

The Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan

== Annual Report 2021 ==

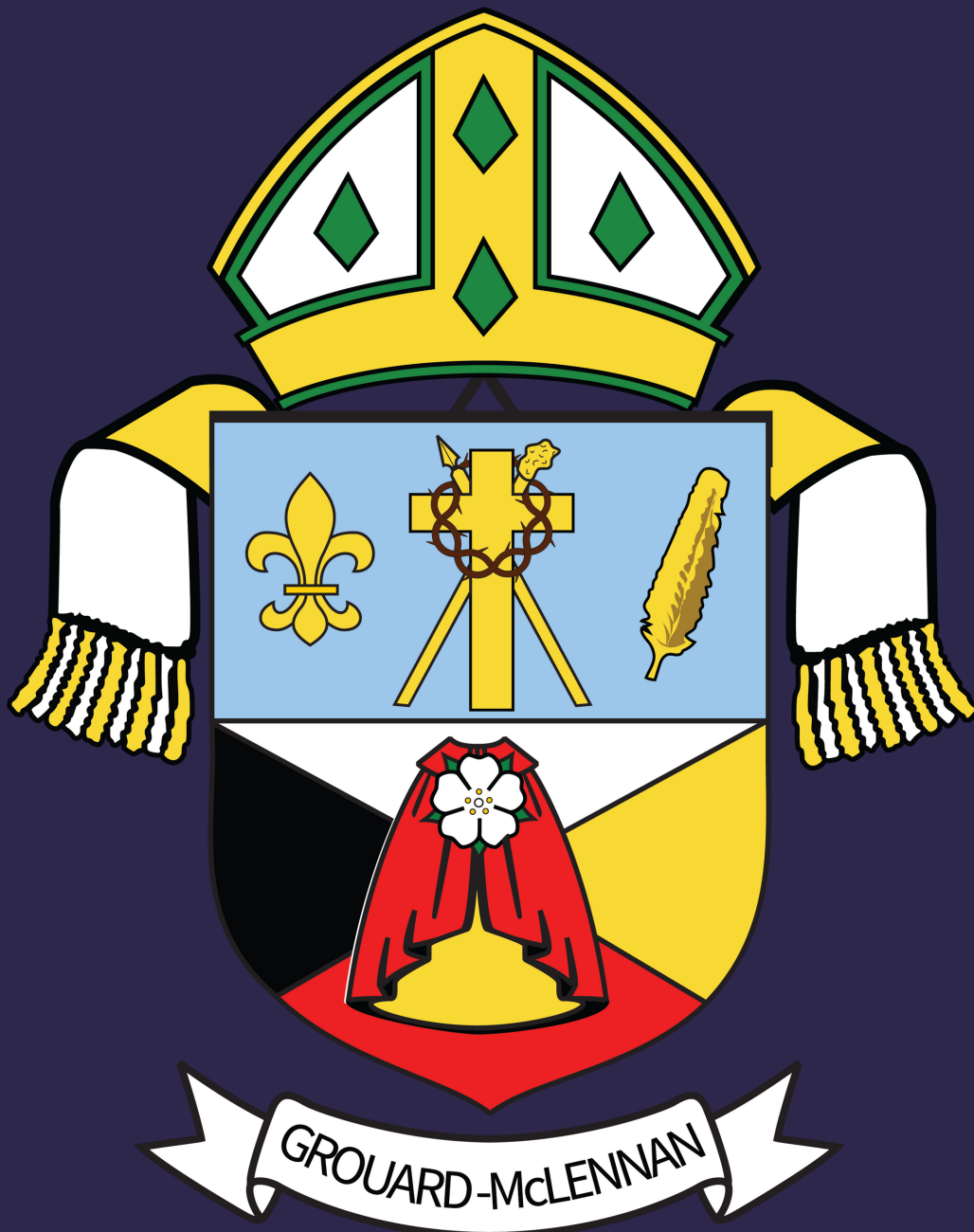




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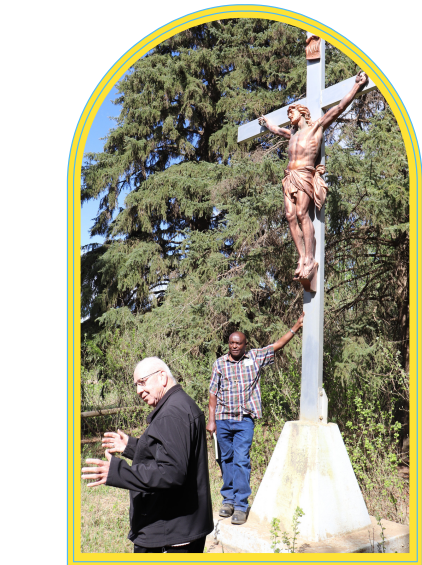
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A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP



Dear Parishioners and Clergy of the Archdiocese,

Welcome to the latest addition to the communications platform of the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan - the presentation of a newly formatted *Annual Report*.

The idea of an "annual report" came to me from a similar report that I saw from the Archdiocese of Vancouver some time ago. I've been told that they recently decided to cease their publication of a report, but that didn't discourage me from taking up the idea with my consultors and Kyle Greenham, our communications officer.

Communication is a challenge in every aspect of life. We can only respond to what we know, and we only know what we have heard – or read. As St. Paul says in Romans 10:14-15, speaking about the divine commission to proclaim: *"But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"*

What we speak of in the annual report is not the divine commission to spread the gospel, but largely good news nonetheless. As I see it, the great benefit we gain in our archdiocese of a communications office and a report like this is that "the word gets out there."

Our website (freshly recreated), the Northern Light magazine, our social media and now this annual report are intended to spread the news of our archdiocese. There is good news to be told. We just need to hear it. You will find in these pages both stories and statistics about the "state of the union". There is nothing to hide. Even our challenges and struggles call out for a hearing.

I encourage you to hold on to your copy of this report. As you receive future editions, you may want to compare one year to another, to see the changes and trends that take place from year to year. At the end of this report, I have penned a **"Looking Ahead"** section to discuss some of the things we as an archdiocese are working towards in the coming years.

Bonne lecture! Happy reading!

+ Gerard Pettipas, C.SsR

Archbishop Gerard Pettipas, C.SsR
Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan, Sept. 2022





THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF GROUARD-MCLENNAN



Our mission statement....

“Empowering God’s people to grow in holiness
through faith, hope and love.”

