Prince Albert DIOCESE de Prince Albert
Vocations Commission des Vocations

Go, and make disciples of all nations.
Allez! De toutes les nations faites des disciples.
Matthew 28:19

VOCATIONS NEWSLETTER

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PRINCE ALBERT

NOVEMBER 2026

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THE DIOCESE OF PRINCE ALBERT JOYFULLY INVITES YOU TO
WITNESS AND CELEBRATE THE
PRIESTLY ORDINATION OF REV. MR.



Sedale Rosillo

By His Excellence

The Most Reverend Ken Thorson,
O.M.I, Bishop of Prince Albert, on
The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

DEC

SATURDAY 12 11:00 AM

2026

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL
1401 4th Ave W, Prince Albert, SK S6V

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

PRAYER FOR DEACON DALE AS HE PREPARES FOR ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Loving and Merciful Father,

We thank You for the gift of Deacon Dale and for calling him to serve You and Your people as a priest. As he prepares for this sacred moment of ordination, fill his heart with Your grace, strengthen his faith, and deepen his love for You. May the Holy Spirit guide him in his ministry, give him wisdom in times of difficulty, and help him serve with humility, compassion, and joy. May he always remain faithful to Your calling and be a loving shepherd to Your people.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Please use one of the following announcements to promote the Spiritual Bouquet. People often ask, what does a new priest need the most? Invariably, the answer is: Money, Books, Vestments or one of the latest electronic gadgets. But what he really needs is prayer - for it is the prayer of the people that will sustain him throughout his priesthood. To this end, we are asking every parish to create a spiritual bouquet that can be part of an offering to Deacon Dale at his Ordination.

Some may be asking, "What is a Spiritual Bouquet?" Spiritual Bouquets are prayers or devotional acts that someone (the giver) has or will offer for someone else (the recipient). The idea is that each prayer is like a flower, and combined prayers are a bouquet offered to the individual. It can be given from an individual or a parish to express joy and/or best wishes. The Vocations Commission suggests that a large card be made from heavy paper, perhaps with a bouquet of flowers on it, with perhaps a scripture verse. Along the sides should be the signatures of those pledging, along with the action they are pledging: be it a Rosary, Holy Hour, Days of Fasting, Act of Charity, Special Novenas, or any other spiritual action. It is our hope that Deacon Dale will keep these bouquets close to his heart for the rest of his life.

A Spiritual Bouquet from _____Parish



CAREER FAIR OCTOBER 2026
BY FR. KENDRICK BELER

"What do I want to do with my life?" This question is sizzling in the pan, or simmering on the back burner, for nearly every high school student. "Well…" says the Vocations Commission, "have you thought about the priesthood or religious life?" The response is often a glazed look of confusion, followed by a polite chuckle acknowledging the perceived "joke" of it all. It does not take much effort to imagine how many young people apply to seminary or religious life after visiting a vocations booth at a career fair. That is why we take a different approach.

The career fair provides an opportunity to have conversations about faith with young people. How can we convince the organizers of a career fair to let two priests and a religious sister spend the day talking with students about the goodness of Christ? Simple: set up a Vocations booth! The Lord Himself told us to "be wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16). So once again, we set up our Vocations booth at the Prince Albert Career Fair. Fr. Travis, Sr. Evelyn, and Fr. Kendrick spoke with countless young people, sharing stories of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare of Assisi, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, and St. Carlo Acutis. Our prayer is that the witness of these great saints will inspire young people to change their question from, "What do I want to do with my life?" to "How can my life become a gift for others?" Ultimately, we hope that this question will lead them to hear the voice of the One who is calling them.







