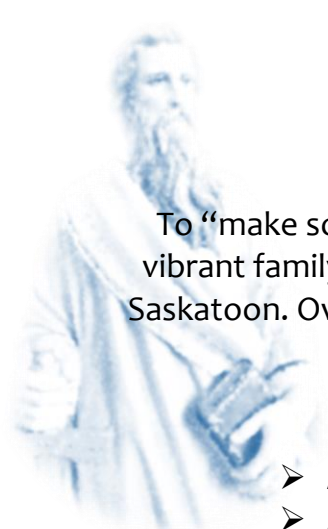


Next week – after the 8 and 10 a.m. Masses

St. Paul's Annual General Meeting

Launching of Phase One of the Renovations of the Co-Cathedral: Consultation



→ Why renovations? What is the motivation?

Because Jesus Christ says from His Throne,
“See, I make all things new” (Rev. 21: 5)

To “make something new” is a sign of life – St. Paul's Co-Cathedral has developed into vibrant family of families that looks to be a center of discipleship at the spiritual heart of Saskatoon. Over its 112-year history, the church has moved from being a parish church to a Cathedral (1933) and then Co-Cathedral (2012).

The renovations embrace our new situation by being:

- **A witness to the Beauty of a history of Discipleship**
- **An anchor for family-life in Christ who walks with all people**
- **A place for worship and prayer that reveals God at the Center of all things**

The Renovations aim to open the legacy of this building entrusted to us to the *generations ahead* whose lives as Catholics will be a call to joy-filled martyrdom. It will strengthen the Eucharistic Presence of Christ, it will deepen St. Paul's role as a center for sacramental Reconciliation, it will be a place of prayer and rest amidst the Communion of Saints, it will celebrate and preserve the history of the Diocese for which it long was the Mother-Church, it will be a place of liturgical excellence, and it will be the place for the making of disciples of Jesus Christ in the inner city of Saskatoon.

→ Why now?

Because we are **“servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries”** (1 Cor. 4:1)

Beyond the need for renewal of worn-out structure and furniture, there is a profound call for the restoration of the church to even more reflect the liturgical renewal of the Second Vatican Council. As well, this moment sees the greatest transfer of resources between generations and St. Paul's community lives this encounter – the faithful of the “Silent Generation” and the “Baby Boomers” meet the families of “Millennials”. So, *NOW* is the time for the transfer of resources for the sake of the handing on the greatest gift: The Gospel of Jesus lived in the Communion of God's Holy Church. This offering of resources will find a joy-filled, faith-motivated, expression in entrusting future generations who are being *baptized right now in our Co-Cathedral* – think of the Church of 2075! 2100! - with a gloriously space in which to meet their Saviour.

What ideas do you for this have so that children and elders, single persons and families, working folks and the retired, might experience this “passing on of gifts”? These renovations can help us make disciples today!

→ What are we hoping to achieve?

We hope to serve the Holy Spirit who always works
“to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:12)

Pope Francis is often telling us that the Church is not a museum. Saskatoon Diocese has always been a place of living the Holy Spirit in creative and engaging ways. The moment in which we live walking in the Spirit – a time of Synodality – allows us draw out the gifts that have emerged as central to our Mission through the sometimes-turbulent half-century since Vatican II. The now exhausted fetish for freedom marked by fashion and novelty is giving way to a more Incarnational living of being firmly planted as Children of God set free for Freedom in a world that is wilful, secular, and abstract. St. Paul’s Co-Cathedral is not an anachronism – a throw-back to a bygone era - but a witness to the continued love of Christ Jesus, the **“same yesterday, today, and forever”**.

→ How will we achieve this?

Through a real process of **“communion, participation, and mission”**

We recognize that the experience of “renovations” in the past was often top-down, abrupt, and distressing. How could anyone have

Next week at the AGM the conceptual draft worked on by architects and the Renovation Committee will be distributed. So, begins the important work of Phase One: engaging the parish in careful listening and dialogue.

thought it good to simply destroy the magnificent altar and pulpit in the sixties? Our renovation process will be one of *engaging our parish* – indeed our diocese – at every step of the way. Thus, the legacy will not simply hand on ideas and stories but will really be built of this community’s love – craftspersons, artisans, and experts from our community, activities of fundraising, and community consultation will make this project a model

of renewal in continuity with our tradition and a concrete example of what a “synodal Church” looks like: A Church walking together in the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit.

The renovation of our Co-Cathedral for worship and disciple-making will renew our parish and diocese in our call to living evangelization.

“You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.” (Ephesians 2:19(b)-20)

See you at the Annual General Meeting, November 6