*The Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan serves Catholic communities
across northwestern Alberta, from Valleyview to the northern reaches
of High Level, and east to Slave Lake to as far west as the B.C. border.*

*Through our work in small towns, growing cities, rural areas, Indigenous
reserves and settlements, we serve a diversity of peoples, communities
and ways of life.*



*All statistics in this report are based on the calendar
year of **January-December 2021***

Our people



Registered parishioners

11,172 (*estimated*)*

Catholic population

66,500 (*estimated*)

**from internal data gathered by parishes*





OUR CHURCHES IN 2021



Our churches are organized into **five geographically-determined deaneries**. Within these deaneries our churches all fall under the categories of **parish, quasi-parish** or **mission**.

Our churches

Parishes 15



Quasi-parishes 17



Missions 30



A **parish** is a Catholic community with at least 200 persons, that has a resident priest the parish community can support financially, and has a functioning parish finance and/or pastoral council.

A **quasi-parish** is a Catholic community that is lacking in one or more of these characteristics, but is still self-supporting.

A **mission** is a Catholic community that cannot support itself financially and is largely dependent on the archdiocese to meet its needs. *You can learn more about our **missions** on **page 18**.*





RELIGIOUS LIFE



Our priests...

The priesthood is foundational to the life of the Church. St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, said *"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord."* As the priest is *in persona Christi* (Latin for *in the person of Christ*) he is to stand as an example of the same love, dedication, charity and sacrifice exemplified in our Lord.



In our archdiocese, we rely on priests who are **diocesan** and **religious**.



Religious priests are priests who belong to a religious order or congregation. They may work within our archdiocese, but they ultimately belong to, and are under the authority of, the religious congregation for which they were ordained.



A **diocesan priest** is a priest ordained not for a religious order but for a diocese. He is thus called specifically to serve the people within the geographical region of his diocese. A diocesan priest can be also sent on loan to another diocese or to minister to an institution where his talents and expertise may be required.

Six of our diocesan priests were not originally ordained in our archdiocese, or initially belonged to a religious order, before being permanently transferred and **incardinated** into our archdiocese.



RELIGIOUS LIFE



Priests: 32 (*in total*)



15 diocesan priests

17 religious priests

2 permanent deacons

3 seminarians



The archdiocese has also been blessed with **consecrated religious sisters** throughout its history, who play vital roles in building up and growing our faith communities.



2 religious women



The Religious Congregations serving our archdiocese

Society of Divine Vocations (*3 priests*)

Franciscan Missionaries of Hope (*4 priests*)

Missionary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle (*1 priest*)

Heralds of Good News (*1 priest*)

Redemptorists (*5 priests*)

Sons of Mary Mother of Mercy (*3 priests*)

School Sister of Notre Dame (*2 sisters*)



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS



The sacraments express the life and grace of the Church. The word "sacrament" refers to a set of religious rituals, instituted by Jesus Christ and the First Apostles, that involve the imparting of divine grace and sanctification upon believers.

In the Catholic Church, there are seven sacraments: **Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Marriage, Holy Orders** and **the Anointing of the Sick**. Each of these sacraments plays a vital role in the ministry of the Church and the fostering of faith amongst its members.



*In the calendar year of January–December 2021,
the Archdiocese recorded...*

Baptisms 392

Confirmations 318

First Communions 380

Marriages 20





CATHOLIC EDUCATION



Alberta remains one of only three Canadian provinces that has publicly-funded **Catholic schools**. The Catholic schools within the archdiocese maintain a close relationship with their local parish priests, who often visit the schools for Masses, religion classes and in other faith-based and educational efforts.

There are **four school divisions within the Archdiocese** that are part of this criteria. All statistics here are from the **Sept. 2020-June 2021 school year**.

Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools

Teachers 329
Students 5,268
Schools 15



Holy Family Catholic Regional Division

Teachers 125
Students 1,870
Schools 9

École Héritage in Falher (Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest)

Teachers 14
Students 146 (+9 preschoolers)



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy & St Mary of the Lake in Slave Lake (Living Waters School Division)

Teachers 17
Students 215





OUR CHANCERY STAFF



The Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan operates from its **chancery office** in **Grande Prairie**. The chancery is the administrative branch of a diocese, under the direction of the local bishop and his chancellor/vicar general, which deals with a variety of administrative and organizational concerns. Within our chancery office you will find various departments and personnel who meet the needs and tackle the challenges that face our churches and communities.



**ARCHBISHOP GERARD
PETTIPAS, CSSR**



MSGR. CHARLES LAVOIE
Vicar General



PAULETTE CARRIER
Financial Administrator



LAURI FRIESEN
Executive Assistant



**FR. EMMANUEL
EKANEM**
Director of the Office of
Evangelization & Catechesis



DCN. GERALD LOGAN
Director of the Office of
Life & Family



**FR. MICHAEL
USO- EREYI**
Judicial Vicar



KYLE GREENHAM
Communications Officer



SHANNON DOIRON
Archivist



WANDA SOMERVILLE
Receptionist



COMMUNICATIONS



Beginning in **April of 2021**, our communications office became a full-time operation. Expanding this office has allowed us to better share information among our people and to better publicize the work and stories in the archdiocese. Several communications efforts were introduced in 2021, including a monthly magazine called **Northern Light**, the development of routine video and photo content, the expansion of the archdiocese's use of social media, and in 2021 we initiated work towards a **new archdiocesan website**.


Magazine


Northern Light by December 2021 – 153 subscribers
of issues released in 2021 – 7 issues



Social media

 Facebook likes – 820 likes (270+ likes in 2021 & up 671% from 2020s engagement)

 Instagram – 82 followers (launched in June of 2021)

 YouTube – 63 subscribers (re-launched in December of 2021)

Top engagement



Facebook remains our most prominent social media platform, receiving engagements from **more than 78,000 people** in 2021. Here were our **top three most popular posts on Facebook** in 2021:

- 1) Our **Indian Residential School Photo Project** got the most reach of all of our social media content, reaching **23,429 people** on Facebook. (*shared Sept. 20, 2021*)
- 2) **Archbishop Pettipas' letter** on the fire that destroyed **Little Flower Mission Church** in Fox Lake reached **12, 123 people** (*shared August 10, 2021*)
- 3) Our **interview with Angie Crerar**, a Grande Prairie resident and former residential school student who was part of the delegation that met with Pope Francis in Rome was our third most engaged post in 2021, reaching **7, 112 people**. (*shared Nov. 9, 2021*)



COUNCILS, COMMITTEES AND MINISTRY OFFICES



*Covering such a large region, and with so many roles to fill and tasks to complete, our archdiocese is made up of multiple **councils, committees** and **ministry offices** that play a vital role in ensuring that all duties of the archdiocese are discussed and executed well. As of 2021, the archdiocese had five committees, three councils and three ministry offices.*



The **Faith Formation Committee** supports catechesis and the fostering of faith throughout the Archdiocese, helping our pastors, churches and faithful come to an ever deeper understanding and relationship with Christ and His Church.

