

2025-2026

PASTORAL SERVICES



Archidiocèse de
Saint-Boniface
Archdiocese

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026

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new street sign at the Archdiocesan Centre



A Word from the Archbishop

Most Rev. Albert LeGatt

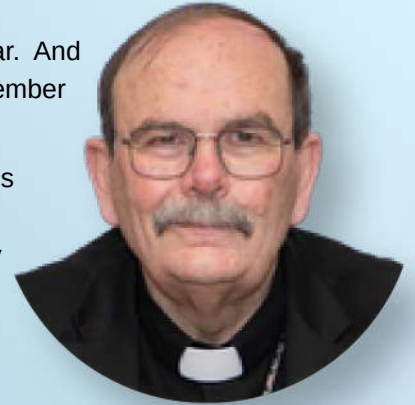
Dear brothers and sisters in faith throughout the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface,

Greetings to all of you as we, here at the Archdiocesan Centre, begin a new pastoral year. And what better way to do so than by reviewing what was accomplished last year, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

As you peruse the initiatives of these ten members of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Services Team, let yourself be moved to gratitude and even to awe. God indeed is at work in our archdiocese, as this team offers formation and resources to people throughout our many parishes who participate in the different areas of ministry needed to fulfill the mission of Christ. All working together, each parish can grow to be salt of the earth and light for the world in their particular setting. Our Diocesan Pastoral Team wishes to be at your service in bringing this about in your parish.

As well, through various diocesan committees made up of interested volunteers, we strive to improve our relationship with our indigenous brothers and sisters, to offer liturgical formation, to promote Church unity amongst the various Christian denominations as well as respectful encounters and dialogue with communities of other faiths, e.g., Judaism, Islam, etc. We also strive to connect with and cooperate with people and groups dedicated to social causes and the common good.

May God continue to bless us, to guide us and strengthen us. Through all of this, we build up the Body of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for your prayers and support.



A Word from the Director

James V. Kautz

The cover of this report features a photo I took in the Saint-Boniface Cathedral cemetery on August 6, 2026: the day of the funeral Mass for Fr. Carl Tarnopolski. He had been our Chancellor and Vicar General for many years, as well as beloved pastor in several parishes since his ordination in 1973.

Fr. Carl's passing calls to mind the changing face of the priesthood here. Of the forty-eight priests in active ministry here in our diocese, 33 are on loan from religious communities or dioceses overseas, and are here temporarily, usually for six-year terms. The other 15 are, like Fr. Carl, diocesan: they are ours until death. Of those 15, ten have been ordained within the last 9 years.

This burst in recent ordinations – with another ten seminarians in various stages of formation – is surely a sign of renewal. But most of our diocesan priests are young, and most of our priests from overseas have a cultural learning curve to climb. And they're all overworked, as these forty-eight are serving 83 parishes.

In light of this, I would point to what the Holy Spirit gave the Church in Vatican II's *Lumen Gentium* (37): "Let the spiritual shepherds recognize and promote the dignity as well as the responsibility of the laity in the Church. Let them willingly employ their prudent advice. Let them confidently assign duties to them in the service of the Church, allowing them freedom and room for action."

The Age of the Laity has begun, and we laypeople need to step it up – starting with our own personal pursuit of holiness and a lived faith in Jesus, building through evangelization as salt and light to the world, and manifesting in fruitful, active collaboration with the whole Church in the mission of making disciples. This report outlines ways in which the Pastoral Services Team is responding to that call. Reach out to us – we are here for you, and we want to grow with you!

Yssa Arlegue

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Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

This past year has been one of growth, renewal, and hope for the Office of Youth and Young Adults of the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface. Beyond organizing events, our focus has been on cultivating a culture of accompaniment—walking with young people, parish leaders, and youth ministers as we respond together to Christ's call to make disciples.

A major priority has been strengthening relationships among those who serve young people across the Archdiocese. Through regular gatherings, parish visits, check-ins, and opportunities for collaboration, we have helped foster a stronger network of youth ministers who support and encourage one another. Rather than working in isolation, youth ministry is increasingly being lived in communion, with ideas, resources, and wisdom shared freely. These relationships are laying the groundwork for a more connected and sustainable future for parish youth ministry.

