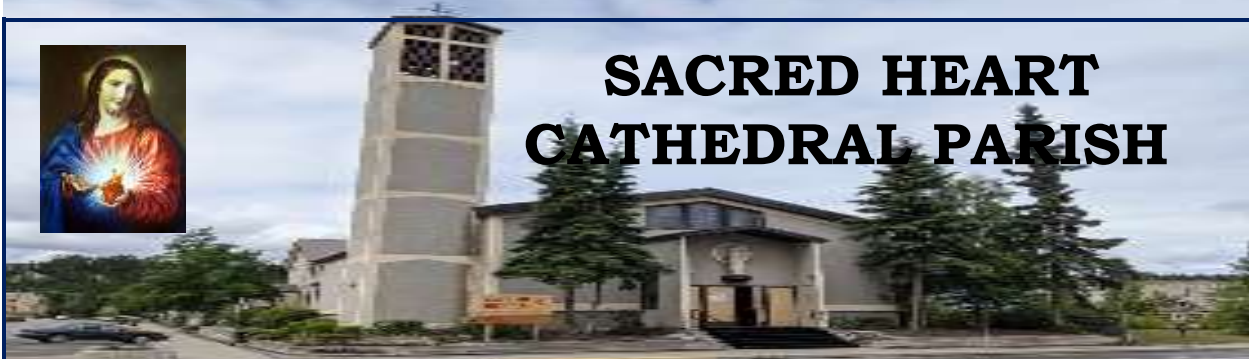




# SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH



Address: 406 Steele Street, Whitehorse, Yukon , Y1A 2C8 Phone: (867)-667-2437  
Rev. Fr. Slawomir Szwagrzyk, Rector  
[www.sacredheartcathedral.ca](http://www.sacredheartcathedral.ca), email address: [office@sacredheartcathedral.ca](mailto:office@sacredheartcathedral.ca)

EASTER SEASON (Week 5: Apr 28 – May 04)

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

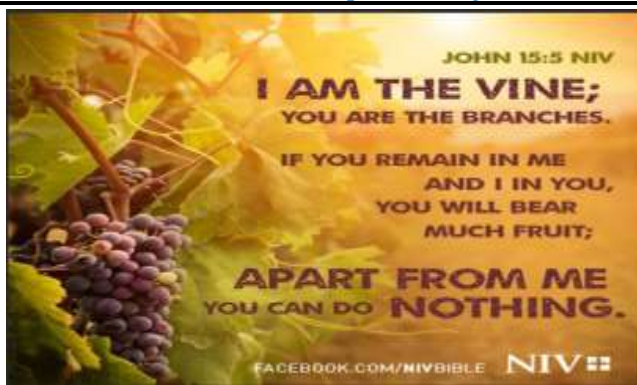
28 APRIL 2024

*"If God created shadows, it was to better emphasize the light." – St. John XXIII*

## Schedule of Masses

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 9:00 AM  
Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 AM; 10:30 AM  
and 7:00 PM  
(12:00 NN French)  
Monday: 12:10 PM  
Tuesday: 12:10 PM  
Wednesday: 12:10 PM  
Thursday: 12:10 PM  
Friday : 12:10 PM

(Special Mass per request)



## Schedule of Confession

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM  
or call for an appointment  
Sunday: Before the Mass  
Monday to Friday:  
11:30 AM to 12:00 NN

## PARISH UPDATES

*Please Be Informed, Interested and Willing To Get Involved, Share/Donate, Support, Participate, Cooperate*

### I. FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE: **Staffing Changes in the Diocese**

In a couple of Months, staffing changes in the Diocese of Whitehorse will be in effect. Therefore, we would like to announce that Fr. Slawomir (Slawek) Szwagrzyk has been recalled by the Diocese of London where he is incardinated. After eight years of service to the Diocese of Whitehorse as Rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral, he will be returning to Ontario at the end of June. We thank him for all the work he has done in our diocese and in his parish, both on a pastoral level and also in terms of infrastructure improvements.

Also, we are pleased to welcome Fr. Bartłomiej (Bartek) Palczewski from the Archdiocese of Toronto. Many of you may have met him over the past years when he has come to minister in Whitehorse and in the missions during Christmas, Easter and the summer months. He will be arriving in the diocese at the end of June and will serve as Rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

And finally, we would like to introduce Fr. Freison Kunnumpurathu Thomas from Bangalore, India, he is a religious priest from the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate, St. Paul's Province. Fr. Freison arrived in Yukon yesterday on April 18, 2024. For the time being, he will stay in Whitehorse adjusting to Canadian culture, the northern climate, and our way of life. During this period, he will also travel to the missions to get better acquainted with the diocese.

