

March 6, 2022

# BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

2049 Scarth Street, Regina, SK S4P 2H5  
[www.blessedsacramentregina.ca](http://www.blessedsacramentregina.ca)



## REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday 5:10 pm • Sunday 10:00 am**

**Monday - Friday 12:05 pm**

**Sunday, March 6th**

**First Sunday of Lent**

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm 91:1-2, 10-15

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

**Monday, March 7th**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18

Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15

Matthew 25:31-46

**Tuesday, March 8th**

Isaiah 55:10-11

Psalm 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19

Matthew 6:7-15

**Wednesday, March 9th**

Jonah 3:1-10

Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19

Luke 11:29-32

**Thursday, March 10th**

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25

Psalms 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8

Matthew 7:7-12

**Friday, March 11th**

Ezekiel 18:21-28

Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8

Matthew 5:20-26

**Saturday, March 12th**

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8

Matthew 5:43-48

**Sunday, March 13th**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28b-36

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Confessions will be available Monday to Friday before Mass, 11:30-11:55 AM; Saturdays, 4:30-4:55 PM.

**Sacrament of Baptism or Sacraments of Initiation:** Please contact the parish office for Baptism and for the Sacraments of Initiation.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Please contact the parish office (available on request).

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** during Lent, after Mass on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

### LIVE STREAM LITURGY

We live stream the 5:10 PM Mass on Saturdays – search on YouTube for: “blessed sacrament parish regina”

## SEASON OF LENT

**Stations of the Cross** • each Friday of Lent after the 12:05 PM Mass

**Taizé Prayer around the Cross** • each Tuesday of Lent at 7:00 PM

**Communal Penance Service** • April 12th, Tuesday of Holy Week, 5:10 PM

*Listening sessions as part of preparing for Synod of Bishops • schedule to be announced in the coming weeks.*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday to Friday 1100–2:00 PM**

**Tel: (306) 522-7422 • [blessed.sacrament@sasktel.net](mailto:blessed.sacrament@sasktel.net)**

**[www.blessedsacramentregina.ca](http://www.blessedsacramentregina.ca)**

**Administrator:** *The Rev. Dr. James Hentges*  
[pastor.bsacrament@sasktel.net](mailto:pastor.bsacrament@sasktel.net)

**Parish Secretary:** *Nancy Diokno*  
[office.bsacrament@sasktel.net](mailto:office.bsacrament@sasktel.net)

**Finance/Bookkeeping:** *Father Jim*  
[finance.bsacrament@sasktel.net](mailto:finance.bsacrament@sasktel.net)

**Music Director:** *Jan Benedict Bitara*  
[music.bsacrament@sasktel.net](mailto:music.bsacrament@sasktel.net)

**Liturgical Ministry Coordinator:** *Charmine Elash*  
[celash@sasktel.net](mailto:celash@sasktel.net)

**Caretaker:** *Simon Hagos*

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2022	
<b>Sunday 10 am</b>	<i>For all parishioners</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>+Leigha Elizabeth Nagy by Louis &amp; Natalie Nagy</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>For Fr. Jim by a parishioner</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>+Leigha Elizabeth Nagy by Louis &amp; Natalie Nagy</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>available</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>available</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>available</i>

### LENT AS A GIFT

Lent is a gift from the Church to help us prepare for Easter. It is a time to acknowledge that we need God and need to focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Pope Francis has said:

#### Prayer

*Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray (cf. Mt 6:6) and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love.*

#### Fasting

*Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus (cf. Mt 6:1-18), enable and express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (fasting), concern and loving care for the poor (almsgiving), and dialogue with the Father (prayer) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.*

#### Almsgiving

*Prayer is never an abstract or purely internal gesture, but is always inextricably linked to charity. There are many excuses to justify why one does not lend a hand when asked by a person begging on the street. Some may think, "I give money and he just spends it on a glass of wine!" But a glass of wine is his only happiness in life!*

#### From Matthew 5:40-42

*If any one would sue you and take your coat, let him have your cloak as well; and if any one forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to him who begs from you, and do not refuse him who would borrow from you.*

### HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR MARCH 2022

#### A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO BIOETHICAL CHALLENGES

*We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.*

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY

1st Sunday Lent	March 5th, 5:10	March 6th, 10 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Dolly Dyck	Kim Lovely
Community Leader	Rosita Ongsu	Jean Bonneville Stroh
Lector 1	Larry Ongsu	Charmine Elash
Lector 2	Ray Lalonde	James Sawka
2nd Sunday Lent	March 12, 5:10 PM	March 13, 10 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Wadsworth	Dolly Dyck
Community Leader	Charmine Elash	Jean Bonneville Stroh
Lector 1	Todd Pilon	Kim Lovely
Lector 2	James Swaka	<i>volunteer needed</i>

FINANCIAL UPDATE	February 19/20	February 26/27
Regular / Loose Collection	\$1,358.50	\$1,118.60
Building Fund	\$622.50	\$201.25
Other	\$10.00	\$1.25
<b>Ash Wednesday Collection for Marian Centre</b>		\$1,043.50
<b>Knights of Columbus Donation to the Parish</b>		\$530.00

### WORDS OF THE HOLY FATHER ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

During the 40 days of Lent, as Christians we are invited to follow in Jesus' footsteps and face the spiritual battle with the Evil One with the strength of the Word of God. For this reason, it is important to be familiar with the Bible: read it often, meditate on it, assimilate it. The Bible contains the Word of God, which is always timely and effective. Someone has asked: what would happen were we to treat the Bible as we treat our mobile phone? Were we to read God's messages contained in the Bible as we read telephone messages, what would happen? Clearly the comparison is paradoxical, but it calls for reflection. Indeed, if we had God's Word always in our heart, no temptation could separate us from God, and no obstacle could divert us from the path of good.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN OUR PARISH

**Tuesday, March 8 Taizé Prayer around the Cross, 7 PM**

**Friday, March 11 Stations of the Cross after midday Mass**

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**POPE FRANCIS ANNOUNCES MARCH 2ND AS  
DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR UKRAINE**

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**Prayer and Fasting for Peace**

Speaking at the end of the General Audience, Pope Francis invited everyone to make 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace.

*"I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war."*

Pope Francis appealed to those *...with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war, who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies.*

He also prayed that *all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilizing coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.*

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**WHAT IS THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS?**

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*by The Rev. William Clark*

On Oct. 10, 2021, Pope Francis formally opened a two-year process called "a synod on synodality," officially known as "Synod 2021-2023: For a Synodal Church." In brief, the process involves an expansion of an established institution, called the "Synod of Bishops." This means that bishops around the world will consult with everyone from parishioners to monks, nuns and Catholic universities before coming together for a discussion in 2023.

The topic? How the church can learn to rely more fully on this kind of consultation-and-discussion process – how it can become more "synodal" in its governance.

Throughout the centuries, the Roman Catholic Church has held many gatherings called "synods" – but seldom one this sweeping in its potential consequences.

As a Catholic priest who studies theology, with particular interest in the role of lay persons and of local communities in the worldwide Catholic church, I will be watching this synod carefully. In part, it is designed to make church governance more open and inclusive of all its members.

**Coming together**

Many people – even many practicing Catholics – may find the name "Synod on Synodality" and its purpose puzzling. What is a synod in the first place?

The word derives from an ancient Greek term that means "coming together" or "traveling together." Ancient Christians developed a custom of local leaders coming together to pray and make decisions about matters affecting all the Christian communities in a region. They gathered in the faith that their prayers and discussions would reveal God's will and the way to achieve it.

These gatherings came to be called "synods" and began a tradition of regional synods for bishops, as well as larger ones called "ecumenical councils." In principle, these were

for all bishops around the world to discuss issues that were consequential for the whole church.

Over time, as the power of the papacy grew, ecumenical councils continued to be called, but regional synods diminished in importance. After the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century, such gatherings of Catholic bishops happened infrequently, and only with express permission of the Pope. Meanwhile, even ecumenical councils became rare – only two were held in 400 years.

The most recent one, the Second Vatican Council or "Vatican II," met from 1962 to 1965 and launched important changes in church law and structure.

One of Vatican II's goals was to revitalize the importance of bishops as heads of their local churches and emphasize their cooperation with one another. As a "college" under the leadership of the pope, the bishops are mutually responsible for the governance of the whole church.

To assist this revitalization, Pope Paul VI created a permanent structure for a Synod of Bishops, with a secretariat in Rome and a General Assembly gathered regularly by the pope. Since 1967, the popes have brought this assembly together 18 times: 15 "Ordinary Assemblies" and three "Extraordinary," in addition to a number of "Special Assemblies" involving particular regions of the world.

