

Social commitment leads refuge from St. James – to St. James

Harvey Shepherd

A common interest in social justice and a common conviction that linking faith with social activism is deeply beneficial to both are high on the list of reasons why leaders of both St. James the Apostle Church in downtown Montreal and top staff of its newest tenant see the match as a natural one.

A coincidental ready-made fit between the name of the St. James Drop-In Centre and that of its new landlord doesn't hurt, but is less important.

For almost all of its 28-year history up to early this year, the St. James Drop-In Centre, a day centre for men and some women struggling with such problems as homelessness, substance abuse, personality disorders and intellectual handicaps, rented its premises from St. James United Church, also on St. Catherine St. but a dozen or so blocks further east. Although it took its name from St. James United, it was independent. When a fire early this year destroyed much of the interior of the rear building in which the drop-in centre was situated, it precipitated a decision that the drop-in centre had already been contemplating for some time.

St. James the Apostle and its current rector, the Rev. Canon Linda Borden Taylor, had for their part been pursuing a policy of "sharing our space" for several years. They sought to turn what could have been a surplus of space in its large church hall, a legacy of another era, into an

opportunity for service and outreach by making quarters available on attractive terms to a number of community groups, especially ones serving various marginalized populations.

When the drop-in centre and St. James the Apostle made contact, she said in an interview, it was "a natural connection." She also hopes that it will be a two-way relationship, in which the drop-in centre and some of its members enrich the spiritual life of parish.

The drop-in centre moved into the spacious basement of the church's Shatford Hall in May and carried out extensive renovations over the summer.

The admiration seems to be mutual.

"We feel there are people here who believe in what they do and are behind us," Alain Spitzer the director of the centre for the past eight years, said in an interview.

The centre seeks to meet the basic needs of its members by offering a homelike atmosphere, food – both as meals and more informally – , showers, clean clothes and, for daytime use, beds. There are three social workers and, since 1996, an art program, offered with federal funding and the collaboration of students in the Concordia University fine arts program.

The centre has also launched a small commercial laundry in the east end of Montreal called Street-Suds. This is a government-subsidized "transitional employment program"



ST. JAMES DROP-IN art co-ordinator Lysanne Picard, director Alain Spitzer and member Mario Brodeur work in the art room.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

that offers welfare recipients a chance to get work experience and some supplementary income. Street-Suds both caters to the laundry needs of the drop-in centre and has some commercial customers.

There is also a small and strictly voluntary Bible-study program led by Mr. Spitzer's close associate Ron Melançon for the relatively few members who want to participate.

If some of the services provided by the drop-in centre resemble those of some other outreach missions in Montreal, some of them with links to the Anglican diocese, there are

important differences.

One of the key goals of the drop-in centre is community. The centre is a sort of club, and in its way a rather exclusive one. Those it serves are members, with the occasional exception in emergencies, and newcomers who want to join the membership must fill out an application form on the basis of which they are accepted or, much more frequently, rejected.

"We prioritize desperate need," he said.

The centre does not provide overnight accommodation but does

have some beds. Some members find it difficult to get along even with other homeless men and rather than go to a night shelter prefer to spend the night on the streets and catch up on sleep during the day.

To be accepted as a member, someone must be in a very bad way, although members' situations often improves greatly as they stay with the centre year after year. Most of the 220 members have some sort of long-term disability and few will ever return to the work force full-time, but there is quite a bit of more modest improvement by way finding accommodation or part-time jobs or relating more effectively with health and welfare agencies.

Turnover in the members is low. People often remain members until they die, although members often drop out of sight for a while.

"We have some members who have been here since Day 1, almost 30 years ago," Mr. Spitzer said. "All of our members were homeless when they joined; fewer than 25 per cent of them are today."

While any religious activity at the centre is voluntary, faith is central to his commitment and that of some of his associates. He is a Mennonite and several members of his staff are in evangelical groups; others are not especially religious.

He expects social justice to be important for the future of the church.

"It is very dear to our hearts for the church to be part of the answer."

Janet Marshall takes on another challenge

Staff

The woman who has been working to help parishes in the Montreal Diocese make decisions, often tough ones, to meet the challenges of the present and future is taking on an additional temporary assignment to do somewhat the same at the national level.

And to help her, Janet Marshall, who as congregational development consultant for the Montreal Diocese since early 2010 has played a central role in helping parishes find new directions, has recruited an "apprentice" from one of the recently ordained clergy of the diocese: the Rev. Rhonda Waters, assistant curate at Christ Church Cathedral.

Ms. Marshall will be "facilitator" of a national consultation on church structures, particularly the General Synod, in Toronto January 8-10 convened by the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Fred Hiltz.

The gathering will include about 40 representatives from across Canada. In convening it, the primate is carrying out a provision of Vision 2019 strategic plan adopted by the General Synod in June 2010: "The Primate will convene a consultation to identify desirable changes in the structures and roles by which the Anglican Church of Canada carries



JANET MARSHALL makes the rounds at a Diocese of Montreal "Stewardship Café" in September.

(Photos: Janet Best)

out its ministry in service to God's mission. Out of the consultation, the Primate will appoint a smaller working group to advocate the necessary changes (at all levels of the church) that will align our structures, roles,

and use of resources with the priorities of Vision 2019."

"It would be fair to say that just about everything is on the table," Ms. Marshall said in an interview. She said she asked to Ms. Waters as

an apprentice to help assure that the new look at the church includes some new blood.

"Structures need to more effectively support the ministries and priorities of the church, as laid out in Vision 2019. It's time to re-imagine creatively what that might look like.

"There's a trust that people will rise to the challenge, because what we are doing now is not sustainable, not supportable."

"By 2016 our national church structure will look very different than it does now," the primate told representatives of Eastern Canadian dioceses in Montreal in September. "We will make some tough decisions about the national budget."

He that despite efforts to balance its budget that the national synod of the Anglican Church of Canada was still running in the red, mainly because lower-than-expected over-all revenues from dioceses, despite impressive efforts by some of them to grapple with their own financial challenges and the decision of some dioceses able to do so voluntarily increase their contributions to the national church.

He said the General Synod had been seeking to balance its budget through austerities including a 25 per cent reduction in national staff in the last three years, while at the

same time seeking to re-focus its activities on mission.

In her Montreal job, Ms. Marshall has worked with parishes making tough decisions – sometimes to merge or close. She has also been central in implementing the diocesan Ministry Action Plan.

But she is no stranger to the national scene, or, for that matter, the international one.

Before coming to Montreal, she had been a congregational development consultant for nearly 20 years, particularly with the Anglican Diocese of Toronto for 14 years and with Potentials, an ecumenical (largely Anglican and United Church) centre for the development of ministry and congregations, of which she opened the Halifax office in 2006.

She was also active in trying to help the Anglican Church find its way, in Canada and around the world, in dealing with contentious issues, including sexuality.

Her term in the chair of the Anglican Church of Canada's Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee ended at the General Synod in June 2010, where issues around same-sex unions were a major subject of debate.

She was also a "facilitator" at the 2008 Lambeth Conference of the world's Anglican bishops.

Anglicans in Lanaudière welcome a new pastor



THE NEW INCUMBENT of Christ Church Rawdon, Rev. Canon Michael Robson, greets parishioners after his induction along with Archdeacon Ralph Leavitt, priest at Holy Trinity Church in Ste. Agathe, who oversees parishes in the northern part of the Diocese of Montreal as regional archdeacon of St. Andrew's. Archdeacon Leavitt, who officiated at the induction in the absence of Bishop Barry Clarke, led a special prayer for the bishop's wife, Leslie James, who was in a hospital, and the bishop, who stayed in Montreal to be near her. The offering at from the service, about \$505, will go to a water well project in Diocese of Montreal's companion Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania. The capacity congregation had an ecumenical flavour with local United Church and Roman Catholic clergy in attendance and a combined United-Anglican choir. Mayor Jacques Beauregard of Rawdon, in the Lanaudière region, about 60 kilometres north of Montreal, also attended.

(Photos: Harvey Shepherd)



THE BREAD AND WINE OF COMMUNION are presented to Rev. Michael Robson, the new incumbent of Christ Church Rawdon and All Saints de Ramsay, at his induction into the parish, on October 4. The elements, among several such symbolic presentations by parishioners, are offered by Marion Loffelmann (close to camera) and Shirley Tinkler-Moore. Father Robson is flanked by Christ Church wardens Verna Asbil-Negm and Robert Ranger. Father Robson was previously priest at St. Margaret of Antioch Parish in St. Hubert and St. Mark's in Longueuil and regional archdeacon for the southern parishes of the Diocese of Montreal. A number of South Shore clergy and laity, the latter especially from St. Margaret's, attended the service. At Christ Church, Father Robson succeeds Archdeacon Edward Simonton, now in Lennoxville in the Diocese of Quebec. Archbishop Bruce Stavert and then Rev. Richard Gauthier served the parish during the interim.

The Council on Aging
(Anglican) Diocese of Montreal
Invites you to

BEFORE YOU FORGET: A conference on Alzheimer's Disease

Friday, NOVEMBER 23, 2012
10 a.m.—3 p.m.

Featuring:

10:30 a.m.—noon

Teresa ANUZA, M. A. Cognitive Psychology,
Coordinator, Educational Services
Alzheimer's Society of Montreal (ASM)

Topic: **Talking about Alzheimer's Disease: what it is and what you can do**
(presentation & discussion)

1:30—3:00 p.m.

