



ARCHDIOCESE OF
Regina

2022 Annual Report

Dear Faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina,

*“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”
(Lamentations 3:22-23).*

Warm greetings to all the people of the Archdiocese of Regina and all who read this annual report.

In my family we had a tradition, on January 1st of a new year, for each of us to look back and ponder the blessings and struggles of the year that has just ended, and to share those around the supper table. From a faith perspective, we also look to how God has been at work in our lives and in the community and world around us. The year 2022 within the Archdiocese of Regina witnessed both great blessings and significant struggles; indeed plenty of both. The fine articles found in this report offer more details than this brief overview.

Two of the major events which occupied a great deal of time and attention were part of larger initiatives nationally and in the universal Church. The visit of Pope Francis to Canada to meet with Indigenous Peoples and offer an apology for the abuses suffered in Catholic-operated residential schools was long-awaited. In the Archdiocese, we did what we could to allow as many survivors of residential schools as possible to attend the papal visit to Maskwacis, Edmonton and Lac Ste. Anne. During the course of the visit, Pope Francis offered a roadmap for moving forward in the Church’s relations with Indigenous Peoples: encouraging the support of Indigenous culture, traditions and language; calling for truth-telling attentive to the suffering and injustice experienced by Indigenous Peoples past and present; inviting a commitment to justice grounded in the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and celebrating Indigenous wisdom regarding the land and relations with other creatures and the created world. Pope Francis also noted that although gestures such as a papal visit and apology are important, reconciliation and a better way of walking together largely require work and engagement at the local level; hence we are seeking to take steps to take up these challenges with the 26 First Nations and the Métis community in the territory served by the Archdiocese (for more details, see the Indigenous Relations and Development Office reports on pp 17-18 and 26).

In 2022, work began in earnest on The Synod on Synodality. Pope Francis has long called for a culture of encounter, and has taken many steps to foster a church in dialogue with other Christian communities and world religions, and within the spheres of politics, economics, science and culture. The Synod on Synodality is focused on creating that same spirit of dialogue and common discernment within the Catholic Church, and on reaching out to those who are marginalized by church and society. As a diocese we undertook to engage with questions raised by the Holy See in preparation for the synodal gatherings in Rome. The discussions that were initiated are not an end point, but are meant to continue as the synodal process proceeds in the coming years (for more details, see the Synod Committee’s report on p. 22).



Other initiatives that occupied us during 2022 had a more local focus, though often dealing with concerns and challenges that are shared by other dioceses. One very practical matter that occupied us through much of the year had to do with the fact that the school housing the Pastoral Centre, which we had rented for over three decades, was sold, and we needed to move. The needs of the diocese have changed over those decades, and the move required discernment about what needed to be kept, what needed to be let go of, what needed to be sorted through. The process of packing and preparing took months, and we all breathed a sigh of relief as we settled into rented space at 2151 Scarth St. in the Autumn of 2022.

2022 was the second year that the Victims Services and Advocacy position was in place: a victim of clergy sexual abuse was hired to work with other victims and to assist the archdiocese in reaching out to victims and to take further steps towards accountability and transparency in dealing with the legacy of sexual abuse. This year the VSA initiated and assisted the diocese in receiving a grant which allowed the launching of a series of workshops so that those in leadership and all interested people in our parishes could take steps towards being trauma-informed. The workshops began at the end of 2022 and invited attendees to learn about trauma, triggers, and walking with those who have been deeply wounded (for more details, see the VSA report on p.14). That learning clearly needs to continue.

As the grip of the pandemic gradually lifted, it was time for parishes to begin to discern how our church is changing, and to look at deeper patterns of change. The number of Catholics who regularly participate in parish life dropped off a great deal during the pandemic, and while many returned, many parishes have experienced diminishment in their congregations. A look at the changing number of practicing Catholics over the past 20 years indicated that this decrease, despite the blessing of many new parishioners immigrating to Saskatchewan, has been consistent for a period much longer than the pandemic. It is increasingly clear that there is a need for a larger discernment about how we can work together to foster a church that is healthy, vibrant, and alive to the wonderful richness of being a community of faithful disciples of Jesus.

Amidst all of the changes and tumult, God is faithful. The Lord is with us and attentive to us in our struggles as in our blessings, and the Holy Spirit continues to encourage and guide us. C. S. Lewis noted wisely that “God knows our situation; He will not judge us as if we had no difficulties to overcome. What matters is the sincerity and perseverance of our will to overcome them.” Let us continue to persevere, trusting always in God’s faithful walking with us.

Thank you to all who have assisted with all of the initiatives and work mentioned above and in the other articles of the annual report. And thank you to all who in 10,000 different ways have been instruments of love’s redeeming work in our midst.

Yours in Christ,



+Donald Bolen
Archbishop of Regina



Department of Pastoral Services

by Lisa Polk, Director of Pastoral Services

In 2022 as we marked the second anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic in Saskatchewan, the Pastoral Services Department continued to provide support and pastoral care to people and parishes throughout Southern Saskatchewan. The archdiocesan administration provided leadership to clergy and parishes in navigating the changes brought about by lifted health restrictions.

The Synod on Synodality consultation phase allowed many people to engage in a meaningful discussion on the role of synodality (walking together) in the Church. More can be found about the Synod consultation phase in Nick Jesson's report.



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting survivors of residential schools and their families, a team at the Archdiocese of Regina organized an opportunity for survivors of Residential Schools to attend the events where the Pope would be present in Edmonton. This visit provided an opportunity for healing and reconciliation for some and further pain and frustration for others. Our team members were grateful to participate in the organizing and to accompany the survivors.

In September our ArchCongress went hybrid for the first time! After two years of livestreaming the event we had an in-person gathering in Regina at Resurrection Parish and another in-person gathering in Swift Current with all participants able to comment and ask questions. After a few minor audio issues were corrected we had a great gathering and heard from Bishop Jim Weisgerber.



The Archdiocese of Regina staff underwent not just one but two office moves in 2022. While these moves presented some challenges, they have also provided us with opportunities, allowing us to re-evaluate our operations and begin making improvements that will benefit our staff and visitors in the future.

We said farewell to our receptionist Joan Fellingner in 2022. We are so grateful to Joan for her many years of service. We welcomed Barb Moser as our new receptionist in 2022.

Near the end of 2022, the archdiocesan staff were among the first participants in the trauma-informed workshops that were created and hosted by the Clergy Sexual Abuse Education Committee. The workshop brought critical awareness and discussion for all of the staff.

I want to thank our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment to providing pastoral care and support to our diocese. I also want to express my gratitude to our many partners and supporters who helped us achieve our goals this past year.

We Are Here to Serve You

(list as of June 1, 2023)

Ainemon, Rev. Amédée Guy.....	Personnel
Andree, Rev. Ron.....	Liturgy
Bender, Sharon.....	Parish Pastoral Support Services
Bolen, Most Rev. Donald.....	Archbishop
Braden, Michelle.....	Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Burkhart, Leona.....	Parish Pastoral Support Services
Crozon, Very Rev. Lorne.....	Vicar General
Fahlman, Rev. Brad.....	Bishop's Delegate for Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse
Feist, Sr. Bernadette.....	Indigenous Relations
Fitzgerald, Jerry.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Gorospe, Sr. Amelia SIHM.....	Marriage Tribunal
Gurash, Rev. Mr. Eric.....	Director of Communications and Evangelization
Gurash, Melissa.....	Pastoral Services and Archbishop's Office Administrative Support
Hilbig, Theresa.....	Visitation House
Holtlander, Jennifer.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Horsman, Rae.....	Archives
Jesson, Nicholas.....	Ecumenism & Interfaith Relations
Kuntz, Braden.....	Youth Ministry and Archbishop's Office Administrative Support
Letourneau, Sr. RéAnne.....	Indigenous Relations
Lindenbach, Fr. Christian.....	Assistant to the Archbishop
Lipoth, James.....	Director of Development
Love, Rev. Parker.....	Director of Vocations
Luka, Lukose.....	Finance
Meredith, Rev. Brian.....	Vicar General
Miller, Marlene.....	Spiritual Direction
Moser, Barb.....	Pastoral Services Administrative Support
Nguyen, Very Rev. Thomas.....	Judicial Vicar
Ochieng, Jennifer.....	Finance
Okai, Rev. J.B.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Owolagba, Very Rev. James.....	Chancellor
Polk, Lisa.....	Director of Pastoral Services
Rink, Joan.....	Health Care Chaplaincy
Salkeld, Brett.....	Theologian and Diaconal Formation
Smith, David.....	Marriage Tribunal
Toupin, Tashia.....	Social Justice Coordinator
Trainor, Amanda.....	Archbishop's Office Administrative Support
Walsh, Pamela.....	Victims' Services and Advocacy
Wood, Rev. Mr. Barry.....	Financial Officer

Communications and Evangelization

by Deacon Eric Gurash, Director of Communications and Evangelization

The Office of Communications and the Lay Formation program had another eventful year, navigating the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic while striving to enhance our outreach efforts and digital presence.