We are already seeing the fruits of this growing network. This year, the Office began accompanying three parishes as they work to establish youth ministry in their communities. By connecting parish leaders with experienced youth ministers, sharing practical resources, and creating opportunities to learn from one another, we are encouraging collaboration beyond individual parish boundaries. It has been especially encouraging to see youth ministers mentoring one another and recognizing that we are not building separate ministries, but strengthening one Church united in the mission of evangelizing young people.

Another important priority has been intentionally incorporating the Church's teaching on the Theology of the Body into youth and young adult ministry. Young people today face profound questions about identity, relationships, sexuality, and authentic love. In response, we have worked to equip youth ministers with resources and confidence to engage these conversations within their parish communities. Through formation opportunities, recommended resources, and diocesan events, young people have been invited to encounter God's beautiful plan for the human person and to

discover that authentic love is rooted in dignity, self-gift, and communion.

One memorable example was our Theology & Dating series, where young adults explored the Church's vision of authentic love through the lens of the Theology of the Body. One participant shared that the series helped them realize they had been searching for fulfillment in romantic relationships when their deepest longing was ultimately for God. Moments like this remind us that when we create spaces for authentic community, honest conversation, and prayer, the Holy Spirit continues to transform hearts.

The Office has also continued preparing the joint delegation with the Archdiocese of Winnipeg for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. We have been humbled by the strong response from young adults across both archdioceses. With 110 pilgrims preparing for this international pilgrimage, including 60 from the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface, we have begun the important work of formation, community building, and spiritual preparation. Through monthly gatherings of prayer, catechesis, fellowship, and practical preparation, pilgrims are discovering that World Youth Day is far more than a trip. It is an invitation to deeper conversion, lasting friendships, and a closer relationship with Christ. It has been inspiring to see young adults from different parishes, cultures, and communities already journey together as one pilgrim family.

Looking ahead, I remain filled with hope. The relationships strengthened this year, the new partnerships formed, and the faith witnessed in our young people all point toward a bright future. The Office of Youth and Young Adults remains committed to accompanying, equipping, and empowering young people, while continuing to support thriving parish youth and young adult ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface.



A significant highlight of my pastoral year occurred on March 8, 2026, when I was able to organize and host the book launch and conference for Michael Higgins' latest work, *A Synod Diary: Sixty Days that Shook the Church*. The well-known Canadian scholar, writer and frequent commentator on the Roman Catholic Church in Canada presented an overview on the 2021-2024 Synod on Synodality in Rome, that he attended. He explained why it matters for Catholics in Canada and around the world. The goal of the Synod, he noted, was to encourage the church—clergy, religious and laity—to “walk together” by meaningfully participating in the life of the church through active listening and dialogue. He pointed out that this was different from previous Church gatherings in Rome, and that it was important to implement the Synod's Report and counsels, and make synodality known, understood and practiced in our parishes.

After his presentation, which was filmed and later shared on our diocesan platforms, there followed a Q & A. Michael Higgins was generous with his time and this unique experience was well worth the time to prepare and share it. For me, it was a rare opportunity to organize an event, rather than simply covering it!

On other fronts, the Pastoral Year was an opportunity to launch an updated edition of the Weekly News Bulletin, with an easy-to-use Table of Contents, allowing quick access to various topics and events. Subscribers have responded positively to the change, parish secretaries in particular.

Other communications events of note have been this ministry's ongoing contribution to the Good Shepherd Campaign, with web content, videos, posters, brochures and the parish resource manual. Assisting James Kautz & Gisèle Gratton on the Campaign is always a great joy as we strive to create dynamic images and ideas that will attract interest in our seminarians and stimulate the faithful to contribute to this important effort for the life of the Church. As well, it's always great fun to work with videographer Trevor Chilton when interviewing our seminarians, both in English and en français.

