



*Sharing God's gifts,  
Serving others,  
In Christ's Love*

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*We acknowledge that St. Cecilia is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Metis peoples.*

## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 25, 2021



Image: [Elsemargriet](#) from [Pixabay](#)

*"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" John 6:9*

Our readings today remind us that we are called to give God everything we have. We are inspired by the little boy, who didn't have much but gave the very best of what he had and all that he had for God. In turn, God multiplied his gifts above and beyond what he could have imagined. God will do the same for us today. We must allow Him to do so. As we evaluate our lives, we should ask ourselves — "how am I giving God my time, using my talents, and sharing my treasures?"

We are called to give God adequate time each day and if we don't plan it out then it is likely He won't get any. We need to find time so that God can become a greater part of our daily lives.

We are also called to put our gifts and talents to good use. We all have countless talents that we are asked to use each day, yet sometimes we miss the opportunity to use them well. It is not up to us to decide how our gift will affect others. God will do that. All we need to do is to give it well.

Lastly, we are called to give the first fruits of our treasures. The little boy shared all that he had with Jesus, not just part of it. We are called to do the same. It is easy to give something; it is difficult to give the finest gift. Giving our very best requires us to evaluate our priorities in life.

As we begin a new week, let us spend some time evaluating our relationship with God by asking, 'what is my very best, and am I giving it to God?' [Source: Catholic Stewardship Consultants. [www.catholicsteward.com](http://www.catholicsteward.com)]

### This Week's Masses

Monday	July 26	No Mass
Tuesday	July 27	7 pm - RIP Hedwig Rieckmann requested by Rita Saalman
Wednesday	July 28	10 am – Intentions of RCMP Troop 1B requested by Cecilia Son
Thursday	July 29	10 am - RIP Lydia C. Bermillo requested by Elvi Santos
Friday	July 30	9 am - RIP Zita Sandor requested by Bernadette Warnke
Saturday	July 31	7 pm
Sunday	August 1	10 am and 11:45 am

### Livestream Masses

#### Sunday

Join us Sundays at 10 am for our livestream Mass.

Use one of these ways:

- [St. Cecilia YouTube Channel](#).
- St. Cecilia Website [stcecregina.com](http://stcecregina.com).
- On the YouTube App, search for St Cecilia Regina.

#### Friday

Mass at 9 am is livestreamed as part of the Archdiocese Weekday Mass schedule.

If not attending, you can watch on the [Archdiocese YouTube Channel](#).

## Church in Canada Celebrates Grandparents and the Elderly

Vatican News, Benedict Mayaki, SJ

The first-ever World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on Sunday, 25 July under the theme “I am with you always” (Mt 28: 20).

Ahead of the inaugural celebration, the Canadian Bishops’ Conference Standing Committee for Family and Life (CCCB) released a video message inviting young people, families and communities to draw near and to spend time with grandparents and the elderly, cherishing and valuing their essential role in Church and society.



This first World Day is part of Pope Francis’ larger idea for the Amoris Laetitia Family Year which runs from 19 March 2021 – June 2022. The year highlights the importance of pastoral care of the elderly within the Christian community, encouraging us to spend time with one another and engage in intergenerational conversations.

While instituting the World Day at the Sunday Angelus on January 31, Pope Francis announced that it would take place each year on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

### The Lord and the Church are Close to the Elderly

“On this First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, we give thanks to God for each of you and the many gifts He grants to us through you,” are the words with which the video message addressed to the elderly begins.

Holding up the theme of the celebration, the CCCB assured the elderly that in spite of the uncertain and turbulent times, the Lord and the Church are close to them. More so, “the Holy Father wishes to remind the whole world that the voice of the elderly is precious, because it sings the praises of God and preserves the roots of the peoples.”

### Covid-19 Pandemic

The message went on to highlight the past many months that have been marked with significant challenges for all, particularly for the elderly, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

All over the world, “many elderly people have experienced terrible isolation. Families, grandchildren, mothers and fathers, friends and neighbours have been separated, distanced, and many have lost loved one,” the message noted.

