

December 3, 2023

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

www.blessedsacramentregina.ca

2049 Scarth Street, Regina, SK S4P 2H5

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 10 am • Saturday 5:10 pm

Monday - Friday 12:05 pm



assistive
listening

106.1

Sacrament of Reconciliation

before Mass each Monday to Saturday



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S MUSIC

SATURDAY 5:10 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM

Processional: CBW III # 315 *The Advent of our God*

Gloria: Journey Song 226

Responsorial Psalm: CBW III # 8
Lord, make us turn to you; Show us your face, and we shall be saved.

Presentation of Gifts: CBW III # 307 *Creator of the Stars of Night*

Eucharistic Acclamations: JS 227-232

Communion Procession: CBW III # 497 *Lord of all Hopefulness.*

Recessional: CBW III # 304 *Awake, Awake, Fling off the Night.*

Anointing of the Sick: January 5th, First Friday, after Eucharist or anytime by request.

Sacrament of Initiation / Baptism, Confirmation & Communion: Please contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please contact the parish office at least one year before proposed date of marriage.

Liturgy at Blessed Sacrament for Christmas 2023

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

• 5:30 PM, Tuesday, December 19th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

• 5:10 PM Saturday, December 23rd

• 10:00 AM Sunday, December 24th

NATIVITY OF THE LORD • CHRISTMAS

• 5:10 PM Sunday, December 24th

• 10:00 AM Monday, December 25th

NEW YEAR'S DAY

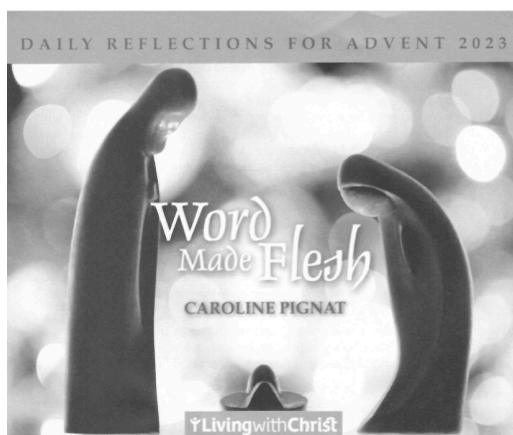
10:00 AM Monday, January 1st

CHRISTMAS SEASON

• 12:05 PM Eucharist, Tuesday to Friday, (December 26-29th & January 2-5th).

• Sunday, January 7th, 11:30 AM, Geez Liturgy (Eritrean) for Christmas celebration on Epiphany of the Lord.

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLET



Please take a copy • gift from a parishioner • available at the entrances to the Church.

PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday to Friday 11:00-2:00 PM

Tel: (306) 522-7422 • Email: blessed.sacrament@sasktel.net

Pastor: The Rev. James Hentges: pastor.bsacrament@sasktel.net

Parish Secretary Nancy Diokno: office.bsacrament@sasktel.net

Liturgical Ministry Charmaine Elash: celash@sasktel.net

Liturgical Music Bernadette Kutarna: music.bsacrament@sasktel.net

Caretaker Teklesenbet Mebrahtu (contact via parish office).

Blessed Sacrament Parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.

December 3, 2023

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities • We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

DONATIONS FOR 2023

Tax Receipts

Note: Tax receipts for the current year will be available in mid-January. If you wish to have your donation included for those receipts, donations must be received by Dec 31st.

eTransfer your Donation

eTransfer: you can send your donation by e-transfer to account of Blessed Sacrament Parish at Affinity Credit Union via our email address:

blessed.sacrament@sasktel.net

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Members of the Pastoral Council are requesting donations for Christmas flowers for the Church. Donation envelopes are available at both entrances of the Church. Place your envelope in the collection baskets or in the donation box. Donations are due December 10th. It's because of your donations that we can fill our church with Christmas flowers. Thank You.

