



Diocese of St. Paul

June 30, 2021

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is with a sad heart that we learn the historic parish church of Morinville burned to the ground early this morning.

The pastor, Fr Trini, says that at 11:00 last night after watering his garden and praying at the Grotto beside the church everything appeared normal. But after 3:00 am this morning, he was awakened by a loud noise and then saw flames in the basement of the church.

The firefighters managed to protect the rectory from the flames but had to extinguish the flames on the roof of the old convent behind the church. Both the rectory and convent were evacuated but are intact.

My office has contacted our insurance company and the adjusters are expected on site later today. I must add that at this point, we do not know the cause of the fire and therefore we should resist any speculation about the cause of the fire as we await reports from the Morinville Fire department and our insurance company.

Please join me in prayers and support for our brothers and sisters of Morinville parish as they grieve the loss of their very beautiful and historic parish church.

"Blessed are those that mourn for they shall be comforted"

+ Paul Terrio

+ Paul Terrio
Bishop of St. Paul