Summer Street fair – June 20, 2026

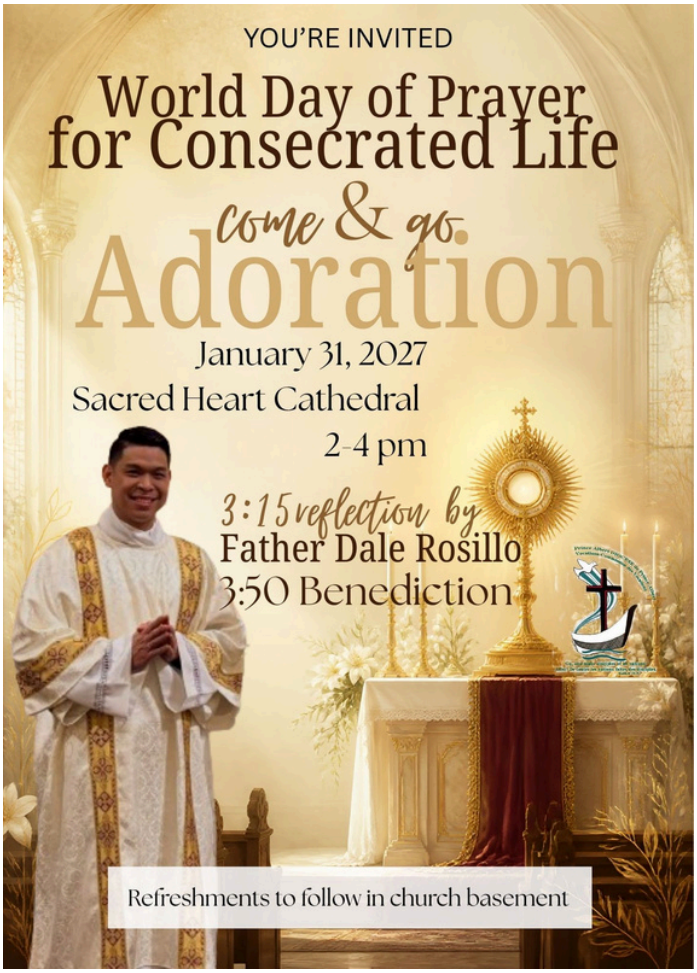
By Fr. Travis Myrheim

Every June the city of Prince Albert hosts a Street Fair. It is a time of families, fun, food, and tons of shopping. The Vocations Commission has put in a booth every year for the past 4 years because, where ever there is people, there is God. Our booth's primary aim is to remind people of God in the middle of a busy time. It's to show others that God is not confined to church, but our faith must be lived out daily and in all areas. Secondly, we try to teach and encourage families to think about vocations.

This year, we spoke about some Franciscan saints, for the year of St. Francis, and explained how they lived out their extraordinary vocations in ordinary ways. We then gave them a sticker of the saint as a reminder of God's love in the lives of specific people. For example, St. Carlo Acutis, a recently canonized saint, was a lay person, and a third order Franciscan. He died at the age of 15 from Leukemia, but in his short years, was able to accomplish much with God's help.

The witness of the saints helps us to see how the Gospel's can be lived out uniquely in each of us. We encourage families to think about Vocations to the Priesthood and the religious life as a way of living out our gifts and talents as service to God, the church, and the world.





Vocations Walk from Duck Lake to St. Laurent Shrine

By Deacon Sedale Rosillo

Twenty pilgrims. Twelve kilometres. More than a century of journey. What may appear to be a small gathering compared to the thousands who once filled the grounds of the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Saint-Laurent de Grandin is a living testimony to a tradition that continues to bring people together in prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

In my five years in the diocese, July 15, 2026, marked a special milestone in my discernment to the priesthood. For the first time, I was able to participate in the annual Vocations Walk. Although I had become familiar with the Shrine through my work as a summer student intern during the previous two summers, experiencing it as a pilgrim gave me a different perspective on its significance.

During those summers, much of my work involved cleaning and maintaining the Shrine's vicinities. As I went about these ordinary daily tasks, I would often notice photographs displayed in the Information Centre, capturing the pilgrimages of previous years. Some photographs appeared to show crowds ranging from 2,000 to 6,000 people. I would look at these images in amazement, wondering how so many people could possibly gather within the Shrine's grounds. They offered a sight into the significant history of a pilgrimage that has shaped the faith and spiritual life of the community for generations.

This year, however, the scene was considerably different. There was only twenty of us from different parishes in the diocese who joined for the walk. Our journey began at Blessed Sacrament Church, taking us approximately twelve kilometres to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes. Along the way, we prayed the Rosary and offered prayers in honour of St. Francis of Assisi, commemorating the 800th anniversary of his death.

The contrast between the photographs of thousands of pilgrims and the twenty people walking this year was something difficult to overlook. Yet, as I reflected on the experience, I realized that the number of pilgrims did not diminish the significance of the journey. What matters most is not how many people walk, but that the walk continues.

Since 1905, this pilgrimage has remained a enduring tradition. Through generations, countless pilgrims have walked these paths carrying their own stories such as prayers of thanksgiving, petitions for healing, personal struggles, joyful memories with their families, and moments of sorrow. Each person comes with something to offer and something to obtain. Though the number of participants may change, the journey remains.

