



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

5020 - 7th Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan S4T 0S1
Office Phone: 306-545-4051
Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9 am to 3 pm

Web Site: www.stcecregina.com
Pastor: Rev. Brad Fahlman
Office Coordinator: Amber Gabriel

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Associate Pastor: Rev. John Weckend
Caretaker: Merv Harrick

St. Cecilia parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak (neh HEY o wuk), Nahkawê (NUK ah way), and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 27, 2022



"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit." (Luke 6:43)

Are you using your gifts in the way God intended? Have you asked God how He would like you to use them? Do you compare yourself to others and complain about what you don't have instead of being thankful for what you do have?

God gives each of us unique gifts and a unique plan. Listen to how God is calling you to use your gifts, to bear good fruit, for the glory of His name.

This Week's Masses

Monday	February 28	No Mass.
Tuesday	March 1	7 pm – RIP Louis Marceau requested by Audrey and Gordon Stopanski.
Wednesday	March 2	10 am and 7 pm – Ash Wednesday.
Thursday	March 3	10 am – Intentions of Harvey Hartness requested by Eileen and Ken Danylczuk.
Friday	March 4	9 am – RIP Patsy Trakalo requested by Marge Appell.
Saturday	March 5	7 pm.
Sunday	March 6	10 am.

Livestream Masses

Sunday

If you are not able to join us for Mass in person, join us online at 10 am for our livestream Mass.

Use one of these ways:

- [St. Cecilia YouTube Channel](#).
- St. Cecilia Website 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](#).

Covid Update

As of Monday, February 28 indoor masking is optional in the province and masking will be optional in all indoor spaces at St. Cecilia. If you choose to wear a mask, we are committed to being **mask friendly**.

The Archdiocese continues to encourage parishes to be cautious and prudent. The following recommendations will continue to be followed.continued on Page 2.

Covid Update continued

The priest will wear a mask during the Eucharistic Prayer.

During the distribution of communion, the priests and extraordinary ministers of communion will wear a mask.

The Eucharist will only be distributed in the form of the Body of Christ and reception is in the hand.

The sign of peace will be offered with a gesture.

A container for your offering will be in the Welcoming Area.

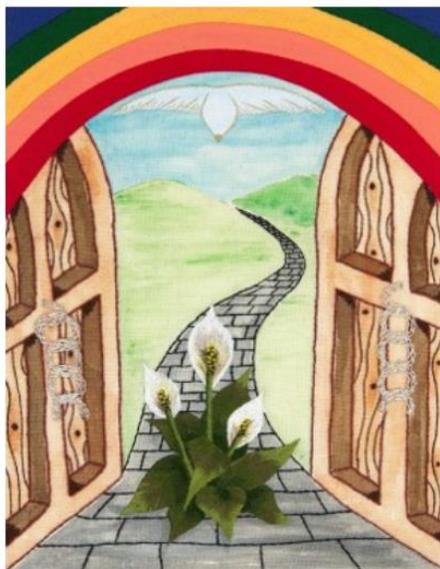
It is important that good hand hygiene continue. Hand sanitizer is available in the entrance and Welcoming Area.

Anyone who is sick should stay home. Although the public dispensation from Mass has not been in effect since August 2021, the sick and medically vulnerable have always been dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. If you are ill, elderly, or medically vulnerable in any way, you are urged to continue to take every precaution to keep yourself and others safe.

Thank you for your continued diligence.

World Day of Prayer – Rosemont Area Churches

Reuben and Cecilia Mercado, Ecumenism Team leaders invite you to join with our neighbourhood parishes, Community of Christ, Christ Lutheran, Immanuel Anglican, and the United Church in an online World Day of Prayer 2022 - England, Wales, and Northern Ireland - "I Know the Plans I have for You"



Artwork - Angie Fox

Freedom: open door to a pathway across an endless open vista.

Justice: broken chains God's Peace and

Forgiveness: the dove of peace and a peace lily breaking through the pavement.

Love: rainbow, a symbol of the overarching love of God.

Sunday, February 27 at 3 pm on Zoom.

[Use this link to join the event.](#)

Meeting ID: 950 8463 6182. Passcode: 289262

The link is also on our website.

Dial In (Long Distance)
1 204 272 7920

Meeting ID: 950 8463 6182. Participant ID: #. Passcode: 289262

Baptism Preparation

Two sessions for parents of infants and small children will be held Thursdays, March 3 and 17 from 7:30 pm to 9. Baptisms will be in April. To register, email Cheryl at stcecbaptism@gmail.com or if you do not have email, call the parish office 306-545-4051.

Cookies and Muffins for Marian Centre

The Marian Centre is serving about 130 bag lunches daily for those in need and is very grateful for donations of muffins, cookies, snacks, and other items.

If you can help, package the baked goods in a container or bag that you do not need returned and bring them to the church during regular office hours by Friday 9:30 am.

