funeral, organizing music if there was Mass celebrated, being "present", or attending as a friend.

We had a "Team Ministry" day with Archbishop Don at File Hills, I presented a session on "Native Spirituality and Ministry" to the archdiocese's lay formation candidates, and we welcomed 28 parishioners from Regina to visit, exchange, listen and share with the people gathered at File Hills Church. We also helped with the "Formation for Indigenous Relations and Ministry Program" in August.

Valley Native Ministry sponsors the Lebret Museum and in 2018, we offered 14 tour groups the chance to learn about the rich shared history of First Nations, Metis, missionaries and early settlers in Lebret.

Our "Too Good To Be Threw" fundraiser continued in Lebret on Fridays, offering visitors lunch and shopping for second-hand items. In 2018, we were able to contribute \$8,000 to help put a metal roof on the Lestock church so it can continue to be a comfortable meeting place for liturgies and catechetics for families.

The monthly "GATHERING THE FOUR WINDS" newsletter continued to share First Nations culture, Archdiocesan and Church news, funerals and coming events. Many CWL groups and other donors supported us with prayer, phone calls, financial help and donations to "Too Good To Be Threw." If anyone would like to become involved, they can call me at 306-332-6838.

## Youth Ministry

by Michelle Braden, Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

The year 2108 saw Pope Francis and the Universal Church place a great emphasis on the importance of youth and vocations. In the month of October, cardinals, bishops and young people from all over the world joined the Holy Father in Rome for an entire month to spend some time in very intentional prayer and dialogue, considering in particular the relationship between young people, faith and vocation. The themes coming out of the month long dialogue all spoke to a living out of the new evangelization, noting that our task is to rediscover a church that goes out, not to remake a church for young people to come to; Christ didn't think about self-preservation; neither should we. It was made abundantly clear that young people want to see the face of Christ today; we have to show Jesus to them. That is where we start.



*My Gen Rally musicians*

It is in this spirit of going out, of becoming “agents of encounter” (with Christ) of seeing young people not as a problem for our church, but as a gift, that we form the priorities of our youth office. This year saw us minister to approx. 100 teachers and 1000 students in school retreats. These day long adventures in faith are full of challenge and blessing as we get to meet young people literally where they are at, pray for and with them and encourage them to dream about God's great plan for their life.

Our Diocesan High School Leadership Team is made up of about 20 students from around the diocese that are anxious to serve. They assist us in serving parishes in gatherings for their young people and in adult formation groups. They share their faith, testimony and struggles. Last Easter break we travelled to downtown Saskatoon for an adventure in service. We based ourselves out of St. Mary's Church downtown and served in a multitude of soup kitchens and camps for inner city youth. We gathered last August for our annual leadership camp under the theme of “Hurray for HOLYwood” where we took an honest look at the values we see on our screens every day and how that fits (or more likely doesn't fit) with biblical values.



*Braden Kuntz at Variety Night fundraiser 2018*



*Michelle Braden and friends at Variety Night 2018*

## Youth Ministry cont'd

The “My Gen Youth Rally” remains a highlight each year, bringing together multiple generations from across the Southern part of the province to journey in faith together. Our theme for the rally was “Where Do I Fit” and had a vocations focus; encouraging us all to consider where we “fit” in God’s great plan.



*My Gen vocations speakers*

It was our joy to work very closely this year with our diocesan Catholic Camps, assisting with training and formation of counsellors and working directly with camp leadership and camp boards to ensure that our camps are mission fields for the sharing of the gospel.

A large part of the responsibility of this office is to train and mentor those in parish youth ministry. In light of that, we ran a number of youth ministry workshops over the course of the year. That being said, this year was certainly one of ups and downs for youth ministry in our parishes. A number of parishes put youth ministers into place and a number of parishes lost youth ministers.

Helping our parish communities understand and work within the complexities of youth ministry in the 21st century remains a high priority for this office. Youth ministry in our current time is not for the faint of heart.