**"A Church which listens"**

Pope Francis has shown special interest in the Synod of Bishops since the beginning of his papacy in 2013. The following year, he convened an "Extraordinary General Assembly," outside the usual three-year cycle, on "the vocation and mission of the family." The assembly talked about controversial issues such as welcoming to communion couples living outside church-sanctioned marriages. These discussions continued into an "Ordinary Assembly" in 2015.

**Synodality**

2015 also marked the 50th anniversary of the Synod of Bishops established during Vatican II. At a ceremony for the anniversary, Francis gave a speech that laid out his views on "synodality. The word "synod," he reminded the audience, is about cooperation.

**Listening**

"A synodal Church is a Church which listens," he said, pointing out that mutual listening has been the goal of much of the church's renewal since Vatican II.

"For the disciples of Jesus, yesterday, today and always, the only authority is the authority of service, the only power is the power of the cross," Francis declared.

Since then, Francis has taken steps to give the church examples and a concrete framework for a more "synodal church." In 2018, he issued new regulations that encourage much wider consultation with members and organizations of the church at all levels as part of the synod process.

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And in 2019, he followed up a "Special Assembly" for bishops of the Amazon region with "Querida Amazonia," a kind of papal document known as an "exhortation." Here, he took the unusual steps of recognizing the authority of the synod's own final document and referring important structural and procedural changes to their continuing work in their home churches, rather than to intervention by the Vatican.

### **Preparing for 2023**

The current "Synod on Synodality" is the culmination of all this effort to bring a greater degree of openness, collaboration and mutual listening to the church. Unlike previous synods, this one officially begins in dioceses all over the world, with opportunities for mutual consultation at every level and among many different church organizations.

When the General Assembly meets in 2023, its task will be to prayerfully consider how to move forward as "a more synodal Church in the long-term" – a church that "journeys together."

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### **LETTER TO CHIEF KITCHEMONIA AND WORKING GROUP MEMBERS FROM KEESEEKOOSE FIRST NATION**

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Feb. 14, 2022

Dear Chief Kitchemonia and Working Group Members from Keeseekoose First Nation,

On behalf of the Archdiocese of Regina, I acknowledge with deep sorrow the suffering, trauma and abuses that Indigenous Peoples of Keeseekoose First Nation have experienced as a result of colonization, and at Catholic-operated Fort Pelly and St. Philip's Residential Schools, in addition to the experiences of racism and intergenerational trauma which continue today. We as church also recognize that when governments, and religious institutions such as ours, took steps to suppress Indigenous language, culture, spirituality and traditions, that inflicted deep wounds on Indigenous Peoples. Today, as we come to honour and respect the wisdom and blessings that come with your language and traditional ways, we want to express our support of your efforts to revitalize them, and to be deeply attentive to your oral traditions and good ways of being in relationship with creation.

I am grateful for the opportunity, over the past months, to work with the Keeseekoose Survivors and Elders to form a working group. Through the working group, I want to identify how we as church members can be your allies in dealing with the legacy of St. Philip's and Fort Pelly

Residential Schools.

In our joint meetings, we have identified the following areas to begin our journey together:

- 1) Conciliation/Reconciliation: joining you in educational and relationship-building among Survivors and Elders, our archdiocesan Working Group on Indigenous Relations, and local Catholic parishioners.
- 2) Records: confirming what records have already been shared, and working with your community to develop processes for sharing other records from the Archdiocese of Regina and St. Philip's Parish that would be useful to you.
- 3) Residential Schools Historical Information: supporting your work of compiling a history of the St. Philip's and Fort Pelly Residential Schools.
- 4) Indigenous Parishioners: in addition to supporting Keeseekoose as a First Nation, honouring our existing relationship with and responsibility to Indigenous parishioners of St. Philip's Parish, who are living with the great challenge of being Indigenous and Catholic at this time.

I greatly value the relationship we have been building with you, and I believe that by walking together, we can help build a better future for our shared community.

Yours sincerely,

Donald Bolen  
Archbishop of Regina

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### **LENT AS A GIFT**

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Lent is a gift from the Church to help us prepare for Easter. It is a time to acknowledge that we need God, turn from sin, and focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Pope Francis has said:

#### **Prayer**

*Through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission. Hence the need to pray (cf. Mt 6:6) and, in secret, to encounter the Father of tender love.*

#### **Fasting**

*Fasting, prayer and almsgiving, as preached by Jesus (cf. Mt 6:1-18), enable and express our conversion. The*

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