St. Cecilia Drive-Thru Spring Dinner – March 20

Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, vegetables, 4 salads, bun, and dessert.

Catered by Charlottes.

\$22 a meal (cash or cheque).

Pick-up between 4 and 5 pm, 5020 – 7th Ave.

For tickets call:

- Amber (Office) – 306-545-4051
- Dale/Janette - 306-543-0560
- Clarence/Jan - 306-545-0192.

Last day to purchase tickets is March 13.



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

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

Did you know that... in the latter 19th and early 20th centuries it was commonly thought that diseases like tuberculosis, measles, whooping cough, and influenza were hereditary among First Nation people. All these diseases were brought here by the newcomers. Rates that were as much as twenty times that of neighbouring settler communities. Whereas, in actual fact, the causes were driven by malnourishment and overcrowded living conditions in housing on the reserves and in residential schools.

Knights of Columbus Vocations Endowment Support Initiative

The Bishops of Saskatchewan, in partnership with the Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus, request your financial support for Seminarians in Saskatchewan. There are currently 13 Seminarians from the Diocese and Eparchy in Saskatchewan preparing to become future leaders within our Church. The Saskatchewan K of C Vocations Endowment was established to help defray the annual cost of over \$30,000 per Seminarian.

A fundraising campaign will take place in parishes throughout the province in February. Please visit our [website](#) for further information on how you may make your contribution.

The Bishops, Dioceses, K of C, and Catholic faithful thank you in advance for your generous support of the education and development of Seminarians through prayer and financial assistance.

Divine Renovation Workshop: What is God Saying to the Church?

Live online event with Fr. James Mallon, Bishop Robert Barron, and Revd. Nicky Gumbel.

Tuesday, March 1, Noon. [Register here.](#)

March 2022 marks nearly two years since the pandemic hit. Around the world, the Church found herself wrestling with tremendous challenges but also finding bold new opportunities to proclaim the Gospel and live out the call to discipleship.

Join a conversation between Bishop Robert Barron, Revd. Nicky Gumbel, and Fr. James Mallon as they explore together what God is saying to the Church through all of this, what we can learn, and where to focus on for the future.

Lent 2022

Ash Wednesday Masses

Masses at 10 am and 7 pm. The 7 pm Mass will be livestreamed.



Little Black Book



The Little Book will help you explore the depths of Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ. Use the book anywhere. Fits easily in your pocket, purse, or backpack. Spend 6 minutes of quiet time with the Lord each day.

Reflections begin February 27, and end Easter Sunday, April 17. Reflections will be based on the parables of Jesus.

Pick up one for yourself, (or more to give to others), before or after Masses or during office hours, Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm. Suggested donation \$2.

Eucharistic Adoration and Sacrament of Reconciliation



First Friday of the Month, March 4
9:30 - 10:30 after the 9:00 Mass.

Tuesday evening beginning March 8
7:30 – 8:30 after the 7:00 Mass.



Reflect on the Stations of the Cross

Friday evening, beginning March 4, 7 pm.

If not attending, you can participate on the Livestream.

A 'Twelve Step' Lent

One of the major themes of the Lenten season is that of spiritual renewal and penitence. A preparation for renewing our baptismal promises at Easter will therefore involve taking stock of those areas in our lives that require change and conversion. These are not easily accomplished because, among other things they demand openness, humility, and a lot of willpower.

Many people who have had to deal with substance abuse addictions have found healing through the Twelve Step program. Originating with AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), this process has been successful in bringing many to sobriety and a whole new way of living. It has since been adopted for addressing other forms of addictive behaviour.

The wisdom behind the Twelve Step approach can be used to carry out our own spiritual inventory as we progress through Lent. Because, to one degree or another, we all have our personal demons to fight, this help to 'spiritual sobriety' can be of great benefit.

Each Sunday during Lent, Fr. Brad's and Fr. John's homily will focus on two of the steps. They will be using the 'A' cycle of Lenten readings for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays because they work best with the themes of the steps.

The Twelve Step approach, it must be said, is not some magic formula or instant cure. It demands commitment, prayer, and courage - the same things that Jesus asks of all of us. To the extent that we are willing to journey along this path, we will experience reconciliation, renewal, and resurrection ...and an Easter filled with true joy and peace! It could be the most enriching Lent you've ever had.

Sundays, Steps, and Themes		
First Sunday	Step 1	We admitted that we were powerless over the effects of our separation from God - and that our lives had become unmanageable.
	Step 2	We came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore you to sanity.
Second Sunday	Step 3	We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understand God.
	Step 4	We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
Third Sunday	Step 5	We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.
	Step 6	We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
Fourth Sunday	Step 7	We humbly asked God to remove our shortcomings.
	Step 8	We made a list of all the persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
Fifth Sunday	Step 9	We made amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so, would injure the others.
	Step 10	We continued to make a personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
Sixth Sunday	Step 11	We sought through prayer and mediation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
	Step 12	Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Finance Update

The is the text of a presentation at the February 19 and 20, 2022 Masses.

