

Office Hours
Fr. Millan Sajonas
Director of Adult and Family
Faith Formation
Wednesday to Friday
9:00 am-12:00 noon
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Family Circles - Faith, Prayer, Life & Charity

The Adult and Family Faith Formation Commission is organizing a diocesan-wide advancement of family faith formation. Family Circles Program is a Roman Catholic-based faith catechesis exploring the fundamentals of Catholicism and the promotion of devotions. It aims to connect families through prayers and family time activities. It also endeavors to unite families to concretize belief through charitable outreach.

Families interested in joining or knowing more about this initiative may contact the Adult and Family Faith Formation Commission or email bmjs1981@gmail.com or call 306-763-5677. In Prince Albert, we have started an hour of Adoration every Thursday night from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish. Join us!

Suggested Materials:

- (1) *Chemins spirituels* (Book) by Cardinal Robert Sarah;
- (2) *Judaism evolved among us: an introduction to Judaism for Christian Arabs* (Book) by Fr. David Neuhaus, SJ;
- (3) *City of Saints* Season I (Videos, Mini-Series) by Charles Francis Kinnane;
- (4) *Deep Conversion, Deep Prayer* (Book) by Fr. Thomas Dubay, S.M.

For more resources: padiocese.ca or bmjsajonas.com

Are you interested to join a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land?

There are pilgrimages going to the Holy Land. These are organized by Fr. Millan Sajonas and some agencies.

For further details, visit <https://www.bmjsajonas.com/upcoming-activities> or call Fr. Millan at 306-763-5677/ email: bmjs1981@gmail.com

Next issue's contents:

Matthew 12:24-30: The Parable of the Divided Kingdom; Getting to know a parish in the diocese; Bible Study, Resources for faith formation, and much more...

Contributor: Wendy Watrin (SK, Canada)

Editors:

Sr. Mariette Bilodeau (SK, Canada), Matthew Allen Newland, PhD (QC, Canada), Fr. Millan Sajonas (SK, Canada), and Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr. (SK, Canada).

ADULT & FAMILY FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION

Diocese of Prince Albert

IMDVS November 2019

Luke 14:15-24: The Parable of the Dinner Guests

By Fr. Millan Sajonas

Jesus had gone for a meal with one of the leaders of the Pharisees. He was being observed introspectively, and Jesus was observing his host too. Reproving the Pharisee leader, Jesus used a parable to encourage him to invite people who would not be able to return kindness and goodness, and not just those who would later reciprocate his invitation. He told of a man who gave a great banquet, where a great number of people were invited. The host sent his slave to invite the chosen guests once the meal was ready. Yet, the guests made light of the invitation given to them. One by one, they gave excuses not to attend the great banquet. The slave reported this to his master. In turn, the master opened his doors to anyone willing to come, and unequivocally decided that none of the original guests would partake his banquet: "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the main crossroads and invite everyone you can find to come to the wedding." (Matthew 22:8-9).

Today, God has sent us all a similar invitation. Like the parable suggests, many who were originally invited have declined the offer, and so the door is open to us. God is the host whom Jesus referred to in His story, and the messenger of God could be interpreted as the Father's only Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. God sent His Son to fill the abundant banquet of His love. There is more room. As such, the invitation has been extended to all.

The pressing question to all invited is this: what are we to do with God's free invitation? Will we refuse to attend the banquet, just as those who made light the master's invitation chose to do? Will we accept the offer in humility and great honor? One has to make a decision to come and share the meal prepared by God. The doors have already been opened wide. The grace of God is sufficient for us to answer His invitation to sit at His table of fellowship and bounty.

"Come along: everything is ready now." "Go out quickly into the streets and alleys." These words suggest that there is urgency in the invitation to enter into the banquet. God wants it to be filled. It is of great importance to come and to accept God's invitation because it is for our good, our benefit, and our salvation. It is a gift with an eternal result. It is a banquet of overflowing love and plenty.

Reflection Questions

1. What preoccupations could stop us from accepting God's invitation?
2. One could make many excuses to decline God's summoning. What do you think would be a consequence of such a refusal?
3. Why is there a sense of urgency in God's invitation to enter the banquet?
4. How would you accept God's offer to come to the banquet?
5. As a messenger of God, how will you help others to answer God's invitation to the banquet?

