



The countries of origin may change, but the refugees continue to seek asylum in Canada. See page 4.

me
too

Practicing Safe Church in today's world. See page 11.



Allan Harrington, founder of Red Urban Project, Indigenous activist and teacher leading traditional spiritual dance at Kanehsatake Powwow. Photo by: Dorothée Dc

Synod 2018 - Finding Truth an ongoing reconciliation of peoples and thought

BRIAN PERRON
The Rev Brian Perron is Incumbent, Epiphany, Verdun

At Montreal Synod 2018 we will gather people together to help find truth, understanding, peace and, yes, reconciliation. Mark the dates; Thursday evening June 14th to Saturday June 17th. This is a conference Synod.

The conference, encompassing a workshop atmosphere, is calling on expertise stretching from our own communities to across the country. While reconciliation begins at home, our ultimate goal is for a municipal, provincial and national impact.

We have invited community and civic leaders committed to indigenous understanding. Together, we will discover how

we can eliminate the segregating terms of us and them and replace them with words like we and our until they become natural and unifying.

Seeking a national perspective, the diocese has invited Reverend Dr. Martin Brokenleg, a priest and teacher with a message of truth that spans from our nation to the world. Through and from his experi-

ence, Martin seeks to sustain cultural healing and resilience.

In this materialistic, fast-paced culture, many children have broken circles, and the fault line usually starts with damaged relationships. Having no bonds to significant adults, they chase counterfeit belongings through gangs, cults, and promiscuous relationships. Some are so alienated that they have abandoned the pursuit of human attachment. Guarded, lonely, and distrustful, they live in despair or strike out in rage. Families, schools, and youth organizations are being challenged to form new "tribes" for all of our children so there will be no "psychological orphans." ~Martin Brokenleg

Imagine looking into our lives from the point of view of our youth. With a fresh and enthusiastic perspective we can develop new and compelling ways to work and reconcile with one another. Possibly, as we look to reconcile with our indigenous neighbours, we may find love and understanding for all of our neighbours, even those characters we share a pew with on a Sunday morning.

However, once this retrospective has given us direction, We will need to seek ways to reconcile, beyond the pew, into the society where we have been called to live, work and provide support? The straw to make the bricks of reconcilia-

tion has been provided to us. The opportunities for reconciliation are being presented to us, now it is up to us to become aware and align our church community with our civic and social authorities. Truth and Reconciliation is not just happening in the church but from and within our municipalities, and each borough of Montréal.

Synod 2108 is bringing together speakers who represent our communities; elected councillors and city employees, activists and educators of culture and tradition; each representative challenging one another to reconcile through developing programs with and between cultures, for the indigenous, for all peoples.

Marie-Josée Parent was Montreal's first indigenous woman elected to city councillor. Marie-Josée was previously general director of Destinations, and pushed forward with the committee which worked on creating the new City of Montreal flag that now includes the Tree of Peace symbol at its center. She entered politics to continue her work of reconciliation knowing that by committing herself as a councillor she would have the tools to do more.

"I do feel a great deal of responsibility to have our issues heard at city hall and talk about

continued on page 8

No one left out in the cold

St Michael's Mission Warming Center offers warmth for body & soul

**GEORGE GREENE
ROSALIE SHEWCHUK**

For the third consecutive year, St. Michael's Mission has opened the doors of its Warming Centre. To date, it is the only one of its kind in Montreal.

Thanks, in part, to the generosity of those who gave to the 2016 Bishop's Action Appeal, the Centre has been open seven nights a week, from 9 in the evening to 6 in the morning, from December 1 to April 30, 2018.

In prior years, St. Michael's "Halte Chaleur" was only open when temperatures were extreme (below -20 C). Last year that meant approximately

25 nights; which fell far short of meeting the needs of Montreal's homeless population. Many among them refuse to sleep in the shelters and missions that offer beds for various reasons, being that, once they have been accepted for the night, they cannot leave. Adhering to this requirement is just not possible for many of the clients who come to us.

So, afraid that they will be found and forcibly brought to a shelter, many homeless choose to remain "hidden" in the city, thereby risking severe frostbite and resulting complications. Death while sleeping outside in winter is an ever-present risk for those living on the streets.

St. Michael's offers its clients the option of leaving the Centre at any time during the night,

and returning if they wish. In offering them this choice, clients feel listened to and respected. This trust is a critical element in avoiding situations that could lead to crises for them.

On any given night, the Warming Centre welcomes an average of 95 people (5 percent of whom are women), and that number increases depending on the weather conditions. In other words, the Centre is filled to capacity.

It takes a village to serve this many people, and St. Michael's is no exception. The City of Montreal, The Centre intégré universitaire de santé et services sociaux du Centre-sud, The SPVM (Montreal Police Service), and street workers have collaborated in this venture and help assure that services are



Clients queue outside St Michael's Mission

available for our clients.

The Old Brewery Mission also offers a shuttle bus service at regular intervals throughout the night, picking up clients on the street who wish to come to our Centre, or, should they decide to accept the offer of an available bed at a mission, bringing them there before the shelters close for the night.

Our clients fall outside what are considered the normal pa-

rameters of society. As a result, they often feel rejected and abandoned, and they truly are, by many. Recalcitrant behavior is not unusual for them, given the stressful situation in which they live. Clients demonstrating this behavior are seen by one of the two crisis intervention workers on duty all night, and are referred to St. Michael's permanent daytime crisis work-

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Photo by Janet Best

Bishop's Message

Change is happening Let's embrace it!

There's a joke about how many church people it takes to change a light bulb. "Change!!!!?", says one of them. "Who said anything about change?"

Yet change is all around us. On my way to work, I see some buildings being torn down and others put up. Roads and expressways are being reworked for our present day needs. Venerable old stores and restaurants close, and new ones spring up which are better suited to the customers' needs, tastes and languages.

We know that businesses that fail to adapt to changing conditions are destined to perish. But even those that are in the forefront of change are constantly wondering what the next challenge and opportunity will be....

Many of us have witnessed enormous change in our lives – from telephone "party lines" which served several families to the abandonment of landlines in favour of cell phones. Now there is Internet, Facebook, Instagram, etc. Who would have imagined shopping online and the decline of the postal service? Can you imagine not having a credit card or a debit card? (Although many of us can remember only having cash or cheques).

Through all the changes around us, we have often relied on our churches to stay the same. And yet, even as we have tried to hold onto things "as they were", change has crept in.

Some of the time change has been as a result of demographics, and with it a decline in human or financial resources. Sometimes it has been because we have lost our former sense of mission. Other times, the change has come because of a renewed mission, when we have seized new opportunities to live out our vocation and our excitement at the opportunity to serve Christ.

In each of these cases, a feeling of loss and sadness has ensued for some, and maybe all of us. Things have changed, and we feel the loss.

In my own ministry, I can recall so many changes. For instance, in my youth, women were not allowed into the sanctuary except as the altar guild, with hats and gloves on. They certainly were not servers or clergy! The people who were easily welcomed into our congregations were likely already Anglicans. Our programs revolved around keeping things running in the parish and, if possible, doing good deeds in the neighbourhood or in the mission field abroad.

In those days we didn't think about our mission as Christians...except to keep on doing what we had been taught to do. If our faith and devotion grew, most of us were not trained to share that faith with others. When the Lambeth

Conference announced that the 1990s would be the Decade for Evangelism, many people shrank away at the thought (even though most of our congregations were already seeing decline)!

That's a far cry from the early church, which excitedly tried to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. The risen Jesus commissioned his disciples:

"Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age." Matthew 28: 18-20 The Message

As I visit around the diocese, I see some congregations that are barely hanging on. An exhausted skeleton crew tries to continue to minister in the same old way in a place that has changed all around it. Once a vital and sustainable ministry, it has not been able to adapt to the changes. Where we used to plant churches and expect that people would find us and come to us on their own, we are now faced with a community around us that does not have a need for us or does not understand the value of the Good News about Jesus.

Frankly, in many cases our reputation is as an insular club that does not want others to join us as members!