Dr. Serge GAUTHIER, McGill Professor
Director, Alzheimer Disease & Related Disorders Research Unit
McGill Center for Studies in Aging (CSA)

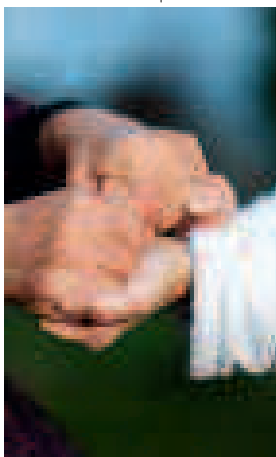
Topic: **Update on the Prevention and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease**
(presentation; Q & A—question & answer session)

FULFORD Hall, Cathedral Place
1444 Union Ave., Montreal
(metro: McGill)

LUNCH included

Registration & coffee available: **10:00 a.m.**
Suggested donation to defray the costs of lunch: \$10

For information & early registration:
CONTACT: Mrs. Carol Hutton: 450-653-8768
candghutton@hotmail.com



Death notice

Leslie James, 1960-2012

As this edition of *The Montreal Anglican* was in the final stages of preparation, we learned that Mrs. Leslie James, wife of Bishop Barry Clarke, passed away on Sunday evening, October 6, after a long illness. Born in 1960, Mrs James had been admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital three weeks earlier.

The funeral took place on Friday, October 12, at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, following visitation at a funeral home in Lachine.

It was suggested that those who wish to make memorial donations consider the Royal Victoria Hospital

Foundation or the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, in accordance with Mrs. James' wishes.

Bishop Clarke sent word that he continues to appreciate prayers and support.

Mrs. James had many close friends in the diocese and, up to her final hospitalization frequently attended diocesan and parish services and functions in her wheelchair, accompanying the bishop. As reported on page 12, she was recently co-host of a surprise birthday dinner in honour of the 60th birthday of the bishop and his twin brother, Craig.

Stay tuned for synod news

By the time you read this issue, our diocesan synod for the Diocese of Montreal, October 18-20, will be over. However, it came at an awkward time for us, well after the copy deadline for this issue of *The Montreal Anglican*. Holding this issue back for synod coverage would have been possible but would have meant late delivery, some additional cost and perhaps other disadvantages. So reports on the synod will appear in the December issue.

(Faced with much the same problem, our colleagues at *Crosstalk*, in the Diocese of Ottawa, and *The Messenger*, serving the Dioceses of Edmonton and Athabasca, made the same decision.)

In the mean time, you can find Bishop Barry Clarke's opening address, reviewing the year and the issues before the synod, on the diocesan website at www.montreal.anglican.ca, as well as information distributed before the synod and, perhaps, some news on synod proceedings. It is also possible that there will be one or two brief reports on highlights of the synod in the online version of *The Anglican Journal* at www.anglicanjournal.com (along with other news highlights from across the country and around the world).

ANGLICAN
MONTREAL
ANGLICAN

Official, Editorially Autonomous
Newspaper of the Diocese of Montreal
Deadline for December 2012 issue:
November 5th

Editor: Harvey Shepherd

Editorial Assistance: Peter Denis – Circulation: Ardyth Robinson
Secretarial Assistance: Helen Wiegand – Production: Studio Melrose

Editorial Office: 1444 Union Avenue, Montreal, PQ H3A 2B8
Phone: 514 843-6577 – Fax: 514 843-6344
E-mail: editor@montreal.anglican.ca

Published monthly except July and August
The Montreal Anglican accepts display advertising. Rates are available on request.

Send subscription changes to: Anglican Journal,
80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

Anglican Journal & Montreal Anglican \$10.00 per year
A section of Anglican Journal

Legal deposit: National Library of Quebec, National Library of Canada
Printed & mailed at Webnews Printing inc., North York, ON

THE BISHOP'S ACTION APPEAL

Making a world of difference

For our youth, our community, our prospective clergy... for our future!

THIS YEAR'S PROJECTS:

PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

will build strong foundations, ensuring long-term sustainable ministry to the young people in the Diocese of Montreal.

THE MINISTRY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

places young people alongside experienced clergy and lay leaders to get first-hand experience of ministry in the church and the community.

TYNDALE ST-GEORGES COMMUNITY CENTRE

is celebrating its 85th year of offering support and opportunities to the people in Little Burgundy.



Unless otherwise specified, part of your contribution will go to the National Anglican Appeal's work;

CHURCH IN THE NORTH

Theological training for clergy and lay leaders

OVERSEAS PARTNER CHURCHES

HERE IS MY TAX-CREDITABLE DONATION TO THE BISHOP'S ACTION APPEAL IN THE AMOUNT OF:

\$20 \$30 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 OTHER \$_____

Personal Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, Postal Code _____

Telephone (in case we have a question) _____

Contribution Method

Personal cheque payable to *The Diocese of Montreal*

Visa MasterCard Please split my contribution in 3 monthly payments (cc only)

Card Number _____ Exp Date ____/____/____
month year

THANK YOU!

Mail to: The Bishop's Action Appeal, 1444 Union Avenue, Montreal, QC, H3A 2B8. A tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$10 or more.

Provincial synod prunes for growth and mission

Bruce Myers and Harvey Shepherd

True to its theme of “tending the vine,” the synod the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada is cutting back some of its structures and committing to explore other possible areas for future pruning, all with intent of making the province more nimble and focussed on mission.

More than 70 delegates from Canada’s seven easternmost dioceses gathered in Montreal Sept. 20-23 and voted to reduce the size of future provincial synods by nearly half. They also decided to shrink the size of the Provincial Council – the ecclesiastical province’s decision-making body between triennial synods – to 23 from 31 to 23 members.

In his presidential address to synod, Archbishop Claude Miller, the Province of Canada’s metropolitan, alluded to the proposed reductions by invoking the biblical image of God as a vine grower.

“The work of our synod is always to be conscious that we are called first to abide in Christ,” Archbishop Miller told synod members, “recognizing that tending the vine requires the removal of branches that bear no fruit, and branches that bear fruit too are to be pruned. Not one branch is left untouched.”

Still, he said, “I don’t for one minute believe that the Anglican church is doomed because of aging and dwindling congregations, the indifference of our youth or financial costs. Our biggest enemy is loss of memory, and I would argue that we



ARCHBISHOP CLAUDE MILLER of Fredericton, metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made up of seven Anglican dioceses in eastern Canada, opens the synod.

(Photos: Harvey Shepherd)

have forgotten God in the midst of our self-centered and anxious lives.

“We have put our faith in other gods for our security and salvation: governments, money, possessions, knowledge, industry, commerce, even entertainment and sports. Witness the Sabbath day and the parking lots of churches versus the parking lots of the shopping malls. Where our treasure is, we find our hearts.”

Few areas of the ecclesiastical province’s governance structures were left untouched by synod members. In addition to reducing the size of its governing bodies, the next three years will be spent studying the “possible realignment of dioceses within the Province of Canada, with a view to reducing the number of dioceses to no fewer than three.”

There are currently seven dioceses in the ecclesiastical province, each

with its own diocesan bishop and administrative staff and structure: Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton, the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Western Newfoundland, Central Newfoundland, and the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador.

Even if there is no reduction in the number of dioceses, synod members passed another motion committing the existing dioceses to

consider sharing some administrative functions, “including human resources, performance review, information technology, payroll and benefits.”

A background note to the motions says the discussion about reducing the number of dioceses and consolidating administration reflects both decreasing numbers and the increased cost of providing ecclesiastical services.”

(Bruce Myers is editor of the Quebec Diocesan Gazette and communications officer for the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. Harvey Shepherd is editor of The Montreal Anglican.)



OLIVIA DANIELS of St. Paul’s Côte des Neiges, a key volunteer at the synod, explains some local arrangements to the delegates.

Provincial synod notebook

‘Province of Canada’ seeks to support youth

The organization of seven Anglican dioceses in Eastern Canada sought to put emphasis on youth at the September synod in Montreal of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada

Archdeacon Bruce Myers of the Diocese of Quebec, deputy prolocutor (loosely, deputy speaker) of the synod, recalled that in 2010 the council of the synod decided hold a youth event for Eastern Canada but in view of the practical challenges it was decided instead to subsidize the participation of delegates from the seven dioceses to attend a “Common Ground” inter-church youth forum in 2011. Twenty young people went to the event in London, Ont., and several of them reported on their experiences at the synod. They urged the ecclesiastical province to continue to strive for a bigger place for youth in the church.

The synod committed itself to hold an Eastern Canada event “where a significant portion of funds are ear-marked for youth ministry initiatives.”

Delegates also voted to set up a task group to organize “an event or process by which to train trainers of youth workers for our dioceses and parishes.” They voted to have the Provincial Council meet only once rather than twice in the three years until the next provincial synod and use the funds saved to support youth gatherings.

Mark Dunwoody, the new youth consultant on the Diocese of Montreal staff, played an active part at the synod and Antoinette Lynch-Joseph from the diocese was a youth delegate.

Tougher rules – but for whom?

If the Anglican Church ecclesiastical “province” for eastern Canada had any employees, the rules to protect and restrain them from sexual harassment and other forms of misconduct would have just become more stringent.

Delegates to the triennial synod, in Montreal September 20-23 of the venerable “Ecclesiastical Province of Canada,” made up of seven dioceses in Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, approved, with relatively little debate, a set of changes in its misconduct policy, in part making it cover a broader range of possible misconduct than merely sexual.

The change will have little direct practical effect, since the ecclesiastical province does not have a staff of its own, generally relying on the staff of member dioceses.

