

Archdiocese of Vancouver

Walking Together

2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER



SYNOD CONVERSATION CIRCLES WITH JPII PASTORAL CENTRE STAFF



CHIEF PHIL FONTAINE VISITS ARCHBISHOP MILLER



FATHER GARRY LABOUCANE AND DEACON RENNIE NAHANEE



HISPANIC ASSEMBLY SYNOD CONVERSATION CIRCLES



SYNOD CONVERSATION CIRCLES WITH VANCOUVER COLLEGE STAFF



A HISTORIC MASS AT HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL THAT INCORPORATED HALQ'EMEYLEM, THE LANGUAGE OF THE STS'AILES FIRST NATION

A Message from the Most Reverend

J. Michael Miller, CSB

Archbishop of Vancouver

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When Pope Francis announced in 2021 the start of a multi-year global consultation, he put the Synod's goal in simple terms: the "Synod on synodality," as it has become known, was a call to "look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say."

The formal theme of the Synod of Bishops for its Fall 2023 meeting in Rome is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission." Bishops from around the world will gather to discuss how the Church can be more open to hearing the voices of the people of God, who have prayed and discerned the signs of the times under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Father has identified a growing need for listening to one another, a practice that is unfortunately becoming less common today. Anyone who watches world events unfold recognizes that individuals, communities, and nations are increasingly separated from one another. These divisions manifest themselves in many different ways, from our political positions to our personal relationships.

The Archdiocese of Vancouver synodal process engaged over 5,000 participants from 67 parishes in our local Church. It offered us an opportunity to explore how we are living the Church's mission of evangelization: our successes and our challenges. In the Archdiocese of Vancouver, we are working to identify those areas where we have neglected Jesus' call to bring the Good News to others and see him in all our brothers and sisters.

In the past year, we have reflected on, and accepted responsibility for, those times we failed in our relationships with the Indigenous Peoples of British Columbia. We have acknowledged our past sins, sought forgiveness, and are striving with renewed vigour to build new and healthy relationships founded on truth and trust.

To embrace the way of truth, healing, and reconciliation, I pray that the Holy Spirit enlighten you about ways that you are being called to set aside obstacles in the path of seasoning the world with the flavour of the Gospel and of sharing the light of Christ with others.

The end of the pandemic similarly has offered us the occasion to forge ahead with renewed enthusiasm in our task of bringing people to Jesus. The Archdiocese is engaged in a review of how we acted in response to COVID-19. In which areas did we respond well to the pandemic, and in which did we respond inadequately?

As we give thanks to the Lord and fully relaunch our numerous pastoral programs, we are looking for ways to adapt to our times, an era that is much like that of the early Church when the Good News was first proclaimed to the world. I want to assure everyone that no matter your age, culture, background, gifts, talents, or feelings of unworthiness, because of your Baptism you have received the vocation to share the love of Christ with others. "Be not afraid," as our patron St. John Paul II so often repeated.

I am grateful for all you are doing in the name of Jesus. Allow me to thank you in advance for discerning how he is inviting you to take the next step and work with him and for him in service to the People of God in Vancouver.

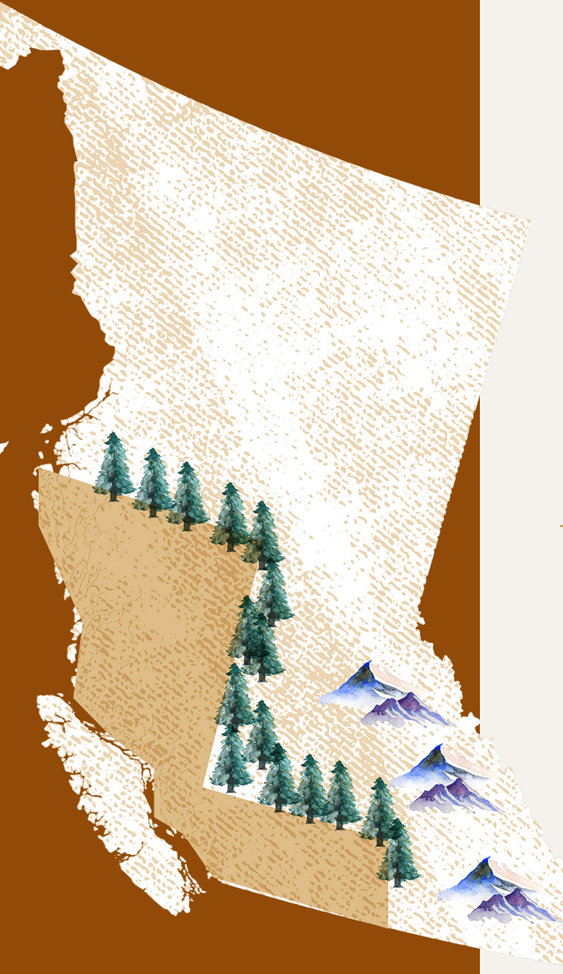
With the assurance of my blessing and prayers, I remain



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB

+ J. Michael Miller
Archbishop of Vancouver



OUR STORY

The Archdiocese of Vancouver covers approximately 120,000 km², including B.C.'s Lower Mainland, and has roughly 446,000 baptized Catholics within its boundaries. It was established in 1863 as the Vicariate Apostolic of British Columbia and in 1908 as the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver.

77 parishes

52 schools and 4 institutions of higher education

7,327 catechists

446,670 Catholics

204 priests
105 diocesan
99 religious

118 consecrated women

34 permanent deacons

30 religious brothers

2021

2,349 Baptisms

2,236 First Communions

2,400 Confirmations

432 Marriages

Priorities and Goals

Make Every Sunday Matter

Celebrate like we mean it

Welcome like we mean it

Get Closer to Jesus

Foster personal encounters

Promote discipleship paths

Strengthen Marriages and Families

Provide support for parents seeking to acquire additional parenting skills

Connect people in need with support services that address their challenges

Develop Parish Leadership and Support

Parishes are called to be dynamic communities of missionary disciples

Every parish will be offered services in management, development, and human resource functions



DISCERNING A PRIESTLY VOCATION

18 seminarians

4 new seminarians for the 2022-2023 academic year

NEW FORMATORS ON BOARD

The work of vocations strengthened significantly with the addition of two new formators. Fr. Davide Lanzani began his tenure as Rector of the *Redemptoris Mater* Seminary after finishing two licentiate degrees in Rome. Fr. Bryan Duggan completed a doctorate in Clinical Psychology and joined the team as Director of Psychological Services.