“How we have missed not being able to visit one another, to hold hands, to give and receive hugs, to gather around tables to share a meal and enjoy one another’s company!”

In spite of the challenges, the bishops gave thanks for the “digital world, telephone calls, and hand-written letters” that have served “as a way to unite us, to communicate and to lighten the load,” and to reduce the difficulty of not being physically present to one another.

### The Elderly: Keepers of the Faith and “Our Storytellers”

Reflecting on the end of the Gospel of Matthew, the message notes the Jesus reassures the disciples that he will always be with them as they are sent forth to preach the Good News and baptize all nations in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

This promise that we are never alone rings true today, just as it did for the disciples, the CCCB’s message said, expressing joy in the “great gift” that the elderly are, for the Church and Society.

“You are keepers of the faith, steadfast and persevering,” they noted, adding that Saint John Paul II wrote that the elderly are “guardians of our collective memory which support and guide life in society.”

In addition, the video message continued, the elderly are very often, “our storytellers”, gathering grandchildren and younger generations at their side to help them better understand our families, our histories, our communities and our world.

### Grandparents Connect to the Past, Present, and Future

The bishops further highlighted that the stories and experiences of grandparents and the elderly “allow young people to dream and value that there is lasting truth, goodness and beauty throughout the seasons of life” because while they recall and connect to the past, they also “stand as powerful witnesses to our present and future.”

“Please continue to share with affection, tenderness and enthusiasm the ways the Lord has walked with you your whole life,” the CCCB urged the elderly. “Accompany your grandchildren by showing them how to sow and nurture the seeds of faith.”

### **Mission of Evangelization, Proclamation, and Prayer**

The video message then reminded the elderly of the mission of evangelization, proclamation and prayer entrusted to them by Pope Francis, inviting them pray for an outpouring of grace upon their families and communities, and to let the joy of the Gospel transform their lives so that they may continue to encourage those who suffer and are lost.

“Just as you help young people to believe in their dreams for the future, our wish is that you too, will continue to contemplate the wonder and beauty of God's gift of life.

The bishops also urged grandparents not to be discouraged by the pandemic and its effects, adding that through mutual support and helping one another, “we will heal from heartache caused by sadness and isolation.”

The video message concluded with a note of gratitude to all grandparents and the elderly, and an invitation to all to walk together with them through this stage of life, each of us, holding our fragilities and limitations.

“Together we praise the Lord of life and love with the words of the psalmist, ‘You show me the path of life, in your presence, there is fullness of life (Ps 16:11).’”

[Watch the Video Message for the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.](#)

### **Truth and Reconciliation – Ways to Educate Yourself**

Archdiocese of Regina Indigenous Relations

All efforts to address the broken relationship between Indigenous Peoples and the Catholic Church need to begin by listening to Indigenous people - Elders and Knowledge Keepers, Survivors, Chiefs, youth, and whole communities. Chief Cadmus Delorme has commented frequently that Indigenous and Church people of today were not there when the Indian Act came into being, when Residential Schools were opened, when the harsh effects of colonization began to impact Indigenous Peoples. But we have all inherited this situation, and it is for us to rise to the occasion to be instruments of healing and reconciliation. As Church, part of that inheritance is the legacy of having been complicit in the removal of children from their homes, and depriving them of their language, culture, spirituality, and family life. We have a special responsibility to engage in the work of the truth and reconciliation process. We can do that in many ways, and there is a role for each of us to play.

It is our responsibility now to educate ourselves in order to walk the road together of right relationships, truth, justice and reconciliation. We offer a 3-fold way of entering into this: “Education – Encounters – Experiences.”

Visit the Archdiocese newly updated [Indigenous Relations Page](#) for many educational resources.

### **Message from the Marian Centre Staff**

The Marian Centre Staff thank you for your generous support of our lunch program during the many months of Covid restrictions. We served approximately 650 bagged lunches each week, and the donation of baked goods (muffins and cookies) and other lunch food donations have been a great support for us in this effort.