The Lay Formation Program:



FAITH
Sharing the Joy
of the Gospel

In the Fall of 2022, we were delighted to resume a full, in-person class schedule at Campion College. It was heartening to see participants reconnect face-to-face and experience the sense of community that had been dearly missed. Additionally, we organized a spring retreat at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster, Saskatchewan, which we anticipate will become a cherished tradition in our program moving forward.

A noteworthy milestone was the graduation ceremony on June 18, where we celebrated the accomplishments of our 2019-2022 class. Nine men and women were sent

forth into the mission fields of our Archdiocese to serve Christ and His church through their words and actions.

Furthermore, establishing a robust alumni group led by recent graduates proved to be a significant development. This committed group is dedicated to maintaining contact with program alumni, providing ongoing formation through retreats and gatherings, and exploring opportunities for past graduates to audit new classes and our on-campus day retreats without charge. They are also actively planning the program's 40th-anniversary celebration in the Fall of 2023.

Communications:

Our digital communication initiatives continued to flourish throughout 2022, allowing us to effectively spread the Good News of Jesus Christ within Southern Saskatchewan and beyond.

Our Thinking Faith podcast continued to increase its reach over the past year with all-time download exceeding 100,000 by the end of 2022. Notable episodes of 2022 included:

Reading For Consolation with Dr. Susan Johnston

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/reading-for-consolation-with-dr-susan-johnston-part-1>

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/reading-for-consolation-with-dr-susan-johnston-part-2>

A Catholic Approach to Horror Movies

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/a-catholic-approach-to-horror-movies-part-1>

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/a-catholic-approach-to-horror-movies-part-2>

Summer Masterclass on the Eucharist

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/summer-master-class-on-eucharist-with-dr-brett-salkeld-part-1>



The <http://www.archregina.sk.ca/news> platform remained a reliable source of local, provincial, national, and international news and faith-inspired stories for the people of the Archdiocese of Regina. The Weekly Report, our Flocknote newsletter, was a valuable distribution channel for important news, reflections, and events.

continued...

Office of Communications and Evangelization (cont'd)

In 2022, we embarked on a significant transformation of our news site, revamping its formatting to more closely align with that of standard news outlets. This redesign aimed to enhance the user experience and provide a familiar interface for our audience, resembling the websites they commonly engage with for news consumption.

This new platform, our social media, and YouTube channels served us exceedingly well during the historic July 2022 Papal Visit. While the Archdiocese sponsored a number of residential school survivors in being able to travel to Edmonton for the visit, our robust and responsive communications network was able to keep the Church in the Archdiocese of Regina up-to-date on events as they developed. Most significant was our ability to assist in hosting a livestream of the Papal apology from Lac St. Anne, AB, at the māmawêyatitân centre in Regina.



Papal apology livestream event at the māmawêyatitân centre in Regina



Jason and Phyllis Littlelent at livestream event

On social media, we observed notable developments. Facebook experienced a decline of 9.2% in over-all post reach, which can be attributed to a swing back from the extraordinary reach it had during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, our followers increased by 18.9% throughout the year. Instagram witnessed a remarkable surge in reach, with a 113% increase compared to the previous year.

Regarding our YouTube channel, we made adjustments to our livestreaming schedule. While daily Mass streams were discontinued in the Fall of 2022, we are grateful to Resurrection Parish for their continued Sunday Mass livestreams on our channel, benefiting the wider Archdiocese. As COVID-19 restrictions eased, we observed a gradual rise in Mass attendance in the latter half of 2022, resulting in a 56% decrease in views compared to 2021. Nevertheless, our subscriber count grew modestly by 11% over the year.

In December 2022, we initiated discussions with Flocknote, a bulk email and communications service, to explore the possibility of offering discounted access to parishes throughout the Archdiocese. This collaboration aims to enhance email deliverability and prevent messages from being marked as spam. We eagerly anticipate advancing this project in 2023.

I remain grateful to the people of the Archdiocese of Regina, particularly our primary support person, Melissa Gurash, and the dedicated Lay Formation Team members: Grant Rathwell, Tom Kraemer, Cindy Walker, Beckey Franke, and Norine Schmaltz. Your support and commitment have been invaluable in our communication and formation endeavors.

May Christ's blessings continue to accompany the vital work we do in communication and evangelization.

Spiritual Direction

by Marlene Miller and Karen Ziegler



Holy listening is the central call of Spiritual Directors in the Archdiocese of Regina. During the third year of the pandemic some spiritual directors slowly began to again serve God's people in person while others continued meeting as a group via any virtual way that accommodated them. Virtual gatherings continued to give support to spiritual directors from other places i.e. Kingston ON; Brandon MB; Nanaimo B.C.; Montreal QE; and New Zealand.

In 2022, a new Spiritual Directors' Gathering Committee formed to plan and host the monthly faith sharing and education gatherings of directors in the archdiocese, across provinces, and around the world. Many thanks to Stephanie Molloy who had previously coordinated our gatherings for quite some time. Her gifts as a faithful, skilled, and resourceful person were a blessing. The current committee members are Linda Smuk, Brenda Brown, Barb Wright, Rita Mae Braun, and Karen Ziegler.

Faith sharing of Spiritual Directors typically alternates with education via Zoom. 2022 sessions included:

The Synod on Synodality; and Planning for the Future by Stephanie Molloy
 Spirituality and the Creative Process by Joan Scaglione
 Protocol of Spiritual Direction by Karen Ziegler and Marlene Miller
 Ending a Spiritual Direction Relationship by Marlene Miller

In August of 2022, three Spiritual Directors began a one-year Ignatian spiritual exercises training program led by Dennis and Karen Ziegler, Pat Laturnas and June Krogan. Under supervision, Carlene Douglas, Denise Esch and Lorraine Nichol are each journeying with two directees. This summer, they will complete their training and be available to lead people through the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises to help people deepen their relationship with God.

Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care

by Jennifer Holtslander, Chaplain

Many experiences of Spiritual Care, including visitation, Holy Communion, and prayers have been offered. At the Pasqua Hospital alone there are records in 2022 for 214 provisions of the Sacrament of the Sick. The Sacrament of the Sick is the tip of the iceberg in terms of care provided and often is our first indication that someone who is Roman Catholic is in the Hospital.

With deep gratitude, we released Bonnie Thiele-Hunt from her ministry at the Pasqua Hospital to the Ministry of Spiritual Care at Trinity Manor.



Joan Rink, Jerry Fitzgerald and Jennifer Holtslander

How can the broader faith community support Roman Catholic Spiritual Care?

1. Please keep on letting us know when you or someone from your circle is in Hospital or Long Term Care so that we can bring the ministries of Prayer, Communion, and the Sacrament of the Sick to you.
2. Thank you for your ongoing donations toward the Archbishop's Appeal. This fund supports the Healthcare Ministries of the Archdiocese. We are so grateful you think of us and want to share God's goodness to those who are in need. Keep on showing your support for these ministries with your generosity.
3. Join us in praying for clarity about next steps and opening doors for ministry to extend. We are still waiting to hear about resumption of Mass within the Pasqua Hospital and Wascana Rehabilitation Centre. We are also waiting for next steps about the return of Spiritual Care volunteers.
4. Consider whether you might be someone with the time and gifts to be able to serve as a relief chaplain. Ideally, you would have taken at least one unit of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) or be willing to enroll in the near future.

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide ministry on behalf of the Archdiocese of Regina. We look forward to what the next year of ministry will bring.

Organization Facilitation Committee

by Rev. Brian Meredith



The Organization Facilitation Committee is responsible for assisting parishes in the task of working through various issues in respectful, healing, and life-giving ways. When issues in a parish are awkward, confusing, or difficult, the committee can: listen to the people involved; facilitate discussions for discerning how to address the issues; propose possible processes (or agencies or individuals) for addressing the issues; and facilitate processes for addressing the issues.

The other members of the Committee are Lisa Polk, Sharon Bender, Leona Burkhart, and Fr. Brad Fahlman. A big thank you to each of these members! In early 2023, due to his many parish commitments, Fr. Brad stepped away from being a member on the committee. We are grateful for Fr. Brad's time and guidance during his time on the committee, and we appreciate being able to still consult with him at various times.

One area in which our committee has been involved to provide direction, support, and accompaniment is in the area of decommissioning of parish church buildings and the merging of parish areas. This past year, we were privileged to accompany a couple of parish communities in this area:

1. In the fall of 2022, a liturgy was held at St. Mary's Parish in Grayson to welcome the members of the former Marieval parish community. It was a beautiful ceremony that honoured all those past and present members of the former Marieval parish area. (The Marieval area was merged with St. Mary's Parish area.)
2. November 12 was an emotionally charged day as the members of Immaculate Conception Parish, Quinton and surrounding areas celebrated the many baptisms, weddings, funerals, Masses, and parish gatherings held over the years. Decommissioning of a parish church building is preceded by many hours of reflection and discernment. Unfortunately, the declining number of parishioners and residents in the town made this a necessary decision. The church was filled with parishioners, family, and friends. Bishop Don led the congregation in a heartfelt ceremony.