With their participation, the number of diocesan priests involved in the education of our seminarians increased to five, which now accounts for about half of the faculty at the Seminary of Christ the King.



I am very happy to serve the Lord in the formation of priests as I was happy to serve him in my last assignments: assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Parish in Vancouver and at St. Mary's in Chilliwack, and further studies in Rome.

FR. DAVIDE LANZANI



SEMINARIANS VISITING ST. MARY'S INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL IN MISSION

LEARNING TO "SMELL LIKE THE SHEEP"

For their pastoral formation, the senior seminarians visited a number of diverse communities to learn about various areas of catechetical ministry in the Archdiocese.

- The missionary disciples of St. Patrick's Parish in Maple Ridge shared their story of parish renewal.
- For the first time in Vancouver, the seminarians visited the Catholic Deaf Community at St. Francis de Sales Parish, now relocated at Star of the Sea Parish in South Surrey.
- The seminarians worked with and benefited from the Offices of Marriage & Family, and Catechesis & Evangelization.
- Fr. Richard Zanotti shared his passion for migrant ministry.
- The seminarians met with students, dedicated staff, and volunteers at Vanspec.

DISCERNMENT GROUP

Thanks to the lifting of COVID restrictions, our discerners were able to meet monthly in person with occasional outings. We also happily welcomed some of these men to our first in-person Seminary Live-In since the beginning of the pandemic.

RECONCILIATION AND PRIESTLY FORMATION

On Sept. 30, 2021, the seminarians and staff of the Seminary of Christ the King visited the former St. Mary's Indian Residential School in Mission on the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. There they learned about the history of the school, the students, and the culture of the First Nations.

The visit to the former St. Mary's Residential School was a humbling and eye-opening experience. I am grateful for our cultural historian, Albert (Sonny) McHalsie for sharing with us the traditions, stories, and beliefs of the First Nations. I come out of this experience with the knowledge that the path towards Truth and Reconciliation will involve patiently walking together, listening, and being truly present to one another.

PAUL VO, Seminarian



FOSTERING A CULTURE OF VOCATIONS



91 professed women religious
27 consecrated women
30 professed religious brothers

Many young women have been given support to discern a vocation to religious life. At least three young women are applying to be postulants, and several others in the Archdiocese moved forward in their formation and consecration.

DISCERNMENT DOESN'T STOP

Amidst the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, we used digital tools to offer a mix of online and in-person events. One in particular was the opportunity to meet via Zoom with Discalced Carmelites. These events allowed our young women to receive ongoing support in their discernment so they could be ready when the US/Canada border reopened. Since its reopening, many young women resumed visiting communities and making concrete steps forward in their discernment process.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN CONSECRATED LIFE

We saw many significant events happen over the last year. The Daughters of the Church, a group of 12 consecrated laywomen and four associates, celebrated their 20th anniversary. After service in Vancouver since 1971, the much-loved Croatian Sisters were recalled to their motherhouse in Croatia. The World Day of Consecrated Life was held in-person for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. Some of our sisters participated in Synod Listening Circles for Sisters.



VOCATION MILESTONES (IN AND FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER)

Women

- Seven local young women entered into postulancy or the novitiate with congregations such as the Sisters of Life, the Society of Our Lady of the Trinity (SOLT), the Dominican Nuns in Squamish, and the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist.
- One made final vows with the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians – FMAs (*Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice*), also known as the Salesian Sisters.

Men

- The Benedictine community at Westminster Abbey received one solemn profession, one first profession, one novice, and one postulant, while the Carmelite Friars of Canada received one solemn profession.
- There was one priestly and one diaconal ordination with the Dominican Friars of the Western Province (US).
- One man was ordained to the diaconate with the Companions of the Cross.





34 ordained permanent deacons
9 deacons ordained in 2021
8 aspirants in the program



DEACONS OFFER AN ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST

Our deacons don't just wait in the parishes for someone to come in and ask about God. They go out and share him in their daily lives. Some have ministries in hospitals, prisons, shelters, First Nations communities, and other places where they cross paths with people who may not be looking for God but are still able to find him. Reflecting on his experience in hospitals, Deacon Greg Canero says, "I've been surprised by how the residents open up."

DEACONS AT THE FOREFRONT OF RECONCILIATION

Our deacons have also been deeply invested in important reconciliation projects. Deacon Rennie Nahanee has been leading an ongoing project to translate parts of the Mass into the Squamish language. This Mass has been celebrated since September 2021 at St. Paul's Indian Catholic Church in North Vancouver.

In May 2022, the first Mass with Indigenous language was offered at Holy Rosary Cathedral to commemorate the feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Parts of the Mass, including the Our Father, were celebrated in Halq'emeylem, the language of the Sts'ailes First Nation.

SUPPORTING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH

FAMILY FUN DAY 2022

We held our first Family Fun Day on June 26 at Pacific Academy in Surrey to mark the end of the Year of the Family. More than 300 people registered for the event, which was hosted by a team of 30 volunteers. Families from all over the Archdiocese came together to enjoy food, games, bouncy castles, and a Men in Black soccer game. It was also an opportunity to meet priests, seminarians, religious sisters, and members of various movements and organizations at one event. The Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League provided burgers and other food, and a team of volunteers from Couples for Christ, Marriage Encounter, Madonna House, Focolare, and Luke 15 House helped with games, set-up, and parking. It was a great way to share our mission of evangelization of the family.

