

Office Hours  
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### Getting to know...St. Mark, the Evangelist

One of the four evangelists, St. Mark was a disciple of Peter, the apostle. In Colossians and 2 Timothy, Mark accompanied Sts. Barnabas and Paul to spread the gospel. At Paul's imprisonment, Mark helped Paul in his ministry and expressed his concern for the apostle's well being.

Mark became the bishop of Alexandria in Egypt and died there as a martyr around 64-74 AD. His gospel is the shortest among the four gospels. Nonetheless, it is a treasure for all believers, describing Jesus' life, death, resurrection and ascension. He urges all of us who are followers of the Lord to be willing to make sacrifices and to take up our cross. A lion with wings is the symbol of Mark, and we celebrate his feast day on April 25. St. Mark is the patron saint of the Roman Catholic Church in Prince Albert that bears his name. Let us pray through the intercession of St. Mark that the gospel of the Risen Lord may be preached with fidelity and integrity, touching the lives of people for continuing conversion.

**Model Families:** Do you know a family or families that are exemplary in their faith and charitable deeds in your parish or community? It is time for you to nominate them as Model Families of 2019! The Adult Faith Formation Commission is looking for nominations for model families. Write a short biography of the family and tell us why the family is a model of faith and charitable deeds. Please indicate the family's parish and town. Ask the permission of the family you are nominating; when you have obtained the family's consent, submit a short biography to [adultfaith@padiocese.ca](mailto:adultfaith@padiocese.ca). Invite the family to attend the **Gospel Jamborees in Prince Albert on October 19 2018 at St. Joseph Parish or in North Battleford on October 20 2018 at St. Joseph Calasactius**. A committee will choose 6 families as "Model Families of 2019" and they will be recognized at the **Family Conference (April 26-27 2019)**. Awards will be given to the families and to the ones who nominated them. For more information, please contact the Adult Faith Formation Office.



**Pastoral Centre Resources:** (1) *Jesus of Nazareth: From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection* by Pope Benedict XVI; (2) *Jesus of Nazareth Study Guide: From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection* by Mark Brumley; (3) *Joy of Discipleship: Reflections from Pope Francis on Walking with Christ* by Pope Francis; (4) *Assisi Pilgrimage: Walking in Faith with Francis and Clare* (DVD) by Greg Friedman, OFM; (5) *Meditations On: Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, The Triduum* (DVD) by Fr. Benedict Groeschel

**Suggested Materials:** (1) *The Necessity of Divine Mercy* (Video published by Augustine Institute) by Fr. Chris Alar, MIC; (2) *God and the World* by Pope Benedict XVI; (3) *Priest, Prophet, King* (DVD) by Bishop Robert Barron; (4) *Mission for Truth* (DVD) by Fr. William Casey; (5) *Living the Works of Mercy* (DVD) by Fr. Andrew Apostoli; (6) *Full of Grace: The Story of Mary the Mother of Jesus* (DVD); (7) *Archbishop Fulton Sheen: Servant of All* (DVD)

For more resources: [padiocese.sk.ca](http://padiocese.sk.ca) or [bmjsajonas.com](http://bmjsajonas.com)

### Next issue's contents:

Pentecost; Getting to know a patron saint of our diocese; Bible Study, Resources for faith formation, and much more...

### Editors:

Sr. Mariette Bilodeau (SK, Canada), Dr. Matthew Allen Newland, PhD (QC, Canada), Fr Devin Roza, LC (NE, USA) Fr. Millan Sajonas (SK, Canada), and Very Rev. Maurice Fiolleau.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFICE Diocese of Prince Albert

IMDVS April 2018



In the Picture: Fr. Manh, Deacon Greg, Jean, Linda, Delores, Cecilia, Ron, Donna, Colette, Fr. Millan, and Bishop Albert.

Absent: Paul, Blanche, Linda, Fr. Frederick, Deacon Mike, Fr. Alberto, Sr. Mariette, and Dr. Jenny

### Adult Faith Formation Commission

Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr.