*Youth missions trip to Belize*

It is our goal to form, equip and inspire as many adults as possible to journey with the youth who so desperately need what we have to offer them and to seek new, fresh and innovative ways to reach young people and their families with the message and hope of the Gospel.



## Vocations

by **Father Stephen Bill, Vocations Director**

Though Vocations include marriage and single life as well as priesthood and religious life, because it is such a broad spectrum, our committee has chosen to put the focus on priesthood and religious life.

The Lord is constantly calling young men and women to follow Him and serve His Church as His priests and religious—and 2018 continued to bear witness to His blessings in our archdiocese.



*Parker Love, Anthony Phung Tran, Chinh Vu and Ricardo Escalante*



*Newly ordained Deacons Chinh Vu, Ricardo Escalante, Parker Love and Anthony Phung Tran*

On June 29, 2018, four archdiocesan seminarians were ordained to the transitional diaconate, a last step before their ordination to the priesthood.

Then, on November 30th, 2018, Deacon Ricardo Escalante was ordained as a priest in a joyful celebration at Holy Rosary Cathedral.



*Deacon Ricardo Escalante's ordination to the priesthood*



*The newly ordained Rev. Ricardo Escalante*

Deacon Chinh Vu, Deacon Parker Love and Deacon Anthony Phung Tran will be ordained as priests June 14, 2019 at Holy Rosary Cathedral. They will then be posted as associate pastors at different parishes throughout the archdiocese.

Three other seminarians have been doing what is called a “pastoral year” in parishes here in the city. At the end of that time, they will return to the seminary for one final year of studies before ordination to priesthood. We also have two seminarians at different stages of studies.

All of these vocations are only possible because of prayer. Beginning in January of this past year, the Vocations Committee organized the different deaneries to actively pray for vocations – praying the rosary and offering time in Adoration – all specifically for vocations to priesthood and religious life. The Lord commands us to ask – and so we NEED to ask.

# Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations

by Nicholas Jesson, Ecumenical Officer

The archdiocese's Ecumenical Commission has been active in interchurch and interfaith programs, education, and liaison for many years. Our priorities at this time include the renewal and revitalization of ecumenical bodies such as the Regina Council of Churches and local ministerial associations, as well as interfaith bodies such as the Regina Multifaith Forum and Multifaith Saskatchewan. These networks helped broaden the reach of the Archdiocese's work on social justice and Indigenous reconciliation.



*Pope Francis and Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby*

My duties as ecumenical officer include education and resourcing for Catholic parishes, schools, and other ministries, as well as being a point of contact with other faith communities, representing the Catholic community in ecumenical and interfaith bodies, and providing leadership for ecumenical justice and advocacy.

2018 was a time of building new networks, new relationships, and new projects. In January 2018, The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity theme "Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power" invited a reflection on the post-colonial experience of Caribbean countries as analogous to the Indigenous search for justice and reconciliation. In May and June, an ecumenical consultation on Indigenous justice was convened in coordination with the Archdiocesan Committee for Truth and Reconciliation. In October 2018, an ecumenical clergy study day on "Preaching for Reconciliation" was held in Moose Jaw with participation from Catholic, Anglican, Alliance, Baptist, Lutheran, Mennonite, Presbyterian, and United church ministers. We also assisted in the planning of "Mino-maawanji'tiwag: Coming Together in a Good Way", a conference on Indigenous spirituality.

As ecumenical officer, I have been leading an experiment in local evangelism in the White City and Emerald Park region. There is only a small African Independent church in White City itself, but there are Catholic, United, Lutheran, Anglican, Pentecostal, and Alliance churches in nearby Balgonie, Pilot Butte, and southeast Regina. I have gathered six denominations to form a ministerial association which has offered joint services at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter and has encouraged cooperation in vacation Bible schools and ALPHA. The group is trying to coordinate the establishment of three or more congregations over the next few years with the possibility of sharing buildings, programs, and ministers.