This event is the first of a cycle of events to celebrate the World Meeting of Families locally. Future events will include a conference in 2023 and a Family Weekend Retreat in 2024.

MARRIAGE FORMATION

- 500 couples participated in the Marriage Formation Program – the highest number in five years
- 150 couples participated in Marriage Mentorship, which matches younger and older couples for continued formation
- 183 couples registered for the 2022 Milestone Marriage Anniversary Mass

> We are greatly appreciative of our mentor couple for sharing their experiences, stories, and advice with us, as well as for keeping us in their prayers as we navigate all the aspects of engagement and married life together. We feel a close connection to our mentors and envision a relationship of friendship where we can reach out to them at any time.
>
> **Marriage mentorship participant**



MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS

FERTILITY HEALTH AWARENESS

In the last two years, more couples became increasingly receptive to natural family planning. We are delighted to offer education in this area by bringing the Marquette method to the Archdiocese. Marquette has become more known as a very reliable method, especially for those who are breastfeeding or in menopause. We started our educational outreach with a registered nurse in Alberta who offers training, and we are steadily growing a local team of Marquette practitioners to support our couples.

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED

Our ministry collaborated with Endow Studies this year. Endow is a small-group format for women to study Church documents together and become more deeply formed in the Catholic intellectual tradition. One small group was specifically made up of separated or divorced participants. Having grown in friendship and mutual support in their walk together, they have persevered to meet on a weekly basis even beyond the conclusion of the study program.

> It is the first workshop on a deep and often tender topic that I have attended that included Adoration. This quiet Adoration time enabled me to resolve some deep issues.
>
> **Workshop participant**



FAMILY FUN DAY

OURS IS A LISTENING ARCHDIOCESE

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY 2021-2023

- 5,000+ participants (total)
- 67 parishes participating
- 87% parish participation rate
- 84 participants per parish (average)
- 46 participating movements, groups, organizations, and associations

"The word 'synod' comes from the Greek word that means both an assembly of persons and a journey taken together of mind, heart, and spirit, one aimed at discerning God's will for his Church"
- Archbishop Miller, Homily, Oct. 24, 2021

In October 2021, Pope Francis inaugurated the 16th Synod of Bishops under the theme "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission." Emphasizing the meaning of 'synod' as a way of 'walking together,' the Synod on Synodality is an opportunity for the local and universal Church to reflect upon and more deeply discern its mission through distinct phases of consultation leading up to the meeting of bishops in October 2023. Beginning at the diocesan level, consultation results were sent for further study at each nation's episcopal conference, followed by review at the continental level, and finally will be considered during the Synod in Rome.

> We were pleasantly surprised to have more people than we expected and especially a wide range of ages from young adults to seniors. The synod meeting highlighted among other things how much we still need to grow as a community by listening to each other, compromising, but, most importantly, letting the Holy Spirit guide us.
>
> MARIO




CONVERSATION CIRCLES AT ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH

Despite the considerable challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Archdiocese of Vancouver completed its diocesan phase for the Synod on Synodality in less than a year. The response from Vancouver's Catholic community was robust and enthusiastic, with more than 5,000 people and 87% of parishes participating. From October 2021 through June 2022, an eleven-person committee guided coordinators and participants as they gathered in small groups to share, listen, pray, and reflect together.

From the outset, the Pope expressed a desire to hear all voices, especially those who have felt excluded or hurt by the Church. Many were pleased to be asked to participate and to be heard. A broad representation of the faithful affirmed their love for the Church, as well as their desire for greater communion with one another and for more engagement in the Church's mission. It is clear that the laity of the Archdiocese are actively concerned about the Church and wish to be more closely involved in its life.

Small group interactions – like the conversation circles – were a highlight of the synodal process in the Archdiocese. Respondents gave answers which reflected a widespread diversity, if not polarization, of opinions. The broad and often enthusiastic participation by parishes, individuals, movements, and groups emphasizes just how much the laity have desired the opportunity to share their convictions about the Church's life and mission.

Several harmonizing themes emerged from the process. There is a great hunger in the local Church to grow, to improve outreach, to seek out the marginalized more frequently and effectively, and to ensure that the Church is a welcoming and supportive community.

> The Holy Spirit seems to be calling us to address both the hopes and fears of a community that is divided.
>
> JEROME

With the help of the John Paul II Pastoral Centre, it is now up to our many parishes, movements, associations, and groups to formulate action plans that follow through on the conclusions which emerged from the Archdiocese's engagement with the synodal process.



GROWING IN FAITH

- 2,700+ viewers of online Archdiocesan retreats (Advent 2021 and Holy Week 2022)
- 700+ participants in the local Bible in a Year Podcast group
- 350 new Catholics in 40 parishes at Easter
- 200+ studied The Letters of St. Paul with Fr. Nick Meisl
- 80 women enrolled in Endow study on *Lumen Gentium*

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

On December 8, 2020, Pope Francis declared the Year of St. Joseph, a year to celebrate, learn about, and grow in love and devotion to the foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary. In response, the Archdiocese launched a new website and offered a wide range of opportunities to help the faithful celebrate this year, including:

- Consecration to St. Joseph on Canada Day 2021
- Three novenas during the Year of St. Joseph
- Four webinars about St. Joseph
- Commemorative St. Joseph's Card
- Advent Reflection with St. Joseph

Despite the difficulties of another pandemic year, the faithful responded with great love and enthusiasm to this special celebration.

- 1,000+ registered for the novenas and the Consecration to St. Joseph
- 200-350 attended each webinar

INTO THE DEEP

Into the Deep offered monthly online lectures on many facets of Catholic life, including liturgical celebrations, the lives of the Saints, and important questions of faith and culture. Hundreds faithfully attended the monthly webinars. In an effort to help welcome back parishioners in person, Into the Deep was livestreamed in 12 parishes.