However, Charles Ferris, chancellor of both the ecclesiastical province and his own diocese of Fredericton, said the policy is intended to serve as a model of “best practices.” It is similar to one in his own diocese and he hopes it will encourage the other six to adopt similar policies.

However, the ecclesiastical province could conceivably have some staff in the future. As part of their explorations of ways

to cut costs, delegates agreed to look transferring to the Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, or otherwise sharing with it current diocesan administrative functions.

Primal praise

A reading from the New Testament by Valerie Bennett, a parishioner at St. Paul’s Church in Greenfield Park at the opening Eucharist of the Province of Canada Synod brought praise from Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, in his remarks to the synod the next day. Referring to her reading from Chapter 4 of Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians, he said, “I could feel St. Paul’s heart actually beat. That’s the way the Word of God should be read: with confidence, trust and absolute conviction.”

A report from Africa

Delegates voted to encourage prayers in the diocese of the province for the conflict-racked Democratic Republic of Congo (Congo-Kinshasa). Archdeacon David Oliver, recently of the Montreal Diocese and now based at St. Barnabas Church in North Hatley in the Diocese of Quebec, reported briefly on a meeting he attended in September in Douala, Cameroon, of delegates from member groups of the Réseau francophone de la Communion anglicane. He said African members of the international network greatly appreciate support from Anglicans in other countries, like Canada. He brought back a prayer that begins:

“Prions pour la purification du sol congolais et la conversion du peuple congolais pour un engagement de marcher dans la voie de la sainteté afin de se libérer du culte de la personne héritée des religions traditionnelles, de l’esprit de la dépendance héritée du colonialisme et de l’impuissance de se prendre en charge;

“Prions pour toutes les victimes du terrorisme de la guerre à l’Est du pays et plus particulièrement pour les âmes disparues, les déplacés et les réfugiés, les enfants orphelins et abandonnés,

les femmes violées, les victimes des maladies endémiques et contagieuses, les chômeurs, les dépourvus de leurs biens...”

(Translation:

“Let us pray for the purification of the land of Congo and the conversion of the Congolese people, that they may commit to walk in the way of holiness and free themselves from the cult of personality inherited from traditional religions, from the spirit of dependence derived from colonialism, and the spirit of powerlessness to determine their lives for themselves;

“Let us pray for all victims of the terrorism of the war in the eastern part of the country, and especially for those who have died, who have been forcibly displaced, and for refugees, for orphaned and abandoned children, for women who have been raped, for the victims of contagious epidemic illnesses, for the unemployed, and those robbed of their goods.”

The synod voted to “receive with thanks” the report of the Réseau and direct that the report and prayers be translated and commended for use in the province.

Lynn Shepherd, bishop, to represent Montreal

Lynn Shepherd of the Church of the Epiphany in Verdun will be a member of Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada for the next three years, representing the Diocese of Montreal along with Bishop Barry Clarke.

In addition, the Rev James Pratt of St. Phillip’s Church in Montreal West remains clerical secretary of the ecclesiastical province and Eric Dryden, from the Eastern Townships, remains secretary. The provincial synod, smaller than the previous one, was elected under new rules, according to which each diocese is represented by its bishop and either a lay person or a cleric – but no longer one of each as before. A diocese represented by a cleric in one three-year term is represented by a lay person in the next and vice versa. There are also two youth delegates.

The Province of Canada?

One of four provinces in the Anglican Church of Canada, the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada was founded in 1860, and thus predates the national structure by three decades. The Province currently includes seven dioceses: Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton, the diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Western Newfoundland, Central Newfoundland and Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador. The Provincial Synod meets every three years in order to provide opportunities for fellowship, for discussion, and for co-operation in the mission of the Church. in this Province. The other three ecclesiastical provinces in the Canadian church are Ontario (in the civil province of that name), Rupert’s Land (the Prairies and the Arctic) and British Columbia and Yukon.



DAVID OLIVER

After 105 years, St Columba Parish lets go and lets God

Staff

Parishioners of St. Columba's Church in the N.D.G. district of West-End Montreal said farewell to their 105-year-old parish September 30 and moved into the future, although not as a parish.

A planned "farewell service" went ahead on schedule despite a 15-20 vote at a congregational vestry meeting earlier in the month not to go ahead with the merger of the parish and the larger Trinity Memorial Church in N.D.G. that the two parishes and the Diocese of Montreal had been discussing intensively for months. St. Columba had previously decided to cease activities in its existing premises, which are for sale.

The parish vote came as a surprise to many in the diocese and Trinity Memorial – where a vestry meeting the same day as St. Columba's voted unanimously in favour of the merger – and probably St. Columba too. Peter Bateman, a warden at St. Columba's, said after the service that those who voted against the merger probably had various reasons and there was no concerted anti-merger campaign.

But Bishop Barry Clarke, speaking briefly at the service, described the vote as a "healthy and creative decision" that reminded him of the slogan associated with the late inspirational writer Alfred E. Cliffe: "Let go and let God."

He said the parish had decided to "let God do what he wants to do with us" and would continue to have the support of the diocese.

"You have not walked alone and you will not walk alone."

The practical effects of the decision not to merge with Trinity Memorial may turn out to be limited. Trinity Memorial will apparently continue to use that name; it had been expected that a merged parish and the bishop would pick a new one.

Assets from St. Columba had been expected to be helpful in efforts to improve Trinity Memorial and its plant and complement the advantages of its location near the Vendôme Métro station and the new McGill University Health Centre megahospital, but it seems likely that the diocese, to whom assets of St. Columba's now devolve, will use some of them for this purpose.

Improved access to Trinity Memorial for the handicapped had been an important issue in merger negotiations. There had been plans to have the merged congregation worship temporarily in the downstairs hall of Trinity Memorial while a lift was installed at a cost of up to \$75,000. But Stanley Brooks, a warden of Trinity Memorial, said a lift is still needed for individuals from St. Columba who will probably come to Trinity Memorial, aging parishioners who were already at Trinity Memorial and new worshippers the church hopes to attract.

The parish may still worship in the hall for a while, although there would be some effect on timing.

Holy Trinity and the diocese are still asking for a \$15,000 grant from a national organization called the Anglican Foundation toward the cost of this project.

A Korean Baptist Church and a day-care centre continue until further notice to rent the use of the church and its hall. Mr. Bateman said the premises are for sale but the diocese and diocese want to see future uses that will benefit the community.

Archdeacon Gordon Guy, who has been serving the church as interim rector, said in his homily, preached to a full church, that, while the church has a rich heritage, "today is about taking our presence where God is leading us" – not just in future worship but also in the world.

"Moving on is not just about location, it is about vocation."

Offerings at the service were divided between the N.D.G. Food Bank, supported by the parish

through the years, and a water well project the Montreal Diocese's partner Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania. Hymns, all selected by parishioners, included one honouring the Sixth-Century Gaelic Irish missionary for whom the parish is named.

The opening lines, underlined by Bishop Barry in his remarks, are:

"From Erin's soul Columba came
To preach and teach and heal,
And found a church that showed
The world
How God on earth was real."



ST. COLUMBA PARISHIONERS gather at the front of the nave to lead a capacity congregation of well-wishers in a rousing final hymn.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Fair trade returns to Cathedral

A fair trade boutique that helped artisans and other producers get a fair return for their product during last year's Christmas shopping season was successful enough that the Christ Church Cathedral Community is both repeating the venture and branching out.

The *Commerce Equitable* fair trade boutique will be back for a full week this year in the Atrium at 1444 Union Avenue – behind the Cathedral and at the entrance to its offices and hall – between Monday, Nov. 26 and Sunday, Dec. 2, between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Last year, the boutique brought in an "astounding" \$8,230 over only days, reports Jonathan Bailey of the Cathedral's Fair Trade Working Group. Most of that went to the Dix Mille Villages St. Denis Street store, which supplied the goods sold – a sizeable portion of it to artisans overseas. The Cathedral, as a partner in this project, received 15 per cent – over \$1,200 – for charitable work of its own.

"The Boutique really caught the imagination of a very broad range of people and inspired them to volunteer their skills, time and energy in

the name of social justice, and to spend their money generously to support the initiative," Mr. Bailey said. "The project directly involved about 45 members of the cathedral community as sales assistants, merchandisers, advisors, designers, publicists, drivers and furniture removers – and they are all now keen to try to beat last year's daily takings when the Boutique returns in November!"

But the Fair Trade Working Group didn't wait for the Christmas rush to keep the momentum going.

This fall, they launched a *Commerce Equitable* kiosk, also in partnership with Dix Mille Villages St. Denis, during the coffee hour after the 10 a.m. service on the third Sunday of every month. The next kiosques will be November 18 and December 16. The kiosk focuses on agricultural produce like coffee, tea, chocolate, spices and olive oil.

"Each month's kiosk will feature a new range of food," Mr. Bailey said. "One of the tempting products at September's kiosk was Level Ground's first-ever organic-and-direct fair trade espresso blend.

"Buying from the fair trade

kiosque *Commerce Equitable* means supporting many small-scale farmers around the world who strive to earn a fair living to provide for their children and be gainfully employed in a job that brings dignity and joy.

Again, proceeds from the kiosk directly benefit farmers around the world through Dix Mille Villages St. Denis, except that the cathedral keeps 15 per cent to support its own outreach programme.

He notes, "Poignantly, The kiosk was launched just days after news broke of upwards of 300 factory workers being killed in devastating fires in illegal garment factories in Pakistan. These factories had no basic safety equipment and no fire exits, and locked doors and barred windows prevented the people from escaping. This tragedy is a reminder that we all share responsibility for the safety and welfare of people who provide the products that we use in our daily lives."

