







GEORGE GREENE

The executive director of St. Michael's Mission is near the centre of today's debates about the homeless in Montreal. He will be the featured speaker at Bishop Barry Clarke's annual dinner November 27. See Page 6.

TAHIRA MALIK

The daughter of Khurshid Begum Awan, an ailing Pakistani woman, speaks at a press conference in Fulford Hall September 22 about the struggle to keep Mrs. Awan from being deported. After about a year in sanctuary in St. Peter's TMR church, Mrs. Awan was about to leave the church when Bishop Barry Clarke posted a \$5,000 bond. See Page 5.

GUILLAUME TREMBLAY

The Quebec cinematographer speaks September 22 at the Church of St. John the Evangelist at the première of L'Heureux Naufrage (The Fortunate Shipwreck), which explores the spiritual state of Quebec society. Jenna Smith comments on the documentary on Page 8.

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THREE STAFF LEAVE SYNOD OFFICE

Bishop calls for outwardlooking ministry amid changes in top staff

HARVEY SHEPHERD

The Diocese of Montreal synod office is in the midst of its most major change in at least the past seven of Bishop Barry Clarke's 10 years as

Within a few weeks this fall, the bishop announced the immediate or imminent departure of three key members of the diocesan staff.

Circumstances differ in each case, but two of the departures are involuntary, although the bishop said he is grateful for the ministry of all three staff.

The changes were not presented as cost-cutting measures. The diocese expects to continue carrying out the functions the departing staff performed, although not necessarily in the same ways as before.

The bishop informed the Diocesan Council of the changes at its

September meeting, at which he said several times in different contexts that he wants the diocese and its parishes to move on to a new chapter and meet "the outwardlooking need of God's mission."

Recent emphasis on congregational development has been worthwhile, he said, but he does not want an inward-looking approach to continue.

'We really desire a new emphasis on mission ministry."

The bishop announced these changes in September:

· After seven years as executive archdeacon, Ven. Janet Griffith left Oct. 18 to return to the Diocese of Huron in southwestern Ontario as the rector of a new regional ministry with four parishes in the Brantford area.

 The bishop announced "sadly" that the ministry of the assistant archivist, Barbara McPherson - the only paid staff of the low-profile but vital diocesan archives - had been ended. Three volunteers who had been working with Mrs. McPherson resigned. She had been on the diocesan staff for almost 15 years and had held the archives post since 2008. • The bishop also announced that the contract of Janet Marshall, who has

been on contract as congregational development consultant since the spring of 2010, will not be renewed again when the latest renewal expires at the end of this calendar year.

Ms Marshall, who came to the diocese with a lengthy track record as a congregational development consultant, has played a central part in the diocese's efforts to help parishes meet challenges of declining membership and financial resources – a process that has involved the closing of several parishes and changes in others.

She also drew on her expertise in decision-making process in diocesan discussions on other issues. The Anglican Church of Canada also called on her talents in decisionmaking process on other occasions, including deliberations on the blessing of same-sex marriages at the 2010 General Synod, efforts to

develop new structures for the national church and a gatherings of younger clergy from across Canada in Montreal last summer.

Archdeacon Griffith, still in her post and present at the September meeting, was warmly applauded by fellow members of the Diocesan Council after a brief and informal comment on her departure. She said she was called to Brantford not only by the challenges of the new regional ministry but by the presence of children and grandchildren living in that area.

She said Montreal "is an amazing diocese and amazing things are going on here. You are amazing people."

In addition to people already mentioned, the synod staff now

includes Nicki Hronjak, program coordinator; Stephen Tam, financial manager; Jennifer James Phillips, assistant financial manager; Sophie Bertrand, human resources coordinator; Mary Abate, bishop's secretary; Mark Dunwoody, youth consultant; and, less than full-time, Ardyth Robinson, office co-ordinator; David Burstun, receptionist with other responsibilities including security; Harvey Shepherd, editor of Anglican Montreal; Sandra Koukou, administrative assistant; and two people with short-term assignments regarding youth.