I rejoice that the mission of Christ is still the same! What has changed is our ability to transmit it. There are so many options for renewed mission and vigour. Here are a few, and I believe that you will come up with others:

- Some congregations are discussing merging together to share their strengths and better pursue the mission in strategic locations.
- Some are trying new ways to reach out into the community:
- Messy Church,
- Services which include French prayers and readings,
- Alpha courses,
- Natural Church Development,
- New forms of making disciples,
- Holding gatherings in coffee shops or pubs,
- Using social media to reach out and to allow people to find us and join us.

I believe that our baptismal promise to share "the good news of God in Christ" means that we have to be as creative as possible and to face change as God's opportunity to grow as disciples. In the Christian life, as in the natural world, the only alternative to growth is death....

+ Many

Join the conversation

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for church communities

Monday 6:30-7:30pm via Zoom contact imatthews@montreal.anglican.ca for the link

DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL

Welcoming our new dean Installation on March 11th



In early February, Christ Church Cathedral welcomed The Reverend Bertrand Olivier as the new Incumbent and Dean of Montreal.

Bertrand comes to us from All Hallows by the Tower in London, where he served as Vicar for over 12 years. Prior to that position, he was Vicar of St. Barnabas, Southfields. He has been trustee of a number of charitable and social justice

organizations, a governor of St. Dunstan's College, and an elected member of the General Synod of the Church of England.

To learn more about Bertrand, please see: www.montrealcathedral.ca/2017/10/bishop-appoints-new-dean-and-rector-for-christ-church-cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral's parishioners are looking forward to this new leadership and the exciting changes that are sure to follow.

The installation of The Rev'd Bertrand Olivier as the Cathedral's new Dean and Rector is being planned by the Diocese of Montreal for Sunday, March 11th, 4pm, followed by a reception in Fulford Hall.

Please come and join us in welcoming Bertrand to Montreal.

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The Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink

Q&A with Dio Principal; we need to deepen our relationship with the diocese, while growing beyond it...

The Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink became principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College (“Dio”) on August 1, 2017. Born and baptized in Vancouver, Jesse grew up in Massachusetts and was ordained in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts in the Episcopal Church. He comes to Montreal by way of Cambridge, England where he has been living, working, and studying for the last five years. He answered some of our questions about his work and his vision for the college.

Why is theological education important to you?

We hear the word discipleship a lot in the church these days—and for good reason. Disciple comes from a word that means “to learn.” As Christians, we are called to go deeper into our faith and learn more about the love of God for us, for one another, and for the whole created world.

Theological education is vital to the church because it is in theological education that we are led deeper into growth

in discipleship and can grow together into full maturity as followers of Jesus Christ. Without theological education, the church can’t possibly hope to make disciples of Jesus.

I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel widely in the churches of the Anglican Communion. Wherever I have gone—Ni-

Theological education is vital to the church because it is in theological education that we are led deeper into growth in discipleship and can grow together into full maturity as followers of Jesus Christ.

geria, Rwanda, China, South Sudan—I have always sought out theological colleges. I find in theological colleges a wonderful combination of commitment to the church and its mission but also a healthy willingness to be thoughtfully critical of the church and think faithfully about how the church

needs to continue to change to proclaim the gospel of Christ. I want to be part of that energy, that critique, and that thinking and that’s why I, personally, have long felt called to the ministry of theological education.

What attracted you to Dio specifically?

Dio has a number of strengths. We have a rich history and tradition stretching back to 1873. I love walking into our chapel and feeling the prayers of so many people in that place over so many years. We have a number of important and well established relationships—including with McGill and the other colleges of the Montreal School of Theology—that allow us to offer a wide variety of programs. But we also have a fair amount of flexibility that means we can adapt our programs as the church continues to change into what God is calling us to be in this generation.

What are your goals for the college in the next few years?

I believe that Dio has an opportunity to grow in two directions. First, I think that we can deepen our relationships across the diocese. It is a great benefit to a diocese to have a theological college within it. We send our students out as interns in local churches and our programs can enrich people nearby. So I want to learn more about how the college can support and enrich the ministries of this diocese. But I also think that the college needs to grow beyond the diocese. With our

low costs, flexibility, and strong relationships, we have a great opportunity to attract students from beyond this diocese and this province. So I’ll be working to raise the profile of the college within Canada and beyond to continue to recruit new students so that they can learn about mission and ministry in the urban, secular, and pluralistic context of Montreal.

More significantly, we need to demonstrate to people that investing in theological education is of benefit to the church.

What are the biggest opportunities and obstacles for the college?

Like many other institutions in the church, we confront serious medium- to long-term financial challenges. If we keep going the way the college has been going for the last many years, we will work our way out of business. That is to no one’s benefit. More significantly, we need to demonstrate to people that investing in theological education is of benefit to the church. Research shows that people who prepare for priestly ministry in a residential setting (as opposed to a distance-setting) are more likely to continue to be in ministry five, ten, and twenty years after ordination. There is an upfront cost but it pays off in the long run for the church. When lay people have taken our courses, they have consistently told me

how enriching they have found it and how it has transformed their membership in church. We need more people like that who are willing to take a risk and deepen their faith and grow in discipleship.

As the landscape of theological education changes in Canada and North America, there are great opportunities as well. Our combination of tradition and academic rigour, combined with our flexibility and adaptability, puts us in a good position, I believe, to thrive in the current climate of theological education. In order to do that, we’ll need the support of many people in this diocese and beyond who are convinced that a thriving church puts theological education at its centre.

How have you found Montreal? (other than cold!)

After college, I spent a couple of years living in rural Alaska so I’m delighted to have weather that reminds me of that time in my life and to live a place where outdoor activities in the winter are so commonplace. I’ve also really enjoyed getting to know some of the diversity of places in this diocese—from the Eastern Townships to the Ottawa River to border communities near New York to the Laurentians—and look forward to more exploration as the seasons continue to change.



Nicholas Forte
new incumbent of
St. George’s Church,
Chateauguy

The Rev Nick Forte at his induction, January 7, 2018. Photo: Tim Smart.

NICKI HRONJAK

The Rev Nicholas Forte was inducted as incumbent of St. George’s, Chateauguy in January of this year.

Forte, who was born in Georgetown, Guyana, moved to Ontario when he was a baby. He grew up in the small bedroom community of Pickering, Ontario. Raised in a Roman Catholic family, it was there that he first developed a love for God, prayer and the religion which was built upon both.

According to Forte, “A religious life is the only life that has ever really made sense to me... My spiritual practices growing up were not necessarily based around going to church or being part of a prayerful or even active community, rather, I grew up saying the ro-

sary. Not as an obligation, but as a solace; from bullying, from illness and brokenness within my family and in the society around me, and from illness within myself. It was a way for me to ground myself in the knowledge that something greater than suffering existed, and existed in an deeply intimate way.

...the rosary taught me that the love of God that is spoken of so much, is the yearning to heal those who yearn to be healed. And so the rosary, and later the Eucharist, and still later all of the Sacraments, became for me a way to give voice to that deep longing brokenness of the world, and the urgent, imminent love of God seeking to break into the weary walls of the heart of the world. And so the Sacraments, both those ordained by the Church, and those lived out in people’s daily experi-

ence, are where I believe I have been called and where I belong.”

Nicholas was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons in May of 2015, in Trinity College Chapel, at the University of Toronto. He then moved to the Gaspésie to begin his ministry. A few months later, on November 15, 2015 he was ordained to the Priesthood. He later became Priest-in-charge of the two parishes of New Carlisle and Chaleur Bay, which consisted of five churches spread across five different towns.

Though he enjoyed his time there, he eventually found it a bit isolating. “What attracted me to this diocese was the opportunity to find community amongst colleagues and friends living relatively closer together. Also, being in the greater Montreal area, there is the ability to engage more deeply in the causes that are closest to my heart, from mental health care and advocacy, to solidarity around issues of race and marginalization.”