Good day St. Cecilia parishioners.

For those of you who might not know me, I am Dale Richardson. My wife Janette and I are co-chairs of the Finance Council here at St. Cecilia Parish.

I am here today to update you on our financial picture here at St. Cecilia.

As you are all aware, over the past two years, the Covid pandemic has created hardships all around the world. We too, here at St. Cecilia, have been greatly impacted.

Pandemic restrictions have limited our seating capacity at our church services, limited our ability to have church activities and limited our ability to socialize and celebrate as a church family.

It has all taken its toll on our parishioners and has had a direct impact on our parish finances.

During the first year of the pandemic, 2020, we were able to keep our heads above water and managed to squeak out a small profit of \$600, which sounds good – until you realize that we received \$37,000 from the Canadian Employee Wage Subsidy, which provided major relief for us. Without that subsidy, we would have had an operations loss of just under \$37,000. So thanks be to God for the subsidy.

The second year of the pandemic, 2021, however, hit us much harder.

We did receive some additional money from the Canadian Employee Wage Subsidy which we are extremely grateful for, but it was significantly less than the previous year, coming in at only \$14,000, which was \$23,000 less than what we received in 2020.

Our Collections revenues were also down \$22,000 from what they were prior to the pandemic – an obvious impact of not being able to fill the seats at our Masses.

In addition to revenues being down, we had some major, unexpected building repair expenses last year. We had to replace the furnace and air conditioning units in the Rectory and Office area, we had to repair the two flat sections of our roof over the main entrance and the Reconciliation Room, as well as, we had to do some major repairs to the commercial dishwasher downstairs in the hall kitchen.

On top of all that, because of all the vandalism and fires experienced at churches throughout western Canada, we were hit late in the year with a \$6,000 increase in our building insurance premium.

To sum up a bad story, with our diminished revenues and our unexpected expenses, we had a significant operations loss last year of over \$23,000.

But, unfortunately, – that is not where the bad story ends. In looking at our situation for this year, we are not expecting to see much improvement. In fact, we see a far even graver picture.

We expect the pandemic will continue to have a serious impact on our collection revenues. Even if the restrictions are lifted, we will likely see a gradual return of our parishioners, and although we don't like to think so, some may not come back.

In addition, there will no longer be any government provided subsidies.

We have stalled off on a number of projects for the past three years, but one that we can no longer stall off is the upgrading of our computer systems. We are operating with out of date versions of Windows which are no longer supported by Microsoft, which puts us at risk, particularly with the lack of security updates. In addition, we have been experiencing some performance issues with our computer systems. So we are biting the bullet this year and replacing and upgrading our 4 computers. We don't like to have to spend the extra money during hard times, but feel that we cannot put off the upgrade any longer.

As well, our priests and staff have not had a wage increase for the past two years. This year, the Archdiocese has allocated a modest 2.81% wage increase for our priests. We have always followed suit with the Archdiocese and applied a similar increase for our staff. Considering that their wages have been frozen for the past 2 years, we do not feel that a 2.81% increase is unreasonable.

Our Finance Council has taken a long, hard look at our financial picture. We have cut everything that we possibly can from this year's budget.

We are operating about a 3-to-5-million-dollar facility on a shoestring budget of just over \$200,000 a year. There is no remaining fat to cut.

If our projections are correct, we are **expecting a \$52,000 operating loss for 2022.**

This is a shocking number!

It's shocking because it represents a quarter of our budget. It means that our revenues will only be covering 75% of our operations costs this year.

While the picture is extremely bad from an operations point of view, we are very fortunate that we do have some money put away for a rainy day in our Interparochial fund.

If worse comes to worse, we will be able to extract some of that money to cover our operations shortfall, and – I fully expect that we will have to do that.

However, that is not a very favorable solution. It's sort of like cashing in your GIC savings to put gas in your car. I don't think anyone likes to do that. That money was set aside to cover any major projects or unexpected disasters, not to cover operating costs.

While taking money out of our Interparochial fund may be a short-term solution, it is not a good long-term solution.

At the current rate of shortfall, it won't take too many years to deplete our savings.

So, you may be wondering why we aren't doing some serious fundraising.

Well, we are looking at possible fundraising opportunities, and will pursue those ideas as soon as the pandemic allows. We are still not able to have large gatherings, so major events are out of the question at this time.

We do have a Drive-thru Spring Dinner planned for Sunday, March 20th, which we are hoping that you will all support. While this is a start, it is a long way from providing the kind of financial boost that we need.

In the meantime, we are asking you for whatever additional financial support you can offer, be that large or small.

