

December 10, 2023

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

www.blessedsacramentregina.ca

2049 Scarth Street, Regina, SK S4P 2H5

Liturgies for Christmas Season 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



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S MUSIC

SATURDAY 5:10 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM

Processional: CBW III #308 *Every Valley*

Responsorial Psalm: CBW III #21
Lord, let us see your kindness, And grant us your salvation.

Presentation of Gifts: CBW III #318 *The King Shall Come.*

Eucharistic Acclamations: JS 227-232

Communion Procession: CBW III #608 *Now in this Banquet*

Recessional: CBW III #306 *Come O Long Expected Jesus*

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLET

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

DONATIONS FOR 2023

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.**

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Please have your donations for Christmas flowers in the collection or the office by today. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS • NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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.

REGULAR LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday 10 am • Saturday 5:10 pm

Monday - Friday 12:05 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

before Mass each Monday to Saturday

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.

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.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

On 12 December, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, the Church in Canada celebrates the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples.

In 1531 a "Lady from Heaven" appeared to Saint Juan Diego, a poor Indian from Tepeyac, a hill northwest of Mexico City. She identified herself as the Mother of the True God and instructed him to have the bishop build a church on the site. As a sign for the bishop, she left an image of herself imprinted miraculously on his *tilma*, a poor quality cactus-cloth. The *tilma* should have deteriorated within 20 years but shows no sign of decay after over 470 years. To this day it defies all scientific explanations of its origin.

In the eyes of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the *tilma*, we can see reflected what was in front of her in 1531. Her message of love and compassion, and her universal promise of help and protection to all mankind, as well as the story of the apparitions, are described in the "*Nican Mopohua*," a 16th century document written in the native Nahuatl language.

There is reason to believe that at Tepeyac Mary came in her glorified body, and her actual physical hands rearranged the roses in Juan Diego's *tilma*, which makes this apparition very special.

An incredible list of miracles, cures, and interventions are attributed to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Each year an estimated 10 million people visit her Basilica, making her Mexico City home the most popular Marian shrine in the world, and the most visited Catholic church in the world after Saint Peter's Basilica. Science cannot explain the *tilma*, to this day.

There is no under sketch, no sizing and no protective over-varnish on the image. Microscopic examination revealed that there were no brush strokes. The image seems to increase in size and change colors due to an unknown property of the surface and substance of which it is made. According to Kodak of Mexico, the image is smooth and feels like a modern day photograph. Produced 300 years before the invention of photography.) The image has consistently defied exact reproduction, whether by brush or camera. Several images can be seen reflected in the eyes of the Virgin. It is believed to be the images of Juan Diego, Bishop Juan de Zummaraga, Juan Gonzales-the interpreter and others. The distortion and place of the images are identical to what is produced in the

continued on next page...

Liturgical Ministry

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Dec 16, 5:10 PM	Dec 17, 10 AM
Eucharistic Minister	Dolly Dyck	Marie Alercon
Community Leader	Rosita Ongsu	Emo Ebruke
Lector 1	Todd Pilon	Braden Gabrielson
Lector 2	James Sawka	Stella Ilozumba
Usher/Collection	Gordon Pilon	Ron Girard

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2023

Monday	<i>For peace in our world and all persecuted Christians by a parishioner</i>
Tuesday	<i>For peace in our world and all persecuted Christians by a parishioner</i>
Wednesday	+ Stanley Hentges by Family
Thursday	+ Dennis McGeady by Family
Friday	+ Demetria Ongsu by Ongsu Family
Saturday	+ Walter Wittal by Penny Wittal
Sunday, Dec 17	<i>For parishioners</i>

FINANCIAL UPDATE

December 2/3

<i>Envelopes</i>	\$1,665.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	\$260.00
<i>Loose Collection</i>	\$376.40
<i>Archbishop's Appeal (this week)</i>	\$530.00
<i>Direct deposit</i>	\$625.00

- 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*

normal eye, which is impossible to obtain on a flat surface. The stars on Our Lady's Mantle coincide with the constellation in the sky on December 12, 1531. All who have scientifically examined the image of Our Lady over the centuries confess that its properties are absolutely unique and so inexplicable in human terms that the image can only be supernatural.

Altogether 24 popes have officially honoured Our Lady of Guadalupe. His Holiness Saint John Paul II visited her Sanctuary four times: on his first apostolic trip outside Rome as Pope in 1979, and again in 1990, 1999 and 2002.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on December 12th. In 1999, St John Paul II, in his homily given during the Solemn Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, his third visit to the sanctuary, declared the date of December the 12th as a Liturgical Holy Day for the whole continent. During the same visit John Paul II entrusted the cause of life to her loving protection, and placed under her motherly care the innocent lives of children.