Please keep Fr. Slawek, Fr. Bartek and Fr. Freison in your prayers and extend your greetings to them when you see them.

## Dear Sacred Heart Cathedral Parishioners,

Over the past eight years, I have had the privilege of serving the Diocese of Whitehorse as Rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral. Initially, I was contracted for five years and my contract was extended for another three years. In agreement with Bishop Vila and myself, my Bishop has now requested that I return to work in my home Diocese of London, Ontario.

I will be taking some vacation time starting from June 17th, and my final day in the Diocese of Whitehorse will be June 30th, 2024. I would appreciate it if you could keep me in your prayers as I prepare to say goodbye.

Although my time here is coming to an end, I am grateful for all of you and the memories and experiences that I have gained during my time here. These past 8 years have been very intense and fruitful for me, and hopefully for the parish as well. I have always tried to do my best. It makes me happy to see how our parish is growing, with more and more people coming to our church every day. I pray with them and for them. I take this opportunity to apologize to anyone I may have offended, and I pray for their forgiveness. Also, please pray for the priest who will be serving the Cathedral's parishioners in the future. God Bless you.

Fr. Slawek

## II. 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- A. Sunday Collection had a total of over \$172,000.00 in 2023, representing an increase of over 27% from the prior year.
- B. Over the years 2017 to 2023, the generous donations of parishioners and funding from federal and territorial governments have accumulated to \$536,111.61. Through these donations and funding, Sacred Heart was able to fund the renovations of the Rectory and Church Buildings and the purchase of new kitchen appliances and necessary church equipment. These investments have enabled Sacred Heart's total net assets to grow from \$448,861.00 (in 2017) to \$890,111.00 (in 2023) representing a 98.3% increase or nearly double in that time frame.
- C. Balance Sheet and Income Statement as of December 31, 2023 are available at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Website.

## III. WITH A GRATEFUL HEART TO EVERYONE

**To You All:** From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely thank you for the very splendid celebration on my 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday. My special recognitions to all who organized and worked wholeheartedly for the great success of the celebration. Forever I will cherish those memories in my heart. I thank God for bestowing me another milestone of my life and most especially for your very "gift of persons" of which your precious presence have no exact substitute that what counts most. Wherever I go, I will keep you in my prayers. Again, thank you very very much.  
God bless you. *Fr. Slawek.*



## IV. NATIONAL FAMILY AND LIFE WEEK: MAY 13 TO 19TH, 2024

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) warmly invites the Catholic faithful to celebrate, National Family & Life Week (NFLW) which begins on Monday, May 13th and concludes on Sunday, May 19th, 2024, the Solemnity of Pentecost. This year's theme, "Love hopes all things," is inspired by the words of Saint Paul, the Apostle: "[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:7).

For more information and assistance to our parishioners, please visit the Diocesan National Family and Life Week Webpage which include the link to the CBB Pastoral Toolkit 2024 with prayer and catechesis resources, activities for families and parishes, and social media tools (in English and French); as well as information compiled by the Diocese of Whitehorse on The Catholic Family, a Domestic Church. – *from Office of the Bishop*

## V. CULMINATION OF ADULT CATECHESIS: CALLED TO LOVE PROGRAM

On **May 25, 2024 Saturday**, the culmination of Adult Catechesis: Called to Love Program will be livestreamed from the CYO Hall at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The half-day conference will be graced by two guest speakers, Dr. Renato Versace and Mr s. Gianna Salvitti.

They will present on the topic, A Christian Perspective on Human Anthropology, Bioethics and Battling Addictions, followed by a live Q&A. More information will be available closer to the date. Please take advantage of this National Family & Life Week to unite families in your parish and to help parishioners rediscover how indispensable the family is for the life and future of the world.

## VI. CATECHESIS NEWS: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On **May 05, 2024 Sunday at 2:00 PM** will be the **First Holy Communion** of the children who have successfully completed the Catechesis classes and all requirements needed. Families are invited to attend the special Mass especially the parents, siblings, and relatives. May you'll be inspired to have a special Mass offering in thanksgiving for this very special moment of the child's life.