Anyone wishing to know more or to get involved in helping with this year's fair trade boutique *Commerce Equitable* should contact jonathanbailey@hotmail.com.



LAST YEAR'S FAIR TRADE Boutique was so successful Cathedral volunteers are doing even more this year.



ECUMENICAL GUESTS at the final service of St. Columba Anglican Church included Pastor Samuel King-Kabu, right, of nearby St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church and Emissa Debebe, a leader of an Ethiopian Orthodox Church that shared the quarters of St. Columba's and, at another time, St. James the Apostle in downtown Montreal. The Ethiopian leader said his parish learned lessons in "sharing our space from the Anglicans. It bought a former Ukrainian Catholic church in the Park Extension district and now shares the space with the Ukrainian parish.



THE BANNER of St. Columba Anglican Church in N.D.G. is carried through the church for the last time.

A Church of all deacons...

Peter Huish

We became intentional about recovering our *diakonia* in this diocese in 1994 following a Symposium at Montreal Diocesan Theological College after which the bishops of Eastern Canada in their respective ways decided to support the restoration of the diaconate. In the Diocese of Montreal our first permanent deacon was ordained in 1998 and to date we have ordained a total of eight deacons.

As pointedly significant as this has been for the individuals concerned and their places of ministry, it has been of enormous significance for the Church. All-too-unfortunate boundaries between the Church and the world are crumbling, our attitudes and self-understanding as

church are changing and we have been extraordinarily enriched by the enlargement of our communion to include otherwise isolated elderly persons, families struggling to ensure the optimal opportunities and well-being for their children, handicapped young people, alienated and disoriented youth, prisoners and prison survivors as well as those who have suffered from crime and its repercussions, homeless persons, persons with medical or mental health concerns, those struggling with poverty of all kinds.

We are changed not only in the parishes where our deacons have their Sunday homes but across the diocese wherever this good news is heard. We are changed because these family members who have been lost



DEACON PETER HUISH, who served St. Columba's Parish in West-End Montreal as a deacon, prepares to read the Gospel at the farewell service at the parish.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

are now among us but we are changed because we have seen them, we have heard them, we have touched them. We are changed especially because they have touched us - and this because we have these few deacons among us and because the Spirit is nourishing their *diakonia*.

The decision to restore the vocational diaconate in this diocese was a decision that we might become a truly diaconal church and that the deacons whose *diakonia* we discerned might be for us icons of the radical hospitality which Jesus himself embodied and lead us as Church into our larger, shared *diakonia*.

Please listen for what the Spirit is saying to the Church - consider participating in the conference, *Becoming a Diaconal Church* to be held Friday evening 23 November and all-day Saturday, 24 November. Details can be found in this issue of *The Montreal Anglican*. OR PROBABLY on this page.

(Deacon Peter Huish has been based at the Church of St. Columba in West-End Montreal and is a canon of Christ Church Cathedral. He is chaplain-co-ordinator of Montreal Southwest Community Ministries, working with released prisoners, and is a prison chaplain.)

The Deacons' Community of the Diocese of Montreal

BECOMING A DIACONAL CHURCH A Visioning Conference

Friday November 23, 7 pm - 9:15 pm
Saturday, November 24, 9:15 am - 4:30 pm

Church of St James the Apostle
1439 rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest, Montréal
(Métro Guy-Concordia)

Speakers and Workshop Leaders
Bishop Mark MacDonald
Deacon Sandy Cotton • Mark Dunwoody • Deacon Peter Huish
Deacon Maylanne Maybee • Archdeacon John Lee • The Revd Rhonda Waters

For more information go to www.montreal.anglican.ca/visioning or contact Deacon Peter Huish at (514) 812-4863 or phuish@montreal.anglican.ca

Please register by phone (514) 843-6577 before November 20



BISHOP BARRY CLARKE met informally with most of the vocational deacons in his diocese early last year. The bishop noted at the time that vocational deacons serve as chaplains in correctional facilities and pastoral, work among the homeless and marginalized and with young people in and around their own communities. "The vocational deacons, through their ministry outside of the Church community have the responsibility of speaking to the faith community about their experiences of the world around them as they engage in this important ministry. The faith community, the Church, through the clergy and laity, has a responsibility to hear the voice of the deacons as they assist them in God's mission of God's reign of healing, reconciliation, peace with justice in the world." (From left are Deacons Seymour Smith, Jean Willcocks, Robert Coolidge, Peter Huish, Merlyne Howard and Allan Marjerison and the bishop. Absent were Judith Ball and Jessica Bickford, as well as Del Skinner, now deceased.)

(Photo: Ardyth Robinson)

News in brief

A well for Masasi

Another modest request for funds has been sent out by Bishop Barry Clarke and Executive Archdeacon Janet Griffith in support of a project in Montreal's companion diocese of Masasi in Tanzania. It follows last year's "Sandals for Service" that helped to buy shoes and clothing, for clergy, helped a blind retired cleric with no pension and helped rebuild a motorcycle motor for a cleric who ministers to 6,000 in nine congregations. This year the bishop and archdeacon invite donations for a well in a little community where Bishop Patrick Mwachiko plans to live. Individuals and parishes can send cheques made out to the Diocese of Montreal with "Well for Masasi" on the memo line,

PWRDF to hear AIDS fund-raisers

Representatives of an organization that seek to put money into the hands of community-based organizations working to check the AIDS pandemic will speak at the regular lunch Thursday, November 8, of the Montreal chapter of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. Nina Minde and Sheila Denton will outline the work of the Westhill Grandmothers-to-Grandmothers Campaign, affiliated with the Stephen Lewis Foundation. The meeting will be in Fulford Hall, 1444 Union Ave., behind Christ Church Cathedral. Some refreshments will be available but participants may want to bring a lunch. The local PWRDF chapter will also spon-

sor its annual AIDS Mass again this year, presumably about December 1. Details had not been settled at press time.

SOCABI: projet de relance

La Société catholique de la Bible est heureuse d'annoncer que le bureau de direction de la Conférence des évêques catholiques du Canada, sur la recommandation du Conseil d'administration, a nommé le Père Marcel Dumais o.m.i. président de SOCABI pour un terme de quatre ans. Professeur émérite d'Écriture Sainte de l'Université Saint-Paul (Ottawa), le Père Marcel Dumais est reconnu pour ses nombreuses publications en exégèse, tant scientifiques que de vulgarisation, notamment sur le thème de la communauté et de la mission dans les *Actes des Apôtres*, ainsi que sur le Sermon sur la montagne. Le bureau de direction de la CECC a nommé Mgr Luc Bouchard évêque de liaison (évêque *ponens*) de la Société. Mgr Bouchard est évêque du diocèse de Trois-Rivières. En 2009, il a publié une lettre pastorale très remarquée sur les sables bitumineux. Le Conseil d'administration tient à remercier le président sortant, M. l'abbé Yves Guillemette, directeur du Centre biblique de Montréal, et Mgr Raymond St-Gelais, évêque émérite de Nicolet, qui a été l'évêque *ponens* durant de longues années. SOCABI annonce également la reprise de la publication de la revue *Parabole* en format électronique cette fois. La reprise de *Parabole* s'inscrit dans le projet de relance de la Société catholique de la Bible.

KIOSQUE

DE COMMERCE ÉQUITABLE
FAIR TRADE KIOSQUE

Chaque 3^{ème} dimanche
Le 21 oct., 18 nov. & 16 déc.
11h30 - 12h30

Cathédrale Christ Church
635 Ste Catherine O.
www.montrealcathedral.ca

SOCIAL ACTION GROUP
VILLAGES
CHRIST CHURCH
SIE-CATHERINE

Honouring the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee

Diversity at the Cathedral



Cucumber sandwiches & everything



Christ Church Cathedral and several other parishes joined in paying homage to Queen Elizabeth on her Diamond Jubilee, following observances at several individual parishes.

The left column to illustrate the rich tapestry of the Anglican Church in Canada, with members from around the world, parishes from different parts of the diocese contributed displays of flowers and memorabilia to a special exhibition at Christ Church Cathedral September 29 in honour of the Queen's Jubilee. The next day, diocesan choirs joined in a special service to celebrate the jubilee.

Among exhibits were, from top, ones by the Mile End Mission, the Parish of St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke, the Parish of St. James the Apostle and the Cathedral itself!

(Photos: Jane Aitkens and Harvey Shepherd)



In the next column, from the top, fancy delights, cucumber sandwiches and tasty squares were much in evidence, along with English tea, when the Church of the Resurrection in Pointe Claire celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on June 22, 2012. Forty-nine people from the parish enjoyed fellowship and refreshments and enjoyed the Union Jack and British memorabilia, evident throughout.

(Photo: Peter Thomson)

A Japanese yew was planted at the door of Christ Church Rawdon in late May by Archbishop Bruce Stavert, who was ending a brief tenure as interim priest-in-charge of the parish. The tree was donated by Louis-Martin Riquier, a member of the Servers Guild of Christ Church.

(Photo: Verna Asbil)

A yew to honour the Queen



The Rev. Canon Lettie James, who in 1978 was the first woman ordained as a priest in the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, was one of close to 24 residents of the Notre Dame de Grâce – Lachine federal riding honours presented with Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals, marking their contribution to their communities on the occasion of the 60 anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne. Isabelle Morin, member of Parliament for the riding, praised Canon James' fight against discrimination. In photo, Canon James relaxes with her husband, Cliff, in the West-End Montreal Park where the ceremony took place.

