

Farewell Montreal, hello Glebe

Members of Hungry Minds, a young adult Bible study group led by the Rev. Rhonda Waters (at right in photo) at Christ Church Cathedral, joined her at a bittersweet reception on the eve of her departure for Ottawa. On the staff of the Cathedral since her ordination as a deacon in 2011 and priest in 2012, she is especially known for her work, among other things, on behalf of the young of all ages, whether designing Sunday school curriculum or organizing a national gathering of younger priests. The Alberta native was also an online columnist for the Anglican Journal and chaplain of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College. Her husband, Thomas Cormie, a lawyer, has accepted a job in Ottawa with the federal justice department and they have moved there with their son, Gilbert. She has been appointed interim priest-in-charge at St. Matthew's Church in the Glebe district of Ottawa.

April 2016 • A section of the Anglican Journal

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Farewell St. James, hello Redroof Church



As the downtown church known for 150 years as the Church of St. James the Apostle was prepared for change of vocation into a "plant" in the upbeat ministry style of Holy Trinity Brompton in London, England, a Wednesday lunchtime ministry of Eucharist and Bible study moved to the downtown Church of St. John the Evangelist. In the photo by Janet Best, the Rev. Deacon Amy Hamilton, who had been working with parishioners of St. James the Apostle, is at the far end of the table beside the Rev. Alain Brosseau of St. John the Evangelist. See Page 6. Deacon Hamilton became assistant curate at Christ Church Cathedral, effective March 1.



PAUL KENNINGTON

The Very Rev. Paul Kennington, dean of Christ Church Cathedral, says it's time for the Church to get out of the marriage business. See Page 7.

Also, see Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson's message on Page 2.



VICTOR GOLDBLOOM

Dr. Victor Goldbloom, who died February 15 of a heart attack at the age of 92, was remembered as "a giant of a man" by Archbishop Andrew Hutchison, former archbishop of Montreal and primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. See Page 6.



ARVIND SHARMA

The very concept of religion underwent a paradigm shift for many after the terrorist attack on Sept. 11, 2001, says Arvind Sharma, Birks Professor of Comparative Religion in the McGill Faculty of Religious Studies, discussing plans for a Third Global Conference on World Religions after September 11 in Montreal Sept. 15. See Page 8.

An 'HTB' plant comes to Montreal

Guest speaker is Alpha theologian, nephew of late dean of Montreal

The Rev. Graham Singh will be inducted Sunday, April 10, as incumbent of the innovative "St. James Montreal Church Plant," in the presence of one of the leaders of the British movement of which the "plant" is probably the latest acquisition.

The guest speaker at the event, in the downtown church known for the previous 150 years as the Church of St. James the Apostle, will be one of the movers and shakers in the movement based at Holy Trinity Brompton in London, England, and known for the Alpha Courses in basic Christianity.

He's the Rev. John Valentine, rector of St. George's Holborn, an 18th-century church, also in central London, where in 2010 he lead a "planting team" of about 100 parishioners from Holy Trinity Brompton, where he had been a curate. St. George's Holborn became one of about 30 plants, of which St. James Montreal became the latest as Graham Singh and his team began work this year.

For over 20 years (after studies



B.J. MILLER

"The Civics of Dying Well" will be the topic of a Montreal lecture Tuesday, May 3, by Dr. B.J. Miller, a hospice and palliative care specialist in San Francisco – and a triple amputee. See Page 10.



Rev. John Valentine

at Oxford University and work as a corporate lawyer), John Valentine has been involved in leadership at Holy Trinity Brompton and the Alpha courses. He was a pioneer in the theological training that later became St Mellitus College, formed in 2007 with some of its roots at Holy Trinity Brompton.

He and Graham Singh go back a long way. The new rector at St. James comes from around Guelph, Ont., but was in Britain between 2000 and 2013. There, he became involved with the Alpha movement, was ordained, became a curate at Holy Trinity Brompton and planted three parishes in the "HTB" style, also in pre-existing parish churches.

An announcement said John Valentine revived St. George's Holborn, "much as Graham Singh hopes to revive the former St. James the Apostle."

John Valentine is also a nephew of the Right Rev. Rev. Barry Valentine, who was dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal from 1968, became bishop of Rupert's Land (in and around Winnipeg) and resigned in 1982. Bishop Valentine, who died in 2009 in Salt Spring Island, B.C., is said to have been is one of Graham Singh's great mentors and friends.

The induction will be take place at 4:30 p.m. April 10 at St. James. Clergy of other denominations have been invited to attend and to robe if that is their custom.

John Valentine will also lead a seminar on "The theological heart of HTB and Alpha" on Thursday April 7, at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

Bishop's Message





y learning curve as your Mbishop continues apace! I am very grateful for your prayers and encouragement and for the gift of the Holy Spirit in my life but, even so, I find plenty of challenges each

At the end of February I attended an extra four-day meeting of the Canadian House of Bishops. It was held so that the bishops could discuss the proposed changes to the Canon on Marriage in the Church before The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada meets in July. At the last General Synod in 2013 a motion came to the floor which advocated that The Council of General Synod prepare a motion to be put to the floor of General Synod 2016 which would allow for the marriage of same sex couples in the same way as heterosexual couples, with sufficient conscience clauses to accommodate dissenters, whether they were bishops, clergy or parishes. In response to this, COGS, under the direction of our Primate Fred Hiltz, commissioned a group to both prepare a report and to propose the motion. That report, along with a study guide can be found at: www. anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/ Marriage_Canon_REPORT_15Sept 22.pdf and www.anglican.ca/wpcontent/uploads/Study-Guide-Questions-final.pdf

And I commend that report to

While some dioceses have been ready for this change for a long

time, others have not and don't see a time when they will be able to accept it. Still other dioceses have a mix of strong voices in favour and against the proposed changes. The most extreme voices are very sure that theirs is the right position. For some, it is a matter of human rights that trumps any theological reservations. Still others see God's love and grace as all powerful and welcoming. For another group, it is a step that will potentially cause an irreparable rupture in the Anglican Church. Some dioceses have already had parishes break away because of it. Others are already blessing same sex marriages without waiting for General Synod. Our practice in Montreal for several years has been to have services of celebration for same sex civil unions where the parish and the clergy agree. The Episcopal Church in the United States voted in favour of similar changes at their General Convention last summer. You may have heard of the response of some Primates when they all met in Canterbury in January to discuss this and other issues.

"The use of the title PRIMATE in the context of meetings of the Anglican Communion denotes the chief archbishop or bishop of a province of the Anglican Episcopal family of churches" (anglicancommunion.org)

Any change to the Canons of the Anglican Church of Canada will take two General Synods (ie, 2016 and 2019) to finally pass and it will have to be agreed on by a twothirds majority in all three orders of the house: laity, clergy and bishops. While that is a frustration to some and a relief to others, it provides time for prayer and reflection for the Church.

When the bishops met in February, we realized that there is not really a clear theology of marriage. The Book of Common Prayer and the Book of Alternative Services each set out an understanding of marriage and, to some extent, that is what we believe about Christian

What do you believe about

Christian marriage? Is it simply God blessing a civil union or is it more? Does God figure in that marriage once the blessing has been given? I believe that marriage in the church, regardless of gender, involves discipleship. The couple who take part in the Sacrament of Marriage commit to modeling the relationship between Christ and his Church. Their marriage becomes a gift and a ministry to the community. It is no longer simply about the couple living happily ever after. It implicates them in the Christian community.

Some heterosexual people don't see discipleship and ministry as necessary parts of Christian marriage and I would assume that holds true in same sex civil unions. It came as a surprise to some of us at the House of Bishops that we held such diverse views on marriage and also on the authority of bishops. As a newcomer, I witnessed us all trying to speak carefully and respectfully to one another, even as we reigned in our surprise and frustrations.

I am committed to finding ways for all of us to live together in the Church and to honour each member. We won't always agree with one another. There is a huge amount of hurt and anger and suspicion being felt on the part of both those who have been excluded from marriage in the Church and those who are feeling enormous pressure to change and I am truly sorry about that. We need to focus together on the mission that we have of sharing God's prodigal love and grace and of working for unity and freedom in Christ's body. I want to find any way possible to deliver that message and to try to live it out in my life and ministry.

General Synod will meet in Toronto, July 7 to 12. Please pray for all involved and for our Diocese as we discern a faithful, generous and compassionate way forward. Every blessing,

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



Heavenly Father, we praise you for helping us to be still and know that you are God. We pray that you will grant us the wisdom and understanding to perceive you in all our actions and decisions. We keep hearing that you are calling us to be a missional church, to be visible in the community, yet we cling to our traditional liturgy and buildings. We know the world is moving away from the church, yet we still believe that there is a place for you in the centre of it all. How can we reconcile these two realities? Several parishes in the Diocese are taking on this challenge through Re-Imagining Church.

Gracious God we pray that you will be with the clergy and parishioners as they work their way through this program to discern what "changing and adapting" might look like in their given situations. We pray that all their discussions are offered in a spirit of compassion and comradery and that your divine guidance and inspiration is at work during this time and beyond as the parishioners work to transform ideas into reality. We thank you Lord for the encouragement you are granting these individuals as they explore new ways of doing church while keeping Jesus Christ the Lord as the centre and foundation of this transformation.

Gracious God we offer prayers for the Reverend Nick Brotherwood who is co-ordinating this program, often offering several sessions at the same time. Sustain him physically in this work, renew him when the material seems repetitive, give him patience to bring understanding to conflicting voices, and keep him safe as he travels throughout the Diocese. We pray that the work he is doing through Re-*Imagining Church* will motivate his clergy colleagues to join him in this initiative and be a blessing to the many congregants he meets along the way.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

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

Montreal Diocesan Lay Pastoral Visitors Retreat

Saturday, May 28, 9:00 a.m. - 3;30 p.m.

Ermitage Sainte-Croix, 21269 Gouin Blvd. W. Pierrefonds QC. H9K1C1

Speaker:

Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bishop of Montreal

Fee -\$35.00 (no refund). Meal included. Pay fee promptly please.