There will be challenges in his new role, of course. Among them is to answer the question of what Christian discipleship look like here (St George’s).

Nicholas is anxious to discover, “What are people passionate about, what are they anxious about, what are they angry or joyful about? And how can we, as followers and lovers of Christ, live our Christian vocation in a way that infuses those passions and responds to those anxieties? How can we both build and discover the Kingdom here where we are? ... challenges are so much more possible when it’s a “we”, rather than an “I”.

Remember - Vestry Returns are due March 19th!

2018 Vestry Reports, 2017 Financial Statements and 2017 Parish Statistics are due by Monday, March 19th. Returns will need to be completed on-line and each parish has received their own unique login information for ParishOS.ca.

If your parish priest has not received the information, please contact the Executive Archdeacon Robert Camara for more information.

West Island Churches to merge

ROBERT CAMARA

The Ven Robert Camara is Diocesan Vicar General

On Sunday, January 14, 2018, the Parish of St. Andrew & St. Mark and the Church of the Resurrection each held a Special Vestry Meeting to vote on a proposal to merge the two parishes.

Bishop Mary noted in a letter, read to both congregations before the vote, that the choice to merge was a chance to become a strong parish, to grow their mission into the future and to turn their challenges into opportunities.

Parishioners of both parishes were also reminded of a sermon preached on December 15, 1985 by Canon Jenö Köhner on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the new Church of the Resurrection.

Canon Köhner in speaking about the new building said, “... people can be so in love with a building that it becomes God, and not the empowering tool of God.

The church building is a tool, an instrument, through which God equips us for service in the world. A church building in the last resort is a bit like a gas station, a hospital, an inn for wayfarers. What counts, what matters is the people coming in, and that they should go out lighter, stronger, than when they came in. That they may have an ardent love for Jesus and desire to love Him and live with Him forever.”

Believing that this choice presented great opportunity to strengthen the ministry they do and to glorify God with our resources, both communities voted overwhelmingly in favour of merging the two parishes. They will, in the future, choose a new name for their community, but the first service of the newly merged parish will be Easter Sunday in Dorval.

Your prayers are requested for these two communities in this period of transition and as they search for a new incumbent to lead the new community.



March 5, 2017 - Hemmingford, Quebec : A migrant mother from Yemen leads her family across the Canadian border on Roxham Road. ©Darren Ell

Refugee Claimants are the New Reality

Action Réfugiés Montréal

In the last few years, many Canadians have become much more aware of the refugee situation in the world. This includes the reality of people crossing into Canada on foot. A year ago they were people from various African nations.

In the summer of 2017 it was Haitians. Now, Nigerians are more numerous. None of those countries are stable.

At Action Réfugiés Montréal we have been supporting asylum seekers for over twenty years; accompanying them through a complex and challenging bureaucratic Canadian

process and resettling refugees to Montreal through our private sponsorship program. We have helped refugee claimants in Canada who are now permanent residents sponsoring relatives through our program. We have sponsored refugees whose family members have arrived in Canada and made

refugee claims. These include Syrians, Eritreans and Burundians among others.

In 1996 there were 22 million persons of concern to the United Nations Refugee Agency. There are now more than 65 million refugees and displaced persons in the world, many of whom will never arrive in a country of safe and durable protection.

Seeking asylum is a fundamental right guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Some cross borders, some travel with valid visas, and some put their lives in the hands of smugglers who transport them through often long perilous journeys. We have only to recall the number

Some cross borders, some travel with valid visas, and some put their lives in the hands of smugglers who transport them through often long perilous journeys.

of boats crossing the Mediterranean Sea to Lampedusa or the vast numbers of Syrians crossing into Greece and other European countries out of fear for their safety.

These many paths to asylum are taken by the refugee claimants who arrive in Canada, but also by the refugees we sponsor

who travel by whatever means necessary to the countries from which we sponsor them, which include not only countries like Lebanon, Sudan and Uganda but also Brazil, Malaysia, and Russia. We have met persons who travelled dangerously through 10 or more countries seeking asylum to finally arrive in Canada, a country ready to welcome them and provide protection.

Countries in the developing world provide support to refugees at a level disproportionate to their resources. While Canadians can be proud that we have welcomed over 40,000 Syrian refugees in over 360 communities across Canada, (and thousands from other countries), this total pales compared to Turkey, Pakistan and Iran, who have been hosting 2.5 million, 1.6 million and 979,000 refugees respectively.

People on the move seeking protection is the new reality and will likely be a predominant political issue for many years. We are pleased to count on support from many church partners for whom welcoming newcomers to our land is a priority and a duty.

For more on the work of Action Réfugiés Montréal go to www.actionr.org.

Mission Shower Brings Dignity



LOU HACHEY

Lou Hachey is the Director of Mile End Mission

Imagine not being able to shower on a regular basis. Not because you don't want to, but because you don't have a shower, towels, cupboards or closets to put your soap, shampoo and change of clothes in.

As a member of the mission put it, "If you're like most people reading this, showers are most probably NOT something you actively track. However, if you were homeless - living between a rock and a hard place - sooner, rather than later the fundamental necessities of life would become undeniable, (such as)... washing yourself. When you need to."

Enter Lori Olson; angel of "getting-it-done". Lori's empathy for the homeless' lack of access to the basic need for cleanliness spurred her into action. After working tirelessly

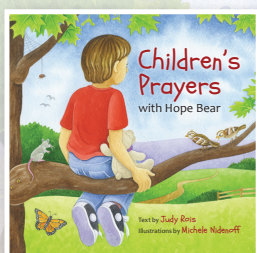
for almost two years, and as the mission was entering its 26th year, her quest became a reality - a brand new, fully-functional hot shower at the Mile End Mission!

Getting this done was a true labor of love. According to Lori; "With a grant from Hockey Helps the Homeless and also a donation from a long-time supporter of the mission, we were finally able to complete this important project. We are so thankful to everyone involved."

She further explained; "This will help the growing number of homeless people who are regular members of the mission - in the Mile End area there are over 50 homeless people and at least 25 are regular members of our mission."

Now Drop-In program members now have the choice to shower in their own neighborhood and in the comfort of the Mission where they feel safe and at home.

Mile End Mission's new shower is available to the drop-in program members.



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Notable

The Lay Readers' Annual Retreat at Manoir D'Youville, April 27th to 29th with the Right Reverend Susan Moxley, retired bishop of Nova Scotia and PEI. To register, contact Ann Cumyn, acumyn@sympatico.ca

Lay Readers' Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, May 23rd in Fulford Hall, 5:30 pm with dinner.

Conference Synod at St Jax Thurs-Sat, June 14th-16th

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our community in action

Cocktail on Friday evening
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DIOCESE ANGLICAN MONTREAL



Bishop Mary presents Les Blackman with his Lay Reader's license, November 18, 2017. Photo by Janet Best.



Charles Goddard listens to the presentation. Photo by Janet Best.



Lay Readers take a break at their Study Day. Photo by Janet Best.



Bishop Bruce Myers led the Lay Readers' Study Day, November 18, 2017. Photo by Janet Best.

Lay Readers' Study Day

Life-long learning reaches far beyond schools and colleges. It is inherent in our daily lives through the experiences that we encounter. We all grow in our roles, but that growth is enhanced when we attend planned events that take us beyond our immediate surroundings.

The Lay Readers are privileged to have two major

opportunities for growth, their Spring Retreat and the fall Study Day that precedes their commissioning.

The Study Day and Service of Commissioning for Lay Readers was held on Saturday, November 18, 2017, at the Church of St John the Baptist, Pointe-Claire.

At the service, one-year, three-year and Emeritus licenc-

es were issued and blue scarves were presented to new lay readers. The guest speaker was The Right Rev. Bruce Myers, Bishop of the Diocese of Quebec.

Bishop Myers helped us increase our understanding of ecumenism. More on his presentation will appear in the Lay Reader's Spring 2018 newsletter. Go to layreaders.org.



Yvonne Wakeland and Bishop Mary at the Lay Readers' Commissioning. Photo by Janet Best.