Perhaps the greatest lesson of this year's pilgrimage is that a tradition does not lose its meaning when the crowds become smaller. Its spirit lives on through those who continue to walk, pray, and express their love to Our Lady.

Twenty pilgrims may seem few compared to the thousands in those old photographs, but each step carries more than a century of memory, faith, and mission. And as Our Lady continues to accompany her pilgrims, the journey that began in 1905 remains alive not simply as a tradition of the past, but as a continuing invitation to reconciliation, conversion, and a deeper relationship with God.









An Interview with Bishop Ken Thorson, O.M.I.

You've been Bishop of Prince Albert for about three months. How have these first weeks been? What has surprised you most?

It's been a wonderful experience, although a bit of a whirlwind with my ordination, formation sessions in Rome for new bishops, and the CCCB Plenary in Montreal! Now I'm getting out and beginning to visit the diocese. There's been so much to learn and so many people to meet. Above all, I've been grateful for the warm welcome I've received from our priests, diocesan staff, our deacons and their wives, and our parish communities.

Returning to Saskatchewan has been a special gift. I was born in Saskatoon and spent most of my teenage years in Nipawin, where my faith and the beginnings of my vocation took shape. I never imagined I'd return to this part of Saskatchewan as bishop.

I feel I've been given a rare blessing at this stage of my life: the opportunity to discover, in a much deeper way, a diocese I knew growing up, but never really knew well. Beginning to get to know its people, communities, and rich history, has been a joy.

I've been especially struck by the dedication of people in our parishes, many of whom have worked for generations to keep their faith communities strong.

Perhaps what's surprised me most is how quickly I've begun to feel at home. I'm most grateful for that.

What have you come to appreciate most about the Diocese of Prince Albert?

I've come to appreciate the wonderful diversity of our diocese: our rural and urban parishes, Indigenous communities, families who've lived here for generations, and a growing number of newcomers from around the world. Our immigrant communities bring a rich cultural and spiritual heritage, along with a deep faith that adds so much to the life of our Church.

There's much to be grateful for, especially the generosity of so many people who quietly serve their parishes and keep their communities strong.

As an Oblate, I'm also very conscious of the missionary history of this region, with its great faith and sacrifice, but also its painful chapters, especially concerning the relationship between Indigenous peoples and the Church. I'm grateful to be part of a diocese where the commitment to the work of healing and reconciliation has been so important. There's still much to be done, of course, but I sense a genuine desire to listen, to learn, and to walk forward together.

For me, that diversity, and the opportunity to grow in communion with one another, is one of the great gifts of this diocese.

How has the transition from being an Oblate to becoming a diocesan bishop been for you?

By far, the biggest adjustment has been moving from community life to living alone. Since joining the Oblates in 1991, I've always lived in community, sharing daily life, prayer, meals, and ministry with my brother Oblates. Community life has shaped nearly every part of my adult life. It's been a wonderful gift, and one I've perhaps taken for granted at times. Living alone for the first time in 35 years has been a significant change. I miss the ordinary, everyday things: sharing a meal, having someone to talk with at the end of the day, praying together, and simply knowing that others are around the house.

That said, I'm still very much an Oblate, but now with a new mission. I'm grateful for the warm welcome I've received in the diocese, and I'm slowly discovering new ways of being in community with parishioners, clergy, and staff. While the shape of my life and ministry has changed, I'm seeing that God's presence and care remain.

How can we help young people discover the beauty of a vocation to priesthood or religious life?

I think it begins by helping young people discover that God loves them very much and has a purpose for their lives. I believe families have a vital role in helping young people hear God's call.

During my years as the vocation director for the Oblates, I often encountered an interesting tension. People would speak to me about their genuine concern about the shortage of priests and religious. But when I encouraged them to talk with their own children about the possibility of priesthood or religious life, they were sometimes hesitant, even unwilling. I remember hearing more than once, "But Father, I want grandchildren!"

I understood that response then, and I understand it now. Parents naturally have hopes and dreams for their children, and have imagined the joy of grandchildren for themselves, and of seeing their children experience the joys of marriage and family life. It is also true that families are smaller, that many young people have a tenuous connection to the Church, and that there are understandable concerns about the sacrifices involved in priesthood and religious life, including the possibility of loneliness.

These are real concerns, and we shouldn't dismiss them. But I think we also need to ask ourselves whether we're really helping young people remain open to whatever God might be inviting them to do with their lives.