In February, the provincial meeting of the Lutheran, Anglican, Ukrainian Catholic, and Roman Catholic bishops (LAURC) met in Saskatoon where they were given a report on progress towards the expansion of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant in Regina. The inclusion of the Lutheran (ELCIC) Synod of Saskatchewan and the Eparchy of Saskatoon prompted the Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops of Saskatoon and Prince Albert to ask to be included in the renewed covenant. A draft LAURC covenant has been circulated and a study process has been initiated leading to a proposed signing at a Joint Worship Service in spring of 2020.

International attention turned to the Regina Anglican-Catholic covenant in 2018. As a result of the Covenant, over the past few years our diaconal formation team has worked with the Anglican diaconal formation team. Our candidates have met with and had some sessions with the Anglican candidates. The "International Conference on the Diaconate" was held in Regina in May, gathering many deacons and theologians to reflect on the renewal of diaconal ministry in the Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Ukrainian Catholic communities over the past forty years. Lutheran, Methodist, and Reformed essays have also been collected as the conference proceedings are prepared for publication in late 2019.

Two evenings of dialogue were held with Beth Jacob Synagogue. In April, Archbishop Don and Rabbi Jeremy Parnes joined with the Rev. Sarah Dymund to discuss the last album released by the late Leonard Cohen. A month later, the Archbishop and Rabbi gathered again to discuss the Psalms as used in Jewish and Christian worship. Work continues with the Jewish community on Holocaust remembrance and addressing anti-Semitism and religious hatred.

Archbishop Don and I spoke at a conference of the Flourishing Congregations Institute at Ambrose University in Calgary. The Institute is continuing its research into healthy and thriving congregations across Canada. With funding from the Institute, the Archdiocese has hired a part-time research assistant to encourage Catholic parishes and dioceses across Canada to participate in the survey and interview stage.

The October 2018 gathering of Western Canadian Catholic ecumenical officers focused on strengthening Muslim-Catholic relations. Over the next year, the Archdiocese will be involved in a number of education and dialogue projects together with representatives of the Muslim communities in Regina.

## ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

Thank YOU to our 4,515 Donors who joined together to raise \$1,474,000!  
 These 28 parishes met their 2018 Appeal Goal – Congratulations! \$49,000 will be given out in rebates.

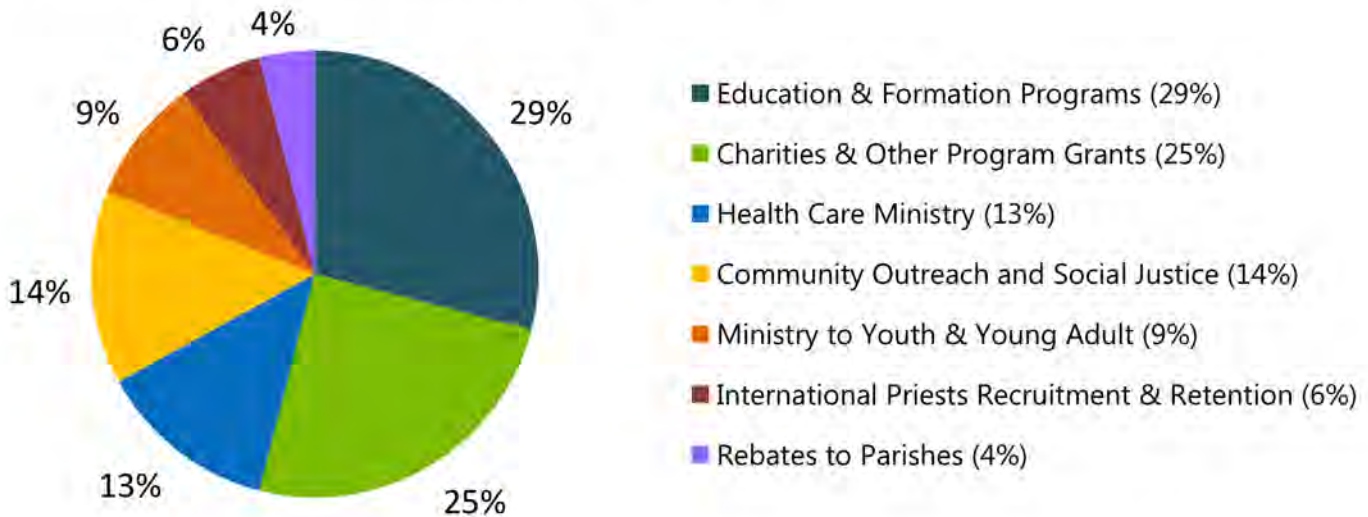
St. Anne - Regina  
 St. John the Baptist - Estevan  
 Holy Rosary Cathedral - Regina  
 Christ the King - Regina  
 Little Flower - Regina  
 St. Jean Baptiste - Regina  
 Sacred Heart - Raymore  
 Our Lady of Grace - Sedley  
 Our Lady of LaSalette - Forget  
 Holy Family - Admiral