We realize that this is a big ask! -- Particularly during hard times. We realize too, that we are competing with everyone else out there for your financial contributions. And we realize that the dollar only stretches so far!

But, if your spiritual well-being is important to you -- and if you consider this place of worship to be a large part of your spiritual well-being, -- then we ask that you please support us.

Please dig a little deeper. Please keep St. Cecilia Parish high on your priority list for donations.

Please react now, rather than later.

We have to stop the bleeding!

Thank you very much for your time. May God Bless you all.

Sacred Places and Spaces: March Seminars on Ecumenical Stewardship

You are invited to join in our March 2022 series of Ecumenical Stewardship seminars. We're thinking about the use of sacred buildings and properties in new ways. Join us Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 3 pm on Zoom.

March 3: From Maintenance to Mission

Rev. Dr. Iain Luke will help us consider the factors in moving congregations to a more missional approach in their ministry.

Rev. Dr. Iain Luke, an Anglican priest, has been principal of the College of Emmanuel & St. Chad in Saskatoon since 2016. He previously served as Dean of Athabasca and rector of St. James' Cathedral in Peace River, Alberta as well as parish appointments in Humboldt, Watson, and Nipawin, Saskatchewan. From 1999 to 2007 he was Director of the Institute for Anglican Ministry and Assistant Professor of Theology at St. John's College, Winnipeg. Iain has been a member of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue in Canada since 2016.

March 10: Greening Our Churches

Norman Lévesque will explore with us the various ways our facilities and our grounds can reduce their impact on God's beautiful Creation.

March 17: Sharing Sacred Spaces – Facilities and Ministries

Rev. Dr. Sandra Beardsall will discuss the many and varied ways denominations can work together in ministry and in the sharing of facilities.

March 24: Loving Our Neighbours! (again)

Carla Leon and Zoë Chaytors will engage us in the question of how we practically interact with our communities and use our physical resources in mission for the good of all.

[Register here](#). For further information, contact Archdeacon Cheryl Toth at stewardship@sasktel.net.

Archdiocese of Regina RENEW Lent

RENEW your Lent with inspirational resources and Lenten challenges sent to your inbox each week, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week. Sign up at www.archregina.sk.ca/news, text RENEWLENT to 514-900-0130, or email communications@archregina.sk.ca.

Yo Dawg, I Hear You Like Synods - Part 1

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

In this part 1 of 2, Deacon Eric Gurash rejoins the podcast as he and Dr. Brett Salkeld discuss the 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality.

Show Snippet: "Actually spending time with people and learning from the experiences of people who are different from you, is actually one of the best antidotes to ideology there is." [Listen to the podcast.](#)

CPCS Workshop: A Victim-Centred Approach: Best Practices for Accompaniment, Reducing Re-Victimization and Dealing with a Legacy of Clergy Sexual Abuse

Friday, March 4, 8 am – 3 pm, Online – Zoom

Speakers: Pamela Walsh, Teresa Whalen Lux, Fr. Brad Fahlman, Archbishop Donald Bolen.

Over the last five years the Archdiocese of Regina has embarked on a progressive dialogue with victims of clergy sexual abuse in an on-going effort to change the way those who were abused were treated. In this workshop the Archdiocesan Core Working Group members will share and discuss the best practices that have led to practical and tangible ways to provide a victim-centred approach that helps people impacted by the legacy of clergy sexual abuse and works to educate non-victims. Topics addressed include a victim sharing how abuse impacted her life, transparency, and accountability from a victim's perspective, accompanying and reaching out to victims, and educational and parish resources, all aimed at reducing re-victimization and initiating a change of culture around the exercise of authority.

Please note that the sessions will be recorded and shared with registered participants. The registration fee for the general public is \$50. [Register here.](#)

Myriam Family of the Prairies Afternoon Retreat

The retreat theme is The Truth to Welcome and Proclaim; God is my Father and the Church is my Family and includes time for talk and sharing, time for deepening the Word of God, and Eucharistic Adoration.

Saturday, March 5, 1:30 pm - 4:30.

In person at their House of Prayer in McLean or on Zoom.

For registration and the optional Zoom link, email pss.prairies@famillemyriam.org or call 306-761-0528.

“My Gen” Diocesan Youth Rally

The “My Gen” Diocesan Youth Rally will welcome all students in grade 9 and up for our first in-person gathering since 2019. (Mature grade 8's are also welcome) This fun-filled/faith-filled gathering will take place Saturday, March 26 at Archbishop M.C. O'Neill High School. This year's rally will be a one day event (Not overnight) and registration is FREE. To register or find more info go to www.mygenrally.ca

Grab and Go Event

Furniture, dishes, filing cabinets, household, and miscellaneous items.

March 3 and 4 - 10 am to 3 pm.

Archdiocesan Office, 445 Broad St. North.

First Come/First Served. No holds or delivery.

