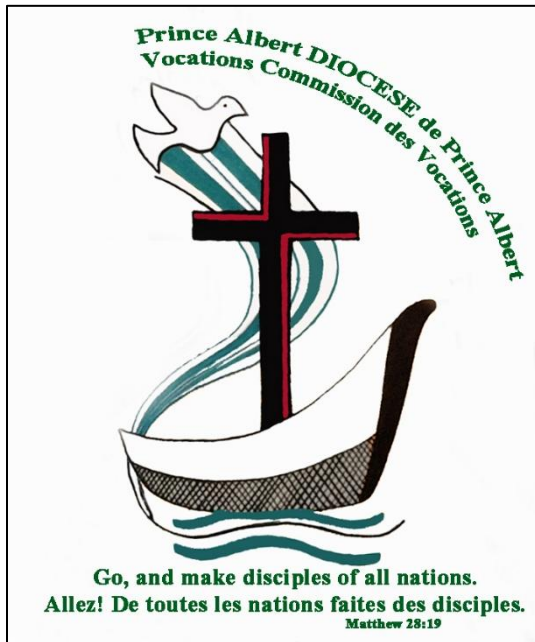


Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter



Fr. Travis Myrheim
Vocations Director
Phone: 306-763-2319
Email: vocations@padiocese.ca

Prayer for a New Bishop for the Diocese of Prince Albert



O God, eternal shepherd,
who govern your flock with unfailing care,
grant in your boundless fatherly love
a pastor for your Church
who will please you by his holiness
and to us show watchful care.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Roman Missal, Various Needs and Occasions #4)



Please prayer for Deacon Dale
as he completes his studies.
Next step will be Ordination to
the Priesthood.



Come and see the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert
Vocations Commission at the
Annual Street Fair in Downtown Prince Albert
June 20, 2026

Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter



A Tribute to Archbishop Stephen Hero By Msgr. Maurice Fiolleau

Pilgrimages have a way of revealing God's timing. They remind us that faith is a journey-sometimes smooth, sometimes unexpected, always guided by grace. And for our group, God's timing became especially clear in the days just before we departed.

Only a short time before we left for Rome, it was announced that **Bishop Stephen** had been appointed the new **Archbishop of Edmonton**, his home diocese. The news brought mixed emotions. We were deeply proud of him, grateful that the Church had called him to this new responsibility and yet saddened to know that we would soon be saying goodbye to a shepherd who had walked with us, prayed with us, and led us with humility and strength for four and a half years.

But in God's providence, we were given this pilgrimage-this sacred time together-before he began his new mission. What a gift that was. To walk the streets of Rome with him, to pray beside him at the tombs of the apostles, to celebrate Mass together in ancient chapels, to share meals, laughter, and even gelato ... these were moments of grace we will carry for the rest of our lives.

Bishop Stephen has been a true shepherd to our diocese: steady, compassionate, joyful, and deeply rooted in prayer. His presence on this pilgrimage reminded us that leadership in the Church is not about titles or positions-it is about walking with the people of God. And he walked with us every step of the way, not above us, not ahead of us, but beside us.

We will miss him dearly. But we send him forward with our prayers, our gratitude, and our love, knowing that the Archdiocese of Edmonton is receiving a faithful and dedicated archbishop.

And now, as we await the appointment of our next bishop-our next shepherd-we pray with hope and trust. Pope Leo will send us someone chosen for this moment in our diocesan story, someone who will continue the work of guiding, teaching, and sanctifying the people of Prince Albert.

Until then, we remain united in prayer, strengthened by the journey we shared, and grateful beyond words that God allowed us to spend this Jubilee pilgrimage with Bishop Stephen. It was a blessing we could never have planned, but one that God, in His perfect timing, provided.

We returned home as **Pilgrims of Hope**-and part of that hope comes from knowing that God is always at work, shaping our path, guiding our leaders, and drawing us closer to Him.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter

How the Catholic Church chooses a new Bishop



A new bishop is chosen through a confidential, multi-stage process that begins in the local Church and ends with the pope, who makes the final appointment. It is one of the most significant decisions in the life of a diocese, because a bishop may shepherd a local church for decades. The selection process is deliberate, confidential, and rooted in centuries of tradition. It involves extensive consultation at local, national, and Vatican levels.

Bishops are successors of the apostles and serve as the chief shepherds of their dioceses, responsible for teaching, governing, and sanctifying the faithful. In the early Church, bishops were often chosen by the clergy or even elected by the people of the diocese. Over time, especially in the Middle Ages, secular rulers sometimes claimed influence over episcopal appointments.