St. Joseph - Cabri  
 St. Rita - Strasbourg  
 St Joseph - Claybank  
 St. Wenceslaus\* - Gerald  
 St. Mary - Regina  
 St. Patrick - Spy Hill  
 St. Columbkille - Grenfell  
 Our Lady of Confidence - Cadillac  
 St. Henry - Melville  
 Sacred Heart - Benson

St. Charles - Coderre  
 St John the Baptist - Dysart  
 St. Maurice - Bellegarde  
 Our Lady of the Rosary - Glenavon  
 St. Mary - Churchbridge  
 St. Anne - Lac Pelletier  
 St. Aloysius - Fillmore  
 St. Louis - Mossbank  
**\* Donated rebate to Education of Priests – Thank you!!**

### Your Gifts at Work

Archbishop's Appeal Funds Distributed in 2018 - \$1,431,204



Funds Raised in 2017	\$ 1,401,231
Less:	
Fundraising Costs (9%)	\$ 123,355
Administration Costs (4%)	\$ 56,634
Amount Available for Disbursement in 2018	\$ 1,221,242
Plus:	
Surplus Utilized from Previous Years	\$ 209,962
Total Disbursements in 2018	\$ 1,431,204

### Some Successes for 2018!

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

**40% of parishes increased their total giving over last year.**

**Online Giving is continuously increasing throughout the years.**



# Financial Officer's Report

By Rev. Mr. Barry Wood



It is my pleasure to present the following Summary Financial Statements for Fiscal 2018 and the Auditor's Report on them.

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 careful stewards 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	Dale Scrivens
Gay Patrick - Vice Chair	John Dipple	Harper Boucher
Very Rev. Lorne Crozon	Penny Malone	Karen Vey
Rev. Brian Meredith		

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 Mr. Ed Gebert, who retired from the Finance Council this year, for his many years of service to the council.

Archdiocesan revenues increased by \$1.175 million to \$4.7 million in 2018, largely as a result of selling a property on 7th Avenue where a gain of \$992,000 was recognized. Total expenditures of \$3.845 million increased about \$190,000 from 2017. After adjusting for the gain on sale of property, a deficit of \$153,259 was incurred in 2018 from ongoing operations. This deficit was caused by unrealized investment losses of \$218,000 in the investment portfolio. Market valuations of securities declined significantly in December 2018 but had almost completely recovered to pre-December values by the end of April 2019.

The Archbishop's Appeal and assessments on the income of parishes account for almost 74% of the annual revenue from ongoing operations. 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 donations recognized as revenue of the archdiocese in 2018 increased by \$146,000 to \$1.6 million. Donations from the 2017 Appeal Campaign comprise \$1.378 million of this amount and \$222,000 is a recognition of donations from the 2018 Appeal Campaign. These revenues were used to support archdiocesan ministries - \$1.133 million, grants to other charities - \$230,000, and appeal administration and fundraising - \$222,000.

Office rent increased by \$28,000 to \$140,000. Retirements in several of the pastoral services departments resulted in larger personnel expenditures of \$41,000 as accrued vacation time was paid out to retirees. Staffing changes then led to an increase of \$30,000 in personnel expenses. Planning and design work for the new pastoral centre and cathedral renovation incurred expenditures of \$132,000 and professional fees to sell the 7th Avenue Property were \$47,000, which caused a significant increase in professional fees during 2018.

