



St. Paul's Co-Cathedral Parish

720 Spadina Crescent East

Saskatoon, SK S7K 3H2

Rector: Very Rev. Fr. Stefano Penna

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Fr. Andrzej Wychucki

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Donat Davatz

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5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2024

“He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them” (Mk. 1:30)

Catholic Health Care has special meaning for our parish. The presence of the Lord, *taking people by the hand and lifting them up* through His Church in Saskatoon began right here. Let's read a bit of history.

“The year [1906] did not end too happily for the citizens of the young city. In the fall a terrific typhoid epidemic occurred. There had also been one the previous year resulting in considerable loss of life (including that of the town's only registered nurse, Miss Sisley). About 160 people were treated during the second epidemic and the overflow patients from the two small local hospitals were cared for in private homes. Father Vachon turned St. Paul's rectory into an emergency hospital. Providentially two Grey Nuns, Sisters Phaneuf and Guay, stopped to visit the parish en route from Battleford to St. Boniface. They remained in Saskatoon to nurse the sick. This led to the Grey Nuns of Montréal, far-famed for their nursing skills, establishing a hospital, St. Paul's, in 1907.” (Sword of St. Paul, pg.13)

That is why our Catholic Hospital bears the name of our parish. I recall meeting Cardinal Léger who proudly told me that his sister had been Superior of the Grey Nuns here. I think of the remarkable women trained by the Sisters – though they have retired, my how they continue to serve. What a legacy Religious Sisters have left since the first Grey Nuns arrived in 1860 in Ile-la-Crosse.

“In the many decades since, approximately **5,500 Catholic Sisters**, representing 61 religious orders, have served in Saskatchewan. They have owned and operated **25 hospitals and worked in 20 public hospitals. Thirteen long-term care homes for the elderly were established by religious communities between 1924 and 1968. As well, six schools of nursing were run by Sisters.**” (SP Jun 20, 2015)

We talk a lot about *Missionary Discipleship* today. Catholic Sisters lived this with heroism and holiness. The gift of remarkable health care – like all the blessings we receive - is too often taken for granted. It is too easy for those who make six-figure incomes as they lead health care to look with judgment upon those who came before. The Sisters built a culture of care for people by charity and poverty in their witness to Jesus. We stand on the shoulders of Giants. Catholic Health Care is founded in the hearts of these Saints.

How do we support this witness of Jesus? How can we be the hand of Jesus lifting up the sick? More than ever in this time when technology and the treasury shape health care the witnessing hands of Jesus' disciples is needed. The pressure on our Catholic care centers to collaborate with the Governmental and Industry cost-saving strategy of euthanizing our elderly and sick is almost irresistible. On this, there can be no compromise. Our Bishops have stated:

“we, the members of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, unanimously **and unequivocally oppose the performance of either euthanasia or assisted suicide (MAiD) within health organizations with a Catholic identity. We oppose any efforts by governments or others to compel such facilities to perform MAiD in violation of Catholic teachings.** Anything to the contrary would deeply betray the identity of these institutions as Catholic and would not be in keeping with the Church's moral teachings on the sanctity of life and the dignity of the human person.” 23.11.30

118 years ago, Catholic Health Care in Saskatoon began in this parish. We are charged by Jesus our Lord to renew our witness to Him: technology shaped by tenderness, treasuring life not expediency.

Just like the Sisters.

MONDAY, February 5, 2024
St. Agatha (M)

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*SI Leiffers family*)
6:30 pm - Medjugorje Prayer Group

TUESDAY, February 6, 2024
St. Paul Miki & Companions

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*SI Bill Paulyk*)
7:00 pm - *Mulieris Dignitatem*
7:45 pm - Holy Face of Jesus

WEDNESDAY, February 7, 2024

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*SI Bev Ford*)
1:00 pm - Eucharistic **Adoration** until 5:00pm
7:00 pm - Confirmation Study
7:30 pm - Choir Practice

THURSDAY, February 8, 2024

St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Josephine Bakhita

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*† Joanne Schaller*)
7:00 pm - RCIA
8:00 pm - Christ the King Prayer Group

FRIDAY, February 9, 2024

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*† Harry Monette*)
5:30 pm - Sto. Nino Prayer Group

SATURDAY, February 10, 2024
St. Scholastica (M)

11:00 am - Confessions, Adoration & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (*† Priscila Galapon*)

SUNDAY, February 11, 2024
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am - **Mass**
10:00 am - **Mass**
2:00 pm - Baptism Prep
7:30 pm - **Solemn Vespers**
8:00 pm - **Mass**

Sr Peter Mary provides **visits to homebound parishioners**. To schedule, please email **Sister Peter** at srpetermary@stpaulcathedral.ca or call the parish office at (306) 652-0033

Monthly Devotion To The Holy Face Of Jesus

Tuesday, February 6 @ 7:45 pm

All are welcome!

Ash Wednesday

February 14



Mass at 12:10 pm & 7:00pm

We will have **Eucharistic Adoration** immediately following the 12:10pm Mass until 5:00pm with Prayer Cenacle from 3-4pm

Saint Alphonsus Liguori said: *"Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us."*

We are collecting palms this week and next to burn for Ash Wednesday.

Marriage Preparation: Christ in the Middle
Registration is now open!

7- week program on Tuesday evenings
at 7pm from **April 23 to June 4**

For more information or to register,
please contact Liz at

marriageprep@stpaulcathedral.ca



The International Day of Prayer for victims of human trafficking is this Thursday, February 8 on the feast of St. Josephine Bakhita.

St. Anne's CWL will be at City Hall to raise a flag for Human Trafficking Awareness **Thursday, February 22**. Following the ceremony, all are welcome to come to St. Paul's basement hall to discuss the progress in furthering awareness of this present day slavery. More details to come.

St. Bakhita, patron saint of victims of slavery and human trafficking, intercede for us.