



What is the MISERICORDIAE VULTUS??

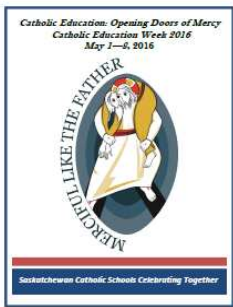
It is the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, written by Pope Francis. Over the next several weeks excerpts of this 17-page document will be highlighted in the bulletin.

“To all who read this letter grace, mercy, and peace.”

- Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome

11. *(cont'd from last week)* Furthermore, Saint John Paul II pushed for a more urgent proclamation and witness to mercy in the contemporary world: “It is dictated by love for man, for all that is human and which, according to the intuitions of many of our contemporaries, is threatened by an immense danger. The mystery of Christ... obliges me to proclaim mercy as God’s merciful love, revealed in that same mystery of Christ. It likewise obliges me to have recourse to that mercy and to beg for it at this difficult, critical phase of the history of the Church and of the world.” This teaching is more pertinent than ever and deserves to be taken up once again in this Holy Year. Let us listen to his words once more: “The Church lives an authentic life when she professes and proclaims mercy – the most stupendous attribute of the Creator and of the Redeemer – and when she brings people close to the sources of the Saviour’s mercy, of which she is the trustee and dispenser.”

Catholic Education Week in Saskatchewan is May 1st to May 8th, 2016



Every year, forty days after Easter on Ascension Thursday, Catholics across the globe celebrate World Catholic Education Day. On that day, and throughout the week in Saskatchewan, Catholics take a moment to pause, reflect, give thanks, and pray for the gift of Catholic Education. This year’s theme, *Catholic Education: Opening Doors of Mercy*, suggests a focus on living with one another as a people of mercy. Students and staff in our Catholic schools will reflect on what it means to be merciful like our heavenly Father. On World Catholic Education Day, May 5th, there will be a special focus on growing in mercy so that as God’s people we may become more merciful like the Father. Please pray for our Catholic schools, that they may always be places where the doors of mercy are open.



Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News



May 9 - May 13, 2016

	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys Bball vs St. Paul Girls Bball vs St. Mary & MC Knoll SCC Meeting @ 7pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys & Girls Bball City Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gr. 7/8 Bullying Presentation Inter-city Bball Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author Visits Gr. 2&3 Bball Tourney 	
Tues.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys Bball vs MC Knoll Girls Bball vs Yorkdale & Springside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys & Girls Bball City Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gr. 4 Swim Inter-city Bball Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bball Tourney SCC Meeting @ 6:30pm 	
Wed.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division Oratory @ St. Henry’s Sr. Gr. 4 Swimming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division Oratory competition Boys & Girls Bball City Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division Oratory – Melville Kindergarten Ministry Workshop Inter-city Bball Tourney 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oratory in Melville Bball finals 	
Thurs.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gr. 6 Canoe Instruction AMPO Parent Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMPO Parent Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benefit Pancake Breakfast French Workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMPO Parent Meeting 	
Fri.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten Registration Gr. 5E Rosary-making 		

“Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning.”

~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~



SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to register for the next baptism preparation session – 306.782.2449.

The next session will be held **July 5th, 6th & 7th** @ 7pm.

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

Hey Altar Servers!

The new schedule is available to pick up in the Sacristy.

Celebrate the Vigil of Pentecost!

Saturday, May 14th @ 7pm

The extended Vigil of Pentecost provides a rich and full celebration of the mystery of Pentecost – the mystery of the God who through Christ and the power of the Spirit calls us to deeper communion so that the Spirit of God might burn brighter in our lives.

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Catholic Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation Retreat has openings left for our May 13 - 15, 2016 weekend in Muenster, SK. For more information or to register go to www.ceewest.com and click on "Regina" or call Ann and Jeff Denton at (306)-586-0934.



YEAR OF MERCY PRESENTATION

Wednesday, May 18, 7:00–9:00 pm
Resurrection Parish
3155 Windsor Park Road, Regina

The Very Reverend James Owolagba, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Regina and Judicial Vicar of the Marriage Tribunal, will speak on the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy and Divine Mercy. Shirley Oleskiw, the Director of the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy, will talk about St. Faustina and Jesus' mission for her, the EADM Chapel and the Shrine for St. Faustina here in Regina, as well as the Chapel of Divine Mercy and its many graces. Beverages and dainties will be served, free will offering.



News from the CWL



Thurs. May 12

Garage Sale Meeting



News from the Knights of Columbus



If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message).

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

It's Time to Talk...

Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

Monday, June 20, 2016 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Parliament Community Church,
4011 Pasqua Street, Regina

Presenter: Mary Deutscher, Ph.D.(c)

(Mary is a member of the Diocese of Saskatoon's Justice and Peace Commission and a Board Member for the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan.)

The Scriptures teach that life is a precious God-given gift. Our society's acceptance and potential normalizing of physician-assisted death and euthanasia are worthy of reflection. This presentation will explore the dangers these practices pose to all Canadians, providing participants with the necessary tools to engage in this discussion.

In the **Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant** signed in 2011 between the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and the Archdiocese of Regina, the two dioceses commit to holding an annual joint prayer service of reconciliation with the participation of both bishops. This year, the service will take place on **Pentecost Sunday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Cathedral, Regina.** The homily will be given by the Very Reverend Lorne Crozon, Rector of Holy Rosary Cathedral and Diocesan Administrator for the Archdiocese since the death of Archbishop Daniel Bohan in January. The episcopal blessing will be given by the Most Reverend James Weisgerber, Archbishop Emeritus of Winnipeg. Reception to follow.

May is 'Leave a Legacy' Month! Know the joy of helping others find life in Christ! Please make a gift to your Catholic Church in your will. ***Even a seemingly small act of generosity can grow!*** ***Ephesians 3:20*** Call or email us for your free Catholic Estate Organizer: Joan at 306-352-1651 or jfellingner@archregina.sk.ca

Good News!

May 8, 2016

ASCENSION OF THE LORD (C)

Acts 1:1–11 / Eph 1:17–23 / Lk 24:46–53

In Luke's ascension account from Acts, Jesus admonishes his apostles to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the Spirit because they are witnesses of his mission and message. When the time for his ascension comes, Jesus blesses them, then "was lifted up" (1:9). We don't hear the great commission to go out to, preach to, and baptize all nations as we do in Matthew's Gospel (28:19–20). Instead, Luke's account leaves us with an image of the apostles joyfully returning to Jerusalem: "They were continually in the temple praising God" (24:53).

Returning to Acts, I love that the early disciples' first order of business—even prior to Pentecost—was to gather to pray (1:14). Paul often admonished the early Christians to pray constantly. He knew that prayer grounds us in the Lord and strengthens us to lay down our lives and carry our crosses. Prayer focuses our attention on God's call and our response to it. The apostles' prayer opened them to receive the promised gift of the Spirit and strengthened them for their mission—to let the world know that Jesus is Lord, that the Kingdom of God has come, and that we have been restored through the death and resurrection of Christ.

Thus should our week begin: in praise and worship before God, in gathered prayer. Like the disciples in Jerusalem, the Lord will open our minds "to understand the scriptures" (Luke 24:45). We, too, will be filled with the Spirit and be sent out as joyful witnesses to God's presence and saving work

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SAVE THE DATE: Friday, June 10, 7 pm at Holy Rosary, plan to attend a conference on the next steps in implementing the **Paris Climate Change Agreement**. This conference is organized jointly by Development and Peace, the Canadian Religious Conference and the environmental organization Equiterre and is being offered in only eleven cities across Canada in the next few months.

WORLD YOUTH DAY SASKATCHEWAN



For all Youth in the Archdiocese of Regina Sunday, July 31st

For Grades 7 to 12 - From 9 to 4:30 p.m.

Holy Child Parish, 2636 – 7th Ave East, Regina - \$25/person, \$50/family



Activities Include:

- Island Survival - Church Trivia - Cracker Jacks
- No Pain, No Gain: Experience the Pascal Mystery -
- Closing Mass -
- Refreshment Breaks and Lunch

To Register Email:

Leona Burkhart: L.Burkhart@archregina.sk.ca
or Sharon Bender: SBender@archregina.sk.ca
(306)352-1651 ext 239

OptionS Pregnancy Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Sign out a baby bottle and fill it with donations to help support those who are experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

Your support helps to save the lives of the unborn!

Bottles to be returned to St. Gerard's on Father's Day. Thank you.

Do you know **EVERYONE** is welcome to borrow books **and** DVDs **free-of-charge** from the Archdiocesan Resource Centre? We have an excellent collection of great books and family DVD's. Here's just a couple new titles to give you an idea of our wide range of books: ***Fifteen Steps out of Darkness: The Way of the Cross for People on the Journey of Mental Illness*** and ***A Catholic Parent's Tool Box: Raising Healthy Families in the 21st Century***.

Drop by 445 Broad Street North to take a look or browse online by clicking on 'Resource Center' at www.archregina.sk.ca.