To register, Bev Jarvis 514-626-7689 (home) or cell 514-898-0853





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Journey of Truth and Reconciliation is far from over

157th Synod of Montreal taking place Saturday, June 18 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. in Fulford Hall

BRIAN PERRON

The Rev. Brian Perron is a member of the Synod Planning Committee

Actually, for many of us watching and listening from the periphery, our journey may have just begun. The call to actions has been laid out for us and now we must inform and discern our own actions as part of the greater "Response of the Churches to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada." One simply has to spend a few minutes reading the 12 pages of 94 action appeals to step into the responsibility forum. But where do we begin and how can we collectively and individually know when and how to jump in with the momentum of a skipping rope that has already begun? We invite you to read and prepare yourself for this year's Synod on June 18.

Yes, we have moved the date to June. We have also gathered a team of individuals who collectively will bring to light the needs and potential scenarios for you as individuals, and as a church body, to become immersed in a collaborative work with

the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. We hope to bring understanding to action through a morning conference and an afternoon panel discussion guided by individuals who have been sifting and discerning through a culmination of legal and historical documents.

Prepare and discover with us what this year's Synod can mean for us as we partner with our brothers and sisters to uphold and acknowledge the Royal Proclamation of Reconciliation. A proclamation that will build on the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and the Treaty of Niagara of 1764, and reaffirm our commitment in the nation-to-nation relationship between Aboriginal peoples and the Crown. The time has come to collectively be informed with an enthusiasm to again answer the call; the call to action in response with our ecumenical partners to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Save the date; Saturday June 18, inform yourself and invite others from your church to the Diocese of Montreal 2016 Synod.

For more information visit: www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod and www.anglican.ca/tr/

Démarche de partage pour des paroissiens francophones du centre-ville

Pour certains, la compagnie auprès d'autres leur manquait

Josée Lemoine

La rév. Josée Lemoine est vicaire adjoint de l'Église St-Georges

À travers les années, plusieurs congrégations ont essayé de développer le ministère français avec plus ou moins de succès. Dans plusieurs paroisses, les francophones se sont intégrés à la communauté anglophone et ont développé des liens forts et durables dans leur communauté respective. Malgré leur intégration à la vie de ces communautés, certains se sentent parfois isolés ou nostalgiques à cause du peu d'activités prenant place dans la langue de Molière.

Les gens ne s'en plaignent pas parce que c'est un choix qu'ils ont fait, mais assez fréquemment, et dans les congrégations où j'ai eu le privilège de travailler ou que j'ai visitées, des gens me disent combien la compagnie et le ministère auprès d'autres francophones leur manque. Peut-être un peu de la même façon que pour des immigrants vivant dans un pays étranger et qui sont nostalgiques en pensant à leur patrie d'origine, leur culture, leurs compatriotes.

Ayant ce besoin à l'esprit ainsi que la volonté des paroisses du centre-ville de travailler davantage en partenariat et collaborer à certains projets qu'elles partagent, nous avons invité le 22 février dernier, à l'Église St-Georges, Place du Canada, les paroissiens francophones et francophiles des paroisses environnantes à se joindre à nous pour une Célébration de la Parole et Eucharistie, suivie du partage d'un bon repas chaud et un moment pour socialiser et fraterniser.

L'évènement a été un succès dans le sens où des membres du clergé de trois paroisses, dont le rév. Donald Boisvert du Collège diocésain de Montréal, le rév. Jean-Jacques Goulet de la Cathédrale Christ Church, et la rév. Josée Lemoine de l'Église St-Georges, se sont unis pour la Célébration. Des paroissiens de St-Jean l'Évangéliste, de la Cathédrale et de St-Georges se sont joints et ont participé à l'évènement. Tous ont



Josée Lemoine

beaucoup apprécié et espèrent pouvoir renouveler l'expérience une ou deux fois par année.

Ces liens que nous tissons, le partage de nos expériences dans le ministère et la force spirituelle retirés ne peuvent que nous nourrir et nous vivifier dans la mission que Dieu nous a tous confiée, et c'est avec joie que nous rendons grâce à Dieu pour de telles occasions!

News in brief

Two diocesan staff leaving for personal reasons

Sophie Bertrand, director of human resources for the diocese since 2013, concluded her employment with the diocese in mid-March, 2016, for personal and family considerations. In addition to human resources Sophie provided staff support for diocesan synods, committees, clergy continuing education and other diocesan administration. "We are grateful for her valued contribution to our diocesan life," Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson said.

She also noted that Harvey Shepherd will retire as editor of *Anglican Montreal* (as it is now known) at the end of June. He has held the post since the fall of 2007 and previously said he is leaving for personal reasons. The bishop expressed gratitude for his "many years of faithful service to diocesan communications."

Approvals required for changes to churches

Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson says proposed significant alterations to church liturgical space need to be reviewed and approved by the local territorial archdeacon and the diocesan liturgical officer, Dean Paul Kennington, prior to implementation. Also, clergy planning to move from rectory housing to their own accommodation in anticipation of receiving a parish paid housing allowance must receive prior approval. Consultation must take place with Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray and the local territorial archdeacon as well as the parish corporation, she said in a series of announcements in February. Also, "Please be reminded that it is a courtesy to let the bishop know when you invite a priest or bishop from outside our diocese to minister in your parish."

Faith care is theme of educational event for clergy

The diocesan human resources standing committee is sponsoring a diocesan clergy continuing education event: "Faith Care for Clergy: Restorative Practice for Building and Strengthening Parish Relationships "Thursday, May 26, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., in Fulford Hall. The facilitator will be Anne Martin of the Shalem Mental Health Network in Ontario (visit http://shalemnetwork.org/).

Montreal's Info-Cult marks 35 years

Info-Cult turned 35 last year. Since 1980, the Montreal-based non-profit organization has been one of North America's most prominent organization offering help and information about "cults," new religious movements and related groups and subjects. To date, Info-Cult has responded to more than 80,000 requests covering over 4,000 groups and subjects, Mike Kropveld, founder and executive director of Info-Cult, said in a statement.

"Over the last 35 years there has been an increase in the number of religious, spiritual, political and psychological groups claiming to help people achieve their full potential. This trend continued throughout 2015 as Info-Cult responded to approximately 1,000 requests," he said. Almost 230 of them were catalogued. Info-Cult also responded to over 100 family-related concerns about a loved one who was involved in a particular group, as well as 30 professionals and government agencies seeking information about a group or help for a client.

For more information contact Info-Cult at 514-274-2333 or visit Info-Cult's webpage at: www.infocult.org. You can also e-mail at: infosecte@qc.aibn.com.

Council for Refugees congratulates government on reaching target

The Canadian Council for Refugees congratulated the Government of Canada on the arrival of the 25,000th Syrian refugee in Canada.

"The Government made a commitment to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of February and they have achieved their goal," said Loly Rico, president.

While the total includes privately sponsored refugees as well as those assisted by the government, she said the fulfillment of this commitment gives the council confidence that 25,000 government-assisted Syrian

refugees will arrive by the end of 2016, as also promised by the government."

She said Canada is regaining its leadership role in global resettlement through its response to Syrian refugees.

"This is a truly Canadian effort in which all levels of government (federal, provincial, territorial and municipal), civil society and individual Canadians have contributed. Many of those welcoming refugees are former refugees; many others are responding to refugees for the first time.

"We applaud the government for creating a welcoming spirit and recognizing the contributions that refugees are bringing to Canada.

"We look forward to maintaining this Canadian effort in order to protect and offer a home to refugees from around the world in the years to come."

The Anglican Diocese of Montreal is linked to the Canadian Council for Refugees through its support for Action Réfugiés Montréal.





'Black lives matter' is theme of Black History service at St. CHL

Children play big part at service in Rosemont

The theme of this year's Black History Jazz Mass at St. CHL in the Rosemont district was "Black Lives Matter" and those on hand included Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson with her husband Mark, along with members of the local "Love in Motion" ecumenical children's group and a group from Église de la Nativité in Montreal North.

Sharissa Sintim-Olson from the Love in Motion group and three young women from Église de la Nativité (Élodie Lambert, Pryscilla Polynice and Michaëlle Gabaud) each spoke for a few moments as a shared homily. Several others from La Nativité (Corine Lambert, Mitchnelle Galiotte, and Sarah Gabaud) helped Kat and Missy Olson, Audrey O'Breham, Lauren Drummond, Tracy Baron, and parents from St. CHL, with a creative project. (See photo.)

"Great was the enthusiasm of the children," reports the Rev. Roslyn Macgregor of the host church, more formally known as St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke.

"The older ones prepared a giant poster with photos of young black men killed by police, historical figures such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. and Patrice Lumumba, – all three assassinated in struggles for justice – as well as Nelson Mandela and others. The

younger children glued photos on a second poster of historical figures such as Canadians Rosemary Brown and Viola Desmond as well as black adult members and children of St. CHL – remembering that we all can make a difference.

Bishop Mary attended the service along with many others who filled the church – regular parishioners, and lots of visitors. The inspiring music was led by our organist Tom Mennier accompanied by his musical friends on guitar, drums, harmonica, and standing bass and vocalist Jeannette Gibson.

One photo shows People's Warden and synod delegate, Angela Alleyne with the bishop and a few of the youngsters.





Youth ministry notes

Silliness, glitter not neglected at Ottawa-Montreal event

LEE-ANNE MATTHEWS

Lee-Anne Matthews is youth ministry co-ordinator for the Diocese of Montreal

The Annual Montreal-Ottawa Children's and Youth Ministry Retreat and Training March 4-6 at the Manoir d'Youville in Châteauguay was an opportunity for learning, reflection, spiritual nourishment and community building among leaders.

Master Trainers Judy Steers, program director of the "Ask and Imagine" youth theology and leadership program at Huron University College in London, Ont., and the Rev. Jean-Daniel Williams, Anglican-United Chaplain at McGill University, provided a wealth of relevant, meaningful and high-quality training content, delivered with their signature humour, intelligence and wit!