(Photo: Tracy Davidson)

A medal for Lettie James



Friday, November 2, 5:45 pm
All Souls' Day

Requiem by Gabriel Fauré

A Choral Eucharist Service, accompanied by Strings to be followed by a Reception in our Lower Hall

St. Matthias' Church
Westmount

131 Côte-St-Antoine Road

(Metro Atwater or Vendôme, then Bus 24, 138, 104 to Metcalfe Ave.)

"For ushers and greeters ... for cleaners and dusters... for administrators and helpers ... we give you thanks, O Lord"



AT LEFT: Ian and Meg Sinclair of St. James Church in Hudson were among about 30 people who serve the Diocese of Montreal on committees and otherwise who received certificates of appreciation from Bishop Barry Clarke at the annual Volunteer Recognition Day Eucharist September 15. He's active in the Lay Readers Association; she's a parish communicator. BELOW, active in the Council on Aging of the Diocese of Montreal, Carol Hutton of Trinity Church St. Bruno receives a certificate from Bishop Barry Clarke at the annual Volunteer Recognition Day Eucharist. "You and I have a responsibility as part of creation to care for life and the environment," the bishop said in his homily.



RIGHT, a parish communicator at St. Michels and All Angels Pierrefonds, Jean Parnell receives a certificate from Bishop Barry Clarke at the annual Volunteer Recognition Day Eucharist. "God is at work in the life of the church, in the life of this diocese and in your lives and I give thanks for you," the bishop said in his homily. (Photos: Harvey Shepherd)



Fulford keeps up with the times

The elderly women who live at the Fulford Residence in west-central Montreal now have access to a laptop computer.

Thanks to the Rotary Club of Westmount, the users' committee of the residence, a non-profit continuing-care residence with historic connections to the Anglican Church, was able to invest in a laptop computer for the use of the almost 40 ladies who live there and their families.

"Wireless Internet is now available throughout the house, so families and volunteers are welcome to pick up the computer in the office and carry it to any room in the house to show the ladies that they too can enjoy browsing the internet or sending emails to family members," reports Susan Winn of the board of directors.

"Most of the ladies begin hesitantly and then experience delight! They see themselves in the photo gallery



FULFORD RESIDENT Gertrude Clancy tries her hand at the Fulford Residence's new laptop. (She's the mother of Rev. Deacon Jean Willcocks of the Montreal Diocese.) (Photo: Susan Winn)

of the Fulford website, or they explore their church websites. With the help of family members they can enjoy photos of grandchildren and visit places they have travelled. We

thank the Rotary members for this gift that is helping our ladies to understand a world that frequently seems so foreign to their experience."

Staff learn Montessori techniques

Staff at the Fulford Residence on Guy Street in Montreal have become the first in a seniors' residence in Quebec to be trained in techniques based on the work of the late Maria Montessori for working with people with dementia.

Several months ago, members of the Fulford Staff participated in a workshop led by Gail Elliot, assistant director of the Gilbrea Center for Studies in Aging at McMaster University, Hamilton, and devoted to improving the world of those living with dementia.

She describes Montessori Methods for Dementia as a compassionate way of creating an environment in which patients can thrive, based on the original visionary work of Dr. Montessori and research conducted by Dr. Cameron Camp and Dr. Michelle Bourgeois.

Gail Elliot has taught caregivers in other parts of Canada and in Hong Kong and has worked with the Australia Alzheimer Society. She lauded the Fulford participants as leaders of change, awakening the human potential in those with dementia. She stressed that, "When you know the story behind the person, you know the person behind the story."

She said it is most important for seniors to be able to take on roles and activities consistent with their skills and abilities in order to to combat boredom and loneliness.

"Through role playing, demonstrations of lively and useful activities, agenda-building, doll therapy, and creative brainstorming, over

two full days, the participants in this workshop learned to use new, well-informed and compassionate approaches to increasing the activity and independence of their Fulford ladies," Susan Winn said. "This is just the beginning of a journey that will be shared with colleagues and with families in the months ahead."



SIMPLE AIDS can make a difference for those with dementia, Gail Elliot of the Gilbrea Center for Studies in Aging, Hamilton, suggests to participants in a workshop for staff of the Fulford Residence. (Photo: Susan Winn)

La Résidence Fulford Residence
A Unique Brand of Caring



Fulford Residence is a private non-profit continuing care residence for senior ladies. This gracious facility provides a special combination of residential living, activities, support and health care designed to meet the individual needs of each resident.

Located on Guy Street, this old Victorian house was once the home of the Anglican Bishop of Montreal. With a wide verandah and well-kept flower gardens, the residents are able to enjoy an outdoor setting, as well as indoor spaces for groups or for quiet, activities. Dr. Eleanor Hew is always on-call, visiting through the week, and working alongside our Head Nurse. With caring staff available 24 hours a day, home-cooked meals to meet every taste, professionals and volunteers who visit to provide services and activities, the ladies of Fulford enjoy a quality of life that encourages individual strengths and abilities.

Fulford's rates are reasonable and competitive. If you are looking for a caring environment for a lady of senior years, please visit Fulford to understand the essence of this very special place.

For additional information, you are invited to visit the Fulford website: www.fulfordresidence.com or call to speak to a member of the Management Team
514-933-7975
The Ladies of Fulford will welcome you

The Church of Saint John the Evangelist in Montreal is seeking a Director of Music to begin September 2013

A member of the Anglican Church of Canada, Saint John's is an Anglo-Catholic parish. The English Hymnal is used alongside the 1959 Book of Common Prayer, and Gregorian Chant has a prominent place in worship. The organ is a Hellmuth Wolff mechanical action with two manuals and pedal, 27 stops and 37 ranks. The choir includes four paid leads, and rehearses one weekday evening per week except in summers.

We are seeking an experienced Director for this part-time position, and the salary is in accordance with the guidelines set by the RCCO.

The deadline for applications is December 15, 2012. Please send résumé and references to the attention of "Music Director Search Committee", to the church at 137 President Kennedy Ave., Montreal, QC. H2X 3P6, or by e-mail to office@redroof.ca.

Spiritual notebook

Paws & Pray at Christ Church Beaurepaire



The next Paws & Pray services at Christ Church Beaurepaire will take place on Sunday November 4 and Sunday December 2. All services are at 1 p.m. Paws & Pray features a service of the Holy Eucharist where canine companions and their guardians are

always welcome. Services take place at Christ Church Beaurepaire, 455 Church St., Beaconsfield. For more information, call 514-697-2204.

Norman Cornett documentary is online

A documentary about Dr. Norman Cornett, dismissed as a McGill University lecturer in religious studies in 2007 for undisclosed reasons perhaps connected with his unorthodox style of teaching, is now online.



The National Film Board documentary, by Alanis Obomsawin a leading documentary filmmaker, chronicles his teaching style and his highly publicized firing.

Since 2007 Dr. Cornett has independently organized “dialogic” teaching sessions; these and other activities are often at St. James United Church in downtown Montreal. A session on religions, immigration and reasonable accommodations with philosopher Charles Taylor, co-chair of the Bouchard-Taylor Commission, will take place Monday evening, November 19, following up on one about a year ago with the other co-chair, Gérard Bouchard.

Dr. Cornett also teaches in French and English at a number of universities throughout North America and in France and is active on the Mon-

treal arts scene. The documentary, *Professor Norman Cornett: “Since when do we divorce the right answer from an honest answer?”* can be seen at or bought through www.nfb.ca/film/professor_norman_cornett/. His own website is haveyouexperienced.wordpress.com.

Labyrinth unveiled

On Sept. 16, the Parish of the

Good Shepherd in Mount Pearl, Nfld. unveiled a labyrinth. It stands as the centerpiece of the parish's redevelopment of the green space next to the church under the city's “Adopt-A-Park” program.

Linked to Mount Pearl's walking trails, the labyrinth provides a space for people to walk, contemplate and meditate. It is a collaborative project of the parish, city and the Grand Concourse Authority in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Poetry

The Hollow Ones

John Serjeantson

A great loneliness descends upon me,
Descends upon me without you.
That space you occupied is empty
There is a void, a pit, where once you were.

When one is a people-pleaser –
To be nice, at all costs to be liked –,
When one finds one's centre of self
In the approval of other people
And does not have a solid centre,
A firm centre of self within,
When one feels one is void within,
When one is a co-dependent,
How does one come to have,
To have a solid centre deep within.
A firm, secure centre of self identity?
When does one cease to search for
One's centre of being in another?
When one withdraws those introjections,
Then one is aware of the deep void,
The emptiness of pain within,
Gnawing, piercing, lack within,
A deep loneliness at the centre of being.
How does one come to a state,
A place of “union with integrity,”
Of union with other people
And of integrity within one's self,
A state of ontological security?

Jesus the crucified one is no stranger;
He is no stranger to me
Because he lives in his agony,
The agony of his passion,
At the centre of my being.
I identify with him in his pain
As he identifies with me in mine.

I go down into the watery depths,
Into the dark watery depths,
The watery depths of his baptism,
I identify with him in his pain
In the agony of his cross
As Barbara my therapist did for me.
He reflects my inner agony back to me.
I see the face of God through him.
“O generous love that he who smote
In us for us the foe
The double agony in us
For us should undergo.”
So in this union of pain
My “life is hid with Christ in God,”
The one who after the agony,
The agony of his passion crucified –
Jesus the Christ rose from the dead.
“He lives, he lives, who once was dead
He lives, my everliving Head.”
“You died, and now your life lies hidden,
Lies hidden with Christ in God!”
One finds one's secure, solid centre in Christ
From which one can reach out to others in love
Deeper, more secure than human bonding.
God's Spirit gives us this assurance,
An assurance born in us by Grace,
Appropriated by us through faith.
Amen, Amen, Amen, and Amen.