It was also my great pleasure in May to attend and to livestream two ordinations to the transitional diaconate, for Vincent Nguyen and Joseph Martin Pham

respectively. This has become an almost yearly event for me. To livestream the events so that each ordinand's family in Vietnam could participate remotely is not only to be of service, but to share a very important event in the life of two future priests.

For several years now, Archbishop LeGatt has asked me to organize and make known efforts that increase the knowledge of non-Indigenous faithful about reconciliation and the realities of Indigenous in our diocese in particular and in our province in general. This has involved offering sessions in both languages the Jesuit-created *Listening to Indigenous Voices* program. This year, I attended conferences on Indigenous topics, including a Société historique de Saint-Boniface presentation on November 1st, 2025 on the former Industrial School located near what is today the intersection of Hamel and Des Meurons Streets in Old Saint-Boniface, where many Indigenous and Métis students experienced difficult conditions.

On May 22, I hosted a special meeting of the Canadian Council of Churches, with representatives of our diocese, St. Kateri Parish in Winnipeg, Siloam Mission, the Salvation Army and the United Church. We invited persons who had experienced homelessness and near homelessness in Winnipeg. We heard from five individuals, three Indigenous who, having moved to the city, struggled with poverty, homelessness and addiction. A resident of St. Vital shared his experience with being a child of a single parent family whose mother became unemployed after a serious medical condition. The fifth person was a refugee from Bosnia who had PTSD after the war there in the nineties. Trauma led to homelessness.

The meeting was eye-opening to all present, and we have resolved to network, share knowledge and upcoming social justice events, particularly those involving the Indigenous, and work together when possible.

God is good!



Diane Bélanger

Catechetics and Adult Faith Growth: French Sector

When I returned from vacation in September 2025, seeing that my position had not been filled, I offered myself to Archbishop LeGat to continue my ministry until we found someone. I could not conceive of the diocesan office of Catechesis and Adult Faith Growth in the French-speaking sector remaining empty or that this service would not be offered, even temporarily, to our French and bilingual parishes. Waiting for an MRI exam for an injured ankle, I couldn't go far anyway.

This text is intended to be a "report" of our activities, but first of all, I will share with you what has always preceded "doing" in my ministry. A daily prayer life beginning in the morning with an hour of prayer, followed by the Eucharist. Then, after work, the recitation of the rosary during a good walk. And my day never ends without a heart-to-heart with Jesus to find out how He acted in my day and to thank Him for it. Why so much time and effort devoted to prayer? Because, Jesus says, "without me you can do nothing." And He explains: "I am the vine, and you the branches. He who abides in me and in whom I abide, he bears much fruit (John 15:5).

The essence of my daily work consists of serving parishes and catechists by responding promptly to their needs and questions and by providing them with quality French-speaking resources that are simple and easy to use. I organize meetings and training aimed at equipping them well for the transmission of the faith to children and parents. I also encourage and promote intentional networking between parish and school catechists so that they can help each other: and they do so! All of this is guided and supported by a Diocesan Catechesis Committee formed six years ago. The annual Formation Workshops also take the form of mini-retreats that the theme of the 2026 Workshop describes very well: "Being close to Him... so that I can give Him to others."

My second hat: Adult Faith Growth. Since the pandemic, we have seen an increase in online Catholic resources aimed at nurturing the faith of adults. Being well informed of French-speaking Catholic resources, I transmit them to our adults through the Diocesan Weekly News Bulletin and by email to my many contacts. No longer needing to travel long distances to find good faith formation, our diocesan men and women are there, drinking from the source.

I encourage our small groups of Households of Faith by organizing the diocesan gatherings in December and spring, with our archbishop. The depth of the testimonies of those who are part of it is always there, inviting us to persevere in our Households of Faith which Archbishop LeGat says he wants to last "forever." I pray that more and more diocesan men and women, including priests, will respond to his pastoral call and allow themselves to be gathered and transformed by the Word of God shared in small communities of faith.



Director's note: As of September 2026, Diane Bélanger has retired after thirteen years in the role. We wish to thank her these many years of faithful service. She will be missed!