Over the past couple of years, the Organization Facilitation Committee's role in addressing various areas has changed; however, our purpose has remained the same. We are deeply grateful that various issues have been able to be directed to Ombudspersons, various support people, the Personnel Committee, and various Archdiocesan Offices and committees. These people and groups have provided excellent guidance and support and are a tremendous blessing!

Archives

by Rae Horsman, Archivist

The Book of Ecclesiastes affords a reminder that "for everything there is a season;" a due process and time for all things (3:1 NRSV). While there is time and space for a diversity of experiences, the one commonality to the seasons of all things is change. It is this word "change" that best describes the past year in the archives at the Archdiocese of Regina. The records and artifacts in the collection endured not one, but two moves in their relocation to the new Diocesan Centre at 2151 Scarth Street, Regina, SK.

Many hours went into packing the archives to ensure the steadfast integrity of the collection in its transition. The move was labouring, but in that hard work was the gift to be acquainted with every part of the collection, and assess the contents of the archives to celebrate all the progress made in its organization over the years passed, but also take note of the various projects and work still ahead. After the archives had been successfully transported, Susan Klein, who served as the archivist for the Archdiocese of Regina for over 20 years, embraced retirement. The legacy of her incredible work is under the charge of a new archivist.



Change is most definitely difficult; but it is inevitable, important, and necessary. It was time to move the office, it was time to review the collection, it was time to amend storage practices, and it was time to retire. It was time for change, and the archives endured that change; to say some goodbyes and to meet new beginnings. Now, as the last of the dust settles in the stacks from the shuffle of things, the archives starts another year in a new home, with a new steward, and a world of possibilities ahead.

With heartfelt thanks, and sincere appreciation from the archdiocese, may Susan Klein enjoy all the peace and blessings of her retirement. The halls of the Diocesan Center hold a spirit of profound gratitude for Susan, the care she invested in her work, and the service she was to the archives, and the entire diocesan community. Thank you, Susan, and happy retirement.

Visitation House

by Theresa Hilbig, Executive Director



I would again like to extend my gratitude on behalf of all the women and children, volunteers and visitors for the support, prayers and love given to all who connect with Visitation House in any way. We have weathered the storms, of our time, and with your help, still continue to be a light in a darkened world.

Over the past year, I notice a definite theme of health issues, as compared to previous years when emotional, relationship, financial and spiritual issues were the topics most women shared around the table.

In 2022, we began offering meals for participants who came to the centre from Monday to Thursday: soup, sandwiches and dessert.

Addiction is a growing problem in our neighborhood. I have had many women camp out in front of the centre as a result of being under the influence and not knowing where to go. I call around weekly, looking for a space for a woman to begin treatment for her addiction. Sadly, there are not enough spaces and instead, “harm reduction” spots are easier to find. I have referred women to shelters, programs, and hospitals. Sometimes, I will not see them for weeks or months, but many times they come back, defeated because they weren’t able to accomplish sobriety. We always welcome them back, and give them encouragement to keep trying to find help.

I am grateful that I have the opportunity to offer the Saving Power of Jesus Christ to the hopeless. They are always open to hearing about Jesus. When they leave, they take Rosaries, religious pictures, and prayer cards with them. We offer to pray with and for the women, and we continue to offer our Daily Prayer Circle, reading Gospel messages and allowing the women to offer their prayer requests for personal issues, or world issues. Women sometimes call and ask if we are still doing this. Even if they are not attending regularly, they tell me they feel happy knowing that we are praying every day for them and others!

I continue to agree to drop off groceries, or pick up prescriptions for women who are unable to do so themselves. Many times I receive calls requesting advice about a sick child or a woman herself. I almost always suggest calling the Health Line, or an ambulance.

There are some successes! Some families come to the centre because their kids can play in a quieter atmosphere. We continue to receive pantry donations from the Catholic Schools, churches and private individuals. Those are a blessing and allow us to offer a bag of groceries to a family in need, and to cook meals that we offer at the centre.

We had a lovely Christmas gathering, again with the help of Joan Zook from the IGA in White City, as well as special volunteers. Several teachers took on projects of putting together hygiene packs, snack packs and collected other items, such as socks, toques, mitts, etc. St. Elizabeth’s School gathered a lot of children’s winter coats and boots etc., which gave a lot of families much needed outer wear! We had candy bags delivered, toys and gifts for the women, from individuals, churches and schools! The teachers at St. Elizabeth and St. Nicholas Schools also had the children decorate small bags for us to put snacks in. They included a little card with a message of love hand written and decorated in the bag. The children at St. Nicholas School also made a large number of Rosaries to give out to the women! I have had them blessed, and have given away quite a few.



Two irreplaceable members have moved on from our advisory board: Henry Marcotte and Rita Hengen. We also lost two former volunteers: Fr. Don O’Neil, who served on our Advisory Board for many years, and Sr. Vicky Hagel, who used to bring students from Notre Dame to volunteer once a week.

Fr. John Weckend continues to be our Beacon of Hope, continuing to raise money for the centre through the QCM. He recruits runners, manages all the logistics and in the end, we are the benefactors of (this year) over \$10,000. Thank you to all who donate to this worthy cause!

I would again like to express my deep gratitude to all our benefactors, who so generously help make the lives of our visitors happier and easier! May our Merciful savior protect, guide and enlighten all the hearts of His faithful!

Archdiocesan Theologian & Permanent Diaconate

by Dr. Brett Salkeld, Archdiocesan Theologian

Permanent Diaconate

In 2022, the Archdiocese was delighted to have our two aspirants to the permanent diaconate, Ken Fahlman and Martin Kondzieleski, installed as lectors, an important step on their journey towards ordination in June 2024. A full year of face-to-face weekends, often alongside our friends in the lay formation program, was very fruitful. It is truly a joy to watch these men grow into their diaconal identity through the formation process.



This year I was happy to have the ongoing support of our diaconate oversight committee to help discerning with various questions and decisions that emerge over the course of the program, and I am always grateful to Deacon Barry Wood who is an important presence throughout the formation process.

We continue to work with two aspirants from the Diocese of Saskatoon, Nicholas Blom and Paul Wheeler, who were also installed as lectors in 2022. It is a great blessing for our dioceses to be able to cooperate and share resources in diaconate formation and beyond.

Archdiocesan Theologian



I am blessed to be able to pursue many other exciting and valuable projects that help build up the faith in our local Catholic community and, through teaching, writing, podcasting, and speaking, beyond our borders as well.

2022 was my first full year as Saskatchewan director of Newman Theological College's Masters of Religious Education program, a program equipping Catholic teachers across our province to integrate their Catholic faith more fully into their vocation of teaching. In addition to my administrative duties, in the Fall semester of 2022, I taught Introduction to Moral Theology to our Saskatchewan cohort.

"Thinking Faith!", the Archdiocesan podcast that I cohost with Deacon Eric Gurash, continues to come out every Tuesday and now has hundreds of episodes and hundreds of thousands of downloads. Some of the most popular topics covered in 2022 included [a Master class on the Eucharist](#), [a panel discussion following the striking down of Roe vs. Wade](#), and [a Catholic approach to horror movies](#). Our top episode was "[Reading for Consolation](#)" with University of Regina English professor and Christ the King parishioner Susan Johnston. We are always delighted to hear from you with ideas or questions for us to delve into on the show. This is also a great way for us to reach out beyond the Archdiocese and be of service to the global Church. We even occasionally get donations to the Archbishop's Appeal from listeners in other dioceses.

Thankfully, 2022 allowed the resumption of travel and I was delighted to go to Toronto in October for When Faith Meets Pedagogy, a huge Catholic Education conference, where I was the keynote speaker presenting on "Making Every Class Catholic," the subject of my latest book (though supply chain issues with paper – of all things! – delayed actual publication until 2023). I was also able to resume travelling to the meetings of the Canadian Roman Catholic – Evangelical Dialogue on which I serve the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Closer to home, I continued to write and speak on contemporary matters like [a Catholic approach to Truth and Reconciliation](#) and [synodality](#) or perennial issues like the relationship between faith and reason as, e.g., when I teach Intro Theology in our lay formation program. I am always delighted to visit our local parishes for things like talks to an RCIA group, or a Question-and-Answer night and 2022 was a welcome return to normal for such parish events. It is always great to get out and meet the Catholic faithful, so if your parish would like to host something like this, don't be shy!

Parish Pastoral Support Services

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

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. -1 Peter 4.10

The most important item that we need to report on is the generous sharing of the talents of all parishioners. Throughout the entire Archdiocese an abundance of time and talent is dedicated to parishes. Much of this sharing is offered humbly and with love. Words cannot thank these dedicated individuals enough. These parishioners are the foundation of our Archdiocese.



Sharon Bender



Leona Burkhart



This year's diagram is similar to last year. The arrows are an attempt to exhibit that although the areas within our department overlap they also flow from one area to another. What follows reflects on the ongoing work in each area. What you will notice is our department is not event driven. Providing ongoing support to parishes in all three areas allows for a diverse and exciting department.

Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry

2022 found us in the 4th year of our 5-year cycle of in person Protocol for Responsible Parish Ministry. All the parishes have dedicated many hours to ensure that all our parishioners, especially those most vulnerable, are safe. Our appreciation to all the Protocol Committees for their dedication. Requesting paperwork and Criminal Record Checks can at times be challenging and we applaud those who have supported committees.

