

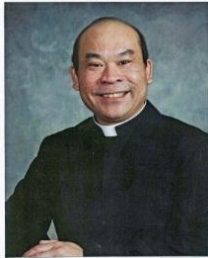


VOCATION NEWSLETTER

Diocese of Prince Albert

Winter 2011

Dear Lord, as you call men and women from amongst your faithful people, help us to foster this call with our prayers and support. May you strengthen each of us so that our lives and our words proclaim your goodness! Give us your spirit to guide those from our community to hear Your call, so that, with our assistance, they may faithfully answer Your call. Amen



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Saint Brother André Bessette Discernment House is located at 461 - 12th Street West. Fr. Travis Myrheim is the director of the discernment house. It is a place for young men to discover the vocation to which God is calling them. For information or an application form, please contact Fr. Travis Myrheim @ 922-4975 or the Director of Diocesan Vocations,



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GREETINGS FROM VOCATION COMMISSION

Once again, Christmas is coming. It reminds us of God's love for us. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son and that whoever believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." How wonderful it is to reflect on God's love and how exciting it is to share our love with others in this mysterious season!

We would like to thank you for your prayers and support for our seminarians and postulant. Please continue to journey with them and pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our diocese!

May the Peace and Joy of Christ be with you and your family this Christmas and throughout the New Year!

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, bless your church with an abundance of holy and zealous priests, deacons, brothers and sisters.

Give to those you have called to the married state, and those you have chosen to live as single persons in the world, the special graces that their lives require. Form us all in the likeness of your Son, so that in Him, with Him and through Him we may love you more deeply and serve you more faithfully, always and everywhere.

With Mary we ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Winter Discernment

As Christmas approaches every year we find ourselves in a constant state of discernment. We discern which parties to attend, which ugly sweater to throw out and what gifts to purchase for those who seem to have everything! Sometimes we pause and are able to ask God what he thinks, other times, not so much.

May we always be people for whom Christmas brings hope, not "shopping hell", by pausing to listen to the faint whisper of God.

Fr. Travis Myrheim

We suggest the Deaneries would adopt a Seminarian/Postulant as follows:

July 2011 - July 2012 Parishes and Missions in Deanery 1 and 2: Michael Averyt; Mathew Derworiz

July 2011 - July 2012 Parishes and Missions in Deanery 3 and 4: German Alegria; April Mireau

(Postulant of the Sisters of Presentation of Mary)

July 2011 - July 2012 Parishes and Missions in Deanery 5 and 6: Kendrick Beler; Micah McQuaid

Our Seminarians and Postulant



Kendrick Beler



Micah McQuaid



Mathew Derworiz



German Alegria



Michael Averyt



April Mireau

Born the 7th of April 1988

Saskatoon, SK

I like to think of my journey in life as a love story. I often say to those who know me well: "I'm the most spoiled girl in the whole world!" That is, spoiled by the Lord – He has been wooing me since birth.

I grew up as the oldest of seven children in a faithful, loving family. Though they were not perfect, my parents, relatives and friends showered us children with love and exemplified for us the virtues of Christ. Because of my parents' faithfulness to the sacraments, especially daily mass and regular confession, I was able to discover a love for Christ in the Eucharist. This love was nourished through religious education and fellowship received at the parish and diocesan level, as well as my involvement in different ministries such as Face to Face, Catholic Christian Outreach, Rock the Mount and Pure Witness Ministries, to name a few.

In this atmosphere I developed openness to all vocations and a desire to conform my will to that of my Father in Heaven. I had experience firsthand the love and faithfulness of the Lord and therefore I was able to trust Him with my life. After high school, I moved to Edmonton, AB to complete a four year bilingual Bachelor of Science in Nursing. During these years, the openness to religious developed into a keen interest and gradually into an ardent desire.