Ministering to the Poor: Lay Readers' Workshop at Mile End Mission

BARBARA WHYTE

What's another word for Ministering? Nourishing. And that's just what the folks at the Mile End Mission have been doing for more than 26 years.

On October 28, 2017, in a twist of perception, the community members of this storefront mission nourished approximately 20 lay readers and lay readers-in-training.

How you may ask? By sharing with us, themselves, their stories, their realities, their food and their spirit. On that beautiful sunny autumn Saturday we were equals.

The workshop began with us expressing, through drawing or collage, our understanding of poverty. Who are the poor? What does it mean to be poor?

We presented our responses to these questions to the other participants. We then separated into 4 groups and explored the realities of living on a low

limited income.

Our group discovered that it is impossible to live on \$628 a month. After paying rent of \$340 there was only \$288 left for food, clothes, transportation and staples! For sure there was nothing left for emergencies and what about pleasures? Could you live on that?

Without help, without the services of the Mile End Mission this person, and others like him, could not survive.

We learned that the Mission provides meals, a food bank, clothes, Internet time, assistance with paper work (for welfare, health care cards) and perhaps most important, a sense of family and spiritual support.

At the close of our time together we shared the Eucharist and read the familiar passage from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 25:

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I

was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

One might think that we were the ones doing the giving. However Rev. Roslyn Macgregor asked us "What have you received today? Or who are you in this passage and how has the Mile End Mission ministered to you? Because here we are all equals...."

An interesting twist wouldn't you say? And it made us all think. I, for one, realized that I had been a prisoner...of my perceptions of poverty.

So, although the workshop was called: "Ministering to the Poor" it turns out it could of have been called "How we minister to each other, for we are all equal in the eyes of God!"

Checkout the Mile End Mission website for more information. www.mileendmission.org



Lay readers create artwork to depict poverty at a Mile End Mission workshop.

Around the Diocese



The Bishop celebrates the confirmation of Eric Klempan (right) and Carol Ann Carr (left) at the Church of the Resurrection last December while The Ven Ralph Leavitt looks on.



The Ven Jim Bennett at his desk.



The Rev Josee Lemoine at her installation on November 5, 2017 in Ste-Agathe. Photo by Janet Best.



The 3 Nicks: Nick Brotherhood, Nick Forte and Nick Pang enjoy a moment at Rev Forte's induction, January 7, 2018. Photo by Tim Smart.



Merlyne Howard and friend Lorna Knight, who shared part of her life story with the parishioners of St Lawrence Lasalle.



The Rev Nick Pang celebrates with the Rev Jane Bell at her ordination to the presbyterate November 5, 2017 in Ste-Agathe. Photo by Janet Best.



St Peter's Choir from *Nine Lessons & Carols* at St Peter's TMR, December 18, 2017, under the direction of St Peter's Music Director, Stephen Mullin, MMus.



Sisters of Saint John the Divine's Advent Quiet Day was held on December 2nd, 2017 at St. Stephens, Lachine. It was led by Rev Shirley Smith for Associates and friends. Back Row: Mary, Rev Shirley, Merlyne, Maggie, Joan. Front Row: Grace, Gayna, Irene, Dorothy. Photo by Ginny.



Confirmation of Elizabeth Rempersad and (second from left) and Amanda Van Oort (third from right), December 3rd, 2017 at Christ Church Cathedral. Amy Hamiton, Bishop Mary, Linda Borden Taylor and Jean-Daniel Williams join the candidates. Photo by Janet Best.



Bishop of Zululand in South Africa, the Right Rev Monument Makhanya and his wife Sizakele with Bishop Mary and Rev Graham Singh during their visit to St Jax.



Lee-Ann Matthews and Norm Starkey celebrate another Godly Play Service at St Thomas Church, NDG.



The Ven Robert Camara and the Rev Gwenda Wells at the induction of Nicholas Forte, January 7, 2018. Photo by Tim Smart.

Synod 2018

continued from page 1

our history, have it recognized and have a space where we can talk frankly about our common history and what we can do to live better together, today," ~ Marie-Josée

Guy Lacroix, counsellor and advisor in community development for Verdun, is passionate about the wellbeing of those he lives and works with. He has a particular passion for the Indigenous and is active on many boards and committees called to care for their neighbours. Seeking a greater reconciliation from community, Guy participates in conferences that inform and encourage others to get involved in the personal, public and civic transformation of their communities.

Dialog and understanding comes to fruition when we allow the hurt to voice and lead the discussion. Synod 2018 offers an opportunity to engage compatible ways of understanding with a dual perspective. Reconciliation also comes from understanding the restorative perspective already happening within the other party. The indigenous communities are seeking an understanding of culture and balance, and in this there is healing. Leaders who are part of this cultural awareness have realized the healing powers of revisiting traditions lost and stolen, and of restoring heritage and custom to a place of honour.

Language and the meaning of words, the way they were intended, rather than what they have become is so important in reconciliation. Ka'nahsohon Kevin Deer has for over thirty years been a spokesperson for language and heritage. Kevin, who teaches Mohawk custom, has spoken to the United Na-



Martin Brokenleg



Kevin Deer



Al Harrington



Annie Ittoshat



Guy Laroix



Marie-Josée Parent

Our 2018 Synod Speakers

tions and actively participated in many ceremonies with the city of Montreal collectively welcoming our newly elected leaders and the unveiling of Montreal's new flag. Kevin believes the time is now for a realization of prophecies and he is confident we have been given a second chance to share with one another.

"We're at a crucial time in history where indigenous wisdom of this land now is rising up. And what's happening is prophecies fulfilling, and it says 'a time would come where we would help our brothers and sisters that came into our house to wipe their tears so that they could see different, open their ears so they could hear different, to remove that lump in their throat so that they can speak and together and we would

put our best collective thinking forward for the benefit of those future generations coming." ~ Ka'nahsohon Deer

Culture, a culture of peace and care for the earth, depends so much on the heritage of a language. A communication which flows with a spiritual essence, one that derives understanding itself from a comprehension of this land, understood through a reconciliation of creator, of earth and of mankind. And from the language we discover the cultural practices of worship and dance, of prayers and elders, of a hierarchy of respect; a recognition that brings meaning and purpose to life.

Al Harrington is founder of the Red Urban Project, an education initiative to teach

Indigenous and non-Indigenous people about Aboriginal culture and history. Harrington who organizes the city's annual Powwow explained that there has long been a thirst for a powwow in the city. It's an opportunity for Indigenous people to meet and introduce their songs, stories, regalia and dances to others. Al has organized and held feasts, community dinners and even a round dance at Epiphany-Verdun.

"To me, we should be able to share our First Nations culture through education," said Harrington. *"I believe we should all be coming together and working together."* ~ Al Harrington

From the theory to the practical, the rubber meets the road. All around us are opportunities for reconciliation,

the great metanoia, the turning around and coming back to a loving peace in Christ. It begins by knowing the person in your pew, in your community, and those we often do not see, the ones who are traveling or are actually homeless. Seeing those who, for whatever reason, are away from the comfort and stability of house and family and are now in search of that oasis, that home away from home.

Our own Rev Annie Ittoshat knows firsthand the reconciliation that can take place in bringing sanctuary to the homeless in her ministry throughout Montreal. Annie brings reconciliation to the streets of Montreal, to Ullivik, "a place to stay or wait" for those traveling south for medical attention, and now a new presence in Verdun with Epiphany. She seeks out, visits and connects with the indigenous. Annie has compelling stories of reconciliation with an understanding that breaks down the barriers that seclude and shut out others from a life in community.

We are living in a time when all peoples must come together, for unity is solidarity; one a coming together that stirs and creates a passion for impact and urgency. Together, in collaboration and in partnership we can allow for Truth to rise and educate, allowing for Reconciliation to bind one another in love...

So, mark the date, the third weekend in June, 14 - 16th. Register yourself, your church members and friends to attend, participate and be part of reconciliation through experiencing truth, one solution at a time.