## VII. CYO HALL DEEP CLEANING PART II

We will be doing **Deep Cleaning Part 2** in our **CYO Hall, Saturday May 4 from 9 to 12**, we need cleaner, painters and fixer uppers. Cookies and tea, Colombian coffee Provided. All your help is appreciated !!! Please come.



## VIII. PARISH LEAD FAMILY CAMP AT BRAEBURN CAMP

**Catholic Camp Weekend @ Braeburn Lake June 14-17, 2024**

We need your help to make this weekend a success!

Please join us for an initial planning meeting on Tuesday, May 7 @ 7pm in the Rectory meeting room

What are we going to eat? Where are we going to sleep? What is there to do? Who is doing the chores?

We need to be Martha so we can all have time to be Mary

## IX. YUKON CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Catholic School Council Elections is fast approaching and all concerned citizens or individuals eligible to vote are encouraged to keep abreast of the on-going activities and take active participation for its greater success. **Nomination is open on April 15<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. Advance Polling on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Polling Day is May 6<sup>th</sup> Monday at 3:00PM - 8:00 PM. The right to suffrage is very valuable. Please Vote wisely and rightly.**

## X. WALK FOR LIFE

**Walk for Life**

**Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Noon to 1pm**

Meet at the Old Log Church (303 Elliott) in Whitehorse

Join us for a peaceful walk in support of the most vulnerable in our community.

**Sponsors:** with the National Abolition of the Life of Christ and other walk across Canada

Extra thousands of members, families and Catholics from all walks of life are going to our country's capital. Together for a peaceful and safe future in Whitehorse.

- the child in the womb
- the mother with an uncompleted pregnancy
- the person living with a disability or mental illness
- or the senior who needs care — see below.

**Steps toward life:**

## XI. WHITEHORSE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Whitehorse Community Choir will hold a Spring Concert "My Favourite Songs" on Friday, May 03 & Saturday May 04 at 7:30 PM in the Yukon Arts Centre. Tickets available at [yukontickets.com](http://yukontickets.com) This will be the last concert for Barbara Chamberlin, our Music Director as she is retiring. *-by John Robbins*



## XII. YUKON CARES SOCIAL

Yukon Cares, our community based refugee support group, was formed at Sacred Heart in 2015. The key sponsorship organization that they work under is the Office for Refugees of the Archdiocese of Toronto. The Social Justice Committee maintains a link between this important group and our parish. Yukon Cares has reserved the Gazebo at Shipyards Park for a Volunteer Appreciation/Social event on Sunday, May 5th from 11:00-2pm. All are welcome – *by Michael Dougherty*

## PARISH MINISTRY

### 1. DAILY HOLY MASS CELEBRATIONS

A. Sunday Masses					B. Daily Masses		C. Special Masses			
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	12:00 NN	7:00 PM	Sunday	12:10 NN	Monday to Friday	9:00 AM	First Saturday of the Month	Weddings and Funerals (by Appointments)
Saturday										

### D. Mass Intentions

Date	Day	Time	Intentions	Date	Day	Time	Intentions
Apr 27	Sat	5:00 PM	+All Souls in Purgatory	Apr 29	Mon	12:10 PM	Odobrego meza dla Joanny
April 28	Sun	9:00 AM	Zaradzine Bak	Apr 30	Tue	12:10 PM	
		10:30 AM	+ Anselmo Deogracias	May 01	Wed	12:10 PM	For protection of laborers/workers
		12:00 NN	Marthe Dubè & Renaud Monfette –Wedding Anniver.	May 02	Thu	12:10 PM	
		7:00 PM	All Parishioners	May 03	Fri	12:10 PM	
				May 04	Sat	5:00 PM	

### E. Requests for Special Intentions during Holy Mass Celebrations (In case you want Mass Cards, they are available.)

You may request to offer the following Mass Intentions: 1. Requiem Mass (Funeral services, Death anniversary/ remembering the souls 2. Special Milestones (Birthdays, Anniversaries, etc.)