Organization Facilitation Committee

Working with parishes on management strategies, conflict resolution and assisting with parish decommissioning's, upon request, requires time, patience and many in person meetings. The size of our diocese is vast and can result in a feeling of isolation. We endeavour to try to keep everyone in our diocese feeling connected and part of our larger church family.

Human Resources

Providing information on contracts, work environments, harassment and hiring of staff remains an important component of this office. This is a dynamic area with continuous new laws and legislative pieces happening.

General

The Parish Pastoral and Financial Guidelines were revised and became effective at the end of 2021. Workshops, focused on explaining the rationale and structural changes of the Guidelines, were conducted in all ten deaneries. Parishes have been asked to review their constitutions, make any necessary adjustments and forward a copy to our department. The response to date has been good. Several constitutions are still to come but it is a work in progress.

Horizons of Hope is a program we offer to parishes and their communities. It helps us to understand serious illness, death and dying. We have had the privilege to present this program last fall. The program has been developed by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.

*What you resist persists
What you accept transforms.*

--C. Yung

Social Justice

by Tashia Toupin, Social Justice Coordinator

The 2022 year has blessed our diocese with many gifts. In the Social Justice Office, we have seen many of these fruits through the participation of so many in our communities. This report hopes to highlight a few of those many fruits, it in no way can showcase all the ways that the people of the Archdiocese of Regina are living out their baptismal call to build the kingdom of God here on earth. A heartfelt thank you to the many of you who do so much!



This year was the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Reverence for Life Commission. We chose the theme "Choose Life!" The materials we shared with you included three stories of families who "chose life" for their children despite medical complications. There is so much love and joy for these families. To view these, and all our resources, check out our newly updated website: [Reverence For Life](#).

The Social Justice Commission was present for part of the Clergy Study Days this year. We explored the relationship between charity and justice, the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and some of the challenges and hopes of our parishes. We are optimistic that seeds were planted there and will be watered throughout the Archdiocese. If you'd like to invite us to your parish or community please reach out! [Social Justice Commission](#)



June was a time of gathering, listening, and sharing as Development and Peace Caritas Canada held their Orientation Assembly in Halifax, NS. It was a wonderful opportunity to network with our sister organizations, [Caritas Internationalis](#), and the [Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité \(CIDSE\)](#). We had some thought-provoking and wonderfully thoughtful presentations from this week:

- Cardinal Michael Czerny SJ (watch his Keynote address: From Vatican II's Signs of the Times to the Synod of the 2020's, [HERE](#)),

- Dr. Lance Dixon (Watch his Keynote address: Let them come to me – Inclusivity and Grace in a Catholic Movement, [HERE](#)),

- The Honourable Graydon Nicholas ([Watch HERE](#))

One of our Partners the Pastoral Land Commission in Brazil represented by Sr. Jean Bellini's address: Living the Church of the Poor, ([Watch HERE](#))

- Panel discussion: The Voice of Youth and Young Adults ([Watch Here](#)), and for a quick overview and some great pictures over the last 7 years, here is the [Highlight Video](#)

The Social Justice Office has been busy with many other initiatives that you might be interested in:

- Met with Members of Parliament about laws that call for due diligence of Canadian extractive companies that operate overseas to behave in the same way that they would if they were operating here in Canada.

- Joined the [Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation \(JPIC\)](#) Board of Directors.

- Gathered in-person (yeah!) in Kelowna at the Seaton House of Prayer for the Annual Western Conference of Social Justice. We will be gathering in Saskatoon at Queen's House in 2023. If you are interested in attending please contact ttoupin@archregina.sk.ca

- In response to the Synod consultation there have been some exciting new groups discussing the themes of inclusive liturgy and appropriate leadership of women in the Church.

- We helped promote and launch the [Laudato Si` Action Platform](#). This falls under the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development out of the Vatican. There are many excellent resources for your use.

Looking to the future, I hope we can collaborate across this great province to have conversations about the problems we see facing us. We can hold space for varied opinions to be shared and ultimately grow closer to God, the Creator and lover of life, through our prayer, work, conversations, and actions.

Contact Tashia Toupin for more information on any of these exciting areas at: ttoupin@archregina.sk.ca

Victim Services and Advocacy

by Pamela Walsh, Victim Services and Advocacy



Rarely a day went by in 2022 when the VSA was not engaged in working with, listening to, or being there for victims/survivors. In addition, other events, projects, areas of interest and accomplishments during 2022 are too numerous to list; here are some highlights from 2022.

- The deanery presentations on clergy sexual abuse – were completed in January.
- Connecting with people from New Zealand has produced numerous conversations resulting in a commitment to work together on various issues.
- Diocese's first-ever Live streamed Way of the Cross through victims' voices was held at St. Cecilia's Regina and was well received, with over 75 views online.
- They continued Zoom workshops with four new workshops presented through the VSA. Others around Canada, New Zealand, England and South Wales joined the core attendees. Having such a diverse group is very encouraging.
- The publication of an article in America: The Jesuit Magazine on Transparency, Accountability and Change.
- On March 4, the VSA and CSA Core working group presented through St. Paul's University School of Excellence on Safe Guarding, which quickly garnered international attention: A Victim-Centred Approach: Best Practices for Accompaniment, Reducing Re-victimization and Dealing with a Legacy of Clergy Sexual Abuse.

The diocese part of the Synod and the papal visit significantly negatively impacted many victims/survivors. The Synod lacked awareness of how or why it needed to be safe for those deeply harmed by the church. The final process was a failed and missed opportunity to listen to people in a deeper, more profound, and significant way and hear the pain of those deeply wounded. The focus of Canada and the majority of the church surrounding the injustices of Residential Schools, which victims fully supported, and the discussions surrounding the pope's visit left victims on their own. The majority of the church failed to understand the profound impact this would have on victims and the failure of the church to understand or realize the brutality that many victims/survivors faced throughout their abuse or how deeply negatively impacted they were as their wounds were ripped open for them to endure in silence. The damage caused by not ensuring support and resources were available in every diocese during the papal visit will take years to repair.

A bright spot came to light when the diocese received notification that THE RASKOB FOUNDATION, out of the USA, had awarded the diocese a \$76,000 USD grant, leading to increased support through the VSA, additional counselling for victims, and increased educational opportunities for both victims and non-victims.

Looking at previous workshops, the difficulties in the synod process and the traumatic impact of the papal visit on victims created a platform to discuss the next steps for workshops. It became clear that we could educate non-victims about abuse and help victims be heard, but it could also be expanded to other topics where people had endured trauma. This sparked the idea of a diocese-wide Trauma-Informed Perspective workshop to move the diocese toward becoming a trauma-informed diocese. With much hard work, the massive undertaking started in November with the first workshop for the Core Working group, including Bishop Don and the ombudspersons. This will continue into 2023.

Working in the area of Victim Services and Advocacy is no easy task. When we enter into the painful and horrific past that victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse endured, there is no way to unhear the shared torment, hurt, pain and suffering. However, if you listen, really listen, one comes to understand the monumental loss of childhood, faith, life and future that was stripped away and then often buried for decades. Leaving many generations to come to deal with the legacy of the past and the trauma their family members endured. The VSA office is deeply privileged to walk with those who reached out, be it to tell their story, share their wounds, or want to make sure it never happens again.

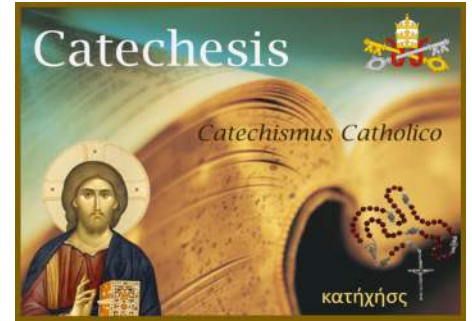
The VSA would not have been able to do our work without the help of people dedicated to ensuring the truth of what has happened in the past comes to light through transparency, accountability and change and is recognized as the way forward. This work can be filled with tension and difficulty, with not everyone seeing things the same way, resulting in disagreements, challenges, and complex journeys. Those times are difficult, but remarkable work has come from those processes. For all of those who helped in so many ways, all I can say is Thank You.

Catechetical Support for Parishes

by Robert Barr

“Who are catechists? They are the people who keep the memory of God alive.”
– Pope Francis

As ever, we must give thanks to God for the generous donors of the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. It is through the Appeal that catechesis support is possible. The Catechetical Support Office’s role is to accompany the Catechists and priests of the archdiocese in both rural and urban parishes to assist their ministries.