Anglican Papers in Peril

The Council of General Synod (COGS) has created the Anglican Journal & Communications Joint Working Group who has been tasked with examining the issue of how we communicate across the Church, at both the national and diocesan levels.

An important part of the work being conducted by that working group is to consider options and to make recommendations regarding the future of print publications in the Anglican Church of Canada, at both the national and diocesan levels.

There has been an initial report from the working group made to COGS and there are to be some surveys done by the working group to gather reaction from the wider Anglican Church membership in Canada.

What has not been made clear to those at COGS or to those asked to fill in a survey is that if the Anglican Journal no longer is produced in print form then most of not all of the diocesan papers will no longer be produced. The reason is that the cost of the distribution of the Anglican Journal and your

diocesan paper is shared, reducing the costs to both. In addition all the papers are printed at the same printer and the size of that contract results in a lower price than any diocesan paper or the Anglican Journal could obtain on its own.

The Anglican Editors Association asked last June to be a part of the working group but was refused. It is our opinion that the Anglican Journal is widely viewed as an instrument of unity for the Canadian church and helping to fulfill the first Mark of Mission in proclaiming the Good News. It is vital that it continues to provide Anglicans across the country with inspiration and information from and about both General Synod and the dioceses.

Members of the Canadian church need to remain connected to the life of the national church and activities happening throughout the country. This exchange of information inspires both parishes and dioceses with ideas from outside as well as helping to overcome the isolation and congregation-

al nature of some parishes and regions. The Journal also provides an important vehicle for the distribution of the PWRDF tri-annual paper Under the Sun and the Christmas Gift Guide.

The diocesan papers link parishes across their dioceses, provide a vehicle for spreading news into each household and are a way for the Bishop to communicate with parishioners in each and every community.

The Anglican Editors Association is seriously concerned that the readership of our diocesan papers will not get a chance to voice their opinion on the importance of their diocesan paper and the Anglican Journal to them. The editors are not in a position to hold a national survey of our readership however **we are inviting you, our readers, to send letters to the editor of your diocesan papers regarding the future of the print editions of your diocesan paper and the Anglican Journal. email: editor@montreal.anglican.ca**

Looking forward to hearing from you.

WHAT HAPPENS AT SUPPER CLUB?

- Biblical themes
- Personal reflections
- Meaningful sharing
- Creative explorations
- Networking
- Community Building
- Fellowship
- Family Friendly
- Inclusive

See you at the next Supper Club on Monday, March 26
www.montreal.anglican.ca

SUPPER CLUB

FOOD FOR HEART AND SOUL

WILDERNESS THEME



DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL



Annie Ittoshat and Brian Perron pose for a selfie together.

inuit|EPIPHANY a place to settle a place of peoples

BRIAN PERRON
The Rev Brian Perron is Incumbent, Epiphany, Verdun

Imagine, as a diocese, continuing in reconciliation and continuing to let truth heal, that we will begin seeing opportunities more far reaching than we could hope or imagine. The bridges are in place, allowing us to journey community to community with missional thinking that facilitates social service associations and civic councils.

And imagine that this awareness, this coming together, involves Epiphany, that red brick church with the great kitchen on the corner of Wellington. As we collectively seek to work alongside the Inuit, 'the people', we realize that there are interwoven associations already working in and pursuing the same direction.

Since the Reverend Annie Ittoshat began working from Epiphany, we've seen a ministry develop that reaches deep in solidarity within the

extended community of Indigenous peoples, while Verdun becomes the critical point in the city.

Rev Annie came to Montreal some three years ago called to a ministry of pastoral care to those traveling from north to south for medical treatments and back again. Annie's ministry reaches beyond Verdun as she leads weekly services and visits patients and families at Ullivik (NQM) | Centre de santé Inuulitsivik in Dorval. This new centre is a place for families caring for one another to be with one another. Annie provides the spiritual chaplaincy and is the liaison between family members who have been separated by a great distance.

Annie is also a founding member and sits on the board for the The Southern Quebec Inuit Association (SQIA); an association whose commission and charge is for, "Inuit, no matter where they are, to feel connected to their community". The SQIA has already been offering Inuit feasts to the community from Epiphany's kitchen and dining hall; a connection made originally with Rev Deacon Seymour Smith. How natural now for Rev Annie to continue to encourage and seek ways for our community in Verdun to further care for the Inuit.

And in connecting with one community, the inevitability is that other civic endeavours board the same bus - developing a new found strength, and reconciliation for the greater society. We are not the only ones seeking reconciliation in Verdun and Montreal. We are one of many organizations

that realize the advantages of partnering with and building on the unique strengths of each group. Through Rev Annie's ministry, our spiritual presence has been warmly accepted.

We have witnessed and are encouraged by partnership agreements with Chez Doris and Makivik Corporation and TI - Tungasuvvingat Inuit. We have reached out and made contacts with Native Montréal Autochtone, an Aboriginal Friendship Center on St Jacques where Rev Brian studied Mohawk - and now Inuktituk- language and culture.

Through extending our hand to the community, we were invited by Guy Lacroix, responsible for cultural and Indigenous services in Verdun, to attend the Montreal Urban Ab-

We encourage you from reading these words to be strong in your faith and calling in your own communities, to find that niche, that partnership...

original Community Strategy Network's Winter Gathering. The mandate of the Network is "to provide the opportunity to have an in-depth conversation to allow for a better understanding on how to effectively work together to address the identified needs." The agenda for the day focused on "Learning from the past and turning our gaze towards the future".

The contacts and one-on-one discussions about spirituality and our collective call to network fortified our reasoning for having Annie in Verdun. It is through these contacts that we have invited these partners

to speak at our conference Synod on June 15th about Reconciliation, our ongoing walk together.

Our community is changing- our church is changing within this community- through partnerships with coalitions that already exist. We have opened our doors and welcomed the Inuit feasts, and on Christmas Eve morning Rev Annie baptized our newest member, baby Alison; a symbol of our calling to the people, the Inuit and to all God's people.

Through our services we worship in English along with French and now Inuktituk. Our Lord's Prayer is recited in the three languages, printed side by side in the bulletin. Our congregation is encouraged by the activity and the freshness that Rev Annie brings to our services and the impact on the community we have been a witness to.

And this is just the beginning as we seek what God is preparing for us. Epiphany is encouraged by the overlap of so much that is happening, a testament to the presence and glory of God in all that we do and are part of in Verdun.

We encourage you from reading these words to be strong in your faith and calling in your own communities, to find that niche, that partnership and calling with others within a network that "Learns from the past and turns and is open towards the future". Rise from the pew, take a lead from Annie and go out into your neighbourhood to encourage and be encouraged by "the people".

Equipping the Saints

JESSE ZINK

The Rev'd Dr Jesse Zink is the principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College

I would be the first person to acknowledge that discussions of organizational structure do not exactly stir tremendous excitement. But stay with me.

Last autumn, after a long period of consultation the corporation of Montreal Diocesan Theological College approved a new constitution for the college. Rather than the earlier, rather cumbersome structure which had both a corporation and a Board of Governors, the new constitution empowers a new Board of Governors with virtually all the work of college governance. As the college continues to chart its course through the uncertain terrain of theological education in the 21st century, the corporation felt it was important to ensure there was a strong board for the task.

The corporation of the College continues to exist—but in

a different, and I think much more exciting, form. Membership in the corporation is now open to all who wish to join. In return, members of the corporation have the right and responsibility of electing the Board of Governors. More significantly, they become members of the creative learning community at the college. Membership brings with it invitations to special events at the college and around the diocese that help them deepen their faith and reflect on how we proclaim the gospel in our contemporary world. Our first such event for corporation members will be a special afternoon question-and-answer session with the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, primate of Canada, on Monday, May 7, 2018 at St. George's Place du Canada. We're already at work on the schedule of events for next autumn.