Participants gained deeper insights and understanding into the theology of play, the importance of empathy in one's practice, the difference between play and games and the value of story-telling, silliness and glitter among many other integral components necessary for a children's and youth ministry practitioner.

The weekend also included fellowship, support and encouragement as well as spiritual renewal.

The worship services were inspiring and uplifting and were enhanced by the music lead by Zack Ingles (Youth / Young Adult Minister, Ottawa) and Bryanna Bone (children and worship director at St. James, Montreal). It was the perfect complement to the training and provided for an over-all successful, enjoyable, meaningful well-rounded weekend.

We look forward to next year's Montreal-Ottawa youth leaders' event and hope to see you there!

Saturday program launched, day camp planned in N.D.G.

F.A.S.t (Free as the Spirit takes us), the children's and youth ministry at St. Thomas Church in the N.D.G

district of Montreal, has added a "very meaningful" Saturday program called God Yoga and Art, which "incorporates prayer and scripture, art and creative self-expression, a healthful snack and an invigorating calming yoga and meditation into one comprehensive Saturday morning session," says youth co-ordinator Lee-Ann Mathews. "We always feel so relaxed, centered and joyful after the class." This complements the Sunday school program, which since 2011 has explored faith through art, prayer, scripture, personal inquiry, music and other kid-friendly approaches." And something else is new. For the first time there will be a one-week F.A.S.t Summer Day Camp

at the end of June. All kids 6 and over are invited to participate June 20-July 1st. Please contact at 514-953-4060 or email lmatthews@montreal. anglican.ca.

Two from Montreal to attend training event Ask and Imagine 2016

Two Diocese of Montreal youth workers are to attend the Ask and Imagine adult scholars program May 8-14 run by the faculty of theology at Huron University College in London, Ont. The program aims to encourage excellence in youth ministry in all its forms.

The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made up of seven Anglican





Lee-Ann Matthews and Tala Strauss to participate in "Ask and Imagine" program.

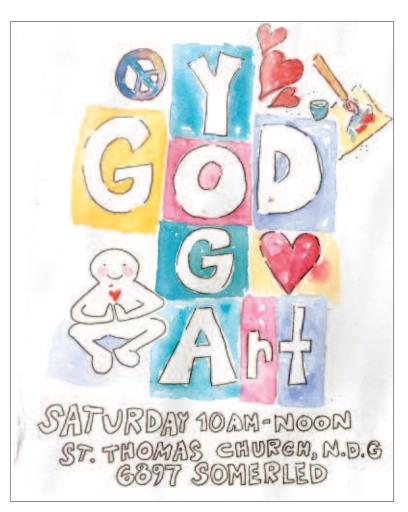
dioceses in Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, is a partner in this year's program. Tala Strauss has been selected to participate as an adult scholar from the Diocese of Montreal and Lee-Ann Matthews, diocesan youth ministry co-ordinator, is serving as a mentor for the adult scholars program.

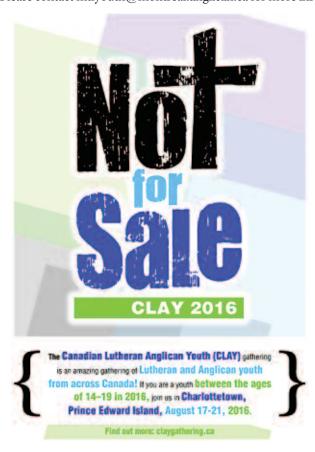
Young delegates sought for P.E.I. gathering

The MTL Youth ministry of the

diocese is recruiting a small team of people aged 14-19 to have the authentic "Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth" experience at this summer's C.L.A.Y. (Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth) gathering in Charlottetown August 17-21 Prince Edward Island. The theme will be "Not for Sale." Visit claygathering.ca on the Web or contact mtlyouth@montreal. anglican.ca for information.

MTL Youth is going to CLAY and we want YOU to come too! We are recruiting a small team of young people to have the authentic "Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth" experience in P.E.I with us! Please contact mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca for more info





Quebec Lodge on Lake Massawippi to reopen this summer

RUTH SHEERAN

Ruth Sheeran is president of the Quebec Lodge Foundation. This is a slightly adapted version of an article that appeared in the March issue of the Gazette, our sister newspaper in the Diocese of Quebec.

The dream has finally become a reality. After ten years of work and worry the vision of reopening a children's camp on the shores of Lake Massawippi has been realized. On January 20th, Bishop Dennis Drainville signed the documents transferring ownership of the Quebec Lodge property to the Quebec Lodge Foundation, and in July the camp will open with two one-week day camps.

In November 2005, the Diocesan Executive Council made the difficult and controversial decision to close the 60-year-old camp and sell the property. A portion of the land was put on the market and subsequently sold to a local resident. However, the Quebec Lodge Foundation and Bishop Dennis reached an agreement whereby the Diocese would transfer ownership of the remaining portion of land if \$1.5 million dollars could be raised for camp development. The Foundation significantly exceeded the goal, successfully fulfilling the condition defined by the Diocese.

We remember and are proud of the history of the original camp; however, the new Quebec Lodge is not a Christian camp. Instead the



program is based on environmental awareness and is designed to give children an appreciation for and knowledge of nature through active learning in the natural environment. Our goal is to introduce campers to the concept of stewardship, making them capable, knowledgeable and responsible in their interactions with the natural world. The campers will enjoy nature respectfully through learning practical skills such as firebuilding, shelter-building, camping canoeing and orienteering, and will engage in fun, relevant educational activities promoting their inborn sense of wonder.

To ensure the educational quality of the program we have been collaborating closely with Bishop's University. The faculty and students

of the Department of Education and the Environmental Studies and Geography Department have been working with us to develop the curriculum in keeping with the camp's environmental orientation. The program is overseen by Dr Avril Aitken, and we will be hiring university students to lead the various educational activities. We have also partnered with the Leave No Trace organization and will be following the seven principles of responsible outdoor recreation.

We believe the camp's new environmental orientation honours and perpetuates the legacy of the former Quebec Lodge. One camper from the 1960's attests to its enduring effects: "The beautiful natural setting of Quebec Lodge overlooking Lake Massawippi instilled in me a deepseated reverence for nature and our responsibility for being stewards of God's creation... I was fascinated by this, and it stirred in me a deep sense of injustice that we could or would get away with desecrating the beauty of the world around us... I eventually went on to study environmental science at university ... and enjoyed working in this field for over 30 years." In keeping with the commitment to protect the beauty of nature, the Foundation will be working with the Massawippi Conservation Trust and the Appalachian Corridor to create a nature conservancy on the wooded portion of the land. This will preserve 45 acres of pristine forestland in perpetuity.

The Foundation received permis-





sion to begin development of the property this past spring. Brian Wharry, the camp director, and Bill Crooks, the program director, together with a group of enthusiastic volunteers, completed a great deal of work including cleaning up the forest, installing a playing-field and parking lot, and creating a gravel path to the future campfire area. The camp buildings will consist of environmentally friendly yurts, the first of which will be installed in the spring. Also in the spring a well will be drilled, the septic system installed and the power hooked up. All will be ready to welcome the first campers in July. Development will continue through the year, and our goal is to offer a residential camping experience in the summer of 2017.

The success of this project has

Reimagining Church sessions are under way

been primarily due to generosity: the tangible generosity of our many donors who supported our work and honoured their pledges despite the many delays; and the generosity of spirit of the Foundation members, who continued to believe in the dream and willingly gave of their time and energy through the years. Finally, and most importantly, we gratefully acknowledge the unflagging generosity of Bishop Dennis and the Diocese who did everything necessary to make the donation of the land possible, thereby assuring the entire project.

One photo, by Johanne D'Iorio, shows Ruth Sheeran and Bishop Dennis Drainville signing the land transfer agreement. Another, from the Foundation, shows a work party of volunteers on the property last year.

Mile End Notebook

When coffee equals warmth

LORI OLSON

Lori Olson is program manager and member advocate at the Mile End Mission.

The Mile End Mission is seeing a rise in the number of members requiring our services who are not just poor but actually homeless. We are working closely with them and they are beginning to trust us and tell their stories. We pack them up food and snacks that they are able to have on the streets. We have made special arrangements so that they can come to the Mission when it is closed to the public but staff and volunteers are here preparing for the week's program. We offer the homeless warm clothes and dry socks, blankets and so on - whatever we have that they may need. We have found that money for a simple cup of coffee is a great help. When it is too cold outside, to be able to afford a cup of coffee is not only good itself but can entitle one of our homeless members to sit in a coffee shop and keep warm. Some of our supporters save their "Roll up the Rim to Win" prizes entitling the winner to a coffee or doughnut. We give them to our members so that they can take a

break from the cold. It's a means of survival in the whole new world you enter when you have to live on the streets.

One conversation I had with one of our homeless members was an eye-opener. He explained to me that he has sought out a place to sleep under a bridge where he gets shelter from the wind. He informed me that he has a sleeping bag that can keep him warm in minus-30degrees weather. The only troub is the cold that comes from the ground under him. He is grateful when it is recycling day because he finds large pieces of cardboard to lie on to minimize the cold. He also explained that it is very hard to get a drink of water and to use the toilet when you are homeless. He tells me that to wash up he ducks into a public library . He and all of them are survivors! When I sit and think what is it to be homeless I can't even imagine being that way. So let's not ignore or judge but look upon these people with compassion and realize it is not by choice they are homeless. It is because of circum-

For information or to make a donation visit www.mileendmission.org.

The Diocese of Montreal Bishop's Missioner for Reimagining Church, Nick Brotherwood, is presenting the several-session "Reimagining Church: shaped for mission" course in various locations around the diocese this winter and spring.

The course developed by Wycliffe

in various locations around the diocese this winter and spring. The course, developed by Wycliffe College's Dr. John Bowen, addresses such questions as "How should the church respond to the changes in our culture?" and "What is the future of the church?"