Paul Joy (Deanery 1) Chairperson

Rev. Fr. Frederick Akah, MSP (Deanery 4) Vice-Chairperson

Blanche Crowder (Deanery 4) Secretary

Sr. Mariette Bilodeau (Deanery 1) Observer

Rev. Fr. Bernabe Millan Sajonas (Deanery 1) Director

Rev. Fr. Alberto Dela Pena (Deanery 6) Sr. Mariette Bilodeau (Deanery 1)

Rev. Fr. Manh Nguyen (Deanery 2) Deacon Greg Bobbitt (Deanery 3)

Deacon Mike Hardwicke (Deanery 2) Cecilia Germaine (Deanery 4)

Linda Rudachyk (Deanery 3) Ron Germaine (Deanery 4)

Linda Kindrachuk (Deanery 3) Jean Oleksuk (Deanery 1)

Donna Brad (Deanery 4) Collete Marchildon (Deanery 2)

Dra. Jenny Balingit (Deanery 1) Delores Smallchild (Deanery 3)

### Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr. Easter Message

May these next few days of Holy Week give us strength and courage as we journey through life. Jesus is not in the empty tomb but is there in all the people we meet. May his new breath of life bring joy and peace to all. He is risen. This is our faith and hope. Alleluia.

## **The Resurrection of Christ: An Adaptation from John 20 (RSV)**

by Fr. Millan Sajonas

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came running to us from the tomb. She told us that they had taken the Teacher out of the tomb and placed him somewhere else. Peter and I ran toward the tomb. I outran him and reached the tomb first. I stooped to look in the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there, but I did not enter. Simon Peter came and went into the tomb. Then, I followed him inside and saw again the linen and the cloth which had been on the Teacher's head, rolled up in a place by itself. I believed the scripture that said the Messiah must rise from the dead. After this, we went back to our homes.

Mary Magdalene came to us again and said that she had seen the Lord. She told us that the Teacher asked her to tell us that he was ascending to his Father and to our Father, to his God and our God.

That same evening, we were gathered fearfully behind closed doors. Then, the Rabbi came and stood among us and said to us, "Peace be with you." He showed us his hands and his side. We were glad when we saw the Teacher. He said to us again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Having said this, the Teacher breathed on us and said to us, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Thomas was not with us when the Teacher came. We told him that we had seen the Lord. However, Thomas told us that unless he saw in his hands the mark of the nails in his hands, and placed his finger into them, and put his finger into his side, he would not believe.

Eight days later, we were gathered again in the house and this time Thomas was with us. The doors were shut but the Teacher came and stood among us. He said, "Peace be with you." Then, the Rabbi invited Thomas to touch the mark of the nails in the his hands and to put his hand in his side. The Teacher said to Thomas, "Do not be faithless but believe." Thomas replied to the Rabbi, "My Lord and my God!" The Teacher said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

There were many other signs that the Teacher did in our presence, which are not written in this book; but these are written, so that you may believe that Teacher is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing in him, you may have life in his name.

### **Questions for Reflection**

1. Of what importance is Jesus' resurrection to you?
2. How do you live out the Easter proclamation?
3. Have you tried to share your Easter joy with others? If yes, how did it affect them?
4. How would you narrate the resurrection of Jesus in today's world?
5. What are the challenges that you have encountered when sharing your faith in the Risen Lord with others?



Greetings of love and peace to all!

Happy Easter and special blessings to you and your families!

The Lord is risen! Jesus dwells among us in our family, our Church and our community. The Easter readings bring us back to the stories about the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the salvific actions of God throughout history. We are being reminded of the power of God and his faithfulness to his promise. Through our Lord Jesus, we are given the great gift of salvation. Jesus conquers sin and death through his obedience to God the Father and by rising from the

dead. Sin and death no longer have a hold on us, but grace flows abundantly in us from the blood of the spotless Lamb who has redeemed us.

With this wonderful gift, we reflect on God's great love for us; and the mercy that he continues to lavish upon us. How can we respond to this great gift of eternal life? Perhaps the words from the Scripture can provide us an answer. Jesus tells Mary Magdalene to, "Go to my brothers and say to them" (John 20:17). These words are also addressed to us, the brothers and sisters of Christ. We are called to go to others and to proclaim to them the Good News of our salvation. Jesus is sending us, just as he was sent by God the Father in the world. We continue Jesus' mission in the world. What do we do when we go to others? In this inquiry, we gaze on the example of our Lord and Teacher, who read from the Scriptures, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, for he has anointed me to bring the good news to the afflicted. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord" (Luke 4:18-19).

Our reply to God's great love in giving us forgiveness and life eternal is to bring the same forgiveness to others through charitable deeds and to bring others to our Lord Jesus by our virtuous witness of Christian faith. Through the grace of God, may those who are searching, those who are lost and those who are in need may experience Jesus. In turn, they may say too, "I have seen the Lord" (John 20:18) through what we have done for them.

Let us continue to pray for one another!

In Christ,

Fr. Bernabe Millan J. Sajonas  
Director of Adult Faith Formation