Ministry and Services expenditures of \$1.2 million increased by almost \$250,000 from 2017. The education of priests and seminarians, social assistance needs of priests, and provision of international priests comprise 66% of this amount or \$792,000. The Archbishop's Appeal funded \$485,000 of these expenditures. Other increases related to the sale of property (\$40,000) and special projects (\$31,000).

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 2018 increased by \$55,000 to \$1.207 million. Hospital Chaplaincy, Lay Ministry Formation, Pastoral Planning and Administration, Permanent Diaconate Formation, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry are the five largest pastoral activities and comprise 70% of the \$1.207 million in expenditures. The Archbishop's Appeal funded \$732,000 of the pastoral services expenditures with Hospital Chaplaincy, Lay Ministry Formation, Permanent Diaconate Formation, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry receiving \$537,000 of this funding.

The Chancery and administrative had expenses of \$770,000 in 2018 representing a decrease of \$47,000 from 2017. Expenditures were lower in all areas except the Diocesan Centre where increases in rent, janitorial and grounds maintenance, and technology repairs were \$14,000 greater than in 2017.

Cash represents the funds required to meet the day to day financing needs to support the work of the archdiocese. The cash balance of \$2.3 million increased from 2017 due to the gain on sale of property.

There are external and internal restrictions on the use of \$3 million of the \$4.724 million of investments held by the archdiocese. Most of the investments are restricted as to use of the principal with the intent that investment income is to assist in funding pastoral activities.

Total Liabilities of \$3.4 million have declined by \$220,000 from last year. Special collections by parishes due to other Catholic Charities represent \$292,000 of the liabilities and \$801,000 represents assets the archdiocese is administering on behalf or jointly with other Catholic charitable organizations.

Unrestricted net assets of the Archdiocese are \$2.337 million and are available to support the general operating purposes of the archdiocese.



Crowe MacKay LLP  
202 - 2022 Cornwall Street  
Regina, SK S4P 2K5  
Main (306) 347 2244  
[www.crowemackay.ca](http://www.crowemackay.ca)

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

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

### *Opinion*

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018, 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 – Pastoral & Chancery Office for the year ended December 31, 2018. In common with many not-for-profit organizations, we expressed a qualified opinion in our report dated April 17, 2019, related to donations and fundraising activities, the completeness of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification.

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of the Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office for the year ended December 31, 2018 are a fair summary of those financial statements on the basis of the criteria described in Note 1.

### *Summary Financial Statements*

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 – Pastoral & Chancery Office.

### *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".

*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.

April 17, 2019  
Regina, Canada



**Chartered Professional Accountants**

---

**Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office**
**Summary Statement of Operations**


---

<b>For the year ended December 31,</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Diocesan appeal (Note 4)	\$ 1,585,162	\$ 1,439,862
Diocesan assessments	1,175,867	1,149,007
Donations and bequests	386,674	227,373
Recoveries	317,271	242,695
Investment and other income	291,831	299,257
Grants	153,295	89,000
Unrealized investment (losses) gains	(217,953)	62,227
Gain on sale of property	992,479	-
	<b>4,684,626</b>	<b>3,509,421</b>
<b>Expenditures (Note 5)</b>		
Appeal costs	165,610	179,989
Appeal grants and rebates	245,759	280,820
Chancery and administration	769,691	817,481
Marriage Tribunal	140,340	142,301
Ministry and services	1,205,799	957,744
Pastoral services	1,207,437	1,152,286
Rental and other	110,770	127,310
	<b>3,845,406</b>	<b>3,657,931</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 839,220</b>	<b>\$ (148,510)</b>

---

---

**Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office**
**Summary Statement of Financial Position**


---

As at December 31, 2018 2017

---

**Assets**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,305,285	\$ 1,411,267
Accounts receivable	601,275	428,275
Prepaid expenses	33,379	27,163
Investments	4,724,868	4,872,935
Loans receivable	30,183	200,256
Invested in property	1,932,028	1,907,029
Trust assets	1,092,952	1,258,940