(The Rev. John Serjeantson is honorary assistant in the Parish of Mansonville and the Boltons. The poem includes quotations from the hymns “Praise to the Holiest in the Height” and “I Know that My Redeemer Lives,” slightly adjusted, from *Corinthians 3:3* and from *The Art of Loving* by Erich Fromm.)

Still Presence Spirituality Centre Monday Meditation Circles – November

Nov. 5th & 12th, 7-8:15 pm
COMPLETING THE CIRCLE: Grief and Resolution
Alternately led by Cedric & Michael
Bring an open heart and willing intention as we meditate, and practice rituals of completion and healing.

Nov. 19th & 26th, 7-8:15 pm
OPENING THE GIFT: Forgiving Ourselves and Others
Alternately led by Cedric & Michael
These sessions offer some powerful meditative techniques to change our perception and make forgiveness a reality.

All sessions take place at **Christ Church, Beaurepaire**
455 Church St., Beaconsfield
Information: 514-697-2204 – cedric.c.cobb@gmail.com
www.StillPresence.com



PHOTO: ISAC GOULART

BEYOND BELIEF: BEYOND CERTAINTY

with renowned author **MARGARET SILF**

What does it really mean to be people of faith when traditional religious structures seem to be straining and breaking down? When dangerous fault-lines are opening up between faith and theism, between different faith traditions, and within our own traditions and practices? Is faith simply our assent to a series of theological propositions, or is it a question of trust? What is this mystery we call ‘God’ and how might we be in relationship with such mystery? Who is Jesus for us? And what about faith community?

An opportunity to explore questions we might not dare ask in church.

Thursday, November 29, 2012, at 7 p.m.

Fulford Hall, 1444 Union Ave., Montreal (Metro McGill)



Margaret Silf travels widely in her work as a retreat director and speaker on Ignatian spirituality. Her latest book, *Just Call Me Lopez: Getting to the Heart of Ignatius Loyola*, appeared in 2012. Her other books include *The Other Side of Chaos*, *Simple Faith*, *Compass Points*, *Inner Compass*, *Close to the Heart* and *Going on Retreat* (Loyola Press) and *The Gift of Prayer: Embracing the Sacred in the Everyday* (Bluebridge). She lives in Scotland.

**FREE ADMISSION. ALL WELCOME. SPONSORED BY
The Ignatian Spirituality Centre (514 481-1064)
The Spiritual Direction Group, Diocese of Montreal (Anglican)**



Books

Towards a Christian theology of evolution

A review of Jack Mahoney: *Christianity in Evolution: An Exploration*, (Georgetown University Press, 2011). Paperback, 188 pages

Reviewed by William Converse

Jack Mahoney is emeritus professor of moral and social theology at the University of London, a former principal of Heythrop College and a member of the Society of Jesus.

In this challenging but very accessible book Mahoney explores the connections between evolutionary science and Christianity. Like the distinguished British physicist John Polkinghorne, he discovers that the rational structures of science and religion exhibit significant homologies. Polkinghorne noted similarities between Quantum Physics and Trinitarian theology. Mahoney does the same with the theory of evolution and Christology.

Mahoney submits that the new understanding of reality which evolutionary theory has brought about has revolutionary consequences for traditional Christian beliefs, specifically Creation, the Fall, the Incarnation and the Atonement. In his view Christian thinkers have been slow to accept the radical implications of the theory of evolution for their faith. He faults John Polkinghorne, Alister McGrath and Keith Ward for their defensiveness – what he calls their “post-evolutionary apologetics.”

Mahoney states his problematic: “The purpose of this book... is to begin to undertake this challenging task of considering what consequences for Christian theology might result from accepting the truth of human biological evolution. This will involve exploring the evolutionary significance of creation and of the incarnation, as well as of the emergence and role of ethics and of religion in the development of the human species. It will also entail assessing aspects of some traditional Christian beliefs and, where necessary, putting them aside in order to make room for a more contemporary evolutionary theology.”

From static to dynamic

Mahoney argues that we need to embrace boldly this new way of thinking about the world and our place in it. We have to move from a static to a dynamic conception of reality, from an a-historic, mythological and prescientific view of the origins of *homo sapiens*, to an evolutionary one. We must abandon the natural law tradition that was based on a static and hierarchical understanding of human nature for a dynamic one.

Adopting an evolutionary standpoint enables us to understand the world as experienced reality; it allows us to set up a dialectic between scientific thinking and experiential faith. Mahoney points to the dangers arising from the failure or reluctance of theologians to address the intellectual difficulties caused by traditional beliefs. The influential 20th century German Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner once observed that such beliefs can strain both the faith of believers and the credulity of non-believers. If St. Anselm described theology as “faith seeking understanding,” Mahoney envisages theology as “a dialectic between our belief and our experience.”

Mahoney addresses questions that



JACK MAHONEY

Pope John Paul II posed in 1988 to a conference convened in Rome to study the relationships between evolution and religion: “Does an evolutionary perspective bring any light to bear upon theological anthropology, the meaning of the human person as the *imago Dei*, the problem of Christology – and even upon the development of doctrine itself?” The Pope was concerned to help people “struggling to integrate the worlds of science and religion in their own intellectual and spiritual lives.”

From the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century, the Roman Catholic Church queried the theory of human evolution. The church was concerned about its effect on the interpretation of scripture and about what the theory implied with regard to the relationship between God and nature with respect to creation and providence; and what it said about the place of human beings in the natural order. The First Vatican Council had planned to condemn the theory of evolution (specifically polygenesis), but the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War intervened. In 1909 the Pontifical Biblical Commission issued a detailed statement that upheld the literal historical truth of Genesis 1-3. In 1941 Pope Pius XII, in an address to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, recognized the important contributions that science had made in the fields of biology and paleontology, but he concluded that nothing certain concerning the origins of the human race had been determined. In 1948 the Pontifical Biblical Commission qualified its earlier statement on the historical status of Genesis 1-3 because of its particular literary genre; however, it cautioned against inferring that there was no historical basis for these narratives; to do so, it said, would negate basic truths presupposed in the economy of salvation.

From pope to pope

Mahoney then reviews the positions of previous popes regarding the theory of evolution. In 1950 Pope Pius XII in his encyclical *Humani generis* stated that the Church did not condemn the doctrine of evolution provided that it allowed for the immediate creation of an immortal soul for every human being. However, it rejected the notion of polygenesis; the idea that human race had originated in more than one locale contradicted the Genesis account of the creation of humankind. In 1966 Pope Paul VI referred to evolution as a theory rather than a hypothesis. At the same time he reaffirmed the teaching of *Humani generis*. In 1996 Pope John Paul II in a message to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences noted that while Pius XII had referred to evolution as “a serious hypothesis,” new evidence compelled us to regard evolution as more than a hypothesis. The Church’s position on human evolution has itself evolved as its understanding of the Scriptures and Tradition continued to develop. John Henry Newman already anticipated this in his 1845 *Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*.

Since Charles Darwin’s *The Descent of Man* (1871), there have been



ATHEOLOGICAL CHALLENGE?

(Photo Pierre Fidenci, distributed under the licence Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 2.5)

many theories to explain the origins of our moral sense in the course of human evolution. Mahoney asks how and why altruism developed since it seems counterintuitive for “the survival of the fittest?” He proposes a theological explanation: human beings are formed in the image of God, therefore, altruism reflects the divine relations within the Trinity, the dynamic and creative energy, mutuality and interrelatedness, what theologians term *perichoresis*. He bases his argument on Scripture (Colossians 1:15 and John 10:10), the writings of the Church Fathers, and a saying of Ignatius Loyola, “Lord, teach me to be generous.”

Mahoney avails himself of the findings of sociobiology and evolutionary anthropology as well as the results of modern biblical scholarship. He concludes that the narrative of the Fall was invented to explain why human beings die. Therefore, it is etiological. Instead of accepting death as a universal natural phenomenon, inherent in the evolutionary process itself, Genesis attributed death to human sin, hence the association of sin with death in the Hebrew Bible. In the New Testament, it summed in Paul’s assertion, “For the wages of sin is death.” (Romans 6:23).

‘Condemned lump’

Mahoney next considers the doctrine of original sin. He notes that this doctrine is peculiar to the Western Church; it has its origins in the teaching of Augustine of Hippo for whom humanity was a “condemned lump” (*massa damnata*). The doctrine appears to be based upon a misinterpretation of a faulty translation of the Greek text of Romans 5:12 in the Old Latin version of the New Testament that Augustine used. Its historical context is the Pelagian controversy. The followers of Pelagius denied the existence of original sin; individuals were free to do either right or wrong. Since there was scant biblical support for the doctrine of original sin, Augustine’s argument seems forced; indeed, his opponents accused him of inventing it. However, his view ultimately prevailed and cast its long shadow over Western theology, including Luther, Calvin and the Council of Trent. It is contained in Article IX of the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England.

In the 11th century, St. Anselm developed a legalistic theory of the

atonement in *Cur deus homo*: since only God could make satisfaction for the affront to the divine Majesty that humankind had committed in disobeying the divine command in the Garden of Eden, Jesus’ death on the cross was necessary.

If Adam had not sinned?

During the later Middle Ages scholastic theology was preoccupied with soteriology, the branch of theology that deals with salvation. In the first millennium the emphasis had been on *Christus Victor*: “The sequence of the Easter Mass portrays his achievement as a victorious cosmic combat. ... In his dying Jesus was impelled by his divine and human altruism to break through death to a renewed life and to open this evolutionary advance for the rest of humanity.”