We will serve our last meal on July 27 and then will be closed for the month of August.

We will resume serving lunches, at the door, on Friday, September 3. It is our hope to begin serving meals inside our dining room on October 18.

We pray that the summer days are most blessed for you. Once again, Thank You!



### **Clothing for Carmichael Outreach Centre**

Seasonal clothing and footwear (all ages, sizes, and genders) is being accepted. If you can help, package the clothing in bags or boxes and drop them off on the steps by the front doors of the church during regular office hours.

## Baptism Preparation

Two sessions for parents of infants and small children will be held Thursdays, September 23 and 30 from 7:30 pm to 9. Baptisms will be in October. To register, email Cheryl at [stcecbaptism@gmail.com](mailto:stcecbaptism@gmail.com) or if you do not have email, call the parish office 306-545-4051

## The Faces of Wisdom - Spiritual Exercise



Like tribal markings on a face that map identity and belief, so too I have the markings of wisdom on the face of my heart.

These can be the markings of insight, good judgement, foresight, self-knowledge, or just knowing where true love is to be found.

In [this exercise](#) you can ask for the gift of wisdom in the situation where you most need it now. Wouldn't that be welcome!

## Encouragement to Consider Vaccination

Following the directives, guidance, and research carried out by the Vatican and other bodies of bishops world-wide, Archbishop Don supports efforts to provide vaccines to the people of Saskatchewan and encourages the faithful to seriously consider receiving the vaccine as it becomes available.

Further information can be found at the following links.

- Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith "Note on the morality of using some anti-Covid-19 vaccines". [Link.](#)
- "Vaccine for all: 20 points for a fairer and healthier world" Vatican Covid-19 Commission in collaboration with the Pontifical Academy for Life. [Link.](#)
- Alberta and NWT Bishops OK vaccination for Covid. [Link.](#)
- How to Vaccinate Like a Catholic: A Guide Through the Prickly Covid-19 Issues. [Link.](#)

## Summer Bible Study with Deacon Eric and the Book of Acts - Part 1

### Thinking Faith Podcast with Deacon Eric Gurash and Dr. Brett Salkeld

Summer's here and it's time for another Summer Bible Study with Deacon Eric Gurash. In this three-part series, we break open the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, looking at its relation to the Gospel of Luke, who wrote it, and why, and taking a deep dive into a few major themes.

Show Snippet: "And so we have the author we have come to know as Luke, most certainly a Gentile convert...whose most profound experience of Christ, we will see as we look to this Acts of the Apostles, was within the context of coming to faith within His Spirit-filled Church. [Listen to the podcast.](#)

## Archdiocese Lay Formation Program

Go Make Disciples!

One weekend a month from October until June Catholics just like you are encountering Jesus Christ and his plan of sheer goodness while deepening their relationship with his Church. Are you ready to answer Christ's call to know, love and serve him more deeply?

We are accepting applications for our Fall intake. For more information on how to register, please contact Program Coordinator, Deacon Eric Gurash at 306-352-1651 ext 211 or email [egurash@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:egurash@archregina.sk.ca)

## Trinity Manor at Westerra: Welcome Home!

No matter how you've reached this point in your life, the bottom line is you deserve the best. Regina's own Trinity Manor, proudly a part of Emmanuel Care community, has challenged the standard for retirement living and with our affordable prices, luxury retirement living is more accessible than ever!

Our services promote opportunities for our residents' personal growth, while providing stimulating and entertaining activities. Attend daily mass, receive the sacraments, or spend time in quiet reflection in our tranquil chapel. At the end of the day sit by the window and enjoy country sunsets, 10 minutes from downtown. Our residents reveal "Trinity Manor's best kept secret is the view". Book your personal tour now by contacting Franci at 306-550-8077 or visit us at [www.trinitymanorregina.ca](http://www.trinitymanorregina.ca).