---

**Total Assets** **\$ 10,179,970** **\$ 10,105,865**

---

**Liabilities**

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 286,197	\$ 267,649
Deferred contributions	494	4,479
Deferred appeal contributions (Note 4)	1,322,777	1,444,774
Insurance account	699,759	651,452
Trust liabilities	1,092,952	1,258,940

---

**Total Liabilities** **\$ 3,402,179** **\$ 3,627,294**

---

**Net Assets**

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 2,337,730	\$ 1,435,939
Invested in Property	1,932,028	1,907,029
Externally Restricted Net Assets	310,533	186,775
Internally Restricted Net Assets	2,737,500	2,948,828

---

**Total Net Assets** **\$ 7,317,791** **\$ 6,478,571**

---

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$ 10,179,970** **\$ 10,105,865**

---

Approved on behalf of the Finance Council:



Financial Officer



Chair, Finance Council

---

**Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office**
**Summary Statement of Cash Flows**


---

For the year ended December 31,	2018	2017
Cash flows (for) operating activities	\$ (33,700)	\$ (212,939)
Cash flows from (for) investing activities	\$ 927,718	\$ (247,869)
<hr/>		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$ 894,018	\$ (460,808)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	\$ 1,411,267	\$ 1,872,075
<hr/>		
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 2,305,285	\$ 1,411,267
<hr/>		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year are comprised of:		
Cash	\$ 2,284,348	\$ 1,405,694
Cash equivalents	20,937	5,573
<hr/>		
	\$ 2,305,285	\$ 1,411,267
<hr/>		

---

## Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office

### Notes to Summary Financial Statements

---

December 31, 2018

---

#### 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, 2018 and December 31, 2017 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 Pastoral & Chancery Office 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 only and differ materially from financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The operations reported in the audited financial statements from which these summary financial statements have been derived relate to the day to day activities and provision of services by the Pastoral & Chancery Office. The master insurance program is accounted for in a separate account entitled "Insurance account" on the statement of financial position.

---

---

## Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office

### Notes to Summary Financial Statements

---

December 31, 2018

---

#### 2. Basis of Preparation (Continued)

These financial statements do not include the activities of the following:

- Inter-Parochial Sharing Fund
- Father Len Sullivan Liturgical Advancement Fund
- Priests' Retirement Plan

The Pastoral & Chancery office is related to the Roman Catholic Parishes governed by the Archdiocese of Regina by virtue of common control by the Archbishop of Regina. The activities and accounts of these Parishes are not consolidated in the audited financial statements from which these summary financial statements have been derived.

#### 3. Significant accounting policies

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

- 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 Pastoral & Chancery Office (including risk of loss); therefore, such amounts do not fully meet the regular definition of trust assets and trust liabilities.
- Related party transactions are not separately disclosed by each related party in the audited financial statements from which these summary financial statements have been derived.

#### 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 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.

---

---

**Archiepiscopal Corporation of Regina – Pastoral & Chancery Office****Notes to Summary Financial Statements**

---

**December 31, 2018**

---

**5. Description of Expenditures**

Provided below is a further breakdown of the types of expenses contained within the major expenditure categories on the Summary Statement of Operations:

- (a) Appeal costs – Includes Fundraising Costs and Administration of the Appeal.
  - (b) Appeal grants and rebates - Includes Rebates to Parishes and Partner Grants
  - (c) 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 Projects, Abuse Treatment and Protocol Office, Council of Priests, Ecumenism, Personnel Support, Vocation Awareness, Archdiocesan Council for Truth and Reconciliation, Spiritual Direction, Liturgy, Archdiocesan Pastoral Council and Stewardship.
  - (d) Pastoral services - Includes Youth & Young Adult, 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 and Indigenous Peoples Ministry.
  - (e) Chancery and administration - Includes Finance & Administration, General Administration, Archbishop's Office, Diocesan Centre, Archives and Archbishop's Residence.
-



## **Archdiocese of Regina**

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

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