

# Uniting in Faith progress reported

More than \$8.5 million has been raised in a diocesan-wide *Uniting in Faith* campaign, with fund-raising continuing in parishes across the diocese of Saskatoon for a much-needed new Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral, announced diocesan campaign chairs **Barry and Giselle Frank** at the annual Bishop's Dinner.

The diocesan goal is to raise \$12.5 million for the new Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral, to be built in conjunction with Holy Family parish.

"Holy Family parish has already raised most of its \$16-million share for its new parish home," said Giselle. "It's absolutely remarkable that one parish can accomplish so much."

The diocesan-wide campaign has received support from donors at every level, noted Barry, stressing that "each and every gift" is vital in the effort to build a new diocesan home.

The united effort involves Catholics from every corner of the diocese – from both rural and urban communities, in parishes both large and small – who are demonstrating what uniting behind a common goal can accomplish, noted the diocesan campaign co-chair.

In addition to four donations of \$1 million or more, *Uniting in Faith* has seen "eight more gifts that have exceeded a quarter of a million dollars, 15 gifts of more than \$100,000, 16 gifts of more than \$50,000, 47 gifts of more than \$25,000, 342 gifts of more than \$5,000," listed Barry. Parish volunteers are seeing the impact of manageable weekly or monthly donations pledged over five years in helping to achieve the diocesan goal.



Barry and Giselle Frank



Youth at St. Mary's parish in Saskatoon held a Youth Beat coffee house in April, to share their gifts and talents. Proceeds from the event went to the diocesan *Uniting in Faith* campaign.

"Our clergy, who sacrifice so much already have collectively pledged over \$200,000," added Barry.

"Volunteer participation for the campaign has been outstanding," noted Giselle.

The *Uniting in Faith* campaign is about coming together as a diocesan family "linked together and growing together in to the future," said **Bishop Albert LeGatt**.

"The new cathedral will be a defining symbol of our growing faith community, pointing to the presence of Christ and speaking to who we are as God's people," he said. "From there, we can reach out to the poor, the imprisoned, the sick and the suffering; we can strengthen marriages and family life; we can work for justice; we can enrich our life of prayer and worship; we can nurture vocation; we can provide life-long faith formation."

**Uniting in Faith is underway in the following parishes:**

**WADENA DEANERY**

Wynyard	Wadena
Foam Lake	Rose Valley
Wishart	Kelvington
<b>Quill Lake*</b>	<b>St. Front*</b>
Fosston	Perigord
<b>Lintlaw*</b>	Nobleville
Archerwill	High Tor

**SASKATOON RURAL DEANERY**

Allan	Colonsay
Viscount	<b>Martensville*</b>
Delisle	<b>Asquith*</b>
Vanscoy	Langham
<b>St. Denis*</b>	<b>Vonda*</b>
<b>Prud'homme*</b>	

**SASKATOON CITY DEANERY**

Holy Spirit	St. Anne
St. Patrick	St. Michael
St. Peter the Apostle	
St. Philip Neri	
St. Paul Cathedral	
Sts. Martyrs-Canadiens	
<b>Our Lady of Lourdes*</b>	
St. Thomas More	
St. Augustine, Saskatoon	
St. Francis Xavier	
<b>St. John Bosco*</b>	
Our Lady of Czestochowa	

**OUTLOOK DEANERY**

Outlook	Davidson
Kenaston	Elbow Elrose

**KERROBERT DEANERY**

Unity	Macklin
Wilkie	Kerrobert
Biggar	Luseland
Denzil	Major
Landis	St. Donatus
Handel	Leipzig
Tramping Lake	

**HUMBOLDT DEANERY**

Lanigan	Cudworth
Lake Lenore	Bruno
St. Benedict	LeRoy

**EATONIA DEANERY**

Kindersley	Eston
Richmond	Dodsland
Liebenthal	Marengo
Prelate	Lancer
Burstall	Eatonia

\* Achieved or exceeded diocesan goal

**Campaign chairs at St. Paul Cathedral reflect on reasons for supporting fund-raising effort**

St. Paul Cathedral volunteers recently reflected on why they decided to help with the *Uniting in Faith* campaign to build a new Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral for the diocese of Saskatoon.

For parish campaign chairs Larry and Gail Ollenberger, this volunteer commitment follows many years of involvement in their faith at a personal and small group level.

“This campaign is about putting our shoulder to the wheel and also supporting our broader, institutional church,” said Larry.

“I think just as you serve and support your biological family, you support your church family as well,” added Gail.

Larry recalled the commitment to faith shown by early settlers in the province, who constructed churches even in hard times, making faith a priority.

“Saskatchewan was largely built by people on their knees. They couldn’t have done it without faith,” Larry said, reflecting on how the commitment we are asked for today



Members of the St. Paul Cathedral Uniting in Faith team include parish team chairs Larry and Gail Ollenberger (standing and seated at far left); as well as (standing at back, l-r:) Monica Beavis, Alice Risling, and Al Lozinski; (seated centre:) Laurie Jenson and (seated at left:) Edwin Altrogge. Missing from the photo are team members Mary Lozinski, Florence Altrogge, Mark Leakos and Adeline Vogelgesang.

certainly does not involve the kind of sacrifices our ancestors had to make.

Laurie Jenson volunteered after reflecting on the need and on her own gratitude for what she has received.

“When I was asked to help, at first I thought ‘no’, but then I thought: ‘if not me, then who?’ We’re called to help the Church. The diocese has supported me and my family for

many years, now I can give something back.”

People don’t always realize what is needed to continue to provide resources and programs, added volunteer Monica Beavis, reflecting on the need for a new Catholic Pastoral Centre.