When a diocese becomes vacant, usually due to retirement at age 75 or the death or transfer of a bishop, the process to identify a successor begins. The apostolic nuncio, the pope's representative in a country, initiates the search. He consults widely: with the archbishop of the province, other bishops, leaders of the national bishops' conference, and members of the diocesan consultors. He may also seek input from priests, religious, and laypeople. This broad consultation helps identify priests who are respected for their pastoral leadership, doctrinal soundness, and personal integrity.

After gathering information, the nuncio prepares a confidential list of three recommended candidates, known as a *turnus*. Each candidate's dossier includes biographical details, pastoral experience, theological background, and assessments of character and suitability. The *turnus* is then sent to the Dicastery for Bishops in Rome.

The Dicastery for Bishops, made up of cardinals and archbishops from around the world reviews the candidates. They may accept the list, request more information, or ask for an entirely new set of names. Their role is to ensure that the candidates meet the universal Church's standards and that the needs of the local diocese are well understood.

The final decision always rests with the pope, who may choose one of the recommended candidates, request additional names, or select someone entirely different. Once the pope makes his choice, the candidate is contacted privately and asked whether he accepts the appointment. Only after acceptance is the appointment publicly announced.

Strict confidentiality protects the integrity of the process. It prevents lobbying, protects the reputations of those considered, and ensures that the focus remains on discernment rather than politics or personal ambition. The goal is to ensure that each diocese receives a bishop who is spiritually grounded, pastorally experienced, and capable of guiding the faithful in the mission of the Church.

For the faithful, the appointment of a new bishop is a moment of hope and renewal. It marks the beginning of a new chapter in the diocese's life, guided by a shepherd chosen through prayerful consultation and the wisdom of the universal Church.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter

30th World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

On February 1st we marked the 30th World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life which is celebrated February 2nd on the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. We had a time of adoration at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Prince Albert, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Readers from each of the P.A. parishes were chosen to read the reflections based on *Dilexit Nos* and *Dilexi Ti*.

Dilexit Nos (He Loved Us) was an encyclical written by Pope Francis in 2024 about the human and divine love of the Heart of Jesus. It emphasized that experiencing Christ's love is not just personal but a call to action, community and social transformation. *Dilexi Ti* (I Have Loved You) was an Apostolic Exhortation started by Pope Francis but completed by Pope Leo XIV. It spoke about the Church's care of the poor - for the love of the poor is inseparable from the love of Christ. Together, these serve as a helpful guide for Christian living, linking personal spirituality (the Sacred Heart) to social justice (care of the poor). As Pope Leo emphasized in *Dilexi Ti*, recognizing Christ in the "wounded faces of the poor" requires moving from a faith of words to concrete action.

The five reflections were followed by a hymn and a time of silent adoration. Monsignor Maurice also gave a short homily relating Jesus offering himself through love for the world to the people in consecrated life; those who like Him, offer their lives to the Father and give all they are, through love, in service of his Church and the world. He gave thanks for the witness of their lives and also reminded consecrated people that the Feast of the Presentation was a time to renew their offering.

We then had a short word from Fr. Travis, Director of Vocations for the diocese of Prince Albert, who thanked everyone for their participation. We concluded with refreshments and a time of fellowship in the basement.

We hope that all those who attended were blessed by this quiet time of reflection and prayer in the presence of He who teaches us how to live out His LOVE.

Sr. Evelyn Nedelec



Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter

**Pope Leo XIV proclaimed
January 10, 2026, to January 10, 2027
the Jubilee Year of St. Francis, marking the 800th anniversary of St. Francis' passing.**



The St Francis Prayer

Lord, make me a channel of thy peace;
that where there is hatred, I may bring love;
that where there is wrong,
I may bring the spirit of forgiveness;
that where there is discord, I may bring
harmony;
that where there is error, I may bring truth;
that where there is doubt, I may bring faith;
that where there is despair, I may bring hope;
that where there are shadows, I may bring light;
that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.
Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort
than to be comforted;
to understand, than to be understood;
to love, than to be loved.
For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.
It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life.
Amen.

WHAT ST. FRANCIS IS BEST KNOWN FOR

1. FOUNDER OF THE FRANCISCAN ORDER

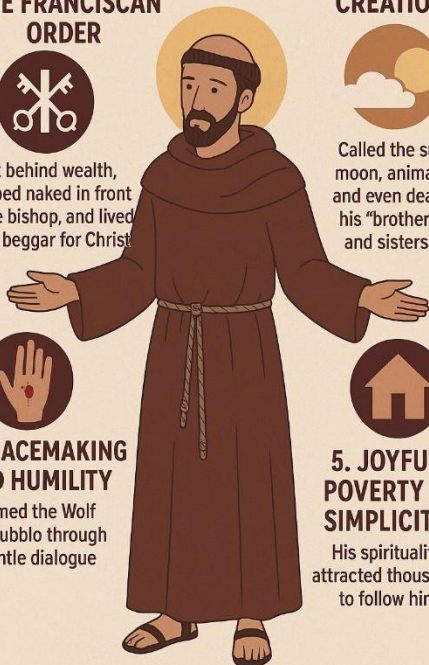


Left behind wealth, stripped naked in front of the bishop, and lived as a beggar for Christ.