Louise Gervais has taken over the position. She comes with years of experience as a catechist in many parishes and schools and is a member of the Diocesan Catechesis Committee for the French Sector.



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This pastoral year has been so fruitful, “the meadows continue to overflow” (c.f. psalm 65:12) We continue to see growth and renewal in catechesis and adult faith formation across the archdiocese. In working closely with clergy, parish leaders, and catechists, the Office of Catechetics and Adult Faith Growth continues supporting parishes in forming missionary disciples and communities of faith rooted in prayer, participation, and evangelization. Guided by the vision of the Directory for Catechesis “particularly its call for catechesis to be ‘at the service of evangelization’ through accompaniment, community life, and missionary outreach,” the Office encourages formation that is relational, synodal, and centered on encountering Jesus Christ.

Our Fall Formation Series gathered parish catechists for practical and spiritual formation, focused on methodology, accompaniment, synodality, and the Directory for Catechesis. Through in-person and online opportunities, one-on-one and small group accompaniment supported sacramental catechists and created space for prayer, reflection, and sharing pastoral experience. Support for RCIA teams and clergy continued through dialogue, formation, and accompaniment. A time of learning and sharing for participants preparing for the “Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion” as an archdiocesan family was a blessing and joy to witness.

This year also was the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si’, and we offered a diocesan-wide 10-part series exploring the document’s spirituality considering today’s reality of faith, ecology, and integral human development. In response to growing interest, a new Faith and Ecology section on our website was created to offer resources for parishes and those seeking to live more deeply the call to care for creation as disciples. One participant from a rural area reflected that the Laudato Si’ online series helped them connect with others rooted in faith and who care deeply about the earth: “these conversations are so important...I feel part of a real community with some hope. We need more opportunities like this.”

Formation in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd continues to grow. Level One formation was offered throughout the pastoral year 2025 – 2026 and Level Two Part in summer 2026. Support for continued growth of Households of Faith (HoF) also remains essential. There are new thematic series and Couples HoF strengthening small communities of prayer, scripture reflection, and deepening authentic relationships. HoF efforts continue in various ways as groups and families grow in meeting Jesus through the Word of God and the sincere sharing of faith.

Central in all these works is sharing the heart of the Gospel, as missionary discipleship and synodal formation remain foundational in encouraging a culture of encounter, discernment, and shared responsibility for the Church’s mission.

One parish catechist shared that participating in the Fall Formation Series and with ongoing accompaniment “helped shift us from just teaching lessons into walking with families in faith,” and that in walking with them, it renewed her own faith journey too.

As we move forward from the experiences of the Year of Jubilee 2025, my hope in the Lord remains and is nurtured by your many testimonies of faith that continue to flourish and be proclaimed!



“I will always hope and praise you ever more and more” (Psalms 71:14)

This pastoral year was marked by many signs of hope: an encouraging number of new sponsor couples in parishes responded generously to the call to accompany engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, growing opportunities of collaboration emerged between our diocesan ministries, and a renewed vision for marriage and family ministry was introduced throughout the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface.

One new development was our collaboration with the Committee for Renewal & Growth in introducing the Marriage, Family and Life Pillar for Parish Pastoral Councils. This initiative invites parishes to intentionally integrate pastoral care for couples, families, and respect for life into their pastoral planning and outreach. With the support of the diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Life, the hope is that parishes continue to become places where couples and families are supported, accompanied, and encouraged at every stage of life.

I also had the joy of collaborating with the Catechetics and Adult Faith Growth Coordinator (English sector) to offer two inter-diocesan workshops with the Archdiocese of Winnipeg on the Marriage Catechumenate. These workshops brought together parish sponsor couples, catechists, youth ministry leaders, PPC members, clergy, and others involved in family and parish ministry for a synodal gathering centered on renewing our pastoral vision for marriage and family life. Inspired by the Church's call to accompany couples and families at every stage of life, the workshop explored the Marriage Catechumenate as an ongoing path of evangelization, catechesis, and pastoral care.