Now the question was, What if Adam had not sinned?

In the 12th century Peter Abelard wondered why God had not simply forgiven Adam and Eve.

In the 13th century Thomas Aquinas pondered the matter, observing that it was complicated because there were proponents on both sides. He favored the position that the Incarnation would not have taken place had humankind not sinned: “I answer that, there are different opinions about this question. For some say that even if man had not sinned, the Son of Man would have become incarnate. Others assert the contrary, and seemingly our assent ought rather to be given to this opinion.” John Duns Scotus held that the Incarnation would have taken place anyway since it was an integral part of the original divine plan for creation.

For Mahoney an adequate Christian theology of evolution offers a way out of this impasse. Instead of being a ransom paid for human sin, Jesus’s death and resurrection are the means whereby *homo sapiens* transcends death itself. Baptism, therefore, should not be understood as regeneration; the Eucharist is not to be considered a propitiatory sacrifice with the priest as an *alter Christus*, who acts *in persona Christi*. His conclusions have ramifications for ecumenical relations. For the Roman Catholic Church they remove a major theological obstacle to the ordination of women.

Differs from Teilhard

Mahoney’s stance contrasts with that of another Jesuit, the paleontol-

ogist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955), best known for his books *The Phenomenon of Man* (1955) and *The Divine Milieu* (1957). Teilhard sought to integrate his religious beliefs with his scientific ideas to create a bold new synthesis, a cosmic vision of Christ as the Alpha and Omega. While Teilhard did not openly challenge official Catholic teaching, the implications of his thought were unmistakable. He could not reconcile the traditional understanding of Genesis with the vast stretches of time involved in human evolution, what today is called “deep history.” Consequently he was prohibited by his religious superiors from writing on theology. His theological writings were published only after his death, in time for the Second Vatican Council where they were influential.

While Mahoney stands on firmer ground than Teilhard, his views are none the less controversial; they conflict with the 1994 Catechism of the Catholic Church. He prudently avoids any discussion of when the human species first acquired immortal souls. He is also careful to affirm his belief in the Incarnation. He is adamant that he does not deny the fact of human sinfulness or the need for repentance. It is the traditional doctrine of original sin that concerns him most because of its negative consequences for the Christian faith:

“If attempts are made to continue to hold loyally even in some adapted or accommodated form to the traditional beliefs that this discussion has considered as outmoded in an evolutionary context, one consequence can easily be to create a strain on the faith of believers and a strain on the credulity of nonbelievers. The intellectual difficulties raised by these traditional beliefs, and a reluctance on the part of church authorities to acknowledge or to face these difficulties, especially in the new evolutionary context, can all too easily create ‘no-go’ areas in the minds of believers and can contribute to a general sapping of confidence in the teaching authority of the church or, indeed, in the credibility of religion.”

Prior to the release of his book, Mahoney gave a lecture at Gresham College, London, with the same title, “Christianity in Evolution: An Exploration.” A transcript is available on the Internet, together with a video of the lecture. www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/christianity-in-evolution-an-exploration) An edited version of the lecture appeared in *The Tablet* (January 14, 2012).

This is an important and timely book. I recommend it.

©William Converse 2012

THE 10th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR	
<small>Montreal's 21st Sector Church</small>	
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2 6 pm – 9 pm	SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3 9 am – 4 pm
248 – 10 th Avenue, Deux-Montagnes	
<small>Other goods - Novelties - Merchandise - Christmas crafts - Jewelry - Art - Cards - Pottery - Baked Goods</small>	
<small>Be sure to come for a delicious hot lunch!</small>	
<small>#110: Adèle 456-431-8278 info@sal.montrealmagnifique.ca www.sal.montrealmagnifique.ca</small>	

Opening Synod ►

THE PRIMATE of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, is followed by Archdeacon Bruce Myers of the Diocese of Quebec, deputy prolocutor (loosely, deputy speaker) and the metropolitan, Archbishop Claude Miller of Fredericton, in the opening procession of the synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada in Montreal September 20.

(Photo: Harvey Shephard)



THE A.E.J. FULFORD TRUST was established in 1973 to encourage, promote, develop and enrich sacred music in the Anglican Church of Canada.

We welcome applications for grants from this Trust for:

- diocesan schools of church music
- schools for the training of choir leaders and organists
- assistance in the publication and promotion of sacred music composed by Canadian church musicians

Applications are received once/year and are due by April 1st

The Fulford Trust has members who are highly experienced and skilled musicians who are able to offer advice and assistance. Call or email the Foundation Office with your inquiries.

See website for application form: www.anglicanfoundation.org

Contact: Jonathan Marshall

jmarshall@anglicanfoundation.org • (416) 924-9199 x322

“Saving Jesus”

A DVD-based curriculum designed to stimulate thinking and conversation and promote spiritual growth, for those who have grown tired of a simplistic reading of scripture and a narrow definition of the kingdom of God. Sessions are held in the chapel and nave at Christ Church, Beaurepaire. Each 1.5-hour session includes an introductory discussion around the background readings, a 20-minute video segment, and a guided discussion. Facilitated by Archdeacon Michael Johnson.

Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm Nov – Dec 2012 & Jan – Feb 2013

First “Flight” of 6 Sessions:

November 1 – December 13, 2012 (No Session Nov 29)

Second “Flight” of 6 Sessions:

January 10 – February 21, 2013 (No Session Jan. 31)

Christ Church, Beaurepaire

455 Church St, Beaconsfield – christchurch@qc.aibn.com / 514-697-2204
A Registration Fee of \$25 for each “Flight” of 6 sessions (\$50 total for whole course) covers all printed background materials, facilitator, and beverages. Pre-Registration (by telephone, email or snail-mail) for the first “Flight” (Nov. 1 – Dec. 13) is requested prior to October 21st. Group size is limited – register early! All are welcome – from any church – or no church. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

The Great 2012 Christmas Pageant Project

This year, Kidstuff, a Diocese of Montreal service that supports children and those working with them, is challenging every parish to mount a Christmas Pageant, no matter the size or age of your cast. And we’re offering to help!

Join us on Sat., Nov. 10, 10 am to 2 pm for a working bee to make costumes, props & plans. We’re even providing a suggested script & will help you adapt it to your parish’s needs.

Patterns, materials, tools, expertise, and lunch all provided. Children welcome!

Register ASAP: Rhonda Waters
514-843-6577 or
rwaters@montreal.anglican.ca

SALES and EVENTS

Church of the Epiphany Verdun

4322 Wellington St.
(a block west of de l’Église Métro,
Wellington St. exit, or Bus #61 or #58)

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Fri., Nov. 2, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.,
Sat., Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bake table, white elephant, jewellery,
Christmas things, fish pond,
handicrafts. Lunch available.
Information 514-769-5373.

All Saints Deux Montagnes

Church hall, 248-18th Ave.

NINTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Fri., Nov. 2, 6-9 p.m. and Sat.,
Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Crafts, bake table, lunch, raffle. Info:
info@allsaintsdeuxmontagnes.ca or
450-473-9541.

St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke

6341 de Lorimier Ave.
(Bus #197, #18 or #10)

BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 3, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

St. Paul’s Church Greenfield Park

32 Empire St. (RTL Bus #1, #6 or #15
to Churchill at Empire, #4 or #54
to Taschereau and Churchill)

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE AND LUNCHEON

Sat., Nov. 3, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Bake table, chocolates, cupcake
corner, frozen food, country corner,
“heavenly angels,” crafts, raffles, door
prizes, gift shop and more. Luncheon
from 11:30, \$8 adult, \$3 child. Contact
Gloria Kidd, 450-678-2460.

St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.

THE PUB QUIZ

Sat., Nov. 3, 7 p.m.

It’s back after many requests and will
again be hosted by Casey Ryan.
Admittance \$10. Prizes and
refreshments. Make up your table of
four. Bring your own wine or beer.
Lots of fun to be had. Adults only.

Church of the Ascension West Brome

2 McCurdy Road (corner of Route 139 S)

FALL BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON

Fri, Nov. 9 & Sat, Nov. 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Christmas items, crafts, jewellery.
Saturday only a bake table.
Information: 450-263-3025.

St. John the Baptist Pointe-Claire

233 Ste. Claire Ave. (Bus #211 or #202)

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 10, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fabulous home baking and preserves,
handcrafted items, Christmas crafts
and decorations, books, jewelry and
treasures for gift-giving. Lunch.

St. George’s Châteauguay

162 St. Francis Blvd.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 10, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Booths include home bake, white
elephant, treasure chest, knitting,
books, toys and candy. The tea room
serves sandwich plates, hotdog plates,
home-made soup, tea and coffee.
Come and get a head start on the
holiday season!

St. Simeon’s Lachute

445 rue Principale

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Home baking, jewelry, books, treasures.
Tea, coffee, sandwiches and squares.

St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

Sat., Nov. 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Festive crafts, handicrafts, nearly new
toys, white elephants, bottle table,
drawings, home-baked goods. Lunch
of soup and sandwiches available.
Information: 450-621-6466.

St. Philip’s Montreal West

7505 Sherbrooke St. W. (corner Con-
naught Ave. Bus #51 (Snowdon), #105
(Vendome), #162 (Villa-Maria) or #123
to Elmhurst terminis at Mtl W station

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON

Sat. Nov. 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Home baking, books, knitted items,
collectibles, home furnishings, jams &
preserves, candy, attic treasures, pot-
pourri, CDs, games, tapes, free coffee...
Delicious lunch: 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Church of the Resurrection Valois

99 Mount Pleasant Ave., Pointe Claire
(Bus #204, #203 or #202)

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Fri. Nov. 16, 7-9 p.m.,

Sat., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Something for everyone. Information,
call Gladys Randle: 514-697-1229.

