



St. Paul's Co-Cathedral Parish

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1st Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024



“People are very brittle”.

That was the comment Archbishop Chatlain made to me when we were walking during the pandemic. Brittle. Easily angered. Lacking in patience. Opinions crystalizing people into camps. Prickly and intolerant. Remember the wife of Lot? She turned into a pillar of salt looking backwards at Sodom. Are we so brittle because we only look backwards to *what we have lost and the hurts done to us*? Have we turned into pillars crystallized into bitterness towards people – especially those close to us? We cannot be salt of the earth – spreading peace and joy into peoples’ lives if we are a **self-enclosed pillar of salt** standing along on top of the earth.

Advent is a looking-forward time.

The signs of the collapse of Sodom and Gomorrah are indeed around us. Tariffs threaten borders, environmental destabilization is around us, social divisions metastasize fed by huge media and state corporations, viruses mutate, Christians are marginalized and persecuted, and – as Jesus said,

“People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world” (Luke 21:25).

Fear makes people brittle. Fear freezes people into pillars.

Advent comes to us brittle people and speaks serious hope:

“Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory.

Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads,

because your redemption is drawing near.” (Luke 21: 27-28)

Stop looking backward! Stop seeing everything through the lens of earthly power and politics! Lift up your head and see – The Son of Man is coming on a cloud. Soon and very soon.

He has come already. Not as a pillar of self-righteous salt to stand sternly on the earth but as a *“righteous*

Branch to spring up for David;

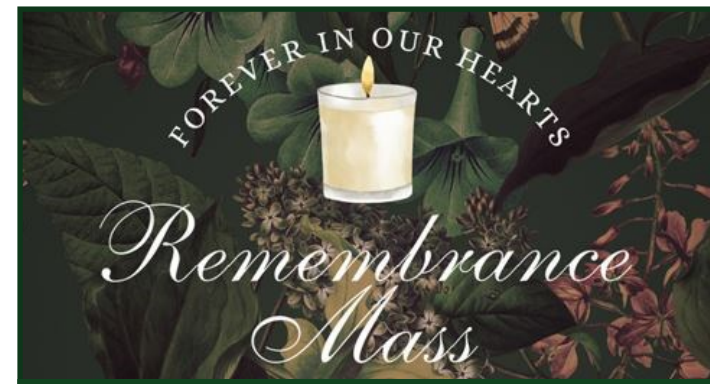
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.” (Jer. 33:15).

A **living branch** of justice “springing up from the earth”.

The powers of the world tried to nail that branch to the Cross of hopeless – but the Living Branch that is Jesus even carried that awful Dead Tree into salvation that gives a name to each and all of our lives: *“The Lord is our Righteousness” (Jer. 33: 16).*

And so, **to the Sacrament of Reconciliation we must go.** We will bring the sins that freeze us in brittleness and see that these are the sins that fashioned the Cross that crucified the Jesus.

And seeing Jesus coming through the clouds of our sins with power and great glory in our lives – we shall find ourselves no longer brittle pillars looking at what we have lost but living branches of healing hope celebrating Christ’s coming as the World passes away.



Remembrance Mass: 7 pm Friday, December 6

St. Patrick Parish, 3339 Centennial Dr. Saskatoon

This is a Remembrance Mass for parents, grand parents, family members and friends of those who have lost a child from pregnancy through adulthood. Families are asked to bring a photo or other remembrance of their child with them.

Hosted by Red Bird Ministries in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

Chapter leaders are Monique and Ryan Leblanc: (306) 850-1596 or westcoastleblancs@gmail.com.

www.redbird.love

Emmaus Family Support is a Catholic, peer-led support gathering of individuals who are the primary caregivers of a family member or loved one experiencing mental health challenges. In Saskatoon, support meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month at Holy Spirit Parish, 114 Kingsmere Place, Saskatoon, with the next meeting on Thursday, Dec. 5. See: emmaussupport.ca or contact Lynn Eremondi at lynn.eremondi@gmail.com.

OFFERING for November 24, 2024

Cash Donations	\$	181.30
Envelopes	\$	17,015.00
Renovations	\$	15,165.00

Employment Opportunities

Accounting Technician - Are you detail-oriented, love crunching numbers, and looking for a career in accounting? The diocese is looking for an Accounting Technician to join the finance team at the Catholic Pastoral Centre.

Find the [full job description](#) on the diocesan website:

<https://rcdos.ca/employment>.

Apply by emailing CV and cover letter to hr@rcdos.ca with the subject line “Accounting Technician” by Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024.

CWL Clothing Depot - Both part-time and full-time positions are available at the CWL Clothing Depot: drop off resumes between 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, or submit to: cwlclothingdepotinc@gmail.com.