Recognizing the importance of supporting couples beyond their wedding day, a new initiative called Come and See was introduced for couples in the early years of marriage. This gathering provided an opportunity for fellowship, enrichment, faith sharing, and discovery of a number of Marriage and Family Apostolates dedicated to supporting couples in the vocation of marriage.

The Fertility Health Awareness Seminars continued to be an important part of both premarital formation and ongoing formation, helping couples to better understand the Church's vision of married love and openness to life, and to be equipped to use Natural Family Planning methods in their marriage.

Through our continued collaboration with the Catholic Foundation of Manitoba and various marriage and family ministries, the Date Night for Married and Engaged Couples provided a meaningful opportunity for couples to reconnect, reflect on their relationship, and be renewed in their vocation to marriage.

And finally, the Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating milestone anniversaries held this year was once again a grace-filled event. One especially memorable moment was meeting a couple celebrating 70 years of marriage. They shared that their anniversary had also been celebrated in their parish community, and they were touched that parishioners asked to have their photo taken with them. Many said they wanted to show their children and grandchildren that lasting love is possible. For me, this was a powerful reminder that the witness of faithful married couples continues to inspire hope, strengthen families, and speak profoundly of God's enduring love.



This has been a full and fruitful year in the Family and Life sectors of the Marriage, Family and Life Office at the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface. I have been blessed to work with dedicated parish leaders, volunteers, clergy, and community partners to support individuals, parishes, and families through many stages of life.

Supporting a culture of life remained a significant focus. One of the most meaningful moments was hosting our first Memorial Mass for families grieving the loss of a pregnancy or infant. For many parents, this was the first opportunity to publicly name and honour their child within the life of the Church. The evening offered comfort, healing, and the reminder that every life, no matter how brief, is precious and loved by God.

In partnership with the Catholic Health Association of Manitoba, we offered Ministry of Care training across Manitoba's three dioceses for parish volunteers involved in visitation ministry to the sick and dying. These sessions helped form new volunteer teams, strengthen existing ministries, and foster collaboration between parishes.

I also collaborated with pro-life organizations to promote initiatives such as the Festival for Life, 40 Days for Life, National Family and Life Week, advocacy related to Bill C-218, and other educational efforts.

Through the Manitoba Catholic Life and Family Committee, I contributed to Finding Solace in Faith, a resource guide for Catholics navigating questions surrounding Medical Assistance in Dying, palliative care, and advance care planning.

Family ministry was another important area of focus. My office hosted an online session for Catholic single mothers featuring Momentum, an organization offering faith-filled support, resources, and connection for women raising children on their own.

The office also offered Fertility Health Awareness Seminars in the spring and fall for engaged and married couples, providing education on natural family planning and medical management options.

We met with Parish Pastoral Council leaders to discuss the new pillar on Marriage, Family and Life and to explore practical ways parishes can strengthen marriage, support families, and foster respect for life.

I continued supporting parishes through quarterly ministry newsletters and in-person meetings, sharing resources and highlighting opportunities for family and life ministry at the parish level.

In collaboration with Youth and Young Adult Ministry, we offered two Theology of the Body-inspired events. Theology and Dating, a four-part series for young adults, encouraged Catholic dating relationships rooted in intention, courage, and authenticity. Love Strikes: Discovering Who You Are & What Love Really Is invited youth ages 12–17 to reflect on identity, authentic love, and healthy relationships through teaching, discussion, fellowship, and bowling.

One initiative that especially demonstrated the fruit of this ministry year was Dying with Christ – Living with Hope, a three-part series on Christian hope in the face of suffering, grief, and end-of-life care. A team including a Catholic ethicist, doctors, nurses, and clergy from across Manitoba helped facilitate the program. Despite taking place during one of Winnipeg's coldest Januaries, more than 80 participants from over 20 parishes across three dioceses attended, making it the largest gathering of its kind in Canada since its launch in 2023. The thoughtful discussions, honest questions, and continued enthusiasm highlighted a real need for faith-filled conversations around end-of-life accompaniment and Christian hope.