By the time I finished my degree, I could no longer ignore this longing and sought a place where I could engage in further discernment with a community, while spreading my wings as a nurse. The Sisters of the Presentation Discernment House in Saskatoon was where I able to accomplish this, surrounded once more by a loving community who encouraged me along my new journey in nursing and also in vocational discernment. As I looked around at different religious congregations throughout the year, I realized bit by bit that I really felt at home with the Sisters of the Presentation.

Presently, I am very happy to be formally discerning with the Sisters of the Presentation in Bellevue, SK, as a postulant. I ask for your prayers as I continue discovering the Lord and His call in my life.

World Youth Day



German Alegria

My experience of World Youth Day, Madrid, Spain 2011 was just amazing and it is the most inspirational journey with the Lord Jesus Christ that I have had. For me, this multi-cultural

encounter of two million people with Pope Benedict XVI was also a special and individual encounter with Jesus, who calls us to follow him in an exceptional way. This great event helped me to reaffirm that our Catholic Church is definitely One and Universal, represented through all people worldwide. I



understood that all of us in our variety of nationalities make our Church rich and universal in her humanness. I discovered more in WYD of the beauty of our faith in Jesus Christ that leads us to live one culture of love that the world needs to see. For this reason, I believe that we were witnesses of Christ through WYD, and our Pope Benedict XVI strongly encouraged us to tell the whole word that we are firm in our faith, that we want to be Disciples of Christ and that we love our Mother Church. As a learning experience I can say that through WYD we discovered many things about ourselves, the pleasure of getting to

know new people, and learning about God's will in a personal way because I am sure that God spoke to us every single day through this journey of faith. If you want to be a disciple and missionary of Christ, join the next WYD Rio Brazil 2013. I greatly appreciate all who helped me financially to make it happen. In advance, I offer from the depth of my heart my prayer to you in this coming Advent as we prepare our hearts as a place for our Saviour to be born and Merry Christmas!



Kendrick Beler

I did not originally plan on attending World Youth Day. After helping the Bishop with confirmations, I planned to work for the rest of the summer. One day, while in Prince Albert,



Warren Dungen approached me and asked if I would be interested in going. Someone canceled so they were looking for someone who would be willing to take her place. It was fairly short notice but I felt that God was really giving me an opportunity that I shouldn't pass up. God truly blessed me on the trip. I didn't have a life changing moment like one might expect from seeing the Pope or visiting the Vatican; instead, God blessed me by letting me be part of the life changing experiences of others. I was really touched by several pilgrims who told me how glad they were that I was able to come on the trip. I realized that as a possible future pastor, my life should be an instrument of Christ and I should be seeking to help others see Christ. It was truly a blessing for me to be part of the trip and I feel that God still wants me here at the seminary discerning a vocation to the Priesthood.



Micah McQuaid

The way I came to be on this pilgrimage was in itself very much so by the grace of God. I had no plans to go on this trip after travelling to Australia for World Youth Day 2008 and was planning on spending this last summer working to make money for the next year of my life. However God had other plans for the last month of

my summer when my grandmother was told she needed to have open heart surgery to replace one of

her valves. She and most of the rest of my extended live on the east coast of Canada and it was unlikely that I would get to be with her during this operation. My mother had been planning and fundraising for this trip for herself and my younger sister for months, but found herself needing to stay in the country to take care of her mother. With the trip already paid for, I was asked to take her place.

As my first time in Europe it was amazing. During the World Youth Day portion of the trip it was so great to see so many clergy members and lay people mingling in one city, really inspiring me to truly discern a vocation to the priesthood. Having Bishop Albert on this pilgrimage with our group was a great blessing and gave me the opportunity to ask him if he would accept me as one of the seminarians for the Diocese. In Canada I have heard people say that the Catholic faith is dying out or that it is no longer relevant to today's society. This is not true, with over 2.2 million people, mostly young people, at the overnight vigil it is evident that our faith is very much alive. World Youth Day is a great pilgrimage to experience our Church as a global community that is aware of its history in the centuries past and that looks forward to proclaiming the Gospel for centuries to come.

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For more information, please visit the website: [website: www.padiocese.ca/vocations](http://www.padiocese.ca/vocations)