Casual Caretaker - Holy Spirit Parish is seeking a Casual Caretaker for after-hour church events, and to assist when required with other jobs. Contact Facilities Manager Duane Banadyga by e-mail dbanadyga@rcdos.ca or call (306) 241-7152.

Part-time Pastoral Associate - Holy Spirit Parish is seeking a Part-time Pastoral Associate (Youth Ministry) responsible for baptism preparation for infants and young children, and to work with Catholic elementary schools. For a job description or to apply, e-mail: info@holyspiritsaskatoon.ca. (Please enter “PA Resume” in the subject line.)

Organists and Singers Wanted at Two Senior

Homes: Mass is celebrated at St. Ann’s Village Chapel six days a week at 11 a.m. To be a volunteer organist or singer for even one day a week, phone Sr. Gina Jacek at (306) 374-5480. Also, Samaritan Place in the Stonebridge area, has no keyboard player for 10:30 a.m. Mass Tuesdays, and occasionally, a substitute is needed for Mass at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, or 3:30 p.m. Sundays. One or more singers could attend and join the congregation in singing and/or visiting residents. To volunteer, or for more information, please phone Sr. Gina at (306) 734-5480.

MONDAY, December 2, 2024

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** († Catherine Lucyshyn)
6:30 pm - Medjugorje Prayer Group

TUESDAY, December 3, 2024
St. Francis Xavier (M)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Anne LaFlèche)
4:30 pm - 1st Reconciliation (Grades 4+5)
7:45 pm - Devotion to the Holy Face

WEDNESDAY, December 4, 2024
St. John Damascene (OM)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Ken Baun)
4:30 pm - 1st Reconciliation (Grades 2+3)

THURSDAY, December 5, 2024

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Gerhardt & Baun families)
4:30 pm - RCIC
7:00 pm - RCIA
7:00 pm - Altar Server Training
8:00 pm - Christ the King Prayer Group

FRIDAY, December 6, 2024
St. Nicholas (OM)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** († Darlene Benard)
5:30 pm - Sto. Nino Prayer Group

SATURDAY, December 7, 2024
St. Ambrose (M)

11:00 am - Confessions & Rosary
12:10 pm - **Mass** (SI Dominic Sidloski)

SUNDAY, December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 am - **Mass**
10:00 am - **Mass**
7:00 pm - Melodia Singers Christmas Concert
7:30 pm - **Solemn Vespers**
8:00 pm - **Mass**

Christmas Season Masses

Christmas Eve - 6pm & 11pm

Christmas Day - 10am with Bishop Mark

December 31 - 12:10pm

New Years Day - 10am

Advent Penitential Service

Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00pm



Call for Christmas Poinsettias!

We are asking for donations of poinsettias to decorate the Church for Christmas. Please drop off any poinsettias at the parish office by Thursday, December 19. The office is open Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 3:30pm and closed over the noon hour.



Next Sunday, please join us for the St. Paul's

St. Nicholas Party!

Sunday, December 8
after the 10:00am Mass



Melodia Singers Christmas Concert

with Children's Chorus

Heart & Voice

Directed by Albert Couture

Children by Michael Friesen

Accompanist Katie Ormerod

Saturday, December 7, 7:00pm

St. Paul's Co-Cathedral

Tickets at the door: Suggested \$15/Adult, \$5/Child,
\$40/Family or by donation

melodiasingers.com

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus

Tuesday, December 3 at 7:45pm

All are welcome

ENKINDLE Advent Retreat

A diocesan Adult Faith Formation "Encounter" event will be held 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Saturday, Dec. 7** at the Cathedral of the Holy Family. Presented by sisters of the Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity who are serving in our diocese, the Retreat will feature prayer and reflection to assist participants in spiritually preparing for Christmas. Cost is \$30/ person, which includes lunch. Please register online at <https://form.jotform.com/SaskatoonDiocese/adventretreat2024> or contact Astrid Alas at amalas@rcdos.ca or (306) 659-5858

Renovation Update:

The end of the liturgical year is upon us, and the beginning of Advent draws ever nearer. So too does the great Jubilee Year beginning this Sunday December 1st, a time of mercy and forgiveness.

Work continues on our confessionals as we strive to have them functional - and put to good use during this Jubilee Year. **Check out the video** on our YouTube channel of architect and parishioner, Sam Farthing, as he reviews the design details, and inspirations that went into the creation of the confessionals. Remember to subscribe to our YouTube Channel by clicking the bell - to ensure you get updates as soon as they are available.

It has been another month of great financial generosity. **We received an incredible donation of \$50,000 just this week** - bringing our November total to \$67,935. Please consider how you may be able to support this ongoing work.

Lastly, the Renovation Committee will be providing a brief update at the end of 8 am and 10am Mass on December 8th, and would be happy to chat and answer questions afterwards.