> It is critical that the Church evangelize and transform its members so that we are fully alive, faithful, holy, and informed. The Into the Deep series highlighted the intellectual underpinning of our faith and its beauty. The priests, religious, and lay people who made presentations give us hope and confidence for the future of the Church.
>
> **FRANK, Saints Peter and Paul Parish**



AWAKENING DISCIPLES TO PROCLAIM JESUS

MASTERCLASS / INTENTIONAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Many Catholics are willing to evangelize but lack the knowledge and experience to navigate challenges which may come up. This year Proclaim tackled this gap by offering skills training and accompaniment through "masterclass" groups.

> I think anyone who is leading a ministry with a team should be doing this at the parish!
>
> **CLARA, St. Augustine's Parish on taking Proclaim's intentional accompaniment masterclass**

Each group provided a space for participants to share challenges they faced in evangelization, followed by the group crafting a solution together. One member mentioned a friend who had stopped coming to RCIA. The group encouraged this participant to take a more personal approach to accompaniment, which helped keep the relationship going.

Our intentional accompaniment masterclass discussed topics like "how to make invitations" and "how to have spiritual conversations." Participants noted that afterwards they were more confident inviting people into a conversation about faith.

ALPHA

- 381 Alpha participants in 13 parishes
- 359 Discovery participants in 13 parishes

> As a 'seasoned' Catholic, it is so easy to think that I have gotten all the 'basics' of my faith and think that I'm getting pretty good with my theology from passively listening to Catholic speakers. Little did I know that the good folks from the Alpha program would inspire me to reflect upon my Christian vocation as a missionary disciple of Jesus: to be in love and on fire for Jesus.
>
> **Alpha participant**



CNS photo/Guglielmo Mangiapane, Reuters

INDIGENOUS MINISTRY

Since the news in Kamloops broke in 2021, the Archdiocese of Vancouver has been working to build stronger relationships with local First Nations, while helping the Catholic community better understand the residential school system, its devastating effects on students and Indigenous culture, and the impact it has left on so many. We pray continuously for all those affected by the tragic consequences of a system that allowed generations of children to be separated from their families. These children and their families must never be forgotten.

HISTORY

There were 139 Indian Residential Schools identified by the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), 65 of which were administered by a Catholic entity. Indian Residential Schools were in place between 1870 and 1996, and approximately 150,000 Indigenous students attended.

The historical boundaries of our Archdiocese were the site of at least four schools, including St. Paul's in North Vancouver, St. Mary's in Mission, Kamloops Indian Residential School, and St. Augustine's in Sechelt. These schools had students who were physically and sexually abused. As Catholics, it is important for us to show great compassion for those whose lives were deeply damaged and for the multiple generations of Indigenous people that were profoundly affected.

POPE FRANCIS AND RECONCILIATION

While religious orders and Catholic leaders have apologized and the heartfelt work of reconciliation has been undertaken out of the spotlight, the painful legacy of the residential schools has been felt – perhaps for the first time – by a greater number of Canadians than ever before. This anger and sorrow has spurred a renewed reckoning with this chapter of our national history. In response, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops invited a delegation of Indigenous representatives to travel to Rome in March 2022 to meet with Pope Francis and share their stories.

In the Pope's closing address to the delegation, he acknowledged the deep wounds which have been suffered by Indigenous peoples and apologized for the sinful actions of Catholics involved in the residential schools:

> I feel shame – sorrow and shame – for the role that a number of Catholics, particularly those with educational responsibilities, have had in all these things that wounded you, in the abuses you suffered and in the lack of respect shown for your identity, your culture and even your spiritual values. All these things are contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For the deplorable conduct of those members of the Catholic Church, I ask for God's forgiveness, and I want to say to you with all my heart: I am very sorry. And I join my brothers, the Canadian bishops, in asking your pardon.
>
> **POPE FRANCIS, Meeting with Representatives of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, April 1, 2022**

In July 2022, the Holy Father made a "Penitential Pilgrimage" to Canada, making visits to Indigenous peoples in Edmonton, Quebec City, and Iqaluit. During each stop, Pope Francis deepened his apology and called on each of us to join in supporting the healing journey of our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

PROGRESS TO DATE

In reaffirming our commitment to reconciliation, the Archdiocese has taken numerous concrete steps to improve relationships, uncover the truth, and recommit to the path of healing. In the last year, the following important developments have taken place:

- A personal apology was issued by the Archbishop on June 2, 2021. The apology can be read on **rcav.org/announcements/expression-of-commitment**
- Outreach to multiple Indigenous leaders was received graciously and has resulted in numerous meetings and opportunities for collaboration.
- Multiple First Nations have allowed the Archdiocese to participate in investigative processes through the sharing of records and contextual knowledge regarding former residential school sites.
- In September 2021, an archdiocesan-wide Healing and Reconciliation collection raised more than $400,000.
- In response to the outpouring of support for the special collection, the Archbishop pledged $2.5 million over the next five years to support Indigenous-led projects that contribute to healing and reconciliation.
- An Indigenous-majority committee was formed to review applications and recommend grants.
- The Archdiocese sponsored six delegates to the spring Indigenous meetings at the Vatican. Some local survivors were also sponsored to see Pope Francis during his July 2022 papal visit to Edmonton.
- Several parishes formed Reconciliation Committees and invested in presentations and other resources offered by local Indigenous educators.
- Thanks to the translation and advocacy work of Deacon Rennie Nahanee, the Archbishop has celebrated several Masses that incorporated Indigenous language and cultural elements.
- Catholic Schools are developing and implementing historical curriculum to help students learn the truth about residential schools.
- The Archdiocesan website was expanded to include more information regarding reconciliation and the history of the schools, including media interviews, historical resources, and presentations. Find more information on **rcav.org/first-nations**

WALKING TOGETHER

While a number of the financial obligations required in past legal settlements were met, "best efforts" campaigns fell well short of the goal set. To help rectify this, the Canadian Bishops recently pledged $30 million in additional funding for the needs of Indigenous people, of which the Archdiocese of Vancouver pledged $2.5 million.