The **Liturgy Committee** discusses and develops strategies around protocols and concerns related to the celebration of the Mass and liturgical practices in the archdiocese.



The **Vocations Committee** focuses on the encouragement of and fostering of vocations. The committee develops strategies and projects to help people of the archdiocese discern where God is calling them in their lives – whether that be to the priesthood, consecrated life, married life or elsewhere.

The **Communications Committee** is tasked with initiating and developing strategies for effective information sharing and event promotion throughout the archdiocese. The committee makes recommendations to the Communications Office.



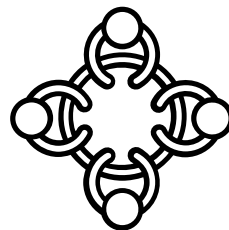
COUNCILS, COMMITTEES AND MINISTRY OFFICES



The **Native Pastoral Council** was established to help churches within the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan better respond to the needs of the First Nations and Metis peoples served by many of our parishes.

The **Finance Council** is made up of persons with qualifications in finance, administration and business who review and make recommendations on various financial concerns and investments that affect the archdiocese at large and its many churches.

The **Archdiocesan Pastoral Council** is a consultative body, under the direction of the archbishop, with representatives from clergy, archdiocesan committees, churches and other Catholic organizations that minister in the archdiocese, to discuss and collaborate on a variety of pastoral concerns and for the development of a pastoral plan.



The **Office of Evangelization and Catechesis**, based in the Catholic Conference Centre in Peace River, focuses on providing resources, programs, retreats and other efforts related to catechesis in the archdiocese.

The **Office of Youth Ministry** coordinates events, efforts and strategies related to reaching out to young people of the Archdiocese, to empower them with the support and community necessary to growing in faith. The **Youth Committee** acts as an advisory body to this office.

The **Office of Life & Family** provides resources and assistance to families and lay people within the archdiocese, helping them grow in their faith and their relationship to Christ and His Church. Since 2019, Deacon Gerald Logan has acted as head of this ministry office.





MAJOR EVENTS IN 2021



*Despite the many challenges and obstacles posed by pandemic restrictions at certain times during the year, 2021 still had many successful **pilgrimages, retreats** and **other events**. The elimination of many restrictions during the summer and fall allowed for the return of several annual events and a first-ever “**Pastoral Ministry Month**” series of retreats.*

Year of St. Joseph Pilgrimage

Beginning on March 19th 2021, the solemnity of St. Joseph, the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan declared the archdiocesan “Year of St. Joseph”, along side the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis. As part of the celebrations for this most holy saint, a pilgrimage was organized around the three churches in the archdiocese named after St. Joseph – in Grande Prairie, Spirit River and John D’or Prairie. The archdiocese designed a “pilgrim’s passport” with an attached prayer to St. Joseph as part of this pilgrimage, which ran until the following Solemnity of St. Joseph in 2022.



Eleske Pilgrimage

The Eleske Pilgrimage was held on July 31st, 2021 at the grotto grounds for St. Bernadette Church in Eleske, a Beaver Nation Indigenous reserve. Various Indigenous practices were included in the pilgrimage, including drumming, smudging, and praying in the four directions, as well as a blessing of the waters, a candlelight procession and celebration of Mass.

Vacation Bible School

The Vacation Bible School, held at Moonshine Lake Provincial Park, is a faith-based initiative offering faith formation and community for young children and their families each summer. The Aug. 9-11 campout was hosted and organized by parents from the Spirit River and Rycroft Catholic communities. Families from these areas, as well as Silver Valley, Grande Prairie, Fairview, Dawson Creek and elsewhere also participated. More than 30 young people and their parents joined.





MAJOR EVENTS IN 2021



Assumption Pilgrimage

The Assumption Pilgrimage in Girouxville was held for the Feast of the Assumption on August 15th. Because the feast fell on a Sunday in 2021, the pilgrimage was held over a full weekend, with services beginning on Friday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon. Daily Mass, processions, a healing service, and many other prayerful activities were included as part of the annual pilgrimage at the Notre Dame de Lourdes grotto and neighbouring church.



Priests' Retreat

The priests of the archdiocese came together for their annual retreat at Providence Renewal Centre in Edmonton, held from Aug 30-Sept. 3. This retreat, held annually and typically around the Labour Day weekend, offers a chance for our priests to come together for comradery, spiritual renewal and to discuss the various joys and concerns of their ministry.

Pastoral Ministry Month

The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis hosted the first-ever Pastoral Ministry Month in November of 2021, to ignite the spirit and commitments of parish pastoral council leaders, ministry leaders/volunteers and teachers in our Catholic schools. A series of deanery retreats and an online conference were a part of the events, all focused on the joys, charism and meaning of ministry. With all the retreats and diocese-wide conference together, more than 245 people attended.



Archbishop's Dinner

On Nov. 5, 2021 the archdiocese hosted its annual Archbishop's Dinner, and for the second time in a row it was hosted live from the Archbishop's home kitchen and livestreamed from our official Facebook page. As the meal was prepared, the audience engaged in an "How well do you know your archbishop" trivia game. Fr. Remi Hebert, parish priest for St. Joseph's Church in Grande Prairie, co-hosted the event. In the initial week of the livestream the replay itself received more than 900 views. \$6,575 were raised through the dinner's online auction and additional donations.



Camp St. Martin

In late 2021, preparatory work also began for bringing back Camp St. Martin for the summer of 2022.