“Personally, I also see this as an opportunity to get to know people in the parish,” she added.

**Fr. Donlevy expresses support for campaign**

After six bishops and 75 years as a diocese, it’s not premature to finally be building a diocesan cathedral, says Fr. Paul Donlevy.

He points out that the pioneers who built St. Paul’s in 1910-11 were considering both the immediate and the future needs of the Church in constructing the building. It became the cathedral in 1934 with the formation of the diocese of Saskatoon, in the midst of a depression and a decade of drought. Similarly, the Catholic Centre was built in 1964 to respond to a new set of needs and challenges.

It’s now time for this generation to step forward and consider both the immediate and future needs of the church, Donlevy said, expressing his enthusiasm and firm support for the *Uniting in Faith* campaign to build a new Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral.

“This is our family home,” he said. “This project calls me to look beyond just my own parochial interest, to the needs



Fr. Paul Donlevy

of the whole diocesan family.

“This can really unite us. It is *our* cathedral. The pastoral centre serves the whole diocese. This is an ongoing progression of the good things that were begun here by the people who went before us.”

Donlevy said he would encourage all priests to wholeheartedly support the project “and also encourage our parishioners to see this as a faith action and not just a practical thing.”

“We’re responding in gratitude for all we’ve received.”



Keith and Cathy Martell chair the *Uniting in Faith* parish campaign at St. Philip Neri parish in Saskatoon.

**CONTINUING GIFT OF FAITH:**

“Our faith is such an integral part of our lives but has never really asked for much in return. The *Uniting in Faith* campaign asks us to support and uphold our faith, which defines us as a people of God.

“Our family uses a church built by others, benefits from the religious rights won by others, and uses the tools of a faith created by others. This is our opportunity to ‘pay forward’ for those gifts.

“We have inherited a great gift and we feel it is important to protect it, add to it, and leave a greater gift for others.

“We have always felt at home in the St Philip Neri parish family. This campaign has created an even greater affinity with our fellow parishioners as we all work together to accomplish a common goal.”

**- Keith and Cathy Martell**  
*Uniting in Faith chairs, St. Philip Neri, Saskatoon*

**RESPONDING IN FAITH:**

“We as the Catholic community have an obligation to continue to provide for the programs and services that are needed.

“This project involves the whole aspect of being a community, of looking after our neighbour, and of spreading the good news, evangelizing like Jesus the Shepherd King. That’s what we’re here for.”

**- Monica Beavis, Uniting in Faith team member St. Paul Cathedral, Saskatoon**

**Wadena-area pastor says information brings support**

Answering questions about a new diocesan Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral is the key to the *Uniting in Faith* campaign, says Fr. Pius Schroh, a diocesan priest who serves as pastor of seven parishes – Wadena, Rose Valley, Lintlaw, Fosston, St. Front, Quill Lake and Kelvington. Six of the seven parishes are close to meeting or exceeding their diocesan goals for the campaign.

“People who hear the whole story, come to believe in this project and are generous; really generous. It has been quite amazing,” said Schroh, adding that the work of “great volunteers” is vital in getting the message out. “Once people

get all the information and understand it, they change their minds, they change their hearts and support it.”

The project has been carefully discerned and makes sense, Schroh asserted. “We have a bishop who is wise, prudent and humble... this is not about ego or extravagance. Our bishop would have been remiss if he had not taken this opportunity to provide for what’s needed in the diocese of Saskatoon right now and for the future,” Schroh said.

“The real blessing is exactly what this campaign is most trying to do – bringing greater harmony and charity to our diocese, and building understanding and unity.”

**VISION AND HOPE:**

“Our vision is to build up the Church. This is an opportunity to connect with parishioners and invite people to give at a level they have never dreamed possible. It’s encouraging people to get outside their comfort zone.

“After the first meeting, we felt moved to get involved. Nobody had ever asked us to ‘stretch our purse strings’. It’s an opportunity to give back.”

**- Royann and Nevin Halyk**  
*Uniting in Faith team, Christ the King, Foam Lake*

## Diocesan moments



Children from St. Francis and St. Joseph parishes were confirmed by Bishop Albert LeGatt May 1, before receiving their first Holy Communion. The bishop will administer the sacrament of confirmation in dozens of parishes across the diocese of Saskatoon between April 19 and June 28, 2009.




A grade 6 student participates in a liturgy that he helped to plan as part of a "Youth and Liturgy" program. Bishop Albert LeGatt recently commissioned participants in the program, offered in conjunction with Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Children from Rose Valley, Wadena and Archerwill (right) took part in a Confirmation / First Eucharist retreat April 29 in Rose Valley, organized by parish catechists, in collaboration with diocese of Saskatoon Rural Catechetics Coordinator Lynda Statchuk of Wadena.



Catholic Women's League members from across the diocese of Saskatoon gathered for an annual diocesan CWL convention April 27 in Lanigan (left). Diocesan CWL President Margaret Schwab encouraged members to think about how they might become involved in the *Uniting in Faith* campaign to build a new Catholic Pastoral Centre and Cathedral.



Uniting In Faith

Learn more about the  
**Catholic Pastoral Centre:**  
[www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com](http://www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com)

Learn more about the  
**Uniting in Faith** campaign:  
[www.unitinginfaith.ca](http://www.unitinginfaith.ca)

**Uniting in Faith**, Catholic Pastoral Centre  
100-5th Ave. N. Saskatoon, SK. S7K 2N7  
Ph: 306.244.6667 E-mail: [chagerty@unitinginfaith.ca](mailto:chagerty@unitinginfaith.ca)