In a sense, the new corporation formalizes something I firmly believe: having a theological college in a diocese



is important not just for the new priests the college trains but for the way the energy and activity of the college spill over and enrich Christians nearby. It's a way for us to share more broadly our education and formation with Christians who want to learn more about their faith. I've already learned how much goodwill there is toward the college around the diocese. The new corporation allows us to give something back in return for all that goodwill.

Individual memberships in

the new corporation cost \$30 per year. We also encourage organizations to join the corporation for \$100 per year. Organizations include congregations, ACWs, and really any other place where Christians gather and are interested in taking the next step in their journey of faith. More information on the event with Fred Hiltz, how to join the corporation, and what's going on at the College is available on our website at www.montrealdio.ca or by calling us at 514.849.3004 x221.

I give thanks every day for the students and staff at the college and for the energy and enthusiasm they have for the church and its future. I hope you'll join us for a service of Evensong on Sunday, 15 April 2018 at 4pm at Christ Church Cathedral as we celebrate the many forms of new ministry at the college, including the launch of the new corporation and Board and my own ministry as principal.

SALLY HARRINGTON PHILLIPO
Vita Nova Sanctuary

As Christians we are often reminded to be grounded in the Word of God: the scriptures that we know are God breathed, alive and active. Fundamentally, this means reading and studying and

Learning more about what God is teaching his people through the prophets and writers of this Book of Books. As Christians we also know that to be people of prayer is not only an injunction but also a way in which we grow in our knowledge of who God is, and how he can inspire us in our daily lives. We are continually called to grow.

More than thirty years ago, I experienced my first weekend retreat which followed a course on pastoral visiting that was taught by Canon Lettie James. Lettie invited Archdeacon Ian Stuchbery to conduct the retreat as we concluded our course on visiting people who were lonely and afflicted in hospital settings.

That weekend was truly a life changing experience.



Image by Fotolia.

BE STILL Listening Prayer in the Ignatian Tradition

Father Stuchbery, a gifted spiritual director, introduced me to the blessing of spiritual direction, and we entered into a nourishing relationship in which he began the serious work of teaching me to pray. He taught me that vocal prayer and intercession was just a small segment of the extraordinary richness of coming before God in prayer.

Most important of all, was to practice the discipline of listening prayer since, I was reminded, God had so much

more to tell me than I had to tell Him. This is deceptively simple, but was a profound revelation to me at the time.

A few years later, when I had spent some time at the Ignatian Centre in Montreal, (this time under the wise direction of Irene Miller), I was encouraged to embark on the journey of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. It was there that the experience of hearing God speak to me, through the prayer taught by that remarkable saint, became a warm

explosion into Light. It became a well of nourishment for my innermost being when I truly understood that God desires to speak directly into the hearts of those that sincerely seek him.

Indeed, Ignatian prayer suggestions, using scripture as a base, have helped people through the ages come closer to God, and to understand more of His inestimable love for His people and for His creation. To pray like this, in a climate conducive to quiet attention with no interruptions of one's normal daily activities and responsibilities, is to find ourselves in fertile soil for rich and meaningful spiritual growth. Jesus himself called his disciples to take time apart. I have often quoted what he said to them from Mark's gospel, but this time I am struck by the circumstances in which Jesus spoke.

.. because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them,

Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest. (Mark 6:31)

The conditions out of which the disciples were called resonate with the needs of many of us to-day, as we so often find ourselves similarly too busy to attend to our basic needs. I propose that to give time to our Lord Jesus, offering Him REAL attention, is one of the most important decisions of our lives, as we are almost overcome by our busyness, trying to survive in a society that is largely performance driven and constantly distracted. Further, in Psalm 46, we are reminded of what the injunction is from God, even in the midst of the most catastrophic of conditions. When all seems lost, when the mountains quake, falling into the heart of the sea, and as we emerge from the devastation of war in all its most terrible forms,... even in the midst of desolations, we are reminded to

Be Still, and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

This May, we are delighted to offer a retreat, aptly entitled **BE STILL**. It will be exquisitely led by Father

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Spiritual Direction journey of discernment

BETTY ROSS
Anglican Spiritual Director

"The outcome of any discernment is to seek what will best serve the Kingdom of God."

The Anglican Spiritual Direction Group in Montreal recently undertook a group discernment with the help of a facilitator, where we asked ourselves challenging questions, such as; "Where does the Lord want to use our gifts?, What choices come out of our values?, and What is in God's heart for us, personally and communally?"

Together, we discussed the value and importance of our group, which began in 1995. Sharing personal thoughts of God and facing one's truest self is a meaningful experience. We spent time looking at our own graced identities and qualities needed for would-be discerners.

Our time with the facilitator consisted of several day-long meetings and discussions on Skype; there were guidelines given and thought-provoking steps for discerning a decision as to where God is going to lead us.

There is no time-line for a discernment process. One is called to the process and must wait on God. The group supported and prayed for each other, realizing that discernment comes from what is shared. It is also important to be aware of the dark spirit that can show in confusion and unworthiness.

We were asked if we were prepared to give up attachments as to how things were. There may be disagreements but one must proceed with courage, honesty, trust and perseverance under the strength of prayer. One also needs a sense of inner freedom, allowing oneself to be influenced by the Holy Spirit.

We prayed for the process, the facilitator, and for each other.

Answers to the question, "What is most valuable in being associated with this group?" validated our relationship and accountability to one another. Together, we agreed that the group provides a safe environment, fellowship, and confidentiality. We discussed our relationship with God and one another. The love acceptance, support, and trust in each other were emphasized. We are different, but are one.

As we continued to discuss the values and ideas that provide the anchor for mission, we asked ourselves if our projects fit in with our identity statement and values. There was a great deal of prayerful open thought, drawing on biblical references. We also met with Bishop Mary and discussed the importance of our group remaining connected to the larger church and our present and future role there.

We drafted a document that the facilitator said we need time to live with and use for a test of what we do. We need to follow God's lead. We will see where we fit in as a resource for our Bishop's vision.

Our Mission

Our identity statement: We are a contemplative community, centered in Christ, rooted in the ancient practice of spiritual direction, and committed to the care of souls.

Our non-negotiable values: "In God we live and move and have our being". The overarching canopy of our values is incarnational love. This expresses itself both within our community of spiritual directors, and through our mission.

Our community values: "Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4 13-14) We cultivate oasis hospitality, the care of soul and body we all long for.

We meet in members' homes. We take time to eat well. We meditate together.

"For God alone my soul in silence waits". (Psalm 62:1) We value being regularly present to one another, to God, to ourselves and others through an intentional time of silent meditation followed by sharing together. This nurtures our practice of accountability, honesty, compassion, deference to one another, and capacity to wait on God in discernment.

We attend to what draws us more deeply into life as a community, so that our mission may be carried out in the same spirit.

Our mission value: "I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10) We foster the practice of discernment as a way of life that leads to the awareness and experience of God's incarnational love.

Our mission statement: by God's grace and in the power of the Holy Spirit we offer spiritual direction to cultivate nature Christian disciples and intentional faith communities. We both advocate for this ministry and offer, in a contemplative mode, individual spiritual direction, communal discernment, workshops and retreats.

The discernment process requires time, dedication, love and an open spirit. One seeks to come closer to God, to follow God's call more closely, to respond to God's grace and to desire what God desires.

The Montreal Anglican Spiritual Director's Group welcomes new members. The group meets on the first Saturday of the month, in one-another's homes from 10am-2pm for meditation, sharing, lunch and planning of new initiatives. For more information contact the Rev. Michelle Eason at meason@montreal.anglican.ca or the Ven. Linda Borden Taylor at ltaylor@montreal.anglican.ca

Notable

Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7pm at St. George's Place du Canada: **Convocation for Montreal Diocesan Theological College**, with an address by the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Notable

Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 4pm at Christ Church Cathedral: **Celebration of new ministry at Montreal Diocesan Theological College**, including the installation of the Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink as principal. Sermon by the Rt. Rev. Bruce Myers, bishop of Quebec

Saying good bye to Mark Dunwoody



LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

It came as no surprise that Mark and Diane Dunwoody chose to go back to Europe after 6 years of residence in Canada. It was probably the harsh winter of 2018 that finally ushered them out of here but suffice it to say that they were called home to be with their cherished family including their two young grand daughters.

