

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY JAN. 18 TO 25 -

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.” (Ephesians 4:4)

Ecumenical Morning Prayer Services Jan. 19-23 - 8 a.m. worship, light breakfast to follow:

- Monday, Jan. 19 - to be announced
- Tuesday, Jan. 20 - Trinity Lutheran Church ELCIC; 419 Avenue E North, Saskatoon
- Wednesday, Jan. 21 - St. Patrick RC Parish, 3339 Centennial Drive, Saskatoon
- Thursday, Jan. 22 - Grosvenor Park United Church, 407 Cumberland Avenue South, Saskatoon
- Friday, Jan. 23 - Wildwood Mennonite Church, 1502 Acadia Drive, Saskatoon

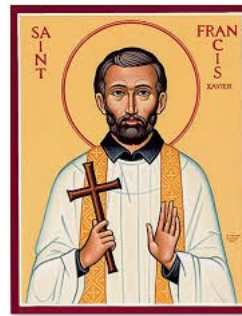
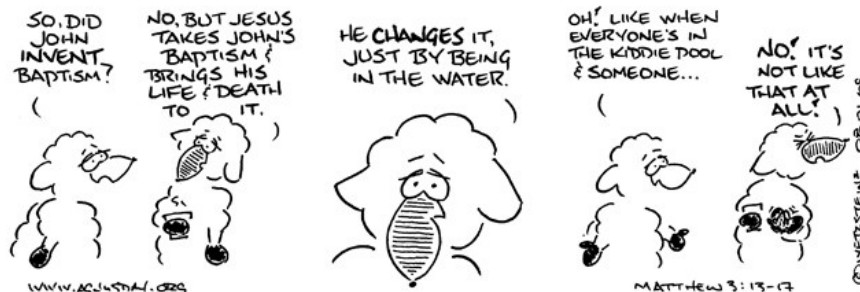
PRAYER SERVICE - 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19 followed by lunch (cash only) at Luther Heights, 11802 Alexandra Ave., Saskatoon. For information about cost and to RSVP, please e-mail: admin@pcecumenism.ca.

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICE - 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25 at St. Andrew Presbyterian, 436 Spadina Cres., Saskatoon with Saskatoon Anglican Bishop Chad McCharles.

DE MARGERIE LECTURE 2 in Saskatoon: "Christians Killing Christians: Reconciling Violent Pasts and Conflicting Martyrdoms" will look at one major barrier — the history of Christians killing Christians. During the Reformation, the execution of fellow Christians was justified on theological grounds, and some of those killed are honoured as martyrs by some churches. How do we reckon with this history in ways that do justice to the past, and promote reconciliation and unity in the future - Thursday, Jan. 22 at 7:00 pm at St. Thomas More College, 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon (also live-streamed)

DE MARGERIE SERIES PUBLIC WORKSHOP “CHURCH APOLOGIES, RITES AND WRONGS” – Friday, Jan. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Wildwood Mennonite Church, 1502 Acadia Drive, Saskatoon. A workshop will also be held in Regina (also live-streamed).

More information: Prairie Centre for Ecumenism <https://pcecumenism.ca/> or (306) 653-1633 or admin@pcecumenism.ca. Find resources at www.weekofprayer.ca (Ecumenism is supported by the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.)



St Francis Xavier Parish

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MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

“A welcoming community, empowered by baptism, committed to the Gospel”

Sacrament of Penance:	30 minutes before Mass or by appointment
Weekday Liturgies:	Wednesdays at 9:00am (except 3rd Wednesday of the month: Adoration and Confession at 5:30pm and Mass at 6:30pm)
Eucharistic Liturgies:	Sundays at 9:00am

Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

Ministries for January 18, 2026

Sacristan	Irene LeGatt
Proclaimers of the Word	June Furmanic & Betty Schurman
Prayers of the Faithful	Karen Omelan-Davis
Altar Servers	Gloria McGee & Irene LeGatt
Cross Bearer	Dave Schurman
Gift Bearers	Karen Omelan-Davis & Ross Davis
Welcomers	Rosalyn Kohle & Arlene Hodges
Coffee Set Up before Mass	No coffee due to K of C Breakfast
Coffee Clean Up after Mass	No coffee due to K of C Breakfast