HOLY FATHER ON TODAY'S READINGS

Today Advent begins, the liturgical time which prepares us for Christmas, inviting us to lift our gaze and open our hearts to welcome Jesus. During Advent we do not just live in anticipation of Christmas; we are also called to rekindle the anticipation of the glorious return of Christ — when He will return at the end of time — preparing ourselves, with consistent and courageous choices, for the final encounter with Him. We remember Christmas, we await the glorious return of Christ, and also our personal encounter: the day in which the Lord will call. During these four weeks we are called to leave behind a resigned and routine way of life and to go forth, nourishing hope, nourishing dreams for a new future. This is a favourable time to open our hearts, to ask ourselves concrete questions about how and for whom we expend our lives.

(Angelus, 2 December 2018)

Liturgical Ministry

Table with 3 columns: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Dec 9, 5:10 PM, Dec 10, 10 AM. Rows include Eucharistic Minister, Community Leader, Lector 1, Lector 2, and Usher/Collection.

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2023

Table with 2 columns: Day, Intention. Rows for Monday through Saturday, and Sunday, Dec 9.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 25/26

Table with 2 columns: Category, Amount. Rows include Envelopes, Building Fund, Loose Collection, Marian Centre, and other.

- Donations to Blessed Sacrament Parish can be sent via e-transfer (interac) to: blessed.sacrament@sasktel.net
• Auto-Deposit Forms for regular (e.g. monthly or weekly) donating to Blessed Sacrament Parish are available at the entrance of the church, from parish office or at: https://blessedsacramentregina.ca/donations/

CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 19th Communal Peace Service, Blessed Sacrament Church, 5:30 PM

Immaculate Conception

“THE IMMACULATE Conception” is a title for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The expression means that Mary was conceived without sin. The conviction that Jesus was born of a virgin is a distinct belief, even though many Catholics erroneously think that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus.

Contributing to the confusion is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception during the season of Advent. While the faithful are preparing to honor the birth of Jesus, we commemorate the conception of Mary. The choice of December 8 for the Immaculate Conception does not directly relate to Advent; it corresponds more to the traditional date for the Feast of the Birth of Mary, September 8, which coincides with the dedication of a Jerusalem church in honor of the mother of Mary. The feast for the conception of Mary is backed up from that day nine months. In a similar way, we celebrate the Annunciation on March 25, nine months before the birth of Jesus.

Belief in the Immaculate Conception asserts that God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception, thus preparing a pure vessel for the Incarnation of the Son. This belief is not expressly contained in the Scriptures, but it enjoys a wide-spread following in the Church’s tradition. Although the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been affirmed since the earliest centuries of Christianity, it was not formally proclaimed a dogma of the Church until 1854. December 8 is now a holyday of obligation in the United States, which is placed under Mary’s patronage with this title.

When Mary is depicted as the Immaculate Conception, she is often shown wearing a crown of stars as the woman in Revelation 12 and standing on a snake, reversing the temptation of Eve. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the exalted Queen of Heaven who manifests God’s power over sin.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020
Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved.
Written by Paul Turner.

CANADIAN BISHOP HIGHLIGHTS LIVED ‘EXPERIENCE’ OF SYNODALITY

Bishop Raymond Poisson, the head of the diocese of Saint Jérôme-Mont-Laurier in Canada, looks forward to seeing “how the harmony between us will grow” in the wake of the first session of the General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality. In an interview with Vatican Radio at the conclusion of the first session of the General Assembly of the Synod, the Canadian bishop highlighted the “international experience” of synodality, which brought together bishops and non-bishops from every corner of the globe.

The Synod is ‘an experience of the Church’

Bishop Poisson noted that this experience was unique, beginning with the spiritual retreat that preceded the Assembly. “It was a very good way” to bring out the intention of the synod’s work, he said. “It’s an operation of meditation, prayer together, because the Church is not a council, an administration, a board of a big enterprise. It is not a multinational [corporation] that held a meeting in Rome to organize itself about what I can do for my best mission in the world.” On the contrary, he said, “It’s an experience of the Church. We are together in prayer, we are together in meditation,” aimed at truly hearing what others have to say.