"Reimagining Church: shaped for mission" is for those who know something is not quite right and want to understand what can be done about it. The sessions look at:

- changes in our culture,the spiritual resources the church
- has to respond to the challenges,
 what it means these days to be a

"Christian,

- ways churches are already changing and adapting in order to be more effective,
- what "changing and adapting" might mean in our own situations.

"Reimagining Church: shaped for mission" involves group discussion, dynamic presentations, thoughtprovoking video, Bible discussion, prayerful reflection, and (of course!) refreshments. Nick would be delighted to talk to you about how

"Reimagining Church: shaped for mission" might be useful to your church. Please contact him at nbrotherwood@montreal.anglican. ca or call 514-246-5796.

Other sessions anticipated will take place:

• For the South Shore at St. Paul's Greenfield Park, April 19, 21, and 23

- At St. Peter's, TMR, where a series will wind up Sunday, April. 10
- At other times and places to be announced.

For information on "Reimagining Church" go to www.freshexpressions.ca/project/reimaginingchurch or www.facebook.com/rcmontreal. Anyone interested in attending a session outside his or her local area should check with the host parish.

Spiritual direction

Individual spiritual direction is available in this diocese. For information or a confidential interview with one of the matchers, write sdgroupmontreal@yahoo.ca or call 514-768-7807.

Anglicans remember Victor Goldbloom as a 'giant' in Jewish-Christian dialogue

Former primate recalls long friendship with 'partner and friend'

Tali Folkins

Tali Folkins is a reporter for the Anglican Journal. This article is slightly adapted from one that appeared in the online version of the Journal.

Dr. Victor Goldbloom, who died of a heart attack Monday, February 15 at age 92, is being remembered in Quebec and across Canada primarily for his accomplishments in politics and government. But for many Anglicans, especially those involved in interfaith relations, Dr. Goldbloom will also be known for his work in increasing understanding between Jews and Christians in Canada.

"He was a giant of a man in that sense, and will be enormously missed not just by the Jewish community in Montreal but by the Christians as well," interfaith dialogue partner and friend Archbishop Andrew Hutchison, former primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, and before that archbishop of Montreal, told the *Anglican Journal* February 17.

Helping Canadian Christians and Jews better understand each other, Archbishop; Hutchison said, is "certainly what he [Goldbloom] gave himself to right to the end." Dr. Goldbloom remained on the executive of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism until his death, for example.

Archdeacon Bruce Myers, the Anglican Church of Canada's co-ordinator for ecumenical and interfaith relations, called Dr. Goldbloom "an artisan of reconciliation between



Victor Goldbloom
(Photo: Canadian Centre for Ecumenism)

Jews and Christians, tirelessly promoting interreligious dialogue and common witness in Montreal and nationally.

"He embodied the psalmist's cry: 'How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!'" Archdeacon Myers, recently elected future bishop of the Diocese of Ouebec, said.

He added that Dr. Goldbloom, had been a "fixture" of Jewish-Christian dialogue in Canada. "It's difficult to imagine that landscape without him."

Dr. Goldbloom was also a "vigilant defender" of freedom of religion, Archdeacon Myers said, and an opponent of the Quebec Charter of Values, the 2013 bill proposed by the Parti Québécois that would have prohibited the wearing of conspicuous religious symbols at work by government employees.

Another Anglican mourning Dr.

Goldbloom's passing is the Rev. Patricia Kirkpatrick, a priest of the diocese of Montreal and professor of religious studies at McGill University, with whom Dr. Goldbloom worked in Christian-Jewish conversation.

"Because he was so active in Jewish-Christian dialogues at the local, national and international levels, he had a perspective on the process of dialogue like no other I have known," Professor Kirkpatrick said. "He was unstoppable in his search for dialogue partners and was never deterred."

Professor Kirkpatrick also had strong praise for Dr. Goldbloom not just as a dialogue partner, but as a human being.

"Quite frankly, Victor was like an oak tree...strong and bold, yet giving in its arms a place of life for so many of God's creatures who were weak and at a loss to know what to do," she said. "His sense of justice, and therefore injustice, was finely tuned and reminded us all of just how vigilant we must always be of everpresent tyrannies.

"But more than anything else, I remember his sheer joy at being able to partake in so many different ventures so that the world could be made a better place to live," Professor Kirkpatrick said.

Archbishop Hutchison said he first met Dr. Goldbloom in the 1980s, working with him on Christian-Jewish relationships while the future primate was as dean of Montreal. The working relationship soon became a friendship.

At one point, Archbishop Hutchison recalled, he himself held a "Shoah service," commemorating the Holocaust and offering an apolo-

gy on behalf of all Christians. Dr. Goldbloom contacted him to ask if he could publish the sermon, which he did in the *Canadian Jewish News*.

Dr. Goldbloom was strongly drawn to religion, Archbishop Hutchison said. At Hutchison's ceremony of consecration as bishop of the diocese of Montreal, Dr. Goldbloom read the Old Testament lesson in Hebrew. Since it was Friday night, the Jewish Shabbat, Dr. Goldbloom then immediately "dashed over to the temple for his own service," Archbishop Hutchison recalled.

Though Archbishop Hutchison moved first to Toronto and then Vancouver, the two maintained their friendship. "We shared a good deal over the years," Archbishop Hutchison said, adding that as recently as December he had received a long email from Dr. Goldbloom in which Dr. Goldbloom expressed a desire to visit Archbishop Hutchison and his family in Vancouver Island.

"He was certainly a man who deserved the title gentleman with a capital 'G'," Archbishop Hutchison said. "He was gentle and full of grace, and a very open and understanding individual."

Much of Dr. Goldbloom's success in improving understanding between Christians and Jews in Canada was due to his ability to maintain good relationships with people, Archbishop Hutchison said. At one point, during the primacy of Archbishop Michael Peers, he says, relations between the Anglican Church of Canada and the Jewish community became strained because the church had made "strong comments"

about Israel's behaviour toward Palestinians.

"It was Dr. Goldbloom who I called and asked if he would meet with our then primate, Michael Peers, to see if we could effect some reconciliation," Hutchison says. "That was done... They were able to talk things through."

Trained as a pediatrician, Dr. Goldbloom entered politics in the 1960s, serving as Quebec's first environment minister in the early 1970s. He also served for a time as the province's municipal affairs minister, and is widely credited for saving the 1976 Montreal Olympics from disaster.

In 1987, Dr. Goldbloom left politics to become chief executive officer of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, a now-defunct organization, holding the post until 1987. During his life he also served on a number of other interfaith organizations, including the Canadian Interfaith Conversation and the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal. In 2012, Dr. Goldbloom was honoured by the Roman Catholic Church for his work in Christian-Jewish dialogue, receiving the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St. Sylvester Pope and Martyr from Pope Benedict XVI.

From 1991 to 1999, Dr. Goldbloom served as Canada's official languages commissioner.

He is survived by his wife, Sheila Goldbloom, three children, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a brother.

Dominican Father cherished religion of ordinary people

Benoît Lacroix reached 100 years in September

HARVEY SHEPHERD

The Dominican Father, scholar, commentator on current affairs and culture and prolific author's Benoît Lacroix participated in a panel discussion with the Anglican bishop of Montreal, the Right Rev. Andrew Hutchison, in November, 1994. Perhaps they met on other occasions but there was a reporter from Montreal daily *The Gazette* present on that one.

The bishop (later archbishop of Montreal and then primate of Canada) urged that the ancient codes of purity of the great religions should be called into question.

"The law of love represents the most radical repudiation of the religion of purity. Why? Because it invites us to identify sympathetically with every other person of whatever race, gender, social status etc. and to take their good into account."

The *Gazette* reporter (me, actually) thought the views of Father Lacroix had resemblances to those of the Anglican bishop.



Benoît Lacroix
(From a Dominican Fathers' Facebook page.)

"The sacred and the spiritual cannot be contained within institutions, the spirit cannot be contained within the law. Spiritualities are born from the depths of the human being; they precede institutional religions, just as conscience precedes law and faith precedes knowledge, just as the laboratory often precedes scientific discovery," said Father Lacroix.

He died March 1, several days

after being admitted to a hospital with pneumonia. He had turned 100 last September. Funeral services took place March 9 and 10 in the chapel of the Dominican complex where Father Lacroix lived on Côte-Sainte-Catherine Road).

The inseparable links between love and faith were still on Father Lacroix' mind when he was interviewed by the same reporter in September, 2005, just after his 90th birthday. The rise of religious fundamentalism preoccupied him greatly, he said. Religious doctrines do help clarify matters, he acknowledged, but religion could do with "less law and more confidence in human consciousness."

He gave the influence of Eastern spirituality – "meditation, silence, orison" – a lot of credit for broadening his outlook and that of other Westerners.

"I love religions, in the plural.
"I love to believe. I love to believe in others. My faith should be in the service of love and not of power."

Born into a farming family in St. Michel de Bellechasse, 50 kilometres southeast of Quebec City in 1915,

continued on the next page

'A warm friend of Anglican Church for decades'

Staff

The ecumenical officer of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, the Rev. Stephen Petrie, said Dr. Victor Goldbloom was "a warm friend of the Anglican Church for decades" and in particular of the Diocese of Montreal.

"He was a visionary force in ecumenical relations for over 50 years. He made a point of attending important events in the life of the diocese, like Bishop Mary's consecration last September, even at the age of 92.

"I know Bishop Mary was touched by his handwritten letter of congratulations on the occasion.

"He was a very thoughtful gentleman who will be deeply missed. Prayers go out to his widow Sheila and their family.

Among other tributes, Roman Catholic Archbishop Christian Lépine said, "I share the sorrow of his wife, family, and friends and of the entire Jewish community.

"Dr. Goldbloom dedicated his life to building bridges for reconciling differences. With great courtesy, he was always invaluable to all the projects of dialogue. He contributed greatly to the encounter between Christians and Jews, with his heart open to all the beauty he could find in others and with a serene awareness of his own faith.