PARISH CENTRE HAPPENINGS

306.783.4255 - Perogy Hotline – 306.783.4255

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Alpha and Omega"

This Week...

Before his death, Jesus prayed for unity among his followers - unity that reflected the oneness of himself with the One who sent him. He knew the road ahead would not be easy for himself or for his followers. Stephen was the first of many of Jesus' followers to be killed for believing in him. Jesus, along with the One who sent him, is truly Alpha and Omega, the first and last. The struggle of the story makes sense when you know how it begins and ends.

For Your Reflection

What struggles in your life today were not present when you were a small child? Are you happier now than you were then, or do you think you were happier when you were a child? Do you think you will be happier as an adult than you are now? Why or why not?

God was with you when your life began. God will be there when your life ends. Does knowing that God is there in the beginning and the end change your life at all? Does it affect the way you look at your struggles? How and why? Or why not?

The Book of Revelation tells us that Jesus is returning soon. How soon is soon? What do you think? Is it important to know? Why or why not? Would life be different if you thought it would be over in a day or a week or a month or a year? How would you do things differently? Give some examples.

Excerpt from In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter, 2004



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience that introduces the Christian faith in our Roman Catholic tradition. We explore topics such as Holy Scripture, the Sacraments, Church history and the core beliefs of the Church. Anyone who has taken this "leap of faith" has found it to be a life-altering experience.

The RCIA process is intended for those who are non-baptized. There are several rites and stages that are part of the process to prepare adults for Baptism and to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Rite of Reception of Baptized Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. If you have been baptized in another Christian tradition, the Catholic Church respects that baptism. Baptism is the sacrament of our rebirth in Christ and our immersion into His saving death and Resurrection. It can never be repeated. Reception into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church happens after a period of preparation through catechesis, prayer and worship, and an introduction to Catholic life, values, and mission.



Adults who have been baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation can prepare for reception of this sacrament through a period of catechesis and prayer.

If you are interested in this journey of faith please contact Fr. Francis Hengen, or if you would like more information contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Mary Bybliw, through the parish office at 306-782-2449 or email office@stgerard.ca

And to all our friends in St. Gerard's parish, we remind you that we all have a responsibility to share our faith and bring others to Christ. If you know of a family member, friend, co-worker or fellow student who is searching for a deeper meaning in their life, let them know about RCIA.



LOST SOMETHING?

Mitts, toques, etc. – check the literature display drawer marked "Lost and Found" in the Welcome Area.

Books, religious articles, jewellery, etc. – contact the Parish Office.

OFFERING A MASS

The offering of a Mass in the name of a deceased family member or friend is one of the greatest ways to keep our beloved dead in our living memory. At each celebration of the Mass, the great prayer of sacrifice is made complete as Jesus' life, death and resurrection is offered to God the Father. When we offer a Mass for a particular person, we ask that in a special way the individual be remembered by the priest who offers up the great sacrifice on behalf of the whole community of faith. In a very real and active way, the life, death and resurrection of the person remembered becomes present and is offered up with Jesus. Each time we offer up a Mass for someone, living or dead, we celebrate the greatest gift of our faith – the gift of Everlasting Life in Christ

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available daily at the EADM Centre Chapel at 484 Hamilton St. Regina. Hours: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm on Monday through Thursday. Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please help us keep Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available in our city on a daily basis.

The Healing and Growth Centre St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission

St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission – Searching for God's purpose in your life? Want to live life more fully, and take your faith to the next level? Then, come to St. Therese! At St. Therese Institute of Faith and Mission, adults of all ages can explore their faith, discern their vocation in life, foster their prayer life and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Please see the brochures at the entrances of the church, or visit on line at www.sttherese.ca

Rachel's Vineyard: a psychological and spiritual journey for healing after abortion.

If you are experiencing post abortion distress symptoms such as; depression, flashbacks, nightmares, anger, denial, suicidal urges, eating or sleeping disorders, drug or alcohol abuse, inability to bond with your live children, spiritual divorce from God, or avoiding relationships, you can receive help and healing by attending a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend. For more information please check out our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org, or email Bonnie at r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net, or call 1-306-480-8911.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY offers distance education courses for adults seeking faith formation for personal and professional development: ***Diploma in Ministry; Certificate in Lay Ministry; Come Let Us Worship: A course in liturgical foundations; Certificate in Spirituality; and Diploma in Intellectual Disability Studies.***

For an information package please contact Continuing & Distance Education, St. Francis Xavier University, toll free 1-877-867-5562, diplomainministry@stfx.ca or check the website:

www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html