In addition to regular parish visits within the Archdiocese, the Catechetical Support Office achieved three targets. First, relationships were strengthened with lateral colleagues from other dioceses across Canada, especially Western Canada. There is great value in learning from others and it provides perspective for the catechesis ministry. Secondly, a Catechist Friendship Group was launched. The Catechist Friendship Group was established for the purpose of creating a Catechist Community throughout the Archdiocese. There is a genuine need for catechist community within the Archdiocese. It is not a committee; it has no meetings, no minutes, and no decisions are made. It is a place of friendship and support, where Catechists may come together to help shape the future needs of catechesis. The initial stage includes one Friend from each deanery who may relay the mood of the deanery. We hope it will evolve into creating catechist communities within the deaneries. Thirdly, after three years of research, a parish Catechesis program was launched that fills all parish needs, for all generations, situations, and church seasons, that go way beyond sacrament prep. The program is called *Fashioning Faith* and it is available to all parishes, but is especially useful for the rural parishes. It is a VERY affordable program, and the first-year subscription was funded with gratitude by the Archbishop’s Appeal through the Catechesis Support Education Budget.

Not among the official goals, but a bonus achievement was established. A weekly catechesis section for the Archdiocese bulletin that is sent to all parishes for all the faithful to access. We hope it is providing catechesis opportunities to all the faithful of the archdiocese.

The Catechetical Support Office humbly reports that relationships among catechists were further nourished in 2022 which may be the cause for a markable increase in calls and emails fielded by the office. We are grateful and we hope to continue to serve. With a closer relationship growing between the catechists and the Catechetical Support Office, we are confident in reporting that catechesis within the Regina Archdiocese is in good shape. Over the past year, the condition and health of catechesis content also appear solid while meeting the needs of various people, yet there was a notable display of an increased stretch in human resources and finances.



Students from St. Joseph at Canora, SK are testing lemon juice, sugar, and water as a teaching tool to assist in understanding the three-in-one of the Holy Trinity

We are grateful for your hospitality and look forward to serving this ministry in 2023. As in previous years, we ask for your prayers. We will continue to pray for our catechists daily and pray that we will serve you “where you are at”.

Indigenous Relations

by Sr. RéAnne Letourneau p.m.

The year 2022 was a very significant year in the area of Indigenous Relations and Truth and Reconciliation, especially with Pope Francis' penitential pilgrimage to Canada. But like any pilgrimage or journey, it's the preparation and steps leading up to the "destination" that are important, and the steps afterwards equally so!

A lot of effort was given to:

1) Educating non- Indigenous people on the history of residential schools and the current effects of colonization. This was done through presentations to groups such as Resurrection Parish, the social justice groups of Christ the King Parish, and Christ the Teacher Catholic School Division board members and senior administration; Blanket Exercises were done with groups such as the Lay Formation participants, Christ the King Parish, and the Moose Jaw CWL.

2) Connecting regularly with Indigenous families in the city and on First Nation communities, through various events and ceremonies. To highlight two:

-Star Blanket Cree Nation hosted an "Every Child Matters" walk from the highway through the village of Lebret, and ending with speakers and a time of food and fellowship in the Whitecalf Gym in Lebret. Many members of the church were there to walk with and show support, especially in light of the ground penetrating radar work on the ground of the former Lebret Indian residential school.

-The Cote First Nations Elders' Council hosted a youth culture camp at Peepaw Lake, which the Archdiocese helped support financially through the CCCB's Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. It was the first project in Canada to receive a grant from this fund. See the full story and video here: <https://youtu.be/gMIVeowch4A>

In late March and early April, an Indigenous delegation consisting of First Nations, Metis and Inuit went to Rome to meet with Pope Francis, to share their stories, educate, and prepare him for what he would encounter if (as we hoped) he was able to come to Canada. It was during this delegation's visit that Pope Francis issued a formal apology for the harm done through the residential school system. For many it was an important beginning and the start of a healing journey, and for others, more words and steps were needed.

Dioceses throughout Canada were invited to be part of a Sacred Fire Prayer Wave that invited some form of intercessory prayer during this delegation in Rome. Here in Regina our prayer slot was March 28th from 3-6pm at St. Cecilia's parish.



Sacred Fire Prayer Wave participants, St. Cecilia

Shortly after the delegation, it was announced that the Pope would be coming to Canada from July 24-29 to meet with Indigenous peoples and especially survivors. Due to his health and limited mobility, as well as other factors, it was decided by the Vatican that the Pope would do three stops throughout Canada to meet with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people: in a western hub (Alberta), an eastern hub (Quebec), and a northern one (Nunavut).

continued...

Indigenous Relations (cont'd)

The months leading up to the visit were very full, as we reached out to residential school survivors within the Archdiocese. Our archdiocese's Truth and Reconciliation Committee and archdiocesan staff were very busy. One group focused on reaching out to First Nation communities, to facilitate survivors being able to go to Alberta. Another group stayed back in Regina to organize a livestream at the mâmawêyatitân centre of the much-anticipated encounter with Pope Francis at Maskwacis. Assistance was also provided to First Nations, such as Cowessess and Star Blanket Cree Nation, that wanted to live stream the event in their own community.

We did not want to limit how many survivors could go to Alberta and so we opened it up to as many survivors as wanted to attend. Various non-Indigenous allies and parishes asked how they could be a part if this and one of the ideas that came forth was to raise money to "adopt a bus" so that we could transport survivors with care and comfort. There were parishes in the archdiocese that participated in various forms of fundraising to be able to provide a bus. In the end we were able to send three chartered buses, with 145 people.



WALKING
TOGETHER
POPE FRANCIS CANADA 2022

MARCHER
ENSEMBLE
PAPE FRANÇOIS CANADA 2022

In order for survivors to be well taken care of, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually, we asked that each choose a support person to accompany them on the journey: a family member or close friend. It's important to note that among the Indigenous people who went to Edmonton, some were connected to the Catholic church in varying degrees, and others had no connection to the church but felt it was important for their particular journey.

It's also important to remember that everyone damaged by the residential school experience is at a different stage on their personal journey towards healing: for some, the papal apology and some of the words expressed really touched them deeply, and for others there was much more that needed to be said. Various emotions were experienced and many triggers occurred due to the trauma still carried. While there was a certain lived experience of the survivors who attended in person, it was a very triggering event on a larger scale...respect and sensitivity are needed to honor each person's response and emotions. Some survivors have since shared that the message of Pope Francis was a big step in their healing journey, for others it was a small beginning, and for others it was a painful reminder of so much more work that needs to be done within the church.

I am so deeply grateful for all the different ways people reached out to help: the many hours by archdiocesan staff organizing the buses, accommodations and the many details involved; volunteers preparing healthy snack packs; an amazing group of volunteers who came along to assist the survivors and their support people; two registered nurses who journeyed with us the full three days; the mental health support workers that offered their services in Alberta; as well as those that were part of the live stream event at the mâmawêyatitân centre. The friendship and encouragement shown by all the volunteers was a real support for those organizing and leading things!

On Sunday, July 24, two buses picked up Indigenous people in Regina with some of our volunteer team, and the other bus picked up Indigenous people at a centralized location for those survivors who could not make it into Regina. After the arrival in Edmonton, we anxiously awaited what the next day would bring.

On Monday July 25, all three buses were part of this important day, and survivors and their support people joined many other Indigenous people in the large pow wow arbor at Maskwacis. Pope Francis arrived, first stopping at the cemetery where one of Canada's residential schools once stood. On the main stage he issued his apology on Canadian soil, highlighting the deep and painful effects that colonization has had even to this day.

On Tuesday July 26, one bus headed back to Regina and the remaining two buses transported those who wanted to participate in the mass at Commonwealth Stadium in the morning in Edmonton and/or Lac Ste Anne in the afternoon.

Some very eager people wanted to attend both events that day, and we did everything we could to facilitate. Boxed lunches were ordered ahead of time, and never did we imagine that the green, yellow and white Subway box would not only provide sustenance, but would also be an excellent marker to spot people from our group among the chaos of thousands of people arriving at Lac Ste Anne. It even helped us find a survivor wandering on the crowded road looking for our bus after the event was over!

continued...

Indigenous Relations (cont'd)

A highlight for me was Lac Ste Anne where the Pope's message really emphasized the important role of women, mothers, and grandmothers (kokums!), since it was the feast of St. Anne, the grandmother of Jesus. Sitting in the grotto area, surrounded by so many kokums, especially the ones that we know and love right here in the archdiocese, really touched me deeply. One of them was sitting next to me, quite physically exhausted, and she fell asleep on my shoulder, which I was grateful to provide for her! Suddenly she woke up, looking around as the Pope was speaking, and exclaimed in a loud voice: "This is so great!!!" and proceeded to go back to sleep! Sometimes the words are not even what's most important at the time, but to just be surrounded by other Indigenous people, especially survivors and support people and having that communal experience of family and solidarity.

After the Pope left Lac Ste Anne, one bus headed to the hotel, and another one remained there for those that wanted to stay and walk and enter the healing waters of the lake. Water is a symbol of our emotional life, and so many emotions were experienced by all who were part of this journey: fear/worry, sadness, anger, and joy. Personally, it felt like I was able to leave all the emotions in the loving arms of our sister, the water, as I turned my heart toward home.



Bp. Don and Sr. RéAnne and the banner with names of students who died at residential schools



Lac Ste Anne

The next steps after the Papal visit found us resuming our Indigenous Relations initiatives within the archdiocese. There were occasions to travel to Swift Current and Lac Pelletier with one of the Survivors who had gone to Alberta, in order for her to share her reconciliation journey and especially her experience on the Papal visit. For the Sept 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the Littletent family once again blessed us with a cultural experience and teachings at Holy Rosary Cathedral (and later, St. Peter's parish in Lumsden) with a renewed reconciliation focus after the events of the summer.