"We will miss him greatly."
A statement from the Montrealbased Canadian Centre for Ecumenism said, "The team of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism is deeply saddened by the news of Dr. Victor Goldbloom's death. The Centre lost a dear friend and adviser and a board member.

"Pioneer of interfaith dialogue, Dr. Goldbloom was deeply committed to Christian-Jewish dialogue and to social issues and his understanding of minority communities was unparalleled.

"We were amazingly blessed to have Dr. Goldbloom as part of our board of directors and as part of our lives. We will deeply miss the presence of a truly unique and kind person.

"Our heartfelt condolences go out to Dr. Goldbloom's family! continued on the next page

'Bread for the body, food for the soul' heads east



Lunchtime Eucharist shifts from St. James to St. John

HARVEY SHEPHERD

An informal midweek program that for a decade has combined the Eucharist, a simple lunch and Bible study has shifted its venue to the downtown Church of St. John the Evangelist from the downtown Church of St. James the Apostle, which is becoming the new home of a downtown church "plant."

"Bread for the body, food for the soul" was launched 10 years ago as a more creative alternative to a sparsely attended Wednesday Eucharist at St. James the Apostle, meeting in a transept of the church. Now it continues about three Métro stops further east, in the hall of St. John the Evangelist, the Anglo-Catholic church with the landmark red roof.

Participants in a recent gathering said the number present has about held its own through the move, often in the 18-24 range. They include former parishioners of St. James the Apostle, a few of whom may be switching to the Redroof Church, others who were Redroof parishioners all along, and people of other parish allegiances, not all Anglican, or perhaps none. There have been a few new faces since the move.

Geoffrey McLarney, a St. John the Evangelist parishioner and partici-

pant in the lunches for several years, said participants thought it would be better to make a move than to burden the pastoral team of the new St. James Plant with a "grandfathered" St. James the Apostle program.

The lunches begin with a simple Eucharist, generally celebrated by the Rev. Alain Brosseau, a recent addition to the Redroof clergy team. (This is a change from the previous practice, which used previously consecrated bread and wine.)

Then comes a lunch built around a choice of soups made by participant and volunteer Harriet Cunynghame, who has been doing this since the lunches began. The Bible study follows. A recent one focused on the Parable of the Prodigal Son, as found in the 15th Chapter of the Gospel of Luke. This led to discussion of issues including forgiveness. Father Brosseau at one point said that the crucial issue in forgiveness is not always its impact on the person who is or is not forgiven.

"At the end of the day forgiveness is about me" (the person forgiving or not).

He later said he is glad that this lunch ministry has come to St. John the Evangelist, where in his view it belongs just as much as the elaborate ritual often associated with the Anglo- Catholic tradition.

"It gives a different flavour to this parish. It doesn't make us less Anglo-Catholic."

(The photo by Janet Best shows the Rev. Alain Brosseau celebrating a simple Eucharist.)

Lacroix...

 $continued \, from \, the \, previous \, page$

Benoît Lacroix joined the Dominicans in 1936. He studied theology at the University of Ottawa, was ordained in 1941 and earned his doctorate in medieval studies from the University of Toronto in 1951. After further studies in Paris and at Harvard, he taught for 40 years at the Université de Montréal

He was known for his many books and other writings on topics including the medieval period, the religion of ordinary rural Catholics (especially in his native Bellechasse region), the Quebec poet and painter Hector de Saint-Denys Garneau and the political thinker Lionel Groulx. Groulx fascinated Benoît Lacroix notwithstanding important differences in opinion. Father Lacroix also commented on arts and culture and other topics in the media.

In general, he had little interest in debates over Quebec nationalism and commented, "My country is Bellechasse."

He had a special and enthusiastic interest in young people. There is a youth centre named for him in the Dominican Complex, which is near the Université de Montréal campus.

Father Lacroix was also a close and longstanding friend and spiritual advisor to the late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. The Dominican presided at the funeral in 1998 of Michel Trudeau', Pierre Trudeau's youngest son, killed in an avalanche, and counselled and accompanied the former minister himself in the illness leading to his death in 2000.

He was an officer of both the Order of Canada and the Order of Quebec.

Comment

Dean of Cathedral says it's time to get out of the marriage business

PAUL KENNINGTON

The Very Rev. Paul Kennington is dean of Christ Church Cathedral. This comment was posted on the Cathedral website March 2.

Marriage is a holy estate and a gift of God in creation, but, unlike love, marriage is not a necessary part of Christian life. The Anglican Church does not teach that marriage is a Gospel sacrament and in some provinces the Church canonically marries unbaptized couples. Jesus didn't marry and was not a great advocate of family life either, turning disciples against father, mother, brother, sister and children in his name. St. Paul recommends the single life as the better choice, even for those who are already betrothed. People of other faiths get married, and their marriages are real marriages – even though they are definitely not Christian marriages.

The early church did not "do" weddings. Presbyters did not marry people: married couples brought their legal marriage to the altar, they received Holy Communion together and their marriage was blessed in Christ's name. I believe it is now time to leave marriage to the state and to the lawyers, where it rightly belongs, and for the Church to return to blessing people in Christ's name at the altar – which is what we do best. People can wear white dresses and walk in to Mendelssohn's music if that is what they want, but we would be set free from the arrogance of thinking that the Church can define what a "real" marriage is (or isn't). Jesus said "those whom God has joined together," he did not say "those whom the Church has joined

together." He chose his words carefully.

It is true that the Church would have a new problem, but it would be a problem we should be wrestling with. We would have to work out who (and what) we can bless in Christ's name, and what difference Christ's blessing makes to a person or to a couple, or to a house, or to an oppressive dictator or to military hardware. Instead of discriminating against gay people by not allowing them to be married, we would be able to treat gay and straight people equally – all would have to marry legally before a notary. But that would involve challenging the powerful heterosexual majority to give up, for the sake of justice, something they treasure.

Goldbloom...

continued from the previous page

"May the soul of our beloved Victor rest in peace!"

Dr. Goldbloom's successor as president of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal, the Rev. Diane Rollert said in a note to members of the Dialogue that, "I don't think there are any words that can express the deep sadness I feel personally and that I know you all share with me. We were amazingly blessed to have Victor as part of our Dialogue and as part of our lives. I will cherish the fact that he was with us at this last meeting and that he was so pleased by the level of discourse we had shared together. I know he valued his relationships with all of us and was proud of the organization he had been instrumental in keeping alive and vital all these years.

"My heart goes out to Victor's family and to each of you, especially to those who have known Victor so closely for so many years."

Paintings by parishioners among highlights of 'Nuit blanche'



A display of paintings by parishioners of Christ Church Cathedral was among the attractions that drew participants into Christ Church

Cathedral Saturday evening, February 27, and into the small hours of Saturday. The Cathedral was participating in "La Nuit Blanche," an overnight festival of downtown merchants and other groups. Organ-



izers counted 5,289 people in the Cathedral in the course of the evening. About a quarter of this number drank a cup of free hot chocolate and then sat in a pew to listen to the music. Among big hits of

the evening were three gospel concerts by "Sympholies Vocales," a large West Island choir who sang three concerts of gospel music, organ and flute recitals, handbell ringing, a 1 a.m. jazz concert by "Soul Station,"

and a 10 p.m.candlelit Compline service with Gregorian chant. Paintings on display were by Natasha Henderson, Gwendoline Spurll, Catherine Davidson, Diana Bouchard and Beth Adams.

Notable

Oasis Musicale

Concerts at Christ Church Cathedral 635 St. Catherine St. W.

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

Oasis Musicale Concerts at Christ Church Cathedral

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 Life and Love / La vie et l'amour Kelsey Downer, Soprano Bryn Blackwood, Piano Robert Schumann: Frauenliebe und Leben Samuel Barber: Hermit Songs Edvard Grieg: Sech's Lieder, Opus 48

Saturday, April 9th, 2016 An Intimate Piano Evening / Une soirée intime avec le piano Viktor Lazarov, piano Ludwig van Beethoven: Sonata in e

minor op.90 Johannes Brahms: Three Intermezzi op.117 Claude Debussy: Images book I Vasilije Mokranjac: Igre za klavir/ Dances for Piano I. Igra broj

1/Dance no. 1 Franz Liszt: Paraphrase on Themes from Verdi's Rigoletto/

Saturday, April 16th, 2016 Brahms's last two Sonatas Marcus Thompson, viola Tomoko Inui, piano rahms: Sonata for viola ar piano Op 120 No.1 in F minor & No.2 in E-b Major Fuchs: Phantasiestücke, Op. 117 (excerpts)

Saturday, April 23rd, 2016 Arias of Passion Irem Ince, mezzo soprano Marie Haines, piano Works by: Handel and selections from Bizet's Carmen and Massenet's Werther.

Saturday, April 30th, 2016 Belcanto Barocco Frédérique Drolet, soprano Meagan Zantingh, mezzo-soprano Esteban La Rotta, theorbo Jonathan Addleman, harpsichord Solos and duets by Monteverdi, Caccini, Sances, and others.

Christ Church, Rawdon will

Together 2000

in an Easter Show.

Sat., April 30th, 4 pm, at Christ Church,

followed by supper in

Tickets are \$15 for adults;

For information or to order tickets 450 834-4457

Proceeds benefit Christ Church

Notable

3537 rue Metcalfe, Rawdon

the parish hall.

includes both show and supper.

music and skits

\$5 for children

Third Montreal conference on

host the ecumenical group

legacy of 9/11 slated for September 15 'From faith to interfaith'

is this year's theme

Most people remember where they were and what they were doing when they first heard the news of the aerial assault on the Twin Towers in New York City on September 11, 2001, says the convenor of a conference that will bring religious leaders and scholars to Montreal September 15 this year for a third time since 9/11.