TACKLING CHALLENGES



*In any diocese, there are many **issues, obstacles** and **difficulties** that arise each year. When taking care of so many church properties and rectories, as well as the many needs of priests, staff and parishioners, there are bound to be times when natural disasters, infrastructure issues and other unforeseen circumstances arise. Here are some of the ways we've had to band together when these sorts of challenges came our way.*

Combatting COVID restrictions with appeal

With the suspension of public Mass across Canada and much of the world due to restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, many dioceses had to act fast and find new ways to ensure the survival and support of their church communities. Our archdiocese wanted to reach out to its people directly. Using a large mailing list, initially compiled for a future Archbishop's Appeal, the archdiocese instead decided to use this list for a different campaign, encouraging parishioners to continue supporting their local church through the pandemic. A letter was penned by Archbishop Pettipas, offering his thoughts and prayers for their well being and safety, and asking parishioners to support their church in whatever ways possible through the pandemic. It was mailed out to over 10,000 addresses, and the campaign helped bring much-needed support to our churches.



Rebuilding from flood damage in Fort Vermillion

In April of 2020, the Peace River flooded the town of Fort Vermillion, flooding both the basement of St. Henri's Church and the neighbouring rectory and cemetery. When the waters finally receded, more than \$400,000 in damage were done to the church and rectory. Along with a complete overhaul and renovation of these properties, including new flooring, tiling, insulation, drywall and paneling, all water lines and plumbing were also replaced. Much of the books, records, furniture and appliances were also ruined in the flood and had to be replaced. By the summer of 2021, all of the initial renovation work to the church basement and rectory were completed.



Chateh rectory repairs and renovation

Over the years, major problems had developed in the infrastructure of the Our Lady of the Assumption rectory in the Dene community of Chateh, largely due to a lack of insulation near the windows of the church. In 2021, some much-needed repairs were completed to this rectory. New insulation was installed, shingles on its roof were replaced, new flooring and ceiling were added and all mold removed. New furniture was also given to the rectory.





CHARITY AND STEWARDSHIP



'What you have done to the least of my brothers, you have done it also unto me.' (Matt. 25:40) Christ's words cut to the heart of the Gospel message. As stewards of the Gospel, the Church has a vital role to play in offering charitable support in all areas of life where the need is present. We list here just a **small sample** of some of the **charitable efforts** churches in our region were involved in over the 2021 calendar year.



Shoes for reconciliation

Partnering with St. Mary's Catholic Church in Barrie, Ontario, the Archdiocese helped distribute five large boxes of donated shoes for Indigenous communities in our region. The shoes, from children to adult sizes, went to the communities of Hythe, Horse Lake, John D'or Prairie, Fox Lake, Wabasca and Chateh (Assumption). The parish priest and Catholic school in these areas helped with distributing the shoes to those in need.

Refugee resettlement

In 2021, the refugee resettlement committee with St. Joseph Catholic Church in Grande Prairie partnered with the Archdiocese for a co-sponsorship of one family-linked resettlement to Grande Prairie. The family was a mother, father and four adult children from Somalia, who arrived in Grande Prairie in October of 2021. Other potential refugee resettlements are also being worked on by the archdiocese and the refugee resettlement committee.

Reverse food drives

St. Joseph Church in Grande Prairie hosted two "Reverse Food Drives" in 2021, accepting donations from parishioners and the community-at-large for the local Salvation Army Food Bank. Both priests and parishioners volunteered, loading and unloading many hundreds of groceries into a mobile trailer. St. Joseph Church collects donations for the food bank year round, on average collecting 300 pounds of food each week.

Bread ministry

Immaculate Conception Church in Sexsmith has taken part in a weekly "bread ministry" for many years now. Through it, they help deliver free bread to families, seniors and impoverished people in the community. Each week, approximately 150 loafs and other bread products are distributed by the parish, through a partnership with Cobb's Bread. It helps more than 60 people in the Sexsmith community each week.



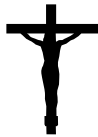
These are just a few of the many charitable efforts our churches were involved with over 2021!



MISSION CHURCHES



There are **30 missions** in the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan, many of them dedicated to serving Indigenous peoples in the **Cree, Dene** and **Beaver** communities and **Metis** settlements of our region. Vital to the sustainability and development of these church communities is the archdiocese's partnership with **Catholic Missions in Canada (CMIC)**, a Canadian Catholic fundraising organization dedicated to helping and supporting church communities in some of Canada's poorest and most isolated regions.



Total Costs in Operation of Mission Churches in 2021	\$548, 127
Requested financial aid from CMIC	\$425, 727
Approved funding from CMIC for Mission Churches	\$360, 370



Missions in the Archdiocese that receive funding through CMIC

Good Shepherd (East Prairie)	St. Francis Xavier (Sturgeon Lake)
St. Benedict (Atikameg)	Assumption (Chateh)
St. John Bosco (Gift Lake)	Christ the King (Paddle Prairie)
St. Bernard (Grouard)	Virgin of the Poor (Meander River)
St. Agnes (Peavine)	St. Kateri (Tall Cree)
St. Felix (Kinuso)	St. Bernadette (Eleske)
St. James the Major (Smith)	St. Henri's (Fort Vermillion)
St. Anthony (Faust)	St. Joseph (John D'or Prairie)
St. Anne (Joussard)	Little Flower (Fox Lake)
St. Rose de Lima (Driftpile)	St. Jean-Baptiste (Garden River)
Our Lady of Fatima (Sucker Creek)	Our Lady of Guad. (Red Earth Creek)
St. Martin (Desmaris/Wabasca)	Mission (Duncan First Nations)
St. Leon LeGrand (Calling Lake)	Mission (Horse Lake)
Sacred Heart (Cadotte Lake)	Mission (Trout Lake)
Holy Family (Little Buffalo)	Mission (Peerless Creek)