3. Healing Mass (fast recovery from sickness, reconciliation of relationships /ties) 4. Thanksgiving Mass (for most special intentions)

## 2. SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS AND RITES

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sacrament of Baptism</b></p> <p><b>Baptism Preparations:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the Month: @ 7:00PM  <b>Baptism Ceremony:</b> Saturday at 6:00 PM &amp; Sunday at 1:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b></p> <p><b>Saturday:</b> 4:00 – 4:45 PM or call for an appointment  <b>Sunday:</b> Before the Mass; <b>Monday to Friday:</b> 11:30 AM – 12:00 NN</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sacrament of Confirmation and Holy Communion</b></p> <p><b>Catechesis Classes:</b> October 2023 - May 2024  <b>Sacramental Rites:</b> Spring and Summer 2024</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sacrament of Marriage</b></p> <p><b>Marriage Preparations:</b> Spring Time; <b>starts on April 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM;</b> <b>Wedding Ceremony:</b> Couples' Preference</p>
<p><b>Sacrament of the Sick:</b> This is administered once a Year during the <b>World Day of the Sick (February 11)</b> during Holy Masses. On other days, this sacrament is administered by special request. Indicate clearly the Name of the Sick, Place, Time and the Contact Person. The priest will administer this sacrament ASAP.</p>	



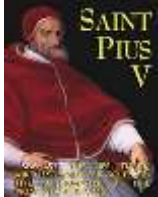

## 3. ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**Regular Schedule: Thursday:** 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM, **Sacred Heart Cathedral;** We are with you in Praying for your intentions, petitions & all forms of supplications. Drop them in the Prayer Intent Box. Prayer Leaders and Alternates are still needed.

**Please contact Katanne Belisle for more details.**



**For Special Moments to reflect and pray.**

<p><b>April 29:</b> St. Catherine of Siena</p> 	<p><b>April 30: St. Mary of the Incarnation</b></p> 	<p><b>May 01: St. Joseph &amp; St. Pius V</b></p>  	<p><b>May 02:</b> St. Athanasius</p> 	<p><b>May 03: St. Philip and St. James</b></p> 	<p><b>May 04:</b></p> 
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### **Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B): Seeking to be Pruned**

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you." [John 15:1-3](#)  
 Pruning a vine is an important part of helping it to grow and produce not only more fruit but the best fruit. If left unpruned, a grape vine will eventually produce less fruit and poorer quality fruit. Good pruning helps to direct the nourishment of the vine to the new buds that are most fruitful.

Jesus' teaching above uses the imagery of pruning a vine to help us understand that faith must lead to charity. First, Jesus says that He is the "true vine." He is the only source of the nourishment we need for the new life of grace. He is the only way to Heaven and salvation. Knowing our Lord and being attached to Him firmly is faith. Second, our Lord says that He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit. This indicates that faith without the good fruit of charity is dead and is like a branch on a vine that produces nothing. Third, when Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with loving attention so that "it bears more fruit."

To apply these teachings to your own life, begin by looking at your faith as if it were a branch firmly attached to a vine. Do you believe all that God has spoken through His holy Word? It is useful to regularly examine your conscience in regard to your faith. Since faith is the first step in the spiritual life, it must remain firmly grounded in the Truth God has revealed. This means we must regularly study the Word of God as it is revealed through the Scriptures and the catechetical teachings of the Church, and assent to those teachings with all our mind.

Next, after affirming your faith in all that God has spoken through the Scriptures and the Church, try to examine your charity. Do you see concrete acts of love in your life that result from your faith? In other words, we can "love" many things in a purely emotional sort of way. But charity is based on faith, not on how we feel. Charity is the fruit of faith. What acts of charity can you point to in your life? What have you sensed God calling you to do in a selfless and sacrificial way? Have you done it?

Finally, when you discover the ways that charity is alive within you, know that God will focus His pruning there. Pruning can be painful. It will require sacrifice, patience in the face of trial, overcoming selfishness, and doing things you don't feel like doing. In fact, sometimes God even makes charitable acts seem unpleasant as a way of pruning your motivations and making them more pure, based more on faith than on emotion. But this is good.

Reflect, today, upon this holy imagery from Jesus. It's a lesson from nature that reveals the supernatural life of grace at work. Don't be deterred by the pruning God wants to do. Embrace suffering with love, respond to injustice with forgiveness, offer mercy when you don't feel like it, and seek to serve selflessly those who seem undeserving. Doing so will prune you so that God will be able to build up His Kingdom in glorious ways through you.

*Jesus, most glorious Vine, You and You alone are the source of all nourishment in life. From You all good things come. Help me to have a firm faith in You and all that You have revealed, so that this faith will bud forth and bring about an abundance of good fruit for the glorious building up of Your Kingdom. Jesus, I trust in You.*