The ground may not have shifted under our feet at the moment but the very concept of religion underwent a paradigm shift for many of us," Arvind Sharma, Birks Professor of Comparative Religion in the Faculty of Religious Studies at McGill University, said. He announced that tickets are now available for the third Global Conference on World's Religions after September 11: From Faith to Interfaith, which will take place in the Palais des Congrès in Montreal. Early bird prices will be in effect until May 1.

"Instead of standing for virtue and piety, and peace and harmony, the word religion was launched on a



Arvind Sharma

semantic trajectory which would make it a byword for evil, aggression and terror."

"But is there not more to religion than this? We invite you to explore the more positive possibilities of the religious dimension of life" by attending the conference, he said. "Its aim is to bring together the various religions of the world in an ecumenical spirit to address the many issues facing the world today and adopt a Universal Declaration of Human

Rights, in the hope that this will help all of us become better human beings."

Among confirmed speakers that conference organizers announced by mid-February were: • Karen Armstrong (British author

- and commentator, known for her books on comparative religion).
- Deepak Chopra (specialist in mindbody healing, speaker and author).
- Harvey Cox (Hollis Research Professor of Divinity at Harvard University).
- · Shirin Ebadi (Iranian lawyer, human-rights activist and Nobel Peace laureate).
- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar (humanitarian leader and spiritual teacher).
- Charles Taylor (Canadian thinker with writings that cover artificial intelligence, language, social behaviour, morality and multiculturalism).
- Elie Wiesel (professor, author, political activist and Nobel Prize laureate).

Information on the conference and registration is available at worldsreligions2016.org.

Notable

CHRIST CHURCH BEAUREPAIRE

455 Church St., Beaconsfield

CONCERT SERIES 2016

"Les Concerts du Quartier"

The last two concerts in the 2015/2016 Series will be Tuesdays April 19 and May 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Concerts

April 19 Roland Arnalasson / Elias-Axdel Pettersson (violin/piano)

> May 17 Erin Bergrer (soprano) with strings and piano

Visit

www.facebook.com/CCBconcerts for info, photos and videos from previous concerts or our website: www.christchurchbeaurepaire.com

All concerts at Christ Church Beaurepaire at 455 Church St., (corner Fieldfare), Beaconsfield 514-697-2204

Notable

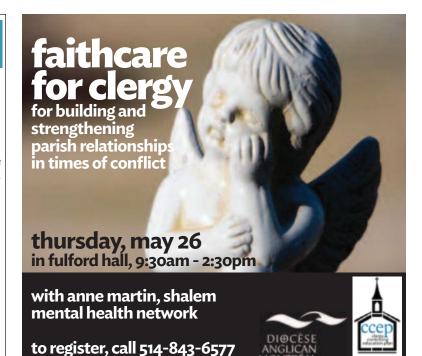
Paws&Pray at Christ Church Beaurepaire

Paws&Pray features a worship service of the Holy Eucharist where canine companions & their guardians are always welcome. The program is offered in collaboration with the Companion Animal Adoption Centers of Quebec (caacQ), a non-profit organization dedicated to animal welfare.

The next Paws&Pray services will be held on April 3 and May 1, at 1 p.m.

Christ Church Beaurepaire, 455 Church St. (at Fieldfare), Beaconsfield

For more details: 514-697-2204 or email christchurch@qc.aibn.com



Comment

The crucified Christ as 'gifted' child

Agony of birth reflects Passion of Jesus JOHN SERJEANTSON

The Rev. John Serjeantson is a retired priest of the Diocese of Montreal. He lives in Cowansville.

I am writing, as much as lies in me, an objective account about what is very important, personal painful and comforting to me.

Bishop Mary said, in her address to the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal in 2015: "Our ministry as a church is to express the Good News of God in Christ." This was reported in the Anglican Montreal newspaper. For me an important part of the Good News is Jesus Christ and him crucified.

This is part of the reason Jesus crucified means so much to me. To understand why, I go to what Alice Miller wrote in her book *The Drama* of the Gifted Child (its previous title was *Prisoners of Childhood*.) It is about the painful birth experience of an infant when there was a traumatic birth and the baby is not mirrored by the mother. I discovered the feeling of this when I experienced Primal Therapy, going back to my birth experience. It was a caesarean section. Also, I did not bond with my mother.

There is a psychological term, "Inner Child." The definition for it is, "the part of the psyche that retains the feelings as they were experienced in childhood." This encourages one to ask the question: Do these feelings, as they were experienced in childhood, affect us as adults? I discovered that they do.

Many of us are in denial about them, especially the painful negative ones like rejection, anger, depression, anxiety, badness and so on We either abuse, take them out on ourselves; or, we project them onto other people and abuse them. This is what I did to my wife, Carole. I projected them onto her. Experiencing Primal Therapy opened my understanding to this. It reminds me of this saying of Jesus: Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's (sister's) eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or, how can you say to your brother (sister) 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's (sister's) eye."



The Rev. John Serjeantson and his wife Carole.

The work of Dr. Frank Lake and other members of the Clinical Theology Association draws our attention to the correspondence between babies who have traumatic births, and are not mirrored by, do not bond with, mother; and the passion of Jesus the Christ, which shows the love of God for each of us.

Jesus experienced the lonely agony of decision in the Garden of Gethsemane, when his sweat was like great drops of blood, agonizing about the ordeal which lay ahead of him. He was betrayed by one of his disciples, abandoned by others, denied by Peter and rejected by the leaders of his people. He suffered the nails hammered through him on the cross. He then suffered the excruciating, asphyxiating agony of hanging upon it, naked, bereft of human dignity. So he experienced this intense physical agony, and with it the devastating, despairing loneliness, culminating in the great cry of abandonment: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me!?" The obedient son experienced feeling abandoned by his Father.

I emphasize that the tenor of what is written here is from the

mother's. John Banister Tabb wrote: "The baby has no skies but mother's

"Nor any God above but mother's

The peri-birth traumatic experience of the infant corresponds significantly with that of Jesus in his passion. There is the terrible, asphyxiating, crushing, affliction during the birth process. Also, when there is no bonding, there is the devastating separation anxiety and loneliness. It is like falling over the edge of the precipice into the dark abyss. There is no tender loving closeness of mother. That is why her tender loving closeness is so important. The infant, like Jesus, is hemmed into a situation which feels as if there is no way out.

We then proceed to bury all this in our unconscious, because the feeling of it is too horrific, unthinkable, too painful to feel. Only the inner child feels it. The adult has buried it. So I cover up the loneliness at the core of my being, when this has been our/my experience, because the feeling of it is so devastating. It can make itself known through different psychological afflictions of

may take out on ourselves or other people. It will remain that way unless some sort of psychological earthquake in consciousness opens for us. When I allow myself to feel my inner

In our/my affliction we/I may be blessed to meet someone who will be with us/me in our/my pain. I take this quote from one of one of Frank Lake's booklets.

Martin Buber had been shocked by the suicide of a student who had visited him: "What do we expect when we are in despair and yet go to a man? Surely a presence by means of which we are told that nevertheless there is meaning."

(That's "told" not by words but by a silent yet infinitely significant presence - converting avoided pain into accepted suffering.

(Dr. Colin Cameron, cited in Margaret Trudeau's autobiography Changing My Mind, insists that when we try to keep pain out, what we are doing is keeping it in.)

Frank Lake continues about allowing one's self to suffer the inner

"That is the task that can only be entrusted to a fellow sufferer, or to

from whom Aesculapius learned his medicine.

'What these foreshadowed, Jesus Christ, was, God's Word made Man, bearing in groaning, almost wordless horror and total darkness, the burden of rescuing the afflicted by total identification with them. In so far as what He did is done again how in us for others, yet first, maybe, in others for us, the significant sufferer is

When I was experiencing Primal Therapy I looked into the eyes of Barbara, my therapist, and saw the agony which I could not express in words in her eyes. There was an intense empathy. I desperately needed for someone to be emotionally present with me.

God, in Jesus, the innocent one, is especially with all innocent sufferers. Thus they can know that they are not utterly alone. This awareness of his Presence with them reverses its effect on them. Sufferers from childhood trauma need no longer be prisoners of childhood .God in Jesus has experienced their horror. This is Good News. Jesus did not die just because of human sin. He was an innocent afflicted, so he is with the innocent afflicted. During his ministry, Jesus warns us not to do the acts which cause the innocent to suffer. Yet on the cross he identifies with innocent sufferers.

I add another verse to a wellknown hymn:

There is a green hill far away Outside a city wall, Where the dear Lord was crucified Who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell What pains he had to bear But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.

He suffered so that we may know He feels with us our pain, He suffers with innocent That they may comfort gain.

O dearly, dearly has he loved And we must love him too, And trust in his redeeming blood, And try his works to do.

Thank you Spirit of God that you live within us. Thank you that you scatter our darkness by the light of your Presence; that your Peace calms our distresses; and that our suffering is transformed by the suffering of Jesus Christ, whose Resurrection and living Presence gives hope and courage. Amen.

Nouveau blogue collectif contre « la construction publique de l'islamophobie »

Au cours des prochains mois, de nombreuses figures intellectuelles et associatives prendront la plume pour alimenter un blogue collectif publié dans le Huffington Post, dont un extrait sera repris chaque mois dans un billet du Journal Metro.

Les textes aborderont différentes facettes de la construction publique de l'islamophobie. Salam (mot en arabe qui désigne paix) est une initiative portée par le Centre justice et foi et Alternatives qui veut fournir des outils permettant de mieux saisir les enjeux relatifs à l'islam, à l'actualité internationale et ainsi contrer les

discours islamophobes.

Selon Mouloud Idir du Centre Justice et Foi, « Depuis le 11 septembre 2001, on constate en Occident une montée en force de l'islamophobie et la construction du «problème musulman» comme «problème public». Cette nouvelle forme de racisme contre le musulman (ou celui qui en revêt les traits) gagne une acceptation sociale et donne le ton au débat public.