Whether it was the experiences that led up to, during and after the Papal visit, or the daily relationship-building especially through the ANARC monthly potluck and sharing circles and our monthly kokums' circle, the journey of Truth and Reconciliation has taken many twists and turns, through uneven paths and muddy waters. I can also sum up all of 2022 as a kind of spiritual childbirth: it was a long labour, there was much pain in the process, and new life did indeed come forth.

Valley Native Ministry

by Sr. Bernadette Feist, osu



Our ministry continued during 2022. Communion was brought to shut-ins at Peepeekisis, Lebret, Carry the Kettle, Muskowekwan, Balcarres, Little Black Bear, Lestock, Kamsack, Zagime, Cowessess and Fort Qu'Appelle. Liturgies were rotated among File Hills, Standing Buffalo, Zagime, and Lestock/Muskowekwan. I sent out 118 copies/month of Gathering the Four Winds.

Our "Too Good to be Threw" Friday gatherings continued for sharing lives, healing and reconciliation over lunch and coffee. This summer at the Lebret Museum, we offered tours to visitors from Regina, Saskatoon, First Nations and local small towns, Manitoba, B.C., Alberta, Quebec, the U.S., Germany, and Switzerland.

In December, I was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for service to the community.

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

by Braden Kuntz and Michelle Braden, Youth Ministry Co-ordinators



After the “Synod on Youth” in 2018, October of 2022 saw Pope Francis launch a “Synod on Synodality”, encouraging church leaders across the world to intentionally engage in the process of listening to all those we encounter; both inside and outside of our church communities. Across the country, the results showed time and time again a deep concern for reaching our young people with the message and joy of our faith.

It is in this spirit of moving outside of the doors of the church to become “agents of encounter” (with Christ) that we move forward in seeking to minister to all. Our mantra is the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is often....” here comes everybody!”. The only way forward in engaging our young people is to see them not as a problem to be solved, but as a gift for our church. We endeavor to provide opportunities for both those young people who are already valued members of our parish communities as well as the many young people (and their families) who are not visible members of our church communities. It is a constant striving to find the balance between evangelization and catechesis.

Some highlights of our efforts in 2022 were as follows:



This year saw us return to a more typical My Gen experience with the reintroduction of service projects into the schedule. The decision was made for a multitude of reasons to opt for one very full day as opposed to a two-day experience. The theme of “Into the Deep” invited participants to do just that dive deeper into a relationship with God.



Grade 7-9 Virtual Retreat

This retreat which was born out of necessity during the pandemic continues to be requested. It is a unique experience in which we get to minister to 2000 students at a time from all 4 of the Catholic School Divisions found in our archdiocese. It never ceases to amaze us how the Holy Spirit can work even online!

Youth Ministry in the Parishes

Parish-based youth ministry continues to be a great challenge in this diocese and indeed across the country. We continue to pray, dream and seek to find new and creative ways to inspire and support parishes in their ministry to the young people in their communities.

continued...

Youth Ministry (cont'd)

Young Adult Ministry

We have some truly amazing young adult leaders and disciples in this archdiocese. We were able to gather together this year for a summer retreat weekend out at Glen Harbour as well as a Fall day retreat out at Camp Monahan. In addition, young adults in our diocese continue to inspire us with all the ways in which they serve and support the ministries of this office and of many of our parishes.

Source

Source is starting to rebound after the difficult couple of years when the difficulties around gathering in person really depleted the solid community that had been formed. Source happens once a month at a number of Regina parishes. It is an evening of food, fellowship, a talk, Adoration and reconciliation. The evening is geared towards high school students and could not happen without the support of several priests, parishes and a core of young adult volunteers. geared towards high school students.

Archdiocesan Summer Camps

Summer Camps were back in action this summer, with many continuing to offer a hybrid of overnight camping experiences and the opportunity for day camp experiences. Each of our 4 diocesan camps are individual entities, each run by a board specific to that camp. This office is proud to work closely alongside them offering support and community to those on the front lines of this important ministry.



Leadership Camp

Our annual leadership camp for teens and young adults continues to be one of the highlights of our ministry year. The leaders that emerge and go on to serve the church are actually numerous. The ways in which God moves, inspires, heals and ignites hearts never ceases to amaze us. Our theme in 2022 was Medieval Madness. We had lots of fun with medieval games including jousting and “ultimate Cabbage”. We also spent lots of time looking at virtues and how they can be lived out in our current realities.

Fireside Chats

Fireside chats was born of an expressed need by young people for a safe place to chat about concerns like depression, anxiety and other challenges. Our office facilitated some fireside conversations with groups of young people, thus building circles of support for those in need.

Our Lady of the Cape

We were blessed to be able to receive the travelling statue of “Our Lady of the Cape” as she made her way across Canada. Our office was blessed to help facilitate visits to several schools as well as a day of activities at Holy Rosary Cathedral.

Vocations

by Father Parker Love, Vocations Director

To live the call that God has for you is a crucial part of the Christian life. St Paul's words in his Letter to the Romans, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (8:38-39) are especially relevant. St. Paul's words remind us that even in the face of adversity, God's love for us is unwavering. This is a comforting message for all those who are discerning a call, as it can be a challenging and sacrificial.

As part of our duty as Catholics, we are called to help young people develop a strong faith foundation. This includes teaching them the importance of living virtuous lives, which can prepare them to live their Vocation. The unshakeable love that God has for them isn't a guarantee that God's plan can be fulfilled in their lives.

In the Archdiocese of Regina, 2022 was the first year in a number of years that there were no Ordinations to the Priesthood. While we recognize that all Vocations are a crucial to the Church, and that each vocation requires dedicated and faithful individuals, it is especially important to be preparing young people to be open to the Priesthood. Through our efforts to develop the faith of young people, we hope to inspire and prepare them to answer God's call to serve in the priesthood. We offer various resources and programs that can help young people discern their vocation, including retreats, spiritual direction, and opportunities to serve in the Church.



Recently, I learnt that most common shared characteristic in new seminarians is a devotion to Eucharistic Adoration and the Rosary. For me, this highlights the importance of these practices in fostering a strong faith foundation, which can be crucial for all those discerning a Vocation, especially to the priesthood. It may be worth considering how we can encourage and support these practices in our own Parish communities, and how we can provide opportunities for young people to deepen their faith and discern their vocations. By doing so, we can better support those who feel called to serve in the Church.

In conclusion, the passage from Romans 8:38-39 is a powerful reminder of the enduring love of God and the importance of answering His call. As we work to develop the faith of young people, we must emphasize the importance of living virtuous lives, which can prepare them for their future Vocation, whatever it may be. Through our efforts and with God's guidance, we can continue to support and encourage those who feel called to serve the Catholic Church.

Synod Committee

by Nicholas Jesson, Ecumenical Officer



Pope Francis has called the whole church to participate in a process of becoming a more synodal church. The word “synod” comes from Greek and translates as “walking with” or “walking together.” It is a dynamic word that denotes a journey, a movement, or a pilgrimage towards something. The Biblical story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus has been offered as a synodal vision: two faithful disciples walking together with Jesus, reflecting on scripture, and seeking to understand. Together, they discover Jesus in a new way as they break open the Word and the Eucharist. They are inspired and sent out in mission, strengthened by the sacrament and guided by the Spirit.

In October 2021, the church worldwide began listening to one another and reflecting on the simple questions: “How are we walking together as a church? And what is the Spirit saying to us?” Through this discussion, we hope to discover how the church is called to live synodically.

The diocesan phase of the Synod began with a Mass on October 17, 2021. Over the next eight months, groups across the diocese explored these fundamental questions using a resource developed by the Synod office in Rome and adapted by our Archdiocesan team. We offered a booklet for parishes with a simple outline, prayers, reflection questions, and a leader’s guide to use in listening sessions. After each listening session, the leaders were asked to collect the group’s responses and send them to our Synod team. In addition, sessions were held with particular groups, including Indigenous, LGBTQ, women, divorced and remarried, interchurch couples, school boards, teachers, youth, and others. The Synod team collected together all of these responses into a report on what we have heard. This Archdiocesan synthesis titled “Called to be a Listening Church” was released on May 25, and a diocesan Synod Gathering was held the following Saturday, May 28, 2022.

The Synod Gathering was held at Resurrection Parish in Regina and at Christ the Redeemer Parish in Swift Current. Ecumenical observers for the day were Rev. Ali Tote of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fr. Michael Bruce of the Anglican Church, and Rev. Amanda Currie of the Presbyterian Church. Archbishop Don Bolen welcomed the participants, Armella Sonntag outlined the stages of the diocesan phase, and Nicholas Jesson gave a theological reflection introducing the report. Bernadette Kutarna shared her perspective as a woman in the church, Joanna Landry offered an Indigenous perspective, and Marrick Kowalski offered a youth ministry perspective. Throughout the day, table group and plenary discussions allowed for an open exchange of views and perspectives about the Synod question and the diocesan report. Finally, the ecumenical observers each offered insights on the theme of synodality, and then Archbishop Don answered questions and sent us off with his blessing. The many insights gathered from the day were used to revise the diocesan report before submitting it to the Assembly of Western Catholic Bishops.