This year, we take a moment to recall Pope Francis' Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in July 2022, and in particular his words of prayer offered at Lac Ste. Anne:

"Lord, as the people on the shores of the Sea of Galilee were not afraid to cry out to you with their needs, so we come to you, Lord ... with whatever pain we bear within us.

We bring to you our weariness and our struggles, the wounds of the violence suffered by Indigenous brothers and sisters. In this blessed place, where harmony and peace reign, we present to you the disharmony of our experiences, the terrible effects of colonization, the indelible pain of so many families, grandparents and children. Lord, help us to be healed of our wounds.

We know, Lord, that this requires effort, care and concrete actions on our part; but we also know that we cannot do this alone. We rely on you and on the intercession of your mother and your grandmother.

Yes, Lord, we entrust ourselves to the intercession of your mother and your grandmother, because mothers and grandmothers help to heal the wounds of our hearts."

Advent Wreath

AN ADVENT wreath symbolizes our longing for the coming of Christ. The wreath is a circle of evergreen branches into which are set four candles. Traditionally three candles are violet and one is rose, but four violet or four white candles may also be used.

The wreath symbolizes many things. Evergreens signify God's enduring promise of redemption, evident like green branches in the midst of snow. The circle signifies our hope for the return of Christ, whose Kingdom will have no end. The colors of the candles match the traditional colors of the vesture for the four Sundays of Advent. Violet garments signify our penitent hope for salvation. The rose color, which may be worn on Advent's Third Sunday, signals that the season is nearly over—joy is at hand!

The wreath's most luminous symbol is its growing light. One candle is lit on the First Sunday of Advent, two on the Second, three on the Third and all four on the Fourth. In the northern hemisphere, Advent comes at a time when the days decrease to their shortest length. As the hours of darkness increase, we light more candles on the wreath. The wreath, which symbolizes the coming of Christ, grows in intensity as the anniversary of Jesus' birth draws near.

The Advent wreath may be used at home or at church. It should be blessed on the First Sunday of Advent after the homily at one Mass, at evening prayer Saturday night, or during a prayer service including biblical readings and Advent songs. At home, a family member can bless the wreath. It may be lit during the evening meal, to remind everyone of the true meaning of this holy season.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Devotions and Customs
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HOLY FATHER ON TODAY'S ADVENT READINGS

To prepare the way of the Lord's coming, it is necessary to take note of the requirements of conversion to which the Baptist invites us. What are these requirements for conversion? First of all we are called to fill the 'valleys' caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention which takes on the needs of our neighbours. To fill the valleys caused by coldness. One cannot have a relationship of love, charity and fraternity with one's neighbours if there are 'gaps' just as

one cannot travel a road with many potholes. This requires a change of attitude. And all this should also be done with special attention to the neediest. Then there is the need to curtail the indifference caused by pride and arrogance. (...)

The believer is someone who, by being close to his brothers and sisters, like John the Baptist, opens pathways in the desert, that is, he indicates perspectives of hope, even in those existential contexts that are arduous, marked by failure and defeat.

(Angelus, 9 December 2018)



Archdiocese of Regina *Bulletin*

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday
of Advent

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples

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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/. The Midnight Mass from Holy Rosary Cathedral will be livestreamed to youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina

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

CCCB's Journey Through Advent

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops presents Journey through Advent with the Most Rev. Bishop Jon Hansen, CSsR, Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith. Join us as we reflect on the Scriptures for the Sundays of Advent 2023. cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/

*The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Regina
will gather in joy and thanksgiving for the
Ordination of*



DANIEL MALONE

TO THE

Transitional Diaconate

By the Most Rev. Donald J. Bolen
Archbishop of Regina

On

Monday, December 18, 2023

1:00 PM

at

Holy Rosary Cathedral

Regina, SK

Livestream: youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina

Archdiocese of Regina Social Media and Catholic News

Facebook: facebook.com/ArchdioceseofRegina/

X: @archdioceseofreg

Instagram: [archdioceseofregina](https://instagram.com/archdioceseofregina)

YouTube: youtube.com/archdioceseRegina

ArchRegina Weekly Report: Signup for weekly Catholic News at archregina.sk.ca/news/

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

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - Mark 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

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