Mark left an indelible impression on the Anglican Diocese of Montreal. He made meaningful connections that continue to bear fruit. It was heart warming that so many colleagues came to the Synod

office to say good bye at the wine and cheese gathering. Many attended to express thanks for his willingness to pray, his incessant support, and for his ability to listen and encourage.

Mark wasn't preoccupied by denominational identity but instead focused on the Gospel message and the heart of Jesus. This allowed him to build partnerships and collaborations that lead to church planting initiatives and ultimately to his pursuit of a PhD at Asbury Seminary.

His legacy... he leaves us with a passion for church growth, for meeting people where they are, he encouraged us not to take ourselves too seriously and to pray at every juncture but most importantly he reminded us to have a little "craic".

We wish to thank Mark for building a sustainable network of youth ministry in Montreal and for connecting so many of us in such profound ways. We thank him for the countless cups of tea, for his keen ability to make people feel heard, to inspire us to the relentless pursuit of building the kingdom in our faith communities and in our own lives. We know that God is working through him and we will do our best to keep this fire burning.



Montreal PWRDF

ROS MACGREGOR

The Rev Ros Macgregor is Diocesan PWRDF Rep and Co-chair with Ann Cumyn of the Diocesan PWRDF Unit

Hooray! As a diocese we have raised approximately \$15,000 for the Pikangikum Water Project. More than that – or alongside that – we have raised awareness in our diocese of the dire situation in our First Nation communities; the lack of potable water, high suicide rates (especially among young people), the despair, the effects of residential schools, etc... Yet, we now have a thread of hope that we can make a difference by claiming our responsibility to know and understand and move forward together.

At our annual meeting in Toronto, Penny Rankin and I became aware of how fortunate we are in Montreal. Distances apart yes – but nothing like Algoma, Newfoundland and Labrador, or Prairie dioceses, for instance, where parish reps are hundreds of miles apart. No monthly gatherings there. So, they find other ways to communicate and share the good news of the Primate's Fund.

However, we're still looking at ways to include people from the Laurentians and Eastern Townships... and there are tentative steps towards a meeting in the Townships.

Warming Centre

ers for follow-up. This is an auspicious opportunity to offer these clients services suited to their needs, again in collaboration with outside community and social services.

But more than anything, St. Michael's Warming Centre is a home. Anyone on the street is welcome to come in, and many bring their pets. All are welcome here.

The Centre was open for Christmas and New Year's eves, this year – a first where clients could say "I'll be home for Christmas", because, in many ways, they were. Two crèches were displayed, and the radio played Christmas carols.

Many of our clients are very spiritual. This Christmas, Richard, a long-time client, spent 45 minutes telling this volunteer the story of Jesus' birth, his life, and his death. Peter is Richard's favourite apostle, because Peter made mistakes but Jesus loved him for it! Watching Richard as he told this story with great dignity was to be in the presence of true faith, and St. Michael's made it possible that Christmas Eve.

On regular nights, clients are met at the door by the smell of fresh coffee. Intervention workers and volunteers greet them by name. Exhausted and carrying heavy backpacks,

When we held our Water Walk in Verdun/Lasalle, Lynn Osborne organized a smaller walk in Bedford – raising funds and awareness. All things are possible through Christ who strengthens us – and inspires us!

Our monthly PWRDF gathering of parish reps and others is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at noon. All are welcome. We have decided to continue with the Pikangikum Water Project until June 2018. In the meantime, we will look for a project to commit to beginning fall 2018. Ideas?

I met with Lea-Ann Matthews recently. She's helping us become more visible on social media. Check out our soon to be upgraded facebook page: PWRDF Montreal. And PWRDF on the diocesan web page. At our meetings, we plan to connect with some of those unable to attend through social media. Facetime? This is a learning curve.

If you have any interest in the work of PWRDF, I encourage you to come to our next meeting. We are a pleasant, informal group. We always offer snacks, coffee and tea and many bring their lunches. Our next meeting is on March 8 at noon in Fulford Hall. If you can't come, ideas are welcome. roslyn.macgregor@gmail.com. Watch for more on PWRDF in the diocesan biweekly eNews.

continued from page 1

most head for a chair to unload their burdens, then come to the counter for a coffee, which is available throughout the night.

Hot soup, made by Gabe, the daytime chef, is kept warm on the stove, and rolls, bread, and desserts are available, depending on donations from generous community members. Hot oatmeal is sometimes offered as well as dog and cat food for pet owners.

The Centre is fairly active until midnight. Clients chat with friends, play cribbage, cards, or other board games which the Centre has on hand. A small library of books is also available, and several clients love to read. Intervention workers and volunteers are always on-hand for conversation and consultation.

Most clients are just happy to have someone listen to them; a rare occurrence in the lives they lead. The harsh winter presents a very real physical threat, but the twin enemies of isolation and loneliness are a threat to the spirit. After midnight, many clients take a much-needed rest.

The Warming Centre provides an essential response to the needs of Montreal's most vulnerable, and marginalized people. "No one left out in the cold this winter" is our hope and our pledge to them.



Pour que la vie continue

DENIS GEVRY

La Mission Christ Church de Sorel poursuit ses efforts pour redonner à sa communauté l'accès à son église et faire revivre un lieu d'histoire et de foi. Plus qu'un édifice

cette oasis de paix invite à se souvenir de l'histoire d'un peuple et des hommes et des femmes qui ont marqué la vie soreloise par leur engagement et leur dévouement. Un clocher qui appelle au rassemblement,

un phare qui veut raviver sa lumière, un rappel de la présence du Christ au cœur du monde. Un grand merci à tous ceux et celles qui soutiennent ce projet, spécialement messieurs Blais et Shéridan. Merci au diocèse pour son appui et ses prières.

Safe Church in the age of #metoo

ROBERT CAMARA

The Ven Robert Camara is Diocesan Vicar General

It's difficult to turn on the news or scan the feeds of our social media without hearing about the abuse of power by politicians, sports coaches, actors, the military, business persons, and even "the neighbour". The last few months have seen a spotlight being shone on inappropriate behaviour of a sexual nature, coercion and abuse by people who have had influence and power. Unfortunately, none of this is new but much of it is news. The scale and number of accusations we are hearing is mind-boggling and we are struck by how this behaviour has permeated every corner of society. We know that the stories that are being shared are quite possibly only the surface of a culture of behaviour that, for way too long, has been ignored or even, in some circles, quietly tolerated.

As Christians we affirm in our baptismal covenant to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbour as our self. Jesus taught his followers that the greatest commandment was to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all

our mind, and with all our strength, and also to love our neighbour as our self. And so, we're reminded that all human relationships are meant to find their deepest value in the context of this response to God's love.

It is, therefore, part of our calling as followers of Christ, to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being. We are entreated to have concern and look after the powerless and those in need, for children, widows, strangers and refugees, the sick, the imprisoned and the hungry. I have said many times to parishioners, and I say it again, the life and witness we are called to as Christians is not easy and is demanding!

Our communities are meant to be safe places where we encounter the love of God, where we are fed and strengthened spiritually and encouraged to go out and share the love in our relationship with God with those around us and all those we encounter. We must continually strive to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and dignity, that we meet in places free of sexual harassment, exploitation, misconduct or assault. We must

take precautions to ensure that safeguards are in place and that everyone knows that such behaviour is damaging, hurtful and will not be tolerated. But we also need to know how to challenge those who are abusive and encourage them get the help they need.

We are always learning what are the best ways to do this, how we can best support each other to provide these safe and welcoming communities and how to deal with inappropriate behaviour should it arise. The Diocese of Montreal has a very detailed safe church policy and guidelines to help us live together in faithful and loving communities that protect the vulnerable and are safe for everyone (www.montreal.anglican.ca). But we also need to have opportunities and forums where we can talk and review the policy, ask questions and learn from each other. The Human Resources Standing Committee of the Diocese is organizing a Safe Church workshop for lay and ordained leadership of the Diocese on Saturday, May 12th to be held at St. George's Church, Place-du-Canada. Please note this date in your calendars and look for more information in the coming months.