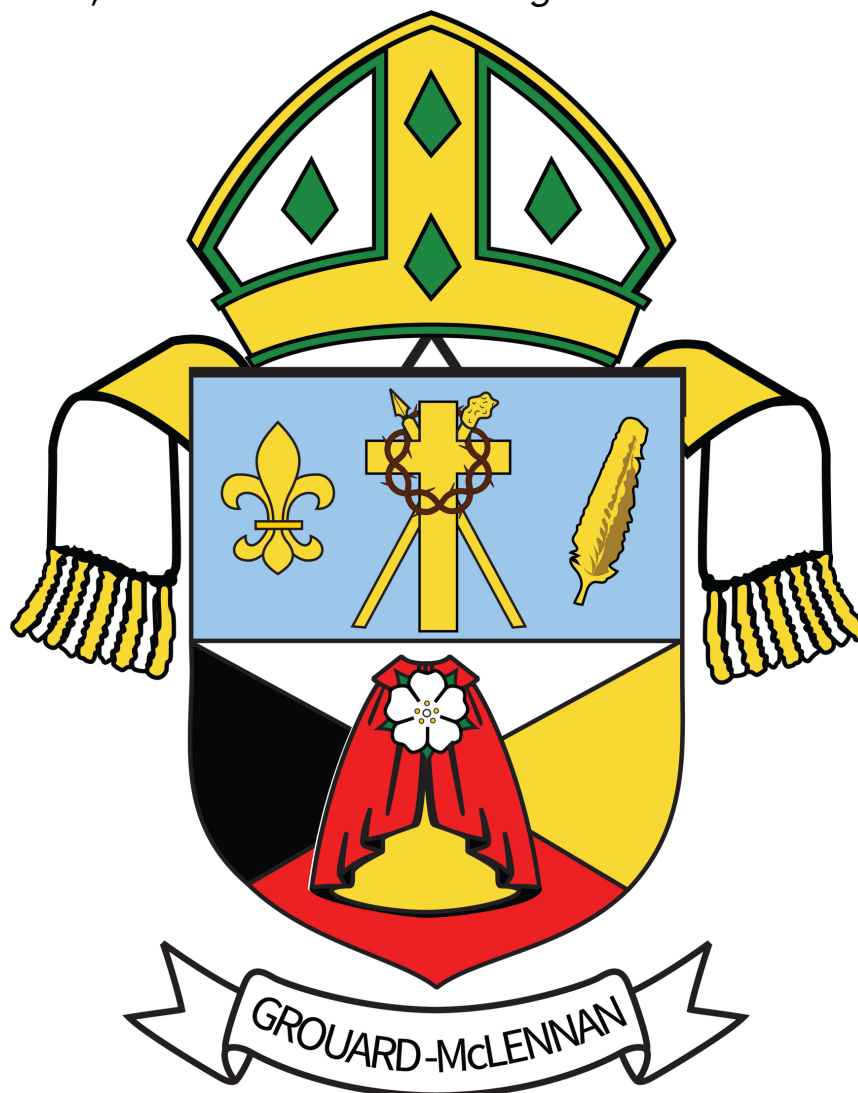


COAT OF ARMS

Understanding our Coat of Arms

The **top half** of our coat of arms is **coloured blue** in honour of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**.

The **fleur-de-lis** (left) represents the **early French settlers** of our region, the **eagle feather** (right) represents the **Indigenous peoples** of our region, and the **cross, sponge, spear and crown of thorns** (center) is taken from the **Oblates of Mary Immaculate's coat of arms**, who were the first evangelizers in our archdiocese.



The **bottom half** of our coat of arms has the colours of a **traditional medicine wheel**. At its center is a **red cloak** in honour of our archdiocese's patron saint, **St. Martin of Tours**, who charitably offered his cloak to a beggar. The **white rose** is for **St. Therese of Lisieux**, patron saint of our missions and our ecclesiastical province.

The coat of arms of every diocese is marked at its top and bottom with a mitre and banner.



ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCES



Revenue & Expenditures 2021

Revenue

Assessment of Operation (A)	352, 239
Catholic Missions in Canada (B)	408,370
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	122, 991
Northern Missions (C)	22, 601
Partnership w/ Arch. of Toronto (D)	-
Archbishop's Dinner	6,575
Donations	46,960
Services Rendered	34, 238

Total Revenue \$993,974

Expenditures

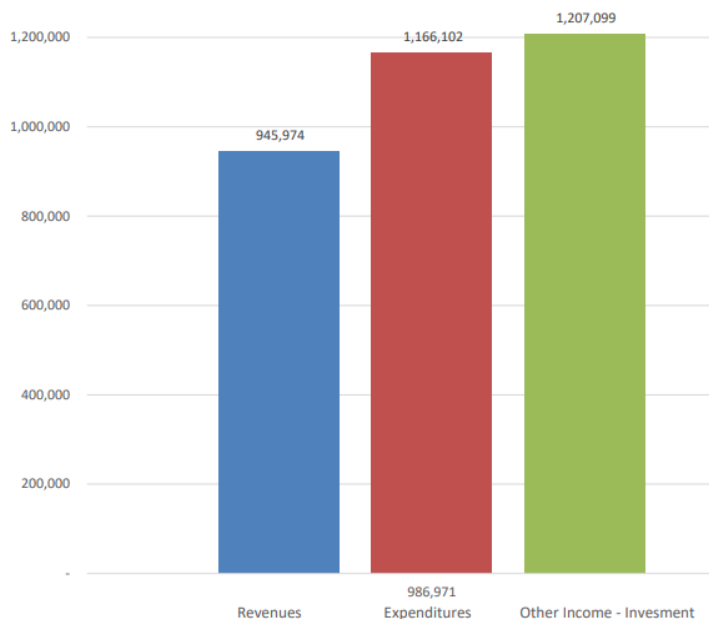
Archbishop's Ministry	142, 562
Vicar General's Ministry	52, 201
Youth Ministry	21, 959
Faith Formation Ministry	21, 908
Communications Ministry	53, 746
Family & Life Ministry	-
Chancellor's Ministry	84, 070
Finance Ministry	249, 906
Missions	424, 581
Building and Maintenance	93, 566
Priest Formation & Recruitment	69, 403

Total Expenditures \$1,214,102

Deficiency of Revenues over Expenses from Operation -\$220,127

Other Income (E)	
Income Investments (F)	1,512,093.61
Cost of Investment (G)	(304,995)