Despite the influence of some media- and politically-driven narratives which foment division and conflict between Catholics, Indigenous peoples and other Canadians, the Archbishop's efforts and approach have been very well received by Indigenous leaders. However, there remains work to be done.

As we move forward together in reconciliation, our mission is to keep walking with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, to seek justice and do the work of peacemaking, no matter what opposition may arise.



MAKING DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

FILIPINO MINISTRY

The Filipino Ministry supports the evangelizing efforts of the seven Filipino Catholic Associations in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Through Zoom and livestream events, including a special Good Friday presentation, we have been able to connect with people not only in the Archdiocese, but also across Canada and around the world.

Simbang Gabi

Our annual Simbang Gabi (Christmas Novena) Masses grew in number, with 21 parishes participating during Advent 2021. Nearly two dozen priests, a dozen deacons, and hundreds of lay volunteers facilitated nine consecutive days and nights celebrating the Eucharist from Dec. 16 to 24.

CHINESE MINISTRY

This past year we joyfully celebrated the Baptisms of our first group of Chinese catechumens in the Delta/Surrey area. Our faith formation initiatives offer monthly Bible sharing and Rosary meetings. We have also resumed the celebration of Mass to accompany the annual Qingming Festival (Tomb-Sweeping Day).

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Seasonal Farm Workers

The Hispanic Ministry reaches out to seasonal farm workers, many of whom are Roman Catholic and of Hispanic background. We offer accessible monthly Mass and Confessions in five parishes, with more than 60 volunteers assisting with liturgical preparation, driving, and preparing meals after Mass. This year we began a catechism program and are once again leading the Discovery program in Spanish at several farms.

Planning the Future of Hispanic Ministry

In June 2022, we held an assembly of 75 Hispanic ministry leaders at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre, where we spoke about the synodal process and of evangelization. We also held an assembly for 45 ministry volunteers, reflecting on how we can help to fill the emotional and spiritual needs of the workers.

> We are the face of Christ for the farm workers, and we see Christ in the farm workers.
>
> **Hispanic Ministry participant**



NURTURING A CULTURE OF LIFE

PRO-LIFE SUNDAY OFFERING

$143,682

PRO-LIFE OFFERING LEADS TO GRANTS

With the funds raised by the special collection for Pro-Life Sunday in 2021, we awarded 13 grants to pro-life organizations including crisis pregnancy centres, LifeCanada, Post Abortion Community Services, and the March for Life. Many crisis pregnancy centres used their grants to update their websites and to produce videos inviting women to talk with them.

> I stumbled upon Hope for Women by searching pregnancy options on Google Maps. It was pure coincidence to find such a warm and friendly place to talk about our major life decision.
>
> **Hope for Women client**

One grant was given to Advokate Life and Education Services for a search engine optimization project. The project's aim was to ensure that a pregnancy centre appears in the top results when using Google to search for crisis pregnancy options.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

Despite venue restrictions and COVID-19 protocols, in 2021 we were able to hold a small Rachel's Vineyard retreat for those dealing with the pain of abortion.

> Words cannot fully express my gratitude. The retreat was way more than I expected. I feel so much different now. God was doing healing work in me during the retreat. My days are getting brighter.
>
> **Rachel's Vineyard 2021 participant**

TRANSFORMING HEARTS

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Zealous For the House of the Lord

Despite the challenges of the last two years, a number of young adult groups emerged from the pandemic with renewed zeal for evangelization – particularly through blending spiritual and leisurely events like Adoration, hikes, faith studies, and sports nights. There is a renewed sense of fellowship among the wider young adult community as a whole.

Young Adults

A team of young adults presented age-appropriate videos about the epidemic of pornography to six elementary schools throughout the Archdiocese. While some students were unaware of the reality of porn addiction, the team reported that many informative and empowering conversations took place, giving students proper tools to combat temptation and peer pressure around this topic.

> Our ministry has been particularly focused on equipping young adult coordinators and core teams to develop their own sense of holiness in Christ. Our goal is to help young adult leaders retreat with Our Lord and recharge in His presence, for we cannot give what we do not have.
>
> **RICHIE ALDABA, Coordinator, Ministries and Outreach**

YOUTH MINISTRY

- 18 Youth and Young Adults in training as Missionary Disciples for 2022 Summer Retreats

Spirit Day – March 5, 2022

- 1,624 participants (561 in-person, 1063 by livestream)
- 70 volunteers

Spirit Day 2022 brought together more than 1,600 youth to pray and share their faith with each other through intentional reflection, prayer time, and personal encounters. Offering Spirit Day with high-quality production, simultaneously in-person and livestreamed, made this year's event the most accessible Spirit Day program we've ever held. We were able to meet each participant at their own level of comfort and interaction while still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summer Retreats

Homecoming, a special summer retreat hosted in July 2022, was for youth in Grades 8/9 who had missed the annual Searching in the Spirit summer retreat due to COVID-19 restrictions in 2020-2021. Led by eight young adults training to be missionary disciples, the Homecoming team's goal was to lead high school-aged youth into a deep and lasting encounter with Jesus Christ through the sharing of the Good News and intentional discipleship.



OUR LADY OF ASSUMPTION PARISH YOUNG ADULTS EVENT



SPIRIT DAY

A NEW GENERATION

RCIA AND CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS)

This past year, some RCIA participants had the opportunity to complete their formation with the aid of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The time of *mystagogy* – a period of several weeks immediately following reception into the Church at Easter – is crucial for helping new Catholics to put down roots in the sacramental life and deepen their understanding, commitment, and conversion. The principles and materials offered by CGS have been particularly fruitful in helping our RCIA members to ponder the infinite generosity of God as they enter into new lives centred on the Eucharist.

PREP

- 4,741 total PREP students

Every year, we hear moving stories of what God is doing in and through PREP, not only in the lives of our children but also those of our catechists.

In our First Confession classes, we have seen how PREP "maxims" – Scriptural passages written on wooden tablets and passed around – have inspired deep reflection among students as they discuss the meaning of Scripture and think about how to live it out. Beautiful faith sharing and reflections like this naturally happen in PREP classes, creating opportunities for a deep personal encounter with Christ.