Notable

Clergy Lenten Retreat March 18-20th at Manoir d'Youville in Chateaugay. Registration deadline is March 5th! Go to montreal.anglican.ca/latest-news to register.

Deadline April 1

Deadline for application submissions to the Anglican Foundation of Canada is April 1. Application forms and information about applying may be found at www.anglicanfoundation.org

ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA



**Weekend Retreat with
Father Timothy Gallagher
May 6-8, 2018
At Manoir d'Youville**

You are invited to spend a rare weekend of rest, reflection and personal renewal during a retreat with Father Timothy Gallagher OMV, who is a world renowned Ignatian Scholar and retreat leader.

This weekend will be helpful for those who are longing for a deeper relationship with God, whether they have been on this journey of faith for many years, or are newly exploring.

For more information or to register, contact one of the following:

Sally Harrington Philipppo - sallyharrington@sympatico.ca
Thea Calder - thea.calder@sympatico.ca
Paul Empsall - paul.empsall@sympatico.ca
Lucinda Lyman - lucinda.lyman@gmail.com
Cathie Macaulay - cathie.macaulay14@gmail.com
Kathryn Stafford - staffordkathryn@gmail.com

AT THE CATHEDRAL

HOLY WEEK

Monday, March 26
7:30pm - Compline - Plainsong

Tuesday, March 27
7:30pm - Compline - Orthodox

Tuesday, March 27
Noon - Chrism Mass Blessing of the Oils for healing and baptism. Bishop Mary presiding.

Wednesday, March 28
7:30pm - Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, March 29
7:30pm Choral Eucharist

EASTER

Good Friday - March 30
12pm *Way of the Cross* for all ages
1pm Meditations and music
2pm Liturgy

Holy Saturday - March 31
7:30pm The Great Easter Vigil

Easter Day - April 1
8am Said Eucharist
10am Festival Choral Eucharist
4pm Festival Choral Evensong

Notable

Upcoming events at St. Paul's,- 321 Empire Greenfield Park. Call 450-678-2460 for information unless otherwise specified.

Ladies Craft Nights The ladies meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm to knit, sew, make crafts and blankets for cancer patients...

Teen Nights on the first Friday of every month. Play games, EAT, and enjoy a great evening... ages 12 - 17 are welcome.

Children/Family Nights on March 24th we will have our Children's Easter Outreach with games. Music, crafts, cookie decorating, face painting, treats and much more. From 10am - noon. All children ages 2 - 12 are welcome. Parents can get involved too!!

Senior's Days March 17th, April 21st and closing luncheon May 26th. All seniors are invited for entertainment, music, snacks and lots of fun. For more information, please call 450-672-0105.

Cafe Worship Services March 11th and April 22nd at 10:30. In March there will be a soup luncheon following the service. Donation is \$4/person. For more information, please call 514-497-2441.

Annual Book Sale March 10th from 9am- 2pm. A great variety of books, games, puzzles, cds and DVDs all for very, very reasonable prices. There will also be a snack bar available.

Annual English Tea May 5th at 2pm. This year's theme is "A Royal Wedding" in honor of Prince Harry and Megan. Tickets \$12/adult and \$6/child under 10. To reserve call 450-678-2460.

Garden Sale/Vendor's Market May 19th from 10am-2pm. Visit the many vendors and see what they have to offer... this is NOT a craft sale but a Vendor's Market. Snack bar available for lunch.

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer - Canada A Prayer from the Diocesan Representatives



Gracious God, we turn to you for help and guidance in bringing into focus the need to pray for our spiritual leaders in a more meaningful way. These leaders are not only ordained ministers, but include Lay Readers, Sunday school teachers and youth leaders among others. They all need support and continuous prayer. This may be the most important thing that can be done in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ as they are on the front lines of this work, teaching and guiding others along the way.

Inspiring God, we turn to you to encourage us to pray for these spiritual leaders who need our prayers on a daily basis. The AFP-C is committed to helping its members support these individuals by offering the following suggestions to incorporate these prayers into your spiritual routine:

1) Turning to scripture: Pray the words of St. Paul thoughtfully and specifically apply them to your spiritual leaders. Passages that are particularly relevant include Colossians 1:9-12, Ephesians 1:15-23, Ephesians 3:14-21, and Philippians 1:9-11

2) Creating a weekly schedule to pray for the complete being of your spiritual leaders. For instance on Day 1 focus on the Spiritual leader's relationship with God, for Day 2 on his or her physical and emotional wellbeing, on Day 3 for his or her family and friends, and so on to fill the seven days of the week. Other areas that need prayer include the Spiritual leader's ability to communicate, lifting up of his or her ministry, their colleagues in their parish and in the Diocese, and the areas of religious, political, or social concern in which the spiritual leader is involved.

3) At a loss for words to start your prayer? Turn to the Book of Alternative Services and personalize the following prayers Consecration of a Deacon (p 657) and Ordination of a Priest (page 650) for your ordained spiritual leader.

Encouraging God, we pray that the members of this Diocese will join us in praying for our spiritual leaders on an on-going basis and be curious to learn more about this important ministry. We invite readers to visit www.anglicanprayer.org to learn more about the AFP-C and get acquainted with the available resources. The prayer suggestions listed here come from *Praying for Your Spiritual Leaders* (pamphlet P36) and can be found at <http://anglicanprayer.org/index.php/resources/>

Let us all join in prayer for our spiritual leaders and witness the awesome results that will follow.

God Bless, Valerie and Stacey

For more information on AFP-C, contact Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale at valstacey@bell.net



The Dirty Dozen Reunion

The Dirty Dozen were those 12 who were ordained on March 25, 1968 in St. Paul's Church, Lachine by Bishop Kenneth Maguire. Please join the re-

maining members - Peter Asbil, Graham Burgess, Brian Evans, Peter Mason, & David Mercer - as they renew their vows, and honour the members who have

passed. On Sunday, March 25th at 4pm in St. Simeon's Church, 445 Rue Principale, Lachute. All are welcome. There will be light refreshment after in the hall.

Be Still...

continued from page 10

Timothy Gallagher, OMV, a world renowned retreat leader and Ignatian scholar, who is familiar to many people. He has helped many people around the world to, in his own words, grow in love of the God whom their hearts seek. Father Gallagher holds a doctorate from the Gregorian University in Rome, and is the author of many highly recommended books on Ignatian spirituality, such as *The Discernment of Spirits*, *The Examen Prayer* and *Spiritual Consolation*.

He has also written a book containing forty scriptural reflections as a wonderful resource for the gift of praying with scripture: what he calls blessed prayer.

Father Gallagher, whose erudition is enhanced by a warm and gentle manner and

a compelling sense of humour, has an extraordinary gift of helping people to enter into a realm of quiet attention to their Creator. This retreat will provide a very special opportunity for us to take some time apart, and in an atmosphere of silent attention, listen to The Lord.

This weekend will be held at Manoir d'Youville, a tranquil island setting close to Montreal. Being in the midst of nature as we open our hearts to the Lord in prayer, will contribute fruitfully to practicing His Presence within and around us. While the body of the retreat will be conducted in silence, there will be opportunities to talk to fully qualified spiritual directors during the weekend. There you will be able to discuss aspects of your prayer life and your spiritual growth. These ses-

sions, in between teaching and spaces for practicing listening prayer, have proved to be enormously helpful during weekend retreats. This retreat is open to people from all denominations, will be helpful for people at different levels of spiritual maturity, and is under the auspices of Vita Nova Sanctuary, an ecumenical organization. Please feel free to contact any of the members of our team listed on the invitation for more information. Bursaries are available on a limited, and on as-needed basis. We are grateful to the Ignatian Centre, for introducing Father Gallagher to us, and to The Anglican Spiritual Direction Group for their support and sponsorship of this weekend.