As I reflect on this past year, I am grateful for the many opportunities to walk alongside individuals, parishes, and families in moments of joy, challenge, grief, and hope. I look forward to continuing this work of accompaniment and collaboration, helping build communities where families are supported, human life is cherished, and all people encounter the compassion and love of Christ.



The stranger in your midst will be as one born with you, and you shall love him as you love yourself. (Leviticus 19:34)

This year has been filled with meaningful moments that reminded me of God's faithfulness and the power of Christian hospitality. Serving refugee families has been a privilege, allowing me to accompany them not only through the practical challenges of resettlement but also by offering encouragement, hope, and a welcoming presence as they build new lives in Canada.

A particularly memorable experience was accompanying a family of nine with very limited English who arrived in Winnipeg from a refugee camp in Uganda through the BVOR program (see sidebar). Through regular encouragement, compassionate accompaniment, and the support of sponsors and volunteers, they gradually built confidence and a sense of belonging in their new community.

It was inspiring to witness their resilience as the father learned English, secured employment, and the children flourished in school, and the family became increasingly independent. Over the years, the family's hard work and determination led them to achieve one of their greatest dreams—purchasing their own home.

This experience demonstrated how refugee sponsorship can transform lives while enriching the broader community. Newcomers bring valuable skills, perspectives, and cultural diversity, and when provided with support and opportunities, they contribute meaningfully to society. The family's journey remains one of the clearest examples I have witnessed of refugee sponsorship bearing fruit.

We remain grateful for the dedication of sponsors, volunteers, and partner organizations whose commitment continues to make successful resettlement possible. Together, we help create welcoming communities where refugee families can rebuild their lives with dignity, hope, and a sense of belonging.

Blended Visa Office-Referred (BVOR) Program: The BVOR Program is a refugee resettlement initiative that combines government and private sponsorship support. Through the program, Canadian citizens and permanent residents are matched with refugees identified by referral organizations such as the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR). Sponsors provide six months of financial assistance and twelve months of social, emotional, and settlement support, while the Government of Canada contributes the remaining six months of financial support. The program offers communities a meaningful opportunity to welcome refugees, support successful integration, and contribute to global humanitarian efforts.



Grace Dumont

Pastoral Services Event
Coordinator and
Administrative Assistant

Throughout this year, I have had the opportunity to work on many diocesan events, both in the planning and preparation phases and at the events themselves. This has included booking venues and catering, sending out invites and promo materials, preparing documents and PowerPoints, assembling volunteer teams, keeping track of registrations, taking minutes, and other similar tasks.

Some notable events I've had the chance to work on include the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC), Study Days, the Rite of Election, the Chrism Mass, the Marriage Catechumenate Workshops, the Wedding Anniversary Celebration, and the Multicultural Mass. In addition to these, I have worked in an admin capacity, taking minutes for meetings, making bulk orders of resources for parishes to purchase, translating various documents, sending out emails and communiques, and the like. I have also helped conduct the Annual Parish Survey for the Pastoral Services Team.

Though much of my work is in the background, I am truly honoured to have been able to be a part of this team. It's been wonderful working with everyone here, and knowing that our work is going towards something greater, a small part in God's amazing plan.

The Rite of Election really stood out to me this year as especially beautiful, as I got to witness a member of my family become part of the elect (she has since been baptized into the Catholic Church at Easter). It was inspiring to see someone close to me write their name in the Book of the Elect, and really made the event feel more personal and emotional for me than it had before. There was a great number of Elect this year and the celebration felt full of hope as each of them made a public sign of their personal choice and commitment to join Christ's Church.



Director's note: Grace resigned in May of 2026 for the best reason: to get married! We wish her and her new husband Gaudius-Mariæ Lucas all the best as they start their new family life together.



In August 2026, **Dominique Gougeon-Gagnon** took over the position. She is a respected youth leader, catechist, and a former missionary with NET Canada. We are looking forward to working with her!