LOVE OF CREATION



Called the sun, moon, animals, and even death his "brothers and sisters."



4. PEACEMAKING AND HUMILITY

Tamed the Wolf of Gubblo through gentle dialogue



5. JOYFUL POVERTY & SIMPLICITY

His spirituality attracted thousands to follow him

MIRACULOUS SIGNS OF GOD'S FAVOR IN THE LIFE OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



STIGMATA

In 1224, while praying on Mount La Verna during a 40-day fast, Francis saw a vision of a seraphic angel holding a crucified Christ.

WOLF OF GUBBIO

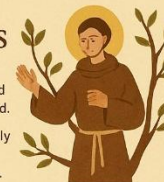
A ferocious wolf terrorized the town of Gubblo. Francis went out, made the Sign of the Cross, called the wolf "Brother Wolf," negotiated peace. pruned the townspeople would



PREACHING TO THE BIRDS

Francis once saw a huge flock of birds and preached to them about praising God.

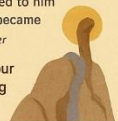
The birds stayed completely still, listened, and only left when he blessed them.



HEALINGS

Numerous healings attributed to him even it became *shritciner*

lee e hour mörning



WATER FROM THE ROCK



During his retreat, at La Verna, Francis and his companions were thirsty

He prayed, and a spring of



PROPHECIES

Francis predicted the downfall of certain corrupt clerics, the future sufferings of his order, and the conversion of some sinners — many

JOYOUS POVERTY

Francis' miracles weren't flashy—they turned hearts to God.



Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert

Spring 2026 Vocations Newsletter

2026 Summer Vocations Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Please take a moment to pray for an increase of all vocations.</p> <p>Read Mt 9:35-38 I Sam 3:1-9 Lk 10:1-6 Is 6:6-10</p> <p>God of all callings, Stir the hearts of your people and awaken within them a generous spirit. Bless our diocese with an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. Give courage to those you are calling and grant us the grace to support them with love and prayer. May your Church be strengthened by faithful servants who lead with compassion and joy. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for Pope Leo.</p> <p>Read Mt 16:13-20 Jn 21:15-19 Lk 4:16-20 Jn 15:1-11</p> <p>Lord Jesus Christ, We give thanks for the witness of Pope Leo, for his courage in defending the faith and his steadfast love for Your Church. Grant that, through his example and intercession, we may grow in wisdom, unity, and charity. Strengthen us to proclaim Your truth with the same clarity and compassion he showed. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for our new Bishop.</p> <p>Read Numbers 27:15-23 Eph 4:1-16 Lk 6:12-16 I Tim 3:1-7 Titus 1:7-9</p> <p>God our Shepherd, As our diocese awaits a new bishop, guide the hearts of those entrusted with this choice. Send Your Holy Spirit to raise up a faithful pastor who will lead with wisdom, compassion, and courage. Bless our community with patience and unity in this time of waiting and prepare us to welcome the one You will send. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for your parish priest.</p> <p>Read Mt 2:20-28 Dt 17:8-13 II Chronicles 19:4-11 Mt 5:13-16</p> <p>Loving God, We thank You for our parish priest, for his faithful service, his guidance, and the care he offers our community. Strengthen him with Your wisdom, fill him with Your peace, and renew his spirit each day. May he continue to lead us with compassion and joy, and may Your grace surround him in all he does. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for your parish.</p> <p>Read Ex 18:13-27 Mt 25:31-46 Gal 5:16-26 I Cor 12:4-11</p> <p>Loving God, Bless our parish with Your guiding presence. Strengthen our faith, deepen our unity, and fill our hearts with compassion for one another. Help us to serve with joy, welcome with warmth, and witness Your love in all we do. May our parish be a place of hope, healing, and grace. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for an increase of faith for all believers.</p> <p>Read Prov 3:1-8 Lk 17:1-5 Mt 7:7-11 Eph 3:14-21</p> <p>God of all grace, strengthen the faith of Your people throughout the world. Deepen our trust in Your promises, renew our hope in Your presence, and kindle in every believer a love that reflects Your own. In moments of doubt, be our light; in times of struggle, be our strength. May our faith grow steady and joyful, so that our lives bear witness to Your goodness. Amen.</p>	<p>Please take a moment to pray for the whole of creation.</p> <p>Read Rm 8:18-25 Gn chp 104 Col 1:15-20 Dan 3:51-90</p> <p>Creator God, Bless and renew the whole of creation. Heal the earth, protect all living beings, and guide us to care for the world with love and gratitude. Amen.</p>