Excess of Revenues over Expenses \$986,971



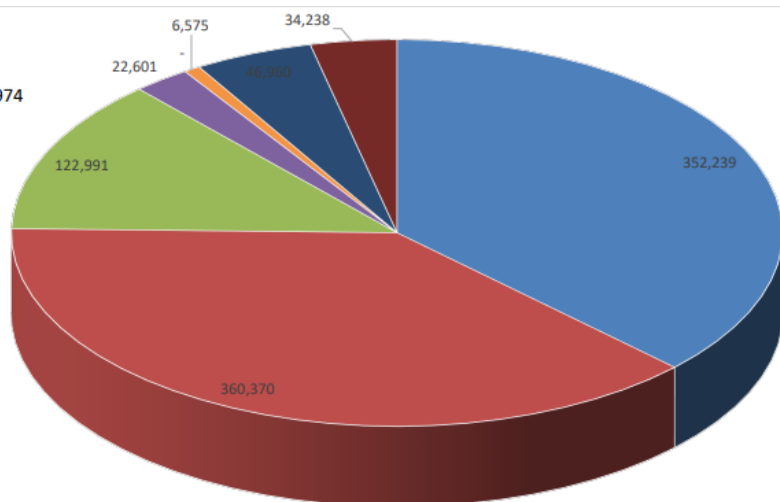


ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCES



Revenue & Expenditures 2021

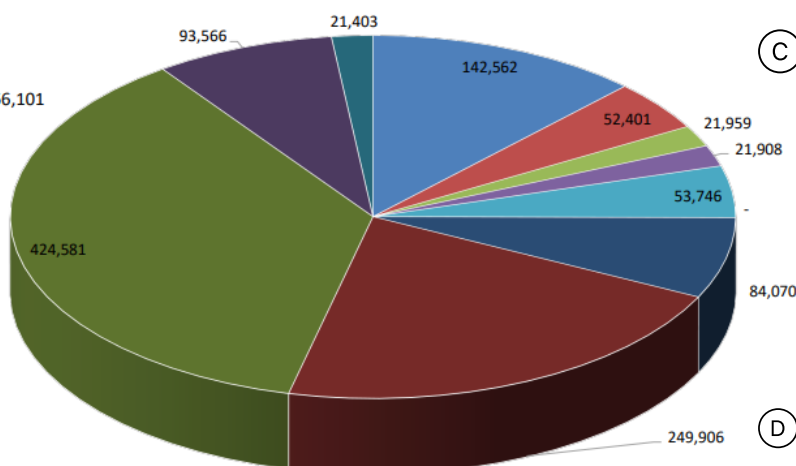
2021 Revenue 945,974



- Assessment of Operation 352,239
- Catholic Missions in Canada 360,370
- COVID - Refund 122,991
- Northern Missions 22,601
- North-South Partnership -
- Archbishop's Dinner 6,575
- Donations 46,960
- Services Rendered 34,238



2021 Expenses 1,166,101



- Archbishop's Ministry 142,562
- Vicar General's Ministry 52,401
- Youth Ministry 21,959
- Faith Formation Ministry 21,908
- Communication Ministry 53,746
- Family & Life Ministry -
- Office of the Chancellor 84,070
- Finance Ministry 249,906
- Missions 424,581
- Buildings and Maintenance 93,566
- Priest Formation & Recruitment 21,403

(A) **Assessment of Operation** refers to all revenues the archdiocese receives from parishes for its operating expenses. This was formally called the *catedralicium*.

(B) **Catholic Missions in Canada** provided funding for our mission churches (\$360,370) and for seminary formation (\$48,000). This is funding the Archdiocese applies for each year.



(C) The Archdiocese raised \$22,601 in our **northern missions** fund through the **Ash Wednesday Collection**. In 2021, these funds went to repairing the rectory at the Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Chateh. For **2022-2027**, this collection will go towards the **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund**.

(D) As a missionary diocese, the Archdiocese of Grouard McLennan receives **financial support** each year from the **Archdiocese of Toronto** to help fund specific projects in our northern missions. However, in 2021 there was no specific project developed for this funding.



ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCES



Assets, Equity and Liabilities

- (E) The Archdiocese of Grouard McLennan's **investments** include the mortgages of its commercial properties, under UMC Financial Management, and its stocks through Montruso.



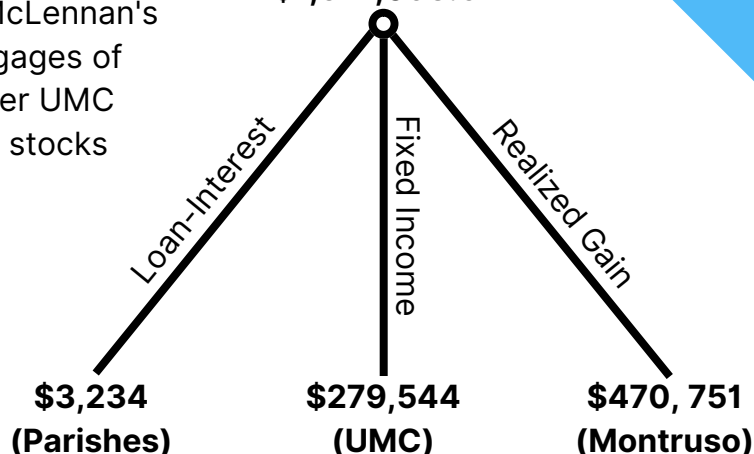
Assets

Current assets	
Cash (in bank)	682,702
Accounts receivable & Loan	<u>588,785</u>
	\$1,271,487
Investments	
Montrusco Bolton Portfolio	5,321,241
UMC Mortgage Portfolio	<u>4,990,263</u>
	\$10,311,504
Capital assets	\$1,782,436
Total assets	\$13,365,427

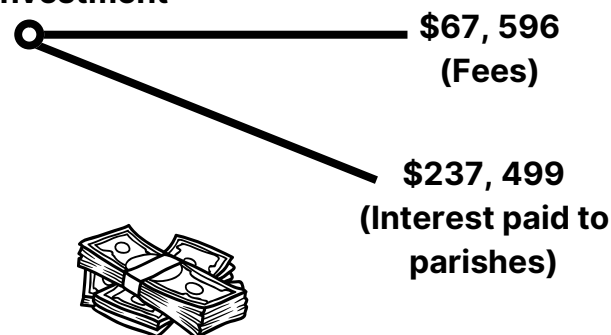
Liabilities

Current liabilities	
Account payable	722,804
Total liabilities	\$722,804

(F) Income Investments \$1,512,093.61



(G) Cost of Investment



Equity

Appropriated equity	
Youth Priest Seminar Fund	6,914
Due to Relate Parties	143,732
Insurance and Building Fund	4,601
Communications Fund	500
Pension Fund - Liability	863,034
Parish Investment	<u>5,908,144</u>
	\$6,926,925
Capital equity	4,728,727
Unappropriated equity	986,971
Total equity	12,642,623
Total liabilities and equity	\$13,365,427



ARCHDIOCESAN FINANCES



Where does this funding go?