Diocesan Family Faith Encounter 2020

June 12 & 13, 2020

Organized by Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr. and
the Adult & Family Faith Formation Commission

Location: Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Laurent, Duck Lake

Theme: Family Love: a vocation and a path to holiness

Speakers: Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr and Tim Staples
Fun Activities for families!

Enjoy music from various performers!

Faith-filled talks and activities!

Further information TBA

Registration Fee: \$50 (Family), \$20 (Individual), \$30 (Couple)

Make the cheque to: Diocese of Prince Albert

Send to: Fr. Millan Sajonas

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For inquiries, please call Fr. Millan 306-763-5677

or email bmjs1981@gmail.com

Family Faith Encounter is organized by the Adult and Family Faith Formation Commission of the Diocese of Prince Albert and Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr. It is sponsored by the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Its goal is to gather families to have a faith-filled experience through talks, activities, and music. The theme for this year's gathering is "Family Love: a vocation and a path to holiness." Featured speaker is Tim Staples from Catholic Answers (for more information go to catholic.com). Various performers will be present to give entertainment. **Location:** Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Laurent, Duck Lake. **When:** [June 12 \(Friday\) & 13 \(Saturday\) 2020](#). **Please register!** You can bring your camper to the site. Further details TBA. For more information contact Fr Millan Sajonas 306-763-5677 or email bmjs1981@gmail.com

What is a Liturgical Calendar?

The Liturgical Calendar begins every year during the month of November on the First Sunday of Advent and runs through to the Solemnity of Christ the King.

The "Lectionary," the Mass readings from the Holy Bible, follows a Sunday cycle and a weekday cycle. The Liturgical Calendar follows a three-year cycle, each year being represented by the letters, A, B, and C. During the year A cycle, the Gospel of Matthew is the primary Gospel that is used for the readings. In Year B, Mark is the primary Gospel. In year C, Luke is the primary Gospel. The Gospel of John is proclaimed on particular Sundays in each of the years.

During the year, in addition to the Sunday worship, the Church also celebrates Solemnities, Feasts, and Memorials, any of which may be on any day of the week. These occur during the year to commemorate special events or persons that are highly revered by the Catholic Church.

Sources: National Shrine of St. Jude, Chicago and Kabataang Katoliko



Getting to Know St. Mary Parish in Christopher Lake by Wendy Watrin

Prior to the construction of the church building in 1941, Masses were held in the homes of parishioners. The first pastor was Fr. E. Denomee O.M.I. The longest-serving pastor was Fr. Cliff Tremblay who served for a total of fifteen years. Our present pastor is Fr. Millan Sajonas. We share our pastor with Our Lady of Czestochowa. Over the past 78 years our parish has seen many changes. The first church building was condemned in 1969 but in the 1970s Bishop Morin under advice from Father Tremblay, decided that the old church should be repaired. Under the leadership of Wilf Heisler, the old church was reconstructed and enlarged. Sadly, this "Little Church in the Vale" was totally destroyed by fire in June 1991. Never undaunted, a building committee was immediately formed and plans were made to rebuild. In September of 1992 our new St. Mary's church was consecrated by Bishop Morand. Two blackened timbers were incorporated within a steel cross. The cross, placed in front of the new church, is a reminder of the faith and determination of the people of the St. Mary community. In more recent years we have added, a Marian Grotto, a new front entry, and a Bell for St. Mary. The Grotto was blessed in August 2004 by Bishop Morand and Fr. Tuyen, and is dedicated to Sr. Joan Baron, who began plans for it before her death in 2003. Len Brons's boyhood dream of having a bell to ring at church finally came to fruition by the determination of a dedicated committee spearheaded by Len and with extra special effort from Wolfgang Milde. The bell was donated and trucked all the way from Watson Lake, Yukon. The new bell was blessed by Fr. Tuyen and Bishop Morand in October 2005. In 2014 a notable change was made to our church: the modification of the entrance, which has since improved the reception area. The McClurg family made a significant monetary contribution, Wolfgang Milde provided the design, tendering and supervising of this project along with the help of many parishioners. We celebrate the hard work and faith of the people of this community for sustaining this parish over the last 78 years. Let us go forth to build 'this People of God' under the protection of Mary, our patroness!