Families are so important in this. I wouldn't want parents to pressure their children towards a religious or priestly vocation. But we do need them to speak positively about priesthood and religious life, to encourage their children to consider these possibilities, and to help them trust that a life given in service to God and others can be a deeply joyful and fulfilling life.

Young people also need to meet priests and religious who are happy in their vocation, whose lives reflect that joy, and who are honest about both its blessings and its challenges. And they need parish communities where they feel welcomed, valued, and encouraged to explore their faith.

That's one reason I'm especially looking forward to ordaining Deacon Dale Rosillo on December 12 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. It will be a joyful occasion for Dale, his family, and our whole diocese. But I hope it will also remind us of something important: God hasn't stopped calling people to priesthood and religious life. Our responsibility is to help create the conditions in which that call can be heard and freely answered.

And that responsibility belongs to all of us: families, priests, religious, and parish communities. Sometimes a simple word of encouragement can make an enormous difference.

Ultimately, I'd encourage every young person to ask a simple question: "God, what are you inviting me to do with this one precious life you've given me?"

And I'd encourage all of us to help them listen for the answer.

What's one thing you'd especially like people to understand about the role of their bishop?

I'd like people to understand that a bishop is, first and foremost, a shepherd, someone called to walk with the people entrusted to his care.

Of course, there are important responsibilities and sometimes difficult decisions. But the heart of the role is helping our Church grow in faith, unity, and service to others, especially the poor.



When Pope Leo XIV spoke to us new bishops in Rome, he reminded us that a bishop doesn't walk alone. Those words have stayed with me.

They also speak to something very important in the life of the Church today: synodality. At the heart of it, synodality means walking together, listening to one another, and discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading us. It means that a bishop still makes decisions, but he makes them by listening carefully, seeking the wisdom of others, and trusting that the Holy Spirit is at work throughout the whole Church.

I don't have all the answers, and I know I have a great deal to learn. I hope to be approachable, willing to listen, and comfortable asking others for help.

I want people to remember that we all have gifts and, by our baptism, a responsibility to bring Christ's love to others, especially those who are struggling or feel forgotten.

My hope is that together we can build a Church where people feel they belong, where we listen to and care for one another, and where our faith makes a difference in people's lives.

Advent Calendar 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 29 Say a prayer for your parish priest	Nov 30 Write a letter to Jesus, thanking him for all the gifts you received this past year. Include all the things you are thankful for.	Dec 1 Do a good deed for one of your friends. How do you see Jesus in that person?	Dec 2 Look up 5 Christmas jokes on the internet and tell them to your friends.	Dec 3 Find a new prayer on the internet, print it out, and pray it before you go to bed	Dec 4 Ask your parents for canned goods to donate to charity	Dec 5 Light a candle, and pray for everyone in your family
Dec 6 Say a prayer for Bishop Ken Thorson	Dec 7 Feast of St. Nicholas - Look up who St. Nicholas was	Dec 8 Feast of Immaculate Conception – Look up who the mother/father of Mary was.	Dec 9 Choose not to have any snacks, dessert, junk food today and give that money to the Salvation Army.	Dec 10 Pray for Peace in our world. Especially Ukraine and the Middle East	Dec 11 Watch a Christmas movie, and discuss how you can bring joy into someone's life.	Dec 12 Light a candle, and pray for the children who will go to bed hungry tonight
Dec 13 Say a prayer for Pope Leo	Dec 14 Sometime today each person in the family does a random act of kindness. Talk about what you did at supper.	Dec 15 Do a good deed for your teacher. How do you see Jesus in him/her?	Dec 16 Take some cookies to a senior's home, or to someone who lives alone.	Dec 17 Read the story of the Wise men (Mt 2:1-12) Make paper crowns and talk about the gifts the wise men brought Jesus.	Dec 18 Make a decoration for the tree that reminds you of Jesus, and hang it on the tree	Dec 19 Light a candle, and pray for all who are travelling
Dec 20 Say a prayer for the children who might not receive any gifts this year.	Dec 21 Take a family Christmas picture and send it to all your friends and relatives	Dec 22 Do a good deed for one of your parents. How do you see Jesus in your mom/dad?	Dec 23 Read the story of the birth of Jesus Luke 2:1-20. Draw a picture of what that looked like.	Dec 24 Go to Christmas Eve Mass and pray for peace in our world	Dec 25 As you open your gifts think about what you are giving Jesus in this upcoming year	Dec 26 Feast of St. Stephen Read the story of the stoning of St. Stephen, the 1st martyr (Acts 7:55-8:2)