Here are some of the areas where our funds are spent and invested:

Archbishop's Ministry

- Salary & benefits (chancery office + Executive Assistant to the Archbishop)
- Travel allowances (Archbishop + Executive Assistant)
- Utilities - Archbishop's house
- Supplies
- Donations to Catholic organizations
- Contingency fund
- Expenses related to the Year of St. Joseph
- Meetings and planning



Vicar General/Chancellor's Ministry

- Salary & benefits
- Travel allowance
- Recruiting of priests (+ enculturation programs and driver's training)
- Supplies
- Interdiocesan Tribunal of Edmonton (marriage annulment)
- Supplies - Archivist & Chancellor
- Contingency Fund - Archives
- Utilities - chancery office



Missions

- Salary & benefits - priests
- Vehicle and travel expenses
- Renovations
- Facility and property expenses

Building and Maintenance (churches, offices and rectories)

- Equipment
- Grounds and facility maintenance
- Utilities
- Supplies



Youth, Family & Life, Faith Formation and Communications Ministry

- Salary & benefits
- Travel expenses
- Supplies
- Events
- Contingency funds
- Magazine materials
- Camera + equipment



Financial Ministry

- Banking Charges
- Salary & Benefits (financial admin, secretary, assistant)
- Travel allowance & expenses
- Contingency fund
- Supplies
- Professional fees (ex. audits)

Priests formation and recruitment

- Training and development
- Education/seminary development



Learn more and read our full financial statements at
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LOOKING AHEAD: OUR WORLD



Looking towards the future...

written by Archbishop Gerard Pettipas, CSsR

The Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan doesn't exist in a bubble. We are engaged in the world around us. We face the same challenges and struggle with the same issues that others in our world do. What is happening elsewhere in other dioceses, in the Holy See, in Canadian society and globally often calls for a response from us as well. And so, our archdiocese is called to do its part in addressing the things that affect our Church, society and world.



The **COVID-19 pandemic** has affected the whole world, and often in drastic ways. The impact was felt severely by some, such as families who lost loved ones from the virus or whose livelihoods were shattered. In church terms, the social and moral impacts were huge, and gave rise to many divisions and ruptured relations within families and communities.

We saw the temporary closing of parish churches, and the more long-standing alienation of parishioners. Our sense of community and unity around our Catholic faith has been wounded; it is obvious that for some, the wound needs time to heal. In the meantime, I look to our pastors and their pastoral councils to gently but confidently draw people back to the pews, for their personal spiritual wellbeing and that of the whole community. This will take time, and will require many initiatives with great perseverance and faith.



Like the Catholic Church around the world, we have prepared for and have now shared in a common experience of "**synodality**" – listening to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, sharing with one another, and "walking together" on the pilgrim way. I have often remarked that synodality is not entirely new in the Church; we have many experiences of its action in our midst. The new element that Pope Francis wanted us to undertake, is to listen to those on the edges, the periphery of life and society. A very common experience of this synodality over the past year was that those on the edge were largely missing from the exercise. They bowed out on this exercise, as we see they've done already on the Church in general. I believe this calls us to take ever new and creative steps to reach out to them. As for our diocese, I will be calling on us to continue adopting the synodal model in the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council and in other diocesan committees.



Pope Francis responded graciously to the Call to Action #58 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in his recent "penitential pilgrimage" to Canada. We heard him and others say that this gesture is "not the end, but the beginning." Indeed. One misguided thought that seems to arise in many places, is that the process of **reconciliation** is primarily for Indigenous people. Not so. Reconciliation calls on us all. Each one of us should be pondering the question: "What am I going to participate in over the next year, to promote reconciliation? What initiative / ceremony / workshop will I be present at, to express my longing for reconciliation?"

Our archdiocese has made a commitment to the **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF)**. We will be announcing the projects that are funded by our contributions as time goes by. The IRF is a five-year project as regards the raising of funds, but we will have seven years in which to disburse the funds. As of this writing, I am assembling a Projects Acceptance Committee made up of Indigenous members from our region, that will approve projects according to the norms set up by the IRF directors.

Further to this, the Catholic Church throughout Canada is committed to "walking together" with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. While the proximity of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to one another varies throughout the country, there is a renewed spirit of unity being promoted by the bishops throughout Canada. In time, I believe that we in this archdiocese will have many occasions to express our common humanity and solidarity as people of peace and faith.



LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING EFFORTS



Addressing upcoming efforts in the archdiocese....

There are a few “projects”, if you will, that we in the archdiocese will be working on over the coming weeks, months and years. Some of these I have kept in my mind for many years; others are more recent developments. I speak of them gently with my consultors and priests from time to time, waiting for the opportune moments for them to take shape and begin to happen. I see myself as a patient man. Rome wasn’t built in a day; nether was the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan.

Let me speak to some of these projects we are working towards – some only in their conceptual stages and some well under way.

St. Bernard Church restoration

The original cathedral for our diocese is still intact, in the village of Grouard. St. Bernard Church was built under the watchful eyes of a newly-ordained Bishop Emile Grouard. He was an artist in his own right, and if you visit that church today you will see figures of saints and angels that he personally painted. A number of years ago we began a restoration of this beautiful and most historic church. We restored the outer shell of the church, consistent with a chosen era in its history; it looks better than ever! Our next task is to tackle the interior, to enhance the original beauty of the walls and ceiling. Beauty comes at a cost of skill and labour. I will be seeking out the skills and labour (and funding) to start on the interior renovations in an orderly fashion in 2023.



Camp St. Martin (CSM)

Our summer camp, named after St. Martin of Tours, the patron saint of our archdiocese, has proven itself to be a popular and inspiring summer program for our youth, young adults and families. It has grown and developed over the years, even with a two-year absence due to the pandemic. A present concern for camp organizers is the venue for CSM, which is Camp Artaban, situated just north of Grimshaw. Camp Artaban is owned by the Anglican Diocese of Athabasca and operated and maintained by an independent board. Our CSM organizers have some concerns about the buildings and structures, which we wish to address with the owner and operator.



LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING EFFORTS



Given their limited resources, we want to see where collaboration might lead us, to the benefit of all. I expect that this collaboration will involve both labour and funding, and anticipate this being in place/complete by June 1, 2023 (in time for the 2023 camp season).

Cathedral Hall

Our cathedral in McLennan is in need of a more functional hall. As the cathedral, this building is used for more than parish activities. We celebrate the Chrism Mass here every Holy Week. Often ordinations to the diaconate and priesthood are celebrated here. The kitchen and washrooms are of primary concern.



We've reached out to those with architectural and building expertise, and received their good advice. Up to now, we've been addressing structural issues that take priority. My hope is that we will have funding in place to implement the required repairs and renovations to the kitchen and washrooms in late 2023.