VANSPEC

- 36 volunteers
- 34 students
- 6 locations

- 1 Baptism
- 3 First Holy Communions
- 7 Confirmations

This year Vanspec celebrates 40 years in the Archdiocese. Vanspec offers special needs children and young adults the opportunity to learn about the Catholic faith at their own pace, bringing them closer to Jesus.

Our catechists worked hard during another pandemic year to provide interactive lessons that kept their students engaged and learning. Vanspec was able to continue providing catechetical lessons in a limited in-person format and online.

This year we welcomed a Grade 7 student who was not baptized. She started classes in January, was baptized at the Easter Vigil, and has continued with classes afterwards. The parents expressed their gratitude for our program.

> Vanspec continues to be a blessing to our family. Our eldest completed his Confirmation in 2014 and our youngest started in 2015. We are grateful to the program, its leaders, and most especially the volunteers for their dedication, creativity, flexibility, and resiliency throughout the pandemic, ensuring our kids receive ongoing instruction and guidance in the faith. God bless you all.
>
> **RAMON AND CORA, Vanspec parents**



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



VANSPEC SUMMER PICNIC

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY

OUR 2021-2022 THEME: ONE FAMILY, ONE HOPE IN CHRIST

- 937 Teachers
- 538 Education Assistants
- 16,442 students enrolled (including affiliated schools, as of January 2022)
- 82% Catholic

This year we prayerfully reflected on how our annual theme could align with Pope Francis' declaration of the Year of Joy and Beauty of Familial Love, which began on the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19, 2021) and ended with the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome (June 26, 2022).

Drawing on the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* and remembering the Pope's theme of the "family at home," our community discussion revealed a deep desire to highlight the familial aspects of school community, summarized in the theme "One Family, One Hope in Christ."

The discernment of this school year theme brought fresh opportunities and renewed hope in the school-parish communities. Our schools have come together as one community, united with our local diocese and the global Church, to celebrate the "*Amoris Laetitia* Family" year.

STORIES FROM OUR SCHOOLS

- As a school, St. Patrick's Regional Secondary is in awe of the hard work and determination of their Senior Boys basketball team, who placed first in their division. They represented the school's motto *Volens et Valens* ("ready and willing") with pride and dignity. We are Celtics; we are family.
- Vancouver College focused on the Essential Element "To Stand in Solidarity with Those Marginalized by Poverty and Injustice." Keeping that focus in mind, our Faith in Action team added Alert Bay as one of the immersion programs for staff and students to visit an Indigenous community and learn about the history and culture. With the pandemic restrictions lifted, the team's first visit is scheduled for 2023.
- This talented trio from St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Secondary – Nick (Grade 10), Billy (Grade 9) and Gabriel (Grade 11)– travelled to Dubai in June for the World Scholar's Cup academic competition. In keeping with the theme of "One Family, One Hope in Christ," they modelled how to keep growing in faith as Jesus teaches us more about himself through the Body of Christ: fellow students, fellow teachers, and our parishes.
- St. Helen's Elementary organized a fundraiser for Ukrainian orphans living in Trzebnica, Poland. More than $750 was raised and donated to the Salvatorian Fathers of Holy Cross Parish who are working abroad.



ST. HELEN'S ELEMENTARY FUNDRAISER FOR UKRAINIAN ORPHANS



SAINT JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY TEAM AT THE SOUTH FRASER TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS



ST. PATRICK'S REGIONAL SECONDARY'S SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL SECONDARY STUDENTS AT THE WORLD SCHOLAR'S CUP



FAITH IN ACTION TEAM INITIATIVE AT VANCOUVER COLLEGE

DOING GOD'S WORK

ECUMENISM AND INTERFAITH RELATIONS

Parish Volunteers

Over the last year, our network of representatives for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations grew to 40 volunteers in 32 parishes. These men and women are equipped to assist pastors and local parishes in building bridges to witness the love of Christ.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Our parish representatives reached out to other denominations to facilitate the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2022. Ten joint prayer services were held, sharing prayer and fellowship between churches.

> The quest for Christian unity is not a matter of choice or expediency, but a duty which springs from the very nature of the Christian Community.
>
> ST. JOHN PAUL II, *Ut Unum Sint*

Catholic-Jewish Relations

Our interfaith relations with Jewish communities continues to flourish. We were invited by the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs to celebrate Rosh Hashana on September 1, 2021, and to an award ceremony for Chief Dr. Robert Joseph for outstanding community work on Truth and Reconciliation on May 25, 2022.

Catholic-Muslim Relations

We continue to pursue building interfaith relations with local Islamic communities. Our activities included a prayer service and Iftar dinner at Baitur Rahman Mosque, and an exchange of visits between Al-Jamia Masjid Mosque and Holy Rosary Cathedral.

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2021 CCCB Pastoral Letter

In November 2021, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission for Justice and Peace released a Pastoral Letter on Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. The letter focuses on the inherently exploitative nature of the purchase of sex and insists on its continued criminalization in order to protect the vulnerable. We are working with two other dioceses to create a study guide so that ministries and individuals can become informed advocates for the marginalized.

Dignity Inherent

We support Dignity Inherent, a young adult group which hosts webinars on human trafficking. Together, we have reached young people across Western Canada to raise awareness on this issue.

PCEPA

In response to the review of the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act (PCEPA), a group response on behalf of the Archdiocese and several individual submissions were made to the federal Justice Committee.



COMMUNICATIONS

- 347,281 total page views on rcav.org (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)
- 27,419 followers on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter across 16 channels
- 50.52% average open rate of weekly Friday Report
- 33 parishes with Tilma websites

THE B.C. CATHOLIC

- 15,957 print subscribers (as of August 12, 2022)
- 1,546 digital subscribers (as of August 12, 2022)
- 48.67% open rate of weekly email newsletter

Awards

The B.C. Catholic received 11 awards from the Catholic Media Association this year, including second place in the best weekly newspaper category. The newspaper also received eight awards from the Catholic Christian Communicators Association, bringing the total number of honours to 19.