The diocesan phase of the Synod ended at the end of May, but the Synod work continued. I was asked to join a team of five from Western Canada to gather the diocesan reports and create a joint report. This work was completed in July and then sent to Ottawa, where it was combined with reports from Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada before being sent to Rome. The Synod office in Rome collected a team of about 30 people, clergy and lay, from around the world to develop a report titled “Enlarge the Space of Your Tent,” a quote from Isaiah 54:2. This report was used for the next phase, in each of seven continental groups in early 2023.

In the meantime, during the fall of 2022, the diocesan Synod coordinators from across western Canada began to gather monthly on Zoom to plan together and share resources. Our task at this stage is to continue to inform our people about the progress of the Synod and to work on the implementation of the Synod in our dioceses. The Archdiocesan Synod Team has met as needed since September to begin this process and to develop resources for our continuing synodal life together. Please watch the Archdiocesan website for further details and events.

Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations

by Nicholas Jesson, Ecumenical Officer

Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations work is primarily about building, strengthening, or repairing relationships. My task as ecumenical officer is to assist members of the Catholic community in working to heal the wounds of division within the Christian church. The Second Vatican Council reminded us that every Christian shares the task of restoring the unity of the church. This task is a baptismal calling. My role is to provide guidance, support, and education as needed.



2022 was a year of returning to in-person activities after the pandemic shutdown. As many people have developed familiarity with Zoom and other video meeting technologies, there is now an opportunity to include people from across the Archdiocese and beyond in regular activities. Many of my projects are now online or hybrid and will remain this way, but relationship-building is sometimes tricky without in-person encounters.

Ecumenical Stewardship education remains an important focus of my work. Together with a team from the Anglican and Lutheran churches, we offered a series in the spring titled “Sacred Places and Spaces.” These four webinars encouraged churches to think about the use of sacred buildings and properties in creative new ways, to explore ways to reduce the carbon footprint of our buildings, to consider ways to share facilities with other churches, and to refocus our resources for the mission of the church in the world. Following upon this work, KAIROS Regina held a fall workshop titled “Creation Care in Our Places of Prayer” and have continued to work on promoting climate-friendly renovations in church buildings. There have also been a number of productive conversations with Catholic parishes about sharing church buildings with other churches. In October, the Ecumenical Stewardship Committee offered a webinar, “How do We Talk about Climate Change? A Conversation on Integral Ecology,” during the Season of Creation.

Work with the Faith Leaders’ Working Group on Covid Protocols wound down in early 2022 as the provincial state of emergency ended. However, the experience of working together during the pandemic has encouraged us to work on establishing a Council of Faith Leaders. This new Council is being developed and will hopefully begin work with members of the Legislature in the fall of 2023.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2022 was held online again, with a well-attended Bible study over eight days. Presenters came from the full spectrum of churches in Saskatchewan to explore the theme: “We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him,” based on Matt. 2:2. Faith communities also gathered in person in March for a Multifaith Vigil for Peace in Ukraine.

Archbishop Don Bolen joined with the Anglican bishop of Saskatoon, Chris Harper, to offer the 2022 De Margerie Lecture on Christian Reconciliation and Unity in Saskatoon. The lecture, a conversation between two friends and colleagues, explored “Perspectives on Ecumenism, Reconciliation, and Pathways for Renewal.” Work began in 2022 on expanding the series to include a lecture in Regina in 2023.

My work with ecumenical officers in western Canada continued online with regular monthly gatherings. I hosted an “Ecumenical Panel on Synodality” in February for Canadian bishops, synod coordinators, and ecumenical officers. The panellists from the Anglican, Mennonite, and Presbyterian churches spoke of their experience of walking together as communities of discernment. They shared their hopes and challenges in living synodality and encouraged Catholics as we seek to recover this ancient aspect of ecclesial life.

In 2022, I was appointed to the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue of Canada. I joined the dialogue for an in-person meeting at Chateauguay near Quebec. We are exploring “theologies of apology and reconciliation” with particular attention to church apologies to Indigenous peoples. 2022 was an auspicious year to reflect on this theme, as the Indigenous delegations travelled to Rome in March, and Pope Francis came to Canada in July. It is hoped that the dialogue can offer theological reflections to assist our two churches in our continuing work of reconciliation.

I continued to work with colleagues in Edmonton and Halifax on a monthly column titled “One Body” for Salt + Light Media about ecumenism in Canada. I have also been appointed as an observer to the Canadian Council of Churches Commission on Faith & Witness. The Commission is currently working on the theme of “The Church in a Digital Age.” My appointment to this Commission is on behalf of the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism, an ecumenical agency in Saskatoon. It is part of a growing working relationship between the Prairie Centre and the Archdiocese. Hopefully, we will have increasing opportunities for shared projects that will increase the activity of the Centre in southern Saskatchewan.

And finally, my work with Multifaith Saskatchewan continued. I ended my term as president of this provincial organization in 2022. I also led the planning of the annual Visual Arts Project for MFS. The organization supports local interfaith initiatives across Saskatchewan and provides a means for sharing and collaboration between the participating faiths.

Development Office

Introduction to the Development Team



James Lipoth, Jose Argerami, and Brianne Cascanette



"We've been talking for two or three years about the need for a Development office and a team and talking about the need to evangelize. By the grace of God, we have a Development office that is evangelizing and opening the doors for deeper engagement in the church and our financial needs."

-Archbishop Don Bolen

This year the Archdiocese of Regina established a Development office to implement and oversee fundraising initiatives and campaigns, including the Archbishop's Appeal. Three new staff were welcomed in 2022; James Lipoth in April, Brianne Cascanette in July, and Jose Argerami in August.

The new team was more formally introduced during Arch Regina Congress in September, and each took time to share what brought them to their roles. As a team, they have a strong sense of fundraising as ministry; they see it as a chance to connect and dive deeper into conversations of generosity from the perspective of the Bible and the Church. Through their work, they welcome others to deepen their faith and recall how Christ is generous.

The Development Office is responsible for the donation processing, communications, and more of the following campaigns: Archbishop's Annual Appeal, Rebuilding Our Church Capital Campaign, Catholic TRC Healing Response, and Survivors to Edmonton/Papal Visit.

We are overjoyed and thankful for the incredible kindness of people in our archdiocese. They have shown their love and faith in God by giving generously to support our mission and ministry. We are blessed to have such a wonderful community of believers. We are truly grateful for their generosity and pray that God will reward them abundantly.

Brianne, James, and Jose

continued...

Development Office (cont'd)

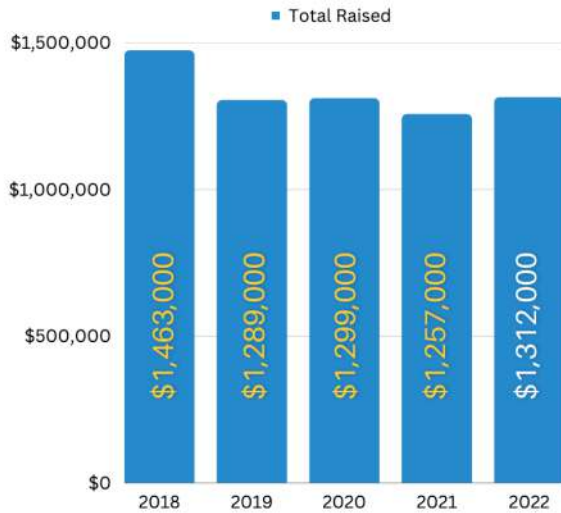
Archbishop's Appeal



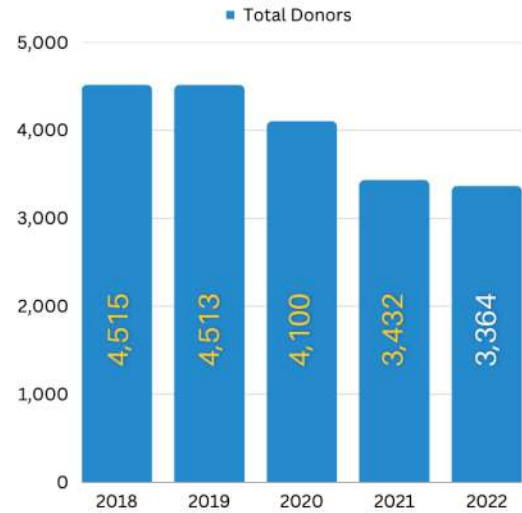
Donor Retention



Total Raised with 5 year trend



Total Donors with 5 year trend



Giving Levels

GIVING LEVEL	DONORS	TOTAL RECEIVED	AVERAGE GIFT SIZE	CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
\$100K or more	1	\$150,000.00	\$150,000	
\$10K - \$99K	8	\$205,000.00	\$25,625	↑
\$1K - \$9,999	212	\$381,000.00	\$1,798	↑
\$500 - \$999	331	\$187,000.00	\$570	↓
\$200 - \$499	907	\$241,000.00	\$268	↓
\$100 - \$199	986	\$109,000.00	\$111	↓
\$99 and under	919	\$37,000.00	\$41	↓

Your Gifts at Work

FUNDS RAISED IN 2021

\$1,259,388

FUNDRAISING COSTS

-\$96,160

ADMINISTRATION COSTS

-\$50,066

SURPLUS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

\$69,692

\$1,182,854

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

\$288,200

EDUCATION & FORMATION PROGRAMS

\$174,000

HEALTH CARE MINISTRY

\$198,575

PARTNERSHIPS

\$73,000

SUPPORT FOR CLERGY & PARISHES

\$190,850

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

\$165,300

PASTORAL SERVICES

\$89,646

REBATES TO PARISHES

\$3,283

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS IN 2022


\$1,182,854

continued...