« Dans certains médias, on fait l'amalgame périlleux entre islam, fondamentalisme et terrorisme. Autant de termes employés de façon indistincte. À coup de stéréotypes, on représente l'islam de façon monolithique, péjorative et comme porteur d'une culture archaïque dont la soumission de la femme en constituerait un des éléments centraux. Cette tendance intervient, explicitement ou implicitement, dans l'élaboration de nombreuses lois et mesures sécuritaires qui stigmatisent davantage les personnes associées à l'islam.

« Au Québec, ce sont surtout les débats sur la laïcité, les accommodements raisonnables et la Charte des valeurs qui ont exacerbé la discrimination et l'exclusion des musulmans

et musulmanes. Encore aujourd'hui, l'accueil des réfugiés syriens de confession musulmane fait couler beaucoup d'encre.

« À l'heure où l'information se consomme, la menace terroriste vend. Et la construction d'un tel ennemi contribue à légitimer des politiques guerrières au profit d'intérêts économiques et géostratégiques. Des attaques de l'OTAN en Afghanistan et en Irak, jusqu'aux bombardements contre le groupe État islamique, un récit fondé sur l'incompatibilité des cultures se structure.

« C'est dans l'espoir d'infléchir le poids de cette logique guerrière que les deux organismes partenaires de cette initiative mettront à votre disposition une analyse informée en évitant de céder au sensationnalisme. Alors que l'idéologie du «choc des civilisations» domine largement dans les médias, ce billet offrira un regard résolument critique permettant de renforcer la solidarité, la justice sociale et la cohabitation entre les peuples et les cultures. »

Suivez les prochaines publications des billets du blogue «Salam» à quebec.huffingtonpost.ca.

The Council on Palliative Care

Three FREE Workshops

"There are only four kinds of people in the world – those who have been caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers and those who will need caregivers." - Rosalynn Carter

Monday April 4 – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

"Little Stars" accomplishing the extraordinary in the face of serious illness

Discussion following the film with

Dr. Stephen Liben MD. Director of Pediatric Palliative Care at the Montreal Children's Hospital

Julie Brouillard BScN, MA in bioethics

Monday April 11th .2016 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

"What Matters Most" finding what to say at the end of life "Lessons of Loss" inspirational video vignettes of stories in bereavement

Discussion following the videos with

Christopher MacKinnon MA, PhD, OPQ Senior Psychologist at the Balfour Mount Palliative Care Unit at MUHC

Monday April 18th .2016 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

"Music & Art: Alive in the Home"

Samantha M. Borgal MA, MTA Music therapist accredited

Sarah Tevyaw MA, ATPQ Art therapist

Light refreshments will be served. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom 4100 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount

entrance at 3 Atwater Metro – Buses: 24, 104, 13

Free of charge. Registration not required. For information: The Council on Palliative Care fmpa202@gmail.com

Visit us on the internet for news of other events: www.mcgill.ca/council-on-palliative-care

Hospice specialist who almost lost his life to deliver lecture for Council for Palliative Care

A hospice and palliative care specialist in San Francisco whose almost fatal accident contributed to his unique perspective will present the 19th Annual Sandra Goldberg Lecture in the series "Lessons in Living from the Dying," organized by the Council for Palliative Care.

Dr. B. J. Miller will lecture on "The Civics of Dying Well" Tuesday, May 3 at 6 p.m. in the Charles Martin Amphitheatre, on the Sixth Floor of the McIntyre Medical Sciences Building, McGill University

According to a press release, Dr. Miller is a hospice and palliative care specialist in San Francisco and Executive Director of the Zen Hospice Project. An electrical shock sustained while a Princeton undergraduate nearly cost him his life. He managed to survive but lost both legs below the knee and half of one arm. Through this lens, "BJ" has developed an extraordinary sense of presence and understanding that he shares freely with patients, community and the Zen Hospice Project. As executive director of this non-profit organization since 2011, BJ oversees its pioneering integration of social and medical services grounded in spirituality and humanity.

Working from the vantage point of death as an essential part of life, he is also actively engaged in cultivating a larger dialogue about this universal experience - as much through ZHP's own human-centered model of care as through exploratory work with the international design firm IDEO, participation in various healthcare policy initiatives, including San Francisco's Palliative Care Task Force, and through public speaking, including the closing talk at TED2015, all helping to make empathy-driven end-of-life care available

Following undergraduate studies in art history at Princeton, BJ received his MD at University of California San Francisco as a Regents' Scholar and completed his internal medicine residency at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, where he served as chief resident. He completed a fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at Harvard Medical School, with clinical duties split between Massachusetts General Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

BJ also serves as Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at UCSF, and is an attending specialist for the Symptom Management Service of the UCSF Helen Diller Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of the country's very first outpatient palliative care clinics.

Notable

St. George's Church

23 Perrault Ave. Ste. Anne de Bellevue, QC H9X 2C6

2016 Courses and Programs

Boundaries - Tuesday's 7 p.m. April 12 - May 31 Messy Church – Once a month every fourth, Wednesday 5 p.m Café@STG - Thursday's, 10:00 am - 3: p.m

Amplified Youth Group - Friday's 7 p.m, For information about these programs contact our office at

514-457-6934 or office@stg.church Check out our courses, events and worship gatherings on www.stgeorgesanglicanchurch.org

The 19th Annual Sandra Goldberg Lecture



La 19^e conférence annuelle Sandra Goldberg

Le Conseil des soins palliatifs

Presents a free public lecture in its series / présente une conférence gratuite dans le cadre de sa série

'Lessons in Living from the Dying' 'Leçons de vie données par les mourants'

The Civics of Dying Well Le civisme d'une fin de vie réussie



B J Miller, M.D.

at Zen Hospice Project,
San Francisco
San Francisco
San Francisco

Senior Director and Advocate Directeur principal et porte-parole

Tuesday, May 3, 2016, 6:00 pm

Charles Martin Amphitheatre, 6th floor **McGill University Campus McIntyre Medical Sciences Building**

> (Entrances on 1200 Pine Avenue West or 3655 Promenade Sir-William Osler) Peel Metro - Bus 107 Sherbrooke or Atwater Metro - Bus 144

Mardi 3 mai 2016 à 18h00

Amphithéâtre Charles Martin, 6e étage Campus de l'Université McGill Pavillon McIntyre des sciences médicales

(entrée au 1200 Pine Avenue ouest ou au 3655 Promenade Sir-William Osler) Métro Peel - Autobus: 107 Métro Sherbrooke ou Atwater - Autobus: 144

La conférence sera donnée en analais

Live streaming and archival recording of this lecture will be available on our website at: www.mcgill.ca/council-on-palliative-care information: fmpa202@gmail.com

Cette conférence sera diffusée en direct et archivée sur notre site Web à : www.mcgill.ca/council-on-palliative-care

Renseignements: fmpa202@gmail.com

This lecture is sponsored by the Goldberg Family, McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) Palliative Care, West Island Palliative Care Residence and The Council on Palliative Care.





Cette conférence est parrainée par la famille Goldberg le Centre universitaire de santé McGill (CUSM) soins palliatifs, la Résidence de soins palliatifs de l'Ouest de l'Île et le Conseil des soins palliatifs.

Notable

Olive Trees and Olive Oil: Agents of Change and Transformation

A lecture by Angela Pessinis of Montreal

Organized by the C.G. Jung Society of Montreal

> Friday, April 15 7:30-10:00 p.m.

The John Molson School of Business 1450 rue Guy (Metro Guy/Concordia) Room MB 3.210

Members \$12, Non-Members \$15 Students/Senior Members \$8

This lecture will trace the origins, nature and symbolism of the olive tree and olive oil and will examine their role and significance in antiquity, in the Old Testament and in Christianity and Christian worship.

The Process of Individuation in the Film "Il Postino" (The Postman)

A workshop with Angela Pessinis

Saturday, April 16 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The John Molson School of Business 1450 rue Guy (Metro Guy/Concordia) Room MB 3.255

Members \$70, Non-Members \$90 Students/Senior Members \$50

In this seminar Jungian analyst Angela Pessinis will screen the 1994 film, "Il Postino."

> Information 514-481-8664

Notable

BIPOLAR DISORDER:

A Tele-Workshop with Dr. Allan Fielding, psychiatrist

Wednesday, April 13, 7-8:15 p.m. Sponsored by Ami-Québec and Mental Health Estrie

> Workshops are free but registrations are required.

To participate by phone from your home, register by calling The Caregiver network, 1-866-869-2433 or visit thecaregivernetwork.ca

To join a group at the Lennoxville offices of Mental Health Estrie, register by calling 819-565-3777 or email mhe.info@bellnet.ca

ANXIETY

A Tele-Workshop with Dr. Karen White, psychologist

Wednesday, May 25, 7-8:15 p (Other details as above.)

HEALTHY PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS AND CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL **COMPETENCE**

a Webinar with Dr. Dale Stack, psychologist

Tuesday, April 26, 7-8 p.m. Sponsored by Ami-Québec and Mental Health Estrie

Can be accessed from any computer that is connected to the internet.

To Participate register with the Caregiver Network: Call 1-866-396-2433 or visit thecaregivernetwork.ca

Sales & Events

St. Barnabas St. Lambert 95 Lorne Ave.

LUNCHEON AND CARD PARTY

Wed., April 13, 12:30 p.m. Info: 450-672-5654.

St. Paul's Cote des Neiges 3970 Cote Ste. Catherine Road,

EVENING OF LAUGHTER (SENIORS OF TOMORROW)

Friday, May 20, 7 p.m. Tickets: \$12. Info: 514-733-2908.

St. James Rosemere 328:Pine St.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY SOCIAL TEA

Sat., April 23, 2-4 p.m.

Enjoy a little bit of England with tea, cucumber sandwiches and pastries. Wearing of a fascinator is optional. Informal coronation. England trivia. Goodwill offering and door prizes. Info: 450-621-6466. info@stjamesrosemere.ca

St. Paul's Greenfield Park 321 Empire St.