BEING JESUS TO OTHERS

MEN'S SHELTER

- 29,758 overnight stays
- 62,268 meals served
- 5,131 third floor guests recovering from medical treatment
- 1,081 new guests
- 301 haircuts

When we actually give our lives to God, he actually drives you – it's a matter of opening your heart to him. What we are doing here on the third floor is amazing – it is a mission both spiritual and medical. Our first calling is to invite people back to the mercy of the Father; to heal the feeling of guilt and shame so many of our clients carry inside.

THIAGO CAMARGO,
Medical Case Manager at the Men's Shelter

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

- 11 refugees resettled, from 10 countries of asylum and 4 countries of origin
- 30 applications submitted
- 69 refugees given hope
- 15 parishes and 1 mission

After the invasion of Ukraine, we began receiving calls asking how to help. Parishioners opened up their homes to accommodate displaced Ukrainians, supported by parishes experienced in refugee sponsorship and settlement assistance.

We have also prepared refugees and their families to receive the sacraments, welcoming three infants baptized in the Church and supporting one couple in marriage preparation.

Every time we are able to say yes to sponsoring refugees, they are so thankful. The help we provide shows the love and kindness of Jesus. This is further reinforced by how they are supported and welcomed into the Catholic community as they settle into their new lives. We practise the command of Matthew 25 by welcoming strangers.

DIANE CHUA,
Refugee Program Coordinator

THE DOOR IS OPEN

- 115,000 meals served in 2021-2022
- 21,000 snacks provided

Many of our volunteers tell us that service to the residents of the Downtown Eastside crystallized their own faith.

Coming to the DIO helped me feel part of this community and I'm happy to serve in the name of the Church. It helped me to be closer to the reality of people's lives and to understand the Scripture about helping and loving each other. The DTES neighbourhood may be hard, but being here helps us learn the faith in a fast way.

FLORIAN, RCIA volunteer

RCIA Program Volunteers

Recently The Door is Open began welcoming parish RCIA groups so that potential and new Catholics have an opportunity to serve those in need.

PRISON MINISTRY

High School Outreach

Over the past year, we had limited access to the incarcerated in our institutions. This made us take the opportunity to focus our attention on educating the hearts and minds of our Catholic high school students.

To do this, we built a video-based curriculum that showcased real stories, related them to the corporal works of mercy, and discussed prison outreach as a way of living missionary discipleship. Three inmates who regularly attended our programs agreed to share their testimonies in the curriculum. Through these testimonies, students were invited to connect with Christ through the eyes of those marginalized in prison.

Digital Ministry

During the pandemic, our access inside the prisons was limited. At two of our provincial prisons, virtual meetings allowed us to stay connected. Our volunteers were able to facilitate virtual programs such as Alpha and Decision Point. It has been a great blessing to facilitate virtual ministering to inmates with these digital tools.



MEDICAL CASE MANAGER, THIAGO CAMARGO, AT THE MEN'S SHELTER



THE DOOR IS OPEN VOLUNTEER

PREPARING FOR ETERNAL LIFE

- 1,200 families were assisted with making memorial pre-arrangements
- 500 families were assisted with immediate memorial needs and aftercare services

The mission of Catholic Cemeteries is to prepare the living for the life to come, to bury the dead according to the rites of the Catholic Church, and to comfort the living with compassion and care. All that we do is illuminated by the light and hope of the resurrection and the life to come.

> A cemetery can be viewed as a place of loss and sorrow, but we are encouraged to view a Catholic cemetery as a symbol of hope, a symbol of our faith and the trust we place in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. His resurrection means eternal life for us. In hope, we desire eternal life and the graces to merit it. We are encouraged to better understand the meaning of eternal life and our heavenly destiny, and to prepare prudently.
>
> PETER NOBES, Director of Catholic Cemeteries

Over the last year, we:

- Offered estate and memorial webinars
- Rebuilt our website to make it more user friendly and efficient.
- Began publishing articles in *The B.C. Catholic* on grief, hope, healing, death, and spirituality.
- Produced a video series of comforting spiritual hymns to share on social media and YouTube.

> Last year my father and I attended the Mass of All Souls at the beautiful Gardens in memory of my mother. We were blown away by the magnificence of the sprawling landscape and the new buildings. It was so peaceful in its grandeur. The serenity. The sacredness. We had arrived at dusk but what we saw was breathtaking. I can only imagine how this beauty supports families in healing their broken hearts.
>
> ROSE PILLAY, Educational Consultant, Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA)



ROSARY WALK AT GARDENS OF GETHSEMANI

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

- 4 bereavement support groups facilitated at Gardens of Gethsemani
- 4 parishes launched their own bereavement groups

Grieving is a part of life which we all experience. During the last year, we saw a greater desire in our Catholic community to walk with brothers and sisters journeying through grief and loss. We recently began offering bereavement training in the Archdiocese, with 43 participants registered for our first cohort. After this training, four parishes launched bereavement support groups and one organization ran a support group for a specific loss.

Profile: St. Andrew Kim Parish

Inspired by Korean Catholic traditions of burial, the bereavement ministry at St. Andrew Kim in Surrey draws on a large pool of laypeople to accompany and care for those in need of hospice and funeral care. The Hospice Committee visits the dying, arranges Anointing of the Sick, encourages relational healing among families, and provides post-funeral follow-up to care for grieving family members. The Funeral Committee visits the deceased, assists with funeral arrangements, prays the Psalms for the Dead (Yeondo), and provides support through the vigil, funeral, and burial processes.

> The idea of an organized group of fellow parishioners supporting and seeing to all the details of the funeral Mass and checking in after it's all over is quite inspiring and comforting.
>
> Attendee from a presentation on St. Andrew Kim's ministry



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY AT ST. ANDREW KIM PARISH



ADVANCING THE MISSION

MY SUNDAY OFFERING

My Sunday Offering facilitated online parish offerings for 6,258 parishioners —over 4,498 of whom signed up for weekly or monthly gifts. These offerings raised $4.9 million for the parishes in our Archdiocese.