Archbishop's Appeal

We have a financial problem in our diocese, which at some point we must address. We are not, and never have been, financially self-supporting as a diocese. We receive substantial grants and subsidies from other Catholic entities to keep ourselves afloat. It seems to me that we should be "mature" enough by now to function on our own. Our external funders are also considering us to be beyond mission status.

In the next 6 to 18 months, I will initiate a process to both address immediate needs such as those mentioned above, as well as becoming the mature Body of Christ to which I believe the Holy Spirit is leading us at this point in our history.

Many of you have heard me speak of this in the recent past. COVID has both made this clearer, as well as made it more urgent.

This is not simply a matter of money! More engaging than that, it is about three primary personal resources: time, talent and treasure. It isn't just about the archdiocese or the chancery office either. It's about our parishes, and creating a patrimony that will sustain us into the future.

Stay tuned.

*Archbishop Gerard Pettipas, CSSR
Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan, Sept. 2022*



DONATIONS

*In the parlance of modern business language, our archdiocese is a “non-profit” organization. This means that we rely heavily on donations. **Everything that we have, we have been given.** Whatever activities, opportunities or contributions our archdiocese can provide, it is thanks to the generosity of others that we are able to do so.*

We hope this report has given you a general idea of where our archdiocese stands and where we are going. One of the great challenges of our archdiocese is that geographically we are immensely large - one of the largest in Canada in fact - but in population we are quite small. It is with great reliance on the remarkable talent, dedication and charity of our people that we are able to get anything done. The Lord promised to send His Holy Spirit to teach us, guide us and protect us through the trials of life. We can say with gratitude that the Lord has blessed us greatly through the many challenges the archdiocese has faced over the years.



How to donate to the Archdiocese

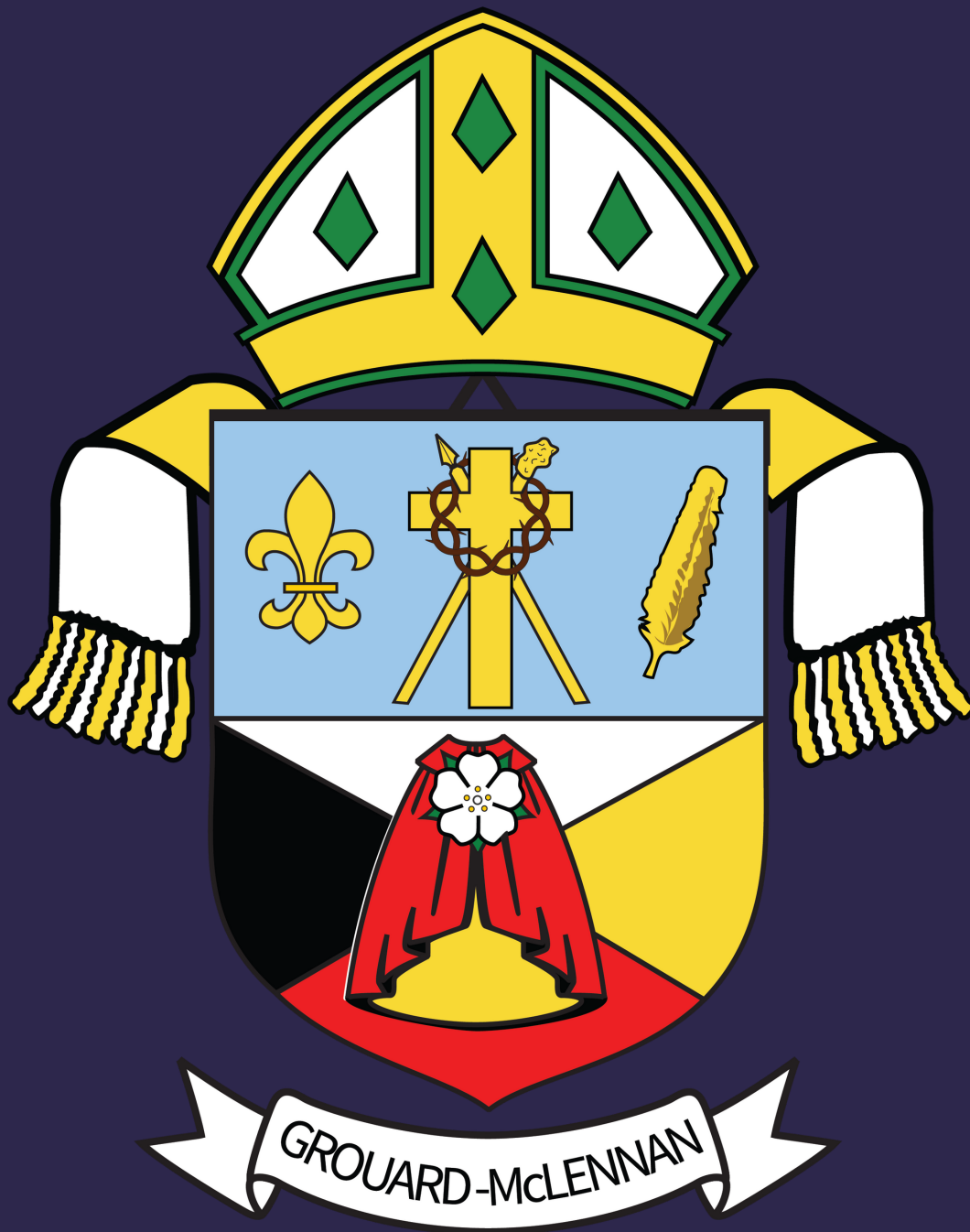
If you would like to donate to the Archdiocese of Grouard-McLennan, there are many ways for you to do so.

Your local parish and church community needs your support first and foremost. You can donate to your parish through the Sunday collection, through arranging to give donations any time with your pastor or parish secretary, and you can donate to your church online.

By clicking the bright red **“DONATE”** button on our website – **www.archgm.ca** – you will be able to donate both to your local church and to the archdiocese. All options are available and listed for you there. You can also contact the archdiocese and specify if there is something particular you would like your donation to go towards.

If are interested in offering your own skills and input by **getting involved with any of our councils, committees, events or other efforts**, please contact the archdiocese at **780-532-9766** or e-mail **comdirector.agm@outlook.com** and we will help you get in contact with the appropriate person. A contact e-mail for each of our councils and committees is also provided on our website at **archgm.ca/councils-committees**

May God bless you and your family over the coming year!



*This report was produced by the Archdiocese of
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