Development Office (cont'd)

Catholic TRC Healing Response

In September of 2021, the Bishops of Canada committed \$30 million over up to five years to support healing and reconciliation initiatives for residential school survivors, their families, and their communities. This national commitment is known as the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF). The Archdiocese has committed to raising \$2 million within the \$30 million national commitment throughout Catholic TRC Healing Response Appeal. [For information on the National Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, please visit: <https://www.irfund.ca/>](#)

By the end of 2022, we had funds of \$1,594,852 towards our commitment and a large portion of the funds were forwarded to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. [For more detailed financial information, see "Notes to Financial Statements" \(item #11\).](#)  79.7%

A camp in our Archdiocese was approved for the first grant from the national IRF funds. Cote Culture Camp connects elders with youth to learn Indigenous culture and traditional teachings including language, land-based activities, hunting, skinning/preparing, and drum making. [For more information on the Cote Culture Camp, please visit: \[cotefirstnation.ca/language-land-based-cultural-camp/\]\(http://cotefirstnation.ca/language-land-based-cultural-camp/\)](#)

Rebuilding Our Church Capital Campaign

In 2019, the Archdiocese of Regina began the Rebuilding Our Church campaign to raise funds for the repair of Holy Rosary Cathedral and for a permanent home for our Pastoral Centre. Today, the campaign remains in its quiet phase.

The good news is that by the end of 2022, we had received over \$7 million dollars in quiet phase donations and pledges combined. As a result, the first package of restoration work on the cathedral will begin in 2023. [For more detailed financial information, see "Notes to Financial Statements" \(item #10\).](#)



Survivors to Edmonton/Papal Visit

The Archdiocese of Regina received \$75,997 in donations to help send 150 residential school survivors and support people to the Papal visit in Edmonton in July, as well as provide two live-streaming locations for those unable to travel.

Financial Officer's Report

By Rev. Mr. Barry Wood



It is my pleasure to present the 2022 Audited Financial Statements and Auditor Opinion 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. The faithful have so graciously supported their parishes, Archbishop's Appeal, TRC Healing Response, Survivors to Edmonton, and the Rebuilding Our Church Campaign during the 2022 year. 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.

Mr. Ron Kruzeniski — Chair
 Very Rev. Brian Meredith
 Ms. Annette Polasek — Vice Chair
 Mr. James Gustafson

Ms. Gwen Herman
 Rev. Mr. Harper Boucher
 Mr. Jim Graham

Mr. John Dipple
 Ms. Karen Vey
 Ms. Christina Herauf

These members provide oversight and governance of the financial resources to the faithful of the Archdiocese, the Archbishop, Director of Pastoral Services, Development Director, and Financial Officer.

Throughout 2022 the Archdiocesan operations were significantly influenced by two office moves and the creation of a development office.

Statement of Financial Position

Cash and Cash equivalents were \$1.7M, a decrease of \$7M from 2021. Net Funds were granted to the Archdiocese of Regina Foundation Inc. for the Rebuilding our Church Campaign of \$4.3M. and \$1.5M to National Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, the latter representing a huge portion of the Archdiocesan commitment of \$2.0M. Cash invested in Guaranteed Investments Certificates (GICs) due to increased interest rates was \$1.2M.

Accounts receivable decreased by \$324K to \$673K. Parish insurance premiums were due on receipt in 2022 with many parishes paying promptly, whereas quarterly terms were provided in 2021. Accrued receipts for the capital campaign and TRC Healing Response campaign were lower by a combined \$87K at the end of 2022 than in 2021.

Investments have been split between short term and long term. The composition of the investments has been disclosed in note 6. Overall investments have increased \$2.1M to \$6.9M reflecting the investment of cash into laddered GICs of \$2.0M with \$900K being insured by the CDIC.

The archdiocese changed its policy on the capitalization and amortization of appliances, furniture, leasehold improvements, office equipment and vehicles acquired after December 31, 2021, to record purchased items at cost and amortized over their useful life. The capitalization and amortization of tangible capital assets policy is disclosed in note 3 (c) and the breakdown of the tangible capital assets is provided in note 8. The move to a smaller office space resulted in leasehold improvements and replacement of office furniture to enable operating in this smaller environment.

Total Liabilities of \$4.9 million decreased by \$3.4 million from last year. Grants to the Archdiocese of Regina Foundation Inc. for the Rebuilding our Church Campaign and to the national Indigenous Reconciliation Fund accounted for a decrease in liabilities of \$4.1 million. The Archdiocese holds trust funds for refugee sponsorships and other Catholic entities and this liability increased by \$360 thousand to \$1.6 million in 2022.

Net assets of the Archdiocese are \$7 million with unrestricted net assets of the Archdiocese available to support the general operating purposes of the Archdiocese of \$1.4 million. Investments in property are \$0.8 million. Externally and internally restricted funds total \$5 million.

continued...

Financial Officer's Report cont'd

Statement of Operations

In 2022, Archdiocesan revenues increased by \$5.7 million to \$11.8 million, and expenditures increased by \$6.6 million to \$12.9 million. This reflects recognizing deferred donations for the Rebuilding Our Church and TRC Healing Response as revenue and remitting these funds to the Archdiocese of Regina Foundation and national Indigenous Response Fund as expenditures.

Assessment revenue of \$1 million, just exceeded the 2021 amount of assessment revenue.

Donation and Bequest revenue decreased by \$137 thousand to \$625 thousand due to fewer and smaller bequests.

Appeal revenue of \$1.3 million was recognized in 2022 representing \$1.2 million to fund diocesan ministries and \$0.1 million for fund raising and administrative expenses.

The diocesan church is called upon to provide pastoral services that aid and enhance the pastoral work of our parishes. Expenditures on these services increased by \$36 thousand to \$1.022 million. The Archbishop's Appeal funded \$730 thousand or 71% of the pastoral services expenditures.

Ministry and Services expenditures of \$4.8 million increased \$2.0 million. The grant to the national Indigenous Reconciliation Fund accounted for \$1.6M of this increase. Support of priests and parishes was \$550 thousand, an increase of \$110 thousand from 2021. Health care costs not covered by insurance and costs associated with sourcing and retaining international priests were the cause of this increase. Education of Seminarians and Priests expenses increased by \$40 thousand as the in-person clergy retreat and study days were reinstated. Expenses for the large contingent of survivors taken to the papal visit in Edmonton, the small groups who visited the Pope in Rome and in Quebec, and the archdiocesan share of expenses for the papal visit amounted to \$171 thousand.

The Chancery and Administrative expenses were \$1.4 million in 2022 representing an increase of \$550 thousand from 2021. Diocesan Centre costs increased by \$170 thousand to \$317 thousand with moving related expenses accounting for \$148 of the increase. The archdiocese is working towards the resolution of several legal claims and \$335 thousand was provided to resolve these. The Development Office was fully staffed in July 2022 causing expenses to increase by \$65 thousand for 2022.

Expenses by object varied from 2021 in the following ways:

- Personnel expenses of \$3.8 million increased by \$155 thousand with \$1.9 million reflecting priest salaries recovered from the parishes.
- Occupancy expenses of \$334 thousand approximated the 2021 expense.
- Office expenses of \$394 thousand increased by \$85 thousand, reflecting moving related expenses.
- Travel expenses of \$248 thousand increased by \$162 thousand due to costs to transport residential school survivors to the Papal visit in Edmonton, and costs associated with the priests' retreat and clergy study days.
- Professional services were \$1.0 million. Rebuilding Our Church Capital Campaign fundraising fees of \$0.8 million were recorded. Counselling for Victims of Clergy Sexual Abuse increased by \$11 thousand to \$41 thousand. Legal and other professional fees related to the office moves were \$17 thousand. Legal fees increased in respect of legal actions against the archdiocese in the amount of \$15 thousand.
- Rebuilding Our Church and TRC Healing Response grants to the Archdiocese of Regina Foundation and national Indigenous Response Fund pushed program expenditures to \$6.7 million.

Audited Financial Statements

The 2022 Audited Financial Statements can be viewed and downloaded here:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/5412-ADR-2022-signed-audit.pdf>



Archdiocese of Regina

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1546 Stn Main
Regina, SK S4P 3C4

Office Location:
200-2151 Scarth Street, Regina
Phone: 306-352-1651
Fax: 306-403-4810

<https://archregina.sk.ca>