SIGNAL OF A NEW BEGINNING

By: Mary Katherine Deely



In the sacrament of baptism, we stress that the person is no longer bound by original sin; rather, despite still retaining the wounds caused by original sin, he or she becomes free to live as a child of God, embracing the will of God through discipleship in Jesus Christ. We're free to live not as the world dictates but as those who know, love, and serve God in this world and look forward to being with him in the next. Adults who go through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults have time to reflect on the conversion necessary for such transformation, but for many of us, the significance of our baptism as infants gets lost in the long years between childhood and adulthood.

We stop being mindful of the power of grace and the necessity of turning our lives over to God, regardless of the work we do or the community we belong to.

We may have wondered why Jesus presented himself for baptism. Wasn't he God, born without sin? Of course, the answer is yes. But Jesus came to his baptism as a public witness of the need to turn over our lives to God. Like us in all things, Jesus approached John for the ritual washing that signaled a new beginning. It was a sign for us and a wonderful way to mark the beginning of his ministry.

Matthew records that he heard the voice of God saying, "This is my beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17). In baptism, God welcomes all of us as beloved children. Out of gratitude and praise, we, in turn, follow Jesus. And so, we submit our lives to God—proclaiming justice, doing good, and loving God and others as we love ourselves.



READINGS FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God.

John 1:29-34

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER encourages a scent free atmosphere for the comfort of those with sensitivities and allergies to perfumes. We ask that parishioners refrain from wearing products with fragrances to mass.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: For the foreseeable future, Ryan will be in the parish office Thursdays from 8:00am until 3:00pm.

E-TRANSFERS: Should you wish to donate to St. Francis Xavier Parish by using E-transfers, please use the following instructions:

1. Send an e-transfer using the following e-mail: sfxsaskatoon@rcdos.ca
2. Use the following question: What is the name of our favorite shrub? The answer is willow.
3. If you wish to use your own questions, please send an email to rnbaker@rcdos.ca with the answer. Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

THANK YOU - The Christmas Hamper Committee at St. Mary's Parish Saskatoon, extends profound thanks all those who volunteered, donated, and supported the Christmas hamper ministry at St. Mary Parish this year, which provided 355 hampers to those in the parish area who needed help during the Christmas season. Thanks to all the many, many volunteers who took registrations, packed the hamper boxes, and delivered the hampers. A special thank you to all the parishes, schools, and organizations throughout the diocese who continually assist in giving time and donations to the hamper program. This year St. Francis was able to send \$1,015.00 to the Christmas Hamper program because of your generosity.

The parish has a **WINTER WARMTH TREE** again this season. There is a basket under the tree in the Welcoming Area where you can place donations of socks, mitts, gloves and toques. The clothing will be donated to the Bridge and St. Mary's Parish hamper program.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026 free resources are now available, focused on the 2026 theme: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Eph 4: 4). The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is traditionally observed from Jan. 18 to 25. Find resources on the website <https://www.weekofprayer.ca/> which is a project of the Canadian Council of Churches, the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism in Saskatoon, and the Centre canadien d'oecuménisme in Montreal.

Do you have a heart for Christian unity? Would you like to learn more about ecumenism and share it with your friends and your church congregation? This group is for you! The Prairie Centre for Ecumenism is seeking interested Christians from all denominations to form an Ecumenical Contact Group (ECG) to breathe more life into our ecumenical community. If you are interested in joining the ECG, please contact the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism at (306) 653-1633 or admin@pcecumenism.ca.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH HALL – The San Lorenzo Ruiz Knights of Columbus Council #11429 pancake breakfast is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Sunday, January 18** at St. Joseph Parish Hall on the corner of Broadway Avenue and 8th Street East in Saskatoon. Adults: \$10; Children 5-15 years: \$5, Family \$35.