St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.

ROSEMERE BOOK FAIR

Sat., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Books in English and French, puzzles,
games, CDs, DVDs & VHS. Hot dogs
by popular request. Info: 450-621-6466.

St. Stephen’s with St. James Chambly

Randell Hall, 2000 rue de Bourgogne

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Also the famous & very popular Auc-
tion. Call Eileen Agley 450-658-1027.

St. Barnabas Pierrefonds

12301 Colin St. (Bus #68 or #206)

FALL FAIR

Sat., Nov. 17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Coffee from 9:30 a.m., lunch 11:30 am-
2 pm. Christmas gifts, knitting and
sewing, country store, plants, baked
goods, preserves, candies, books,
treasures. Info: 514-684-4460.

Trinity Anglican Morin Heights

Bazaar at United Church Hall,
831 Chemin du Village

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 17, 12 noon-2 p.m.

Luncheon, bake and gift tables,
lucky draw.

Church of the Epiphany Verdun

4322 Wellington St.

CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER

Sat., Nov. 17, 6 p.m.

Tickets \$15 in advance. For
information, 514-769-5373 or
www.epiphany.verdun.com

St. Matthias’ Westmount

Entrance at: 12 Church Hill (Métro
Atwater or Vendôme, then Bus # 24,
138 or 104 to Metcalfe Ave.)

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sat., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Attic treasures, jewellery, books,
Christmas treats. Lunch \$7.

St. George’s Place du Canada

1101 Stanley St. at Lagachetière
(facing Windsor Station near Bell Centre)

CHRISTMAS SALE AND CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sat., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Christmas lunch served 11-2

Note new sale date & format. Visit
the sale tables then drop into our
Boutique for more bargains. Funds
from our sale go to the Mile End
Mission. Info: 514-866-7113.

Grace Church Arundel

7 Church Road

ACW CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND LUNCH

Sat., Nov. 17, noon-1:30 p.m.

St. James Bedford

40 rue du Pont

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

St. James Hudson

640 Main Road, Hudson Heights

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 24, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Hand-made wreaths, Christmas
boutique, bake table, attic treasures,
nimble needles knitted goods, tea
room and much more. Everyone
welcome. Information: 450-458-2705.

Holy Trinity

Ste. Agathe des Monts

12 Prefontaine Ouest,

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat. Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Come and shop for Christmas. There
will be attic treasures, baked goods,
crafts, jewellery, and Christmas
wreaths. A homemade “soup-bar”
luncheon will be served.

St. Stephen’s with St. James Chambly

Randell Hall, 2000 rue de Bourgogne

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sat., Dec. 1, 6 p.m.

With all the trimmings. Call Eileen
Agley 450-658-1027.

Christ Church Beaurepaire

455 Church St., Beaconsfield (Bus #405
or #211 to Beaconsfield at St. Louis)

CHRISTMAS WASSAIL

Friday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.

A fun event to start the holiday season
for the whole family: carol singing
followed by holiday refreshments in
the parish hall. Bring your friends.
For information: 514-697-2204.

✂ Diocesan Clippings (and Snapshots) 📷

A Sorel success

Shirley Newell of Christ Church, Sorel-Tracy sends along more details about the benefit concert that took place Friday evening, Sept. 21:

"It was a community effort to help finance a new furnace for this historic monument. The estimate for replacement of warm air conveyance pipes and all the necessary environmental systems is upwards of \$10,000. Local talent all contributed their specialties and there was something for everyone's taste in music: classical, modern, jazz and rock were integrated with voice, guitars, piano and modern electrical and acoustic instruments. The dynamic spirit of the evening was infectious; everyone was giving! We were lucky to have the expertise of Rachel Doyon, the director of La Maison de la Musique in Sorel-Tracy. She is responsible for the annual classical music festival, a very successful enterprise. Our church is



CONCERT ORGANIZING COMMITTEE poses for a photo. Jocelyn Gravel is at the right in the front row.

(Photo: Marilynne Champagne)

one of the main venues for this event. The master of ceremonies was the owner of the local radio station, a genuine professional, and the whole program was well organized.

Jocelyn Gravel, our people's warden, guitarist, and the principal mover and pusher behind this endeavour, said this on Sunday morning:

"Tout d'abord merci à la communauté de m'avoir fait confiance dans ce projet et merci aux bénévoles de la communauté et du café qui n'ont pas ménagé leur efforts. Notre petite paroisse fait encore de grandes choses; notre visibilité et notre accessibilité à la population soreloise ne fait que s'accroître. Je demande souvent à Dieu de mettre les bonnes personnes sur mon chemin et de me donner la force et le courage d'accomplir sa volonté. Il a répondu à mes attentes. Nous avons remassé environ cinq mille dollars, ce qui est beaucoup, mais la plus importante c'est que la population pose des questions sur l'existence et l'implication de Christ Church dans la communauté soreloise."

\$600 – in pennies – for Haiti

The Sunday school at Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday, Sept. 30, celebrated the culmination of its summer appeal to collect pennies to pay for hot school lunches for elementary school children in Haiti. This program is called Appetite for Learning, or in the local language, Appeti pou Appran, and is run by the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. In June, the youngsters had made special Penny Piggy Banks from recycled food containers, which they gave to adults in the congregation so they could collect their pennies appeal too. At the end of September they drew outlines around children's bodies and then covered the outlines with pennies, which required something like 250 pennies each. The appeal raised over \$600. "Now that is an awful lot of pennies," Rev. Rhonda Waters, assistant curate, wrote in the Sunday school blog "Stories on the Way." She noted that \$600 is enough pennies to make outlines like this of 240 children – or to weigh as much as 100 30-pound children. "PWRDF tell us it costs \$50 to feed one child for a whole year, so the appeal raised enough to feed 12 children a healthy hot meal every day at school for a whole year."



CATHEDRAL YOUNGSTER, Finn, poses with his outline in pennies, as well as with Rev. Rhonda Waters, her husband Thomas Cormie and Sunday school lead teacher Jonathan Bailey.

(Photo: Sharon Brodie)

Sunday at the Cathedral



"WHAT A HAPPY RETURN we all had to Sunday School" in early September, reports the Rev. Rhonda Waters, assistant curate at Christ Church Cathedral, "and what a lovely, supportive community of 'grown-up friends' is growing around our young children." There was a jazzy song composed and sung by one of the new Dads, accompanying himself on his autoharp. Next a friend of Sunday School, who expresses her faith through liturgical dance, transformed everyone in an instant into flickering flames and whooshing winds, encouraging us to use our bodies and movements to thank God for his blessings. Finally another Dad read the creation story in French (from an iPad!) as the children copied his movements and actions to bring the story alive. For more, see her blog at storiesontheway.wordpress.com.

(Photo: Jonathan Bailey)

Twins get a surprise



FAMILY AND FRIENDS, some of them active in the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, of Bishop Barry Clarke and his twin brother Craig, active in auto maintenance, gathered at a LaSalle restaurant for a surprise party in honour of the twins' 60th birthday. The hostesses were the bishop's daughter, Melissa Rozestraten, and wife, Leslie James.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

In November, marmalade



THE COUNTRY CRAFTERS, a new group at Holy Trinity Ste. Agathe, is up and running with craft days on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The Crafters have recently been working on wreaths, pot holders, eyeglass case holders, and knitted dishcloths. For November, it will be marmalade, jam and red pepper jelly. The Crafters are looking for new members. Showing off quilts in the photo are Lorna Gunstone, Linda Whitham, Sandra Bourque, Irene Martin, Muriel Penny and Norma Kiehn. They have been joined by another recruit, Carol Ann Comer.

(Photo courtesy of Irene Martin.)

St. Thomas garden thrives



THE NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN at St. Thomas Church in the N.D.G. district of West-End Montreal is thriving. There were generally almost 30 gardeners working on Tuesday evenings and on Saturdays at the garden, which opened in mid-June. Volunteers from the local group Eco-Quartier planted perennial gardens around the perimeter of the vegetable plots. Stones from clearing the soil for the garden plots were used to edge side gardens. The garden was initiated by parishioner representatives from Action Communiterre and Eco-Quartier co-operated in the project.

(Photos: Dale Huston)

Pirate Bible school



THE PARISH OF BEDFORD, Philipsburg and Farnham hosted a bilingual Bible day camp the week of August 20. Seven children attended the "PokimashoePirate-themed" camp and had a wonderful week and that all promised to come back next year. Children had their pirate names emblazoned on a pirate hats and everyone practised saying "aaaaarrrrr" a great deal. Every day began with a Bible story and a skit relating to God's treasures for all of us and included a new song, with words and dramatization. Lynn Cutler and Hannah O'Donnell led this activity as well as the treasure hunts, games and outdoor activities. Dawn Bordo taught a new craft each day and at the end of the week everyone went home with a treasure chest filled with the crafts they had made during the week. Wendy Dryden made snacks and Rev. Andy O'Donnell said grace in a special pirate voice before snacks.

Chicken and biscuits



AN ANNUAL CHICKEN AND BISCUITS SUPPER was given September 29, St. Michael's and all Angels day, by the Anglican Church Women at St. James Bedford. The dishwashers had little to scrape off the plates, conversation and laughter filled the hall and no one was in a rush to leave. The next ACW event will be the annual Christmas bazaar on November 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.