MEN'S "SIGNATURE" BREAKFAST/BRUNCH

Sat., April 30-8 a.m.-12 noon

Proceeds to be divided between St. Paul's and the Black Watch Third Batallion, 2067 Bleury St. Tickets \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. For more information or to reserve tickets, 514-497-2441.

St. Paul's Greenfield Park 321 Empire St.

ENGLISH TEA: 'WOMEN OF ROYALTY'

Sat., May 7, 2 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of great English traditions, food, door prizes, singalong, games, fellowship and much more. Tickets – \$10 an adult, not be available at the door! For more information or to reserve tickets, 450-678-2460.

St. Paul's Greenfield Park 321 Empire St.

GARDEN PARTY/NEARLY NEW SALE

Sat., May 28, 9 a.m.2 p.m.

Browse through our plants, garden supplies, kitchen supplies and more. Stay for lunch from our great Country Kitchen. More information: 450-678-2460.

St. Barnabas St. Lambert 95 Lorne Ave.

VARIETY SHOW

Sat., May 7, 7 p.m.

Music and song. Everyone's presence and support is invited. Admission \$15 for adults 18 and older, \$10 for teenagers 13-17. Reserve tickets by calling the church office, 450-672-5560, Tuesday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spiritual Calendar

SUNDAY SERVICE St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.

Every Sunday, 9 a.m.

First and third Sunday, Holy Communion. Second and fourth Sunday, Morning Prayer. Info: 450-621-6466 or info@stjamesrosemere.ca

WEEKLY DROP-IN CENTRE

St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.

Every Wednesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Winston Fraser is your host. Drop in for a coffee and stay for soup and fellowship. The Church is open for quiet reflection and prayer.

PRAYER BREAKFAST (MEN'S FELLOWSHIP) St.Paul's Cote des Neiges

3970 Côte Ste. Catherine Road Sat. April 23, 8-11 a.m.

Tickets \$12. Info: 514-733-2908.

SILENT RETREAT



EVERY WOMAN NEEDS A QUIET TIME WHEN SHE CAN STOP AND REFLECT AND TURN TO GOD.... a time when she can think through the priorities of her life and take the time she needs to renew herself mentally, physically and spiritually. Women of all ages welcome.

When: April 29 – May 1

Where: Ermitage Ste-Croix, Pierrefonds

Cost: \$160, Friday Supper to Sunday after lunch, private rooms and all

meals/snacks included

Spiritual Director: The Rev'd. Elizabeth Welch of the parish of St. Andrew and St.

Mark

More info: Liz Glasgow, 514-453-0883 or glasgows@videotron.ca



Notable

Still Presence Meditation

March - Calendar of Events

"CULTIVATING MINDFUL ATTITUDES"

Developing attitudes that enable us to live more fully.

Join us for this vital series.

Gatherings include sitting and walking meditation, a "heart talk," and a guided meditation

Monday, April 4, The Real-I-Zing of Self, 7-8:15 pm

Being Full of Myself (In A Good Way!)

A Happy Life Is Simply a String of Happy Moments Seeing Life as a Mirror

Monday, April 11, A Beginner's Mind, 7:00-8:15 pm

"In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, in the expert's mind there are few." ~ S. Suzuki

Monday, April 18, Mindful Trust, 7-8:15 pm

We explore the attitude of having confidence in our practice, and in the guidance of our inner self.

Still Presence Café is back!

Monday, April. 25, "Show 'n' Tell" Night, 7-8:30 pm Share something with the group that inspires you or brings you joy: Recite a cherished poem • Read from a favorite book • Tell an inspiring story • Sing, dance, or display a

Meditation Circles take place in the chapel of Christ Church Beaurepaire

favorite painting or drawing.

What do you want to share?

Christ Church Beaurepaire 455 Church St. (at Fieldfare), Beaconsfield, QC H9W 3S6

For more details: 514-697-2204 www.StillPresence.com



Concert at St. Matthias' Westmount bolsters campaign by Dorval parish to help Syrian couple

Any funds left over to help other refugees

A fund-raising concert at St. Matthias' Church in Westmount February 19 raised \$775 – well over a \$500 goal – toward the cost of helping an elderly Syrian couple reach safety in Canada. The parish is co-operating with the Church of St. Andrew and St. Mark in Dorval in the project.

Compounding efforts and getting both church teams and communities to actively participate in this effort means "we'll get everybody to safety sooner rather than later, in a context where they will be able to better integrate and, hopefully, thrive," said the Rev. Reverend Patrick Wheeler of St. Matthias'.

The intimate, eclectic and largely solo concert was given by Sarah Albu of the Westmount parish with the six-voice vocal ensemble Ina, which she founded in 2013, as special

guests. The concert, with the theme "Home," was a "musical mediation on home, belonging and the journey between them." It mixed contemporary classical repertoire with traditional and folk music from Kazakhstan and Estonia, will also showcase special guests in a vocal ensemble.

The Lent issue of the St Andrew and St Mark newsletter reported that in January Quebec immigration authorities had accepted an application for the Syrian couple and forwarded it to Immigration Canada for the next step in the process.

The Dorval parish took on the project last December.

To comply with refugee sponsorship rules, sponsors must guarantee that they are financially secure and have at least \$18,000 set aside for the support of the refugees under their sponsorship for their first year if necessary.

St Andrew and St Mark alone

had raised \$16,665 by February

The parish got to know of the couple through a man, Rim Pierre Braykeh, who had done some renovations for two parishioners and with whom they kept in touch. He is one of three grown children of the couple who are Canadian citizens who live and work in Montreal.

Barbara Peden of the parish writes, "Then the war broke out, and we became concerned for his parents (Antoune and Nadia Braykeh), who we knew were still in Syria. Rim said everything was fine, but as time went on, we knew it wasn't.

"In November I contacted him again and he said he and his elder brother, Fadi, were very worried."



Sarah Albu in concert.

ncert. (Photo: Westmount Independ

At first the couple brushed off their children's concern for their safety, but eventually Aleppo, Syria, where Antoune had been a pharmacist, came under heavy bombardment. At one point, Mr. Braykeh was kidnapped and held, though not harmed.

The three Montreal families intend to look after their parents when they arrive, but as family members cannot undertake the sponsorship alone and aren't able to provide the financial bond to support the application.

As Antoune and Nadia escaped to Beirut, Lebanon, thus becoming refugees, the all-important application package was sent to Immigration Québec.

Any funds raised but not needed for Antoune and Nadia Braykeh will go towards helping other refugees. A committee was being established to co-ordinate and oversee an ongoing refugee support project.

A last confirmation for Evergreen Anglican Community



On a snowy February 28 morning, Andrew Bradley Anderson posed with Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, who confirmed him at a Sunday service at Evergreen Anglican Community in St. Lazare, and Lay Reader Sandra Holmes, who had prepared him for confirmation.

At their annual vestry meeting on February 7, the people of Evergreen Anglican Community in St. Lazare voted to close after 16 years existence in rented quarters and move to St. George's, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue.

The last service was March 6th. The community was launched by then-Bishop Andrew Hutchison as a Bishop's Mission in a growing suburb adjacent to Hudson, just off the west end of Montreal Island, in 1999.

Confirmation at St. Lawrence, LaSalle



Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson confirmed three candidates at St.Lawrence Church, LaSalle, on March 6. From left are the Rev. Dorothy Samuel, Sarah Ackon, Nathaniel Michel, the bishop, Tatyana Galloway and the Rev. Deacon Robert Callender.

Around the parishes

Inuit congregation meets in Dorval

The Rev. Annie Ittoshat, Diocesan Inuit Minister, started conducting Sunday afternoon worship at St. Mark's Church for a congregation of about 25 Inuit on February 7.

Her congregation of about 25 people had been worshipping at St. Paul's, Lachine, since February, 2015, but that church is now actively on the market.

The priest, from Nunavik in northern Quebec, is serving Inuit in Montreal, estimated to number about 1,000, in various ways, including visits in hospitals, drop-in centres and other institutions. They are in Montreal to work, for medical reasons, to study or for other reasons. Many live in Dorval, close to the airport.

Her husband Noah is a miner in

the north, and has arranged his working schedule so that he can spend several weeks at a time with his family in Montreal. The couple have four children plus one foster child, and "a very handsome grandson."

Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson thanked the parish community of St. Andrew's and St. Mark's Dorval, and the Rev. Elizabeth Welch for their welcome and hospitality.

Choir directors seek closer co-operation

Music directors of four parishes in and near West-End Montreal have begun conversations aimed at enhancing co-operation among them and with other parishes, including ones of other denominations. Frederick Francis of St. Thomas's Church in the Notre Dame de Grâce district of Montreal says the discussions among him, Chris Grocholski of Trinity Memorial Church in N.D.G., Peter Vipond Butler of St. Phillip's Montreal West and William Hutton of St. Andrew and St. Mark's in Dorval were prompted by an inter-church prayer service at St. Mark's in November in support of refugees.

Linda Borden Taylor is interim priest in Knowlton

The Ven. Linda Borden Taylor, who concluded her ministry at St. James the Apostle in downtown Montreal, at the end of 2015, is serving as interim priest during March, April and May at St. Paul's Knowlton while the parish incumbent, the Rev. Tim Wiebe, is on sabbatical.



Linda Borden Taylor

Former executive, rural priest joins team at Redroof Church

The Rev. Wendy Telfer, who had a lengthy career as an accountant and went on to serve an eight-church rural parish in the Gaspé, is a new honorary assistant at the downtown Church of St. John the Evangelist.

Mother Telfer, as she is often known at St. John the Evangelist, is a native of Toronto and held senior management roles for non-profits.



Rev. Wendy Telfer

She was a member of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Toronto for 25 years and served as subdeacon, master of ceremonies, chorister and churchwarden.

She was ordained in the Diocese of Quebec and became rector of the far-flung Greater Parish of Gaspé.

Family commitments have brought her to Montreal. She lives in the Point St. Charles district with her son Gregory and two elderly cats.