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James V. Kautz

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Director of Pastoral Services

People often ask me, “Just what does a Director of Pastoral Services do?” or “What’s an average day like for you?” After three years in this job, I can give a simple (and wry) answer: meetings.

But I’ve come to prefer the word “encounters.” This better conveys that I’m in the presence of an image of God when I meet with people, and it helps to remove the transactional mechanism that can so easily dominate our human relationships. It also speaks to the primary obligation on me in those encounters: listening. I am firmly convinced that if we don’t listen to the Holy Spirit as he speaks through others – whether at the highest levels of the magisterium or in the parish parking lot chatter – we will never break out of the malaise that impedes us as a Church.

The many encounters I’ve had this past year have been with Archbishop LeGatt, the members of the Pastoral Services Team, other diocesan staff, priests and deacons, Parish Pastoral Council members, Diocesan Pastoral Council members, parishioners, people of other Christian expressions and other faiths, prison chaplains, volunteers, and many others... but every morning starts with an encounter with Jesus Christ in the chapel, who guides and directs my days.

Throughout the year, I have been deeply involved with the Diocesan Leadership Team, the Good Shepherd Campaign committee, our annual inter-diocesan workshop for Saint-Boniface and Winnipeg clergy on the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, our Diocesan Study Days (for which we brought in experts to engage our clergy and laity on the theological, anthropological, clinical, and pastoral perspectives on Sexuality and Identity), the Rite of Election (with record numbers of catechumens from parishes around the archdiocese signing the Book of the Elect at the Cathedral), and the Saint-Boniface Adult Faith Formation Fund.

With the spring session of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, we drew from the collective wisdom of the council members to help shape some guidelines we’re developing on how to restore relationships wounded through conflicts in parish ministry.

The Chrism Mass in Holy Week remains the liturgical highlight of the year for me, as seeing the blessed oils distributed to all the parishes is a powerful sign of our unity [[click](#) or scan the QR code to see more].



After Easter, we held our Pastoral Services Team retreat in April, receiving some formation in the *Conversations in the Spirit* model of communal discernment and participating in some fun team building activities.

On top of that, we’ve hired three new Pastoral Services staff (Louise, see page 6; Anne, see page 10; Dominique, see page 11).

Then there were the special projects: The 2025 Jubilee Year had many celebrations at our various pilgrimage sites. I was the project manager for the compilation of our 150-page report which will accompany Archbishop LeGatt in his upcoming Ad Limina visit to Rome, and that gave me deep insight into the nature and needs of our vast archdiocese. I contracted the design and installation of improved street signage for our Archdiocesan Centre. I have been organizing and cataloging our diocesan collection of relics of the Saints (an ongoing project, with an end goal of having our relics out for veneration more regularly). And I have been overseeing the redesign of our website, which will be ready “soon” (Revelation 22:20a).

It remains a profound honour and privilege to be a part of the team here.



Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis

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Chairperson, Committee for the Renewal and Growth of Parish Pastoral Councils

Committee Members: Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis (chair), Gisèle Evecsyn, Alesa Sutherland, Raynald Dupuis, Rolande Durand, Fr. Chrys Agu (priest advisor)

The Committee for the Renewal & Growth of Parish Pastoral Councils assists in the formation, revitalization, and ongoing support and guidance of Parish Pastoral Councils (PPC). This committee is the point of contact for the 84 parishes and 42+ existing PPC's in our Archdiocese (more undergoing formation) with the goal that each parish may experience the committed leadership of a PPC focused on the particular needs of the parish and as strong a consensus of action as possible to achieve its Mission and Vision. Our Committee has journeyed with twenty parishes, revitalizing or forming a PPC in the parish. The process involves a 7-week process, with all parishioners united in a Parish Prayer, receiving information about a PPC and its function, and culminating with a Parish Survey identifying the priorities to be included in an Action Plan for the newly formed PPC.

Our committee is also in regular contact with parishes through various means attending their meetings, consulting, supporting, and answering to their needs. Over the years, documents and resources have been formulated addressing particular themes and answering to the ever-evolving changes of active PPC's. All these can be found on the Archdiocesan Website under "Diocesan Services."