ARCHBISHOP'S PRIORITIES

The Archbishop advanced his pastoral priorities due in part to the Tenth Annual Archbishop's Dinner in November 2021, which had 722 benefactors and sponsors, raising $502,408 towards Marriage and Family Ministries in the Archdiocese.

OVERALL GIVING

Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, 165,466 gifts from over 18,000 donors were made and over $16.4 million in donations was processed. Estate gifts provided over $811,000 towards parish priorities and various ministries of the Archdiocese. The popularity of gifting publicly traded securities kept rising, with 161 gifts received in this way.

PROJECT ADVANCE 2021

Our Way Forward

ARCHDIOCESAN PRIORITIES & GRANTS $2,500,000

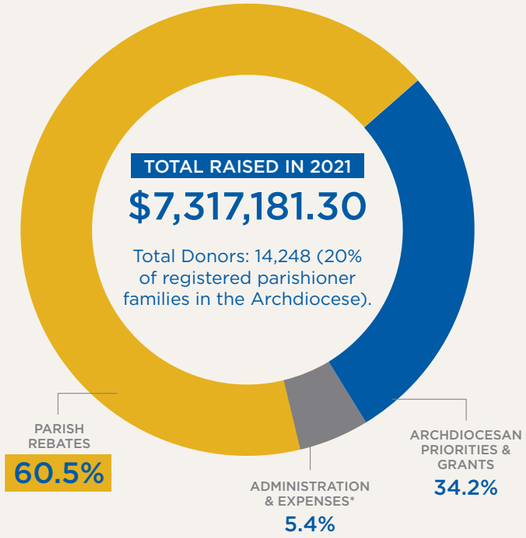
Secondary School Construction Fund	$1,400,000
Evangelization Programs	$150,000
Youth and Young Adult Ministry	$150,000
Hospital Chaplaincy	$150,000
Family Life Programs	$100,000
Social Justice	$150,000
Prison Ministry	$100,000
Cultural Ministry	$50,000

2021 SPECIAL GRANT RECIPIENTS **$250,000**

The areas of addiction recovery, domestic abuse, homelessness and food security, mental health, and spiritual support were identified as key areas of need to provide relief and support. Grants were awarded to organizations listed categorically below.

- NET Ministries
- Columbus Residence
- Sancta Maria House
- St. Paul's Foundation
- Luke 15 House
- Sanctuary Mental Health
- CHARM Society
- Signal Hill
- Catholic Christian Outreach
- Talitha Koum
- Catholic Charities Justice Services
- Domestic Abuse Services
- Our Lady of Fatima Sts'aile
- Immaculate Conception, Seabird Island

Learn more about funding recipients at **support.rcav.org/pa2021**



PARISH REBATES $4,424,685.10

The amount that is raised above each parish's goal is rebated back to the parish for a priority project or need. This year the projects ranged from covering the salary of a new parish coordinator for evangelization, to structural renovations, to covering the deficit that was caused by offertory decreases.

ADMINISTRATION & EXPENSES $392,496.20

Project Advance supports many important ministries and parish projects across our Archdiocese. Our 2021 campaign raised $7.32 million from 14,248 donors across the Archdiocese. Of that amount, $4.42 million, or 60.5%, was rebated back to parishes for important local projects.



SANTO NIÑO SHRINE AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA, AGASSIZ



RENEWING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

Much growth and development has taken place in the past year. Several projects are currently underway:

- Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary *Redemptoris Mater* relocation
- Corpus Christi Elementary parking lot & field upgrade
- Santo Niño Shrine at St. Anthony of Padua (Agassiz)
- Our Lady of Lourdes Parish renovations
- Gardens of Gethsemani office renovations
- Air conditioning at Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School
- Building envelope repair at St. Bernadette's Elementary, St. Helen's Elementary, St. Andrew's Elementary, and Blessed Sacrament rectory
- Seismic upgrades at St. Bernadette's Elementary and Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary
- Electrical upgrades at Our Lady of Good Counsel Elementary School

FACILITIES REVIEW PROJECT

The Archdiocese and its parishes own and operate numerous buildings that are all at various states of repair. To better understand the condition of our facilities, the Archdiocese of Vancouver has initiated a Facility Condition Assessment to assist parishes in their planning and prioritization of operations and maintenance activities, as well as capital projects.

Carried out by an independent consultant, the parishes and schools are being inspected this year.

SELECTED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR PASTORAL CENTRE AND PARISHES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Year ended December 31, 2021

The Finance Office is pleased to publish externally audited financial statements for the Archdiocese of Vancouver at ***rcav.org/finance/financial-statements***

	2021	2020	2019
REVENUES			
Ordinary Collections, Building Fund and Special Offerings	$36,632,745	$34,245,032	$40,779,205
Parish Programming and Fundraising	$9,340,768	$6,509,309	$10,574,079
Project Advance Annual Appeal	$7,317,181	$6,757,759	$7,400,001
National and Diocesan Collections	$1,687,677	$1,134,631	$2,194,919
EXPENSES			
Parish Operations	$32,081,881	$31,008,203	$34,827,039
Parish Capital Expenses	$16,538,239	$16,387,299	$16,387,299
Archdiocesan Operations	$6,449,817	$6,663,282	$8,673,330

The Archdiocese of Vancouver acknowledges that the land on which we gather and work is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Thank you to the offices of the John Paul II Pastoral Centre, our many photographers, including Nicholas Elbers, Alfredo Chu, and Miso Media, for their contributions to this report.

Coordinated and created by the Communications Office

Archdiocese of Vancouver

4885 Saint John Paul II Way
Vancouver, BC V5Z 0G3

(604) 683-0281
development@rcav.org
www.rcav.org

@ARCHVANCOUVER

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