The experience is what is essential

The Bishop emphasized the importance of conversation in the Spirit and expressed his hope that the same method might be expanded beyond the General Assembly. “Yes,” he said, “there’s a document of the synthesis of the Synod, but it’s not for me the essential [thing].”

Instead, he explained, what is essential “is the experience we had together.” He said the challenge facing the Canadian delegates to the Assembly is to bring that experience to their Churches back home. “We want to share that with other brothers, the Bishops of the country, to [light] the fire and to make possible some formation about the dignity of each person in the Church, each baptized person in the Church, the dignity to participate in the mission.”

Revitalizing participation in the Church’s mission

Bishop Poisson said he hoped that the Synod would “revitalize... this idea of the participation of everyone in the mission in the Church.” Although different people have different responsibilities, everyone can be invested in the work of the Church according to their own gifts and charisms.”

Summing up the experience of the first session, Bishop Poisson said the participants had produced “a first draft” to describe “what is surging from the People of God, what they think, what they feel about the Church, [also about] the Church in the world... [and about] what the world understands of the Church and its structure, but also its mission.

“Over the course of the next year, in preparation for the second session of the XVI General Assembly, Bishop Poisson said, “It will be our job to be witnesses of what we lived in the first session. And with time, I hope, in the Church and the parishes, there will be the same motivation. And perhaps with time, when we will discuss more accurately about structure, we will have some new ideas.”



Archdiocese of Regina Bulletin

December 3 2023
First Sunday
of Advent

Journey Through Advent



WEEKLY REFLECTIONS | MUSIC | RESOURCES

Journey Through Advent

Sign up for a weekly Advent series with weekly reflections, music, prayer, resources and other activities to enhance your Advent Journey. These weekly reflections will be emailed each week during Advent. Sign up here archregina.flocknote.com/ArchdioceseofRe5 or email mgurash@archregina.sk.ca



Be Watchful! Keep Alert! Christ is telling us with intensity to be on alert for his coming. He has left many in charge, each with their own work. Paul reminds us that God will be with us to the end of the age, and by him, we are called to fellowship with his son, Jesus Christ. Advent is that time of preparation of repentance, of transforming our bodies, minds, and souls to prepare for the welcoming of Christ into the world at Christmas. This is the last week of the 2023 Archbishop's Appeal. We have journeyed and heard the stories of the many areas the Archbishop's Appeal contributes to, and we ask for your generosity. Henri Nouwen, the great spiritual master, has these words for all of us to consider: "Fund-raising is precisely the opposite of begging. When we seek to raise funds, we are not saying, 'Please, could you help us out because lately it's been hard.' Rather, we are declaring, 'We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you—your energy, your prayers, and your money—in this work to which God has called us.' Our invitation is clear and confident because we trust that our vision and mission are like 'trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither' (Ps. 1:3).

Christmas Mass Times

A list of the Christmas Mass times along with Advent Reconciliation times can be found at archregina.sk.ca/christmas-mass-times/

Laudate Deum: Eco-Spirituality in Action

Join Citizens for Public Justice in collaboration with For the Love of Creation and the Galilee Catholic Retreat Centre for a powerful webinar dedicated to Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, "Laudate Deum." Discover how this inspiring document serves as a call to action in the realms of environmental justice and creation care. Our speakers include leaders in Catholic social and environmental justice, as well as individuals from local congregations actively pursuing green initiatives.

Tuesday, December 5, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Visit CPJ.ca/events to register

itwewin Corner (itwewin is the Cree word which means 'the word' or 'as it is said...')

Fr. John Weckend, Archdiocese of Regina Truth and Reconciliation Healing Committee.

Did you know... From February 4 to 29, 2024, a display of paintings depicting each of the 94 Calls to Action resulting from the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2015) will be on display at the Neil Balkwill Arts Centre in Regina. The paintings are the work of students from the Balcarres Community School. More details will be coming.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intentions - December

Let us pray that people with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions offer inclusion programs that enhance their active participation. popevideo.org

Stewardship Bulletin Bit

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

The Archdiocese of Regina is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.