It is a privilege to walk alongside such committed and engaged Pastors and parishioners focussed on answering the call of the Holy Spirit, sharing their gifts, leading and enabling the whole parish to fulfill its mission.

Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC)

President: Archbishop LeGatt

Chair: Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis

Among the consultative bodies recommended by Vatican II to assist the Archbishop is the DPC. This Council is composed of Archbishop, Vicar General, Pastors, Director of Pastoral Services, PPC Chairs and Vice-Chairs and/or their representatives. This Council meets twice yearly, in the Spring and Fall. This gathering:

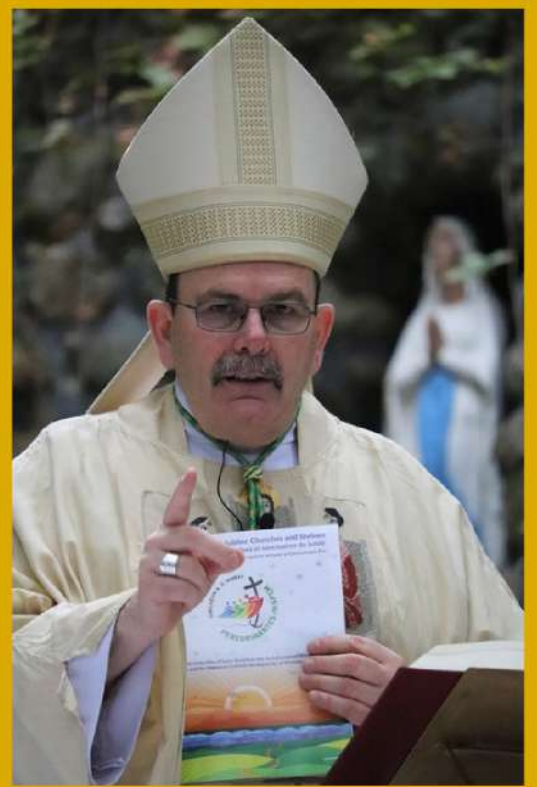
- enables the Archbishop and Pastoral Services team an opportunity to gather broad input and feedback from across the Archdiocese
- enables the PPC representatives and priests to receive information to bring back to their PPC and parishes;
- enables participants to share the successes and challenges of Pastoral life in the parish;
- enables members to participate and contribute to discussions and recommendations;
- offers an opportunity to share their vision for the future of living out the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese and propose concrete initiatives to that end.

These twice-yearly meetings, held at different parishes, offer an excellent opportunity to gather us from across the Archdiocese, pray together, get acquainted, form connections, share, and celebrate successes! It is a joy to be part of the wealth of diversity, commitment, hope for the future, and the "living out" of the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese!





July 1, 2025: the amazing choir for the Multicultural Mass at Saint-Boniface Cathedral



August 17, 2025: Archbishop LeGatt celebrating Mass at the Ave Maria Grotto in Saint-Malo, encouraging Jubilee pilgrimage visits to all the sites in the province



September 18, 2025: Archbishops LeGatt and Goulet, along with Fr. Peter Tran and Fr. Lionel Thibault, celebrating Mass for staff to launch the pastoral year in Salon Provencher at the Archdiocesan Centre

January 6, 2026: for Epiphany, Archbishop LeGatt using blessed chalk to inscribe the year and the initials of the magi over the front door of the Archdiocesan Centre



February 2, 2026: Youth Ministers gathering for a time of prayer, formation, and sharing



February 15, 2026: Archbishop LeGatt celebrating the Rite of Election at the Cathedral for adults who will be baptized at Easter

April 16, 2026: Julia M. Dezelski, North American Consultant to the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, Family & Life, presenting on the Marriage Catechumenate to an interdiocesan gathering of clergy and lay leaders



May 3, 2026: Annual marriage milestone anniversary celebration at the Cathedral, where couples are invited to renew their wedding vows. Congratulations to all!





Archidiocèse de
Saint-Boniface
Archdiocese



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