(For more on the staff changes, see Page 4 and 5. Deadlines for this issue of Anglican Montreal were too early for us to report on any developments at the October 18 synod.)



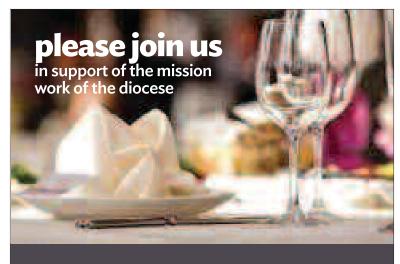




Janet Marshall



Barbara McPherson



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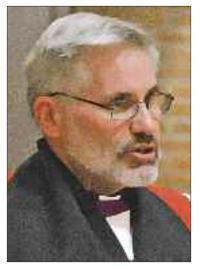


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no charge, but please bring items for the missions: canned goods, toiletries or winter coats would be appreciated!

MONTRÉAL

Bishop's Message



"A few days ago, I walked along the edge of the lake and was treated to the crunch and rustle of leaves with each step I made. The acoustics of this season are different and all sounds, no matter how hushed, are as crisp as autumn air." (Eric Sloane)

My daily routine is to walk along the pathways adjacent to the river in Verdun. It is the time of the day when I can be spiritually, emotionally and physically

refreshed. To pause and see the beauty in the changing season is exhilarating. A heron, settled on a rock, searching for food from the shallow waters, her stillness reminds me to stop, ponder and pray with gratitude for the wonder of God's handiwork all around me.

As a people, we adapt to change. We may not always want it, but change is inevitable. We resist change! It can be frightening. Anger, disappointment, resentment and bitterness can fill our souls. Change can provide new opportunities for growth and development.... new beginnings!

The church is never static. God is always calling us forth, not to fear, but calling us to move into a future that God has prepared for us. Life is filled with detours, unexpected "culs-de-sac." The cycle of the year engages our imagination to travel into life with a sense of expectancy; life, death, rebirth and new beginnings. Faith invites us to change attitudes and behaviour that nurture our lives and offers support to one another.

Life in the diocese, as life all around us, changes. When we resist change, we lose the opportunity for growth. When we let go, we can be amazed at the presence of God inspiring us.

I pray for you. I am grateful for your prayers.

"Autumn is an eternal corrective. It is ripeness and colour and a time of maturity, but it is also breadth and depth and distance. What person can stand with autumn on a hilltop and fail to see the span of their world and the meaning of the rolling hills that reach to the far horizon?" (Hal Borland)

Be strong and of good courage for the Lord my God is with you.





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The photo of Bishop Barry Clarke that appears with his message on this page was taken by Michel Gagnon of the Church of St. James the Apostle.

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Partner diocese has a new bishop



Four from Montreal Diocese attend consecration

Archdeacons Michael Johnson and Bill Gray (right of centre in procession in photo), as well as and Penny and Raymond Noël of the Parish of St. Andrew and St. Mark in Dorval, attended the consecration September 21 of Bishop James Almasi of the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania.

The diocese has a partnership agreement with the Diocese of

Montreal but the partnership was inactive for close to a year after while the bishop's post was vacant after Bishop Patrick Machiko stepped down on reaching age 65, according to the rules of his diocese. The Montreal delegation had a successful visit, which included visits to parishes and other ministries. Raymond Noël supplied this photo just after his return to Montreal. See our next issue for more details.

Remembering St. John's Kildare

Parishioners of Christ Church, Rawdon, gathered at St John's Cemetery in St. Ambroise de Kildare on August 3, together with members of the local community and relatives of people buried there, for the dedication of two plaques that have been installed to mark the former and current presence of the Anglican Church in that community. One of the plaques tells, in both French and

English, the history of St. John's Church, which stood in that spot until the 1950s. The other records the family names of those who are buried there. The plaques were made possible by donations from Patrimoine St-Ambroise-de-Kildare, local history buffs, family members and parishioners of Christ Church. Audrey Robert, municipal councillor, represented the local government and spoke at the ceremony, as did Brent Parkinson, chair of the Parish of Rawdon Cemeteries Committee. In the photo, Mr. Parkinson is standing between the two plaques, while Mme Robert is at far right; Archdeacon Michael Robson of Christ Church is to the left in vestments

News in brief

B.C. partners celebrate centenary of defunct diocese

The Diocese of Cariboo in central British Columbia has not existed since 2001 but a grouping of parishes in its former territory is nevertheless celebrating the centenary of its creation.

The Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, which has a partnership covenant with the Diocese of Montreal, held a celebration at St. Alban's Parish in Ashcroft, B.C., on October 19 to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding synod of the Cariboo diocese.

"Imagine the courage it took to request the formation of a new diocese in the midst of the declaration of World War 1, when men and women from across the Central Interior were volunteering to join the Canadian Forces and heading off to Europe," Bishop Barbara Andrews, based in Kamloops and responsible for APCI," writes in a message in the APCI newspaper. The message is part of an issue devoted in large part to profiles and photos of some of the older parishes.

The Diocese of Cariboo ceased operations in 2001 as a result of the financial impact of litigation over residential schools in its territory.

Revived council on aging hopes to stimulate discussion

One of a small group seeking to revive the Diocese of Montreal's council of aging thinks a law recently enacted by the Quebec government should be prominent on its agenda.

The interim chair of the council, George Ryder, a parishioner of St. George's Church in Châteauguay and a retired nurse, says that in Bill 52, dealing with end-of-life care, the provincial government is asserting jurisdiction over euthanasia, on grounds that it is a medical act. While the law acknowledges the complexities of the issue, in his view it fails to address issues such as arise when a patient is unable to express his or her wishes.

"I have worked in the health sector in the past and have noted many patients' charts with the notation 'DNR' in plain view; this means 'do not suscitate' in the event the patient suffers a cardiac event or other catastr phic event. Medicine is supposed to exist to heal people, not to kill."

More generally, he says that the Council on Aging, which has a mandate to provide resources to parishes on spiritual, ethical, legal and health issues important to older persons, should be dealing with issues including "living wills," elder abuse, elder poverty, loneliness and despair and the implications of medical research and new treatments for diseases like cancer.

'Someone must care; someone must make the issues fresh once again. This is the goal of the Council on Aging."

While the council has only three active members so far, it is looking for more and he hopes to see more issues discussed in a newsletter.

'Safe church' training is online

Sophie Bertrand, in staff member for human resources at the Diocese of Montreal, has distributed a mandatory online training document called "Creating a Safe Church." All clergy, parish safe-church co-ordinators, volunteers and employees in high-risk positions and churchwardens are required to complete the online training, estimated to take about an hour. Arrangements are available for those without access to a computer.

A workshop entitled "From Prevention to Resolution" is planned soon

Formation « Créer une église sécuritaire » en ligne

Sophie Bertrand, responsable des ressources humains au diocèse di Montréal, a distribué récemment une formation en ligne obligatoire intitulée « Créer une église sécuritaire» concernant le programme «Église sécuritaire» du diocèse. En raison de la nature très sensible et de l'importance de ce sujet, tous les membres du clergé, les coordonnateurs église sécuritaire, les bénévoles occupant des postes à haut risque ainsi que les marguilliers et marguillières sont tenus de compléter la formation en ligne. La formation est censée de durer environ une heure;

On recevra bientôt une invitation à participer à un atelier intitulé «De la prévention à la résolution ».

New Lutheran representative on Diocesan Council

The Diocesan Council of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal has a new representative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada, with which the Anglican Church of Canada is in full communion. Pastor James Slack of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dollard des Ormeaux succeeds Pastor Eric Dyck of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in downtown Montreal, who has represented the Lutherans on the council for some years. Pastor Dyck remains at St. John's, but the Lutherans decided to make Paster Slack the representative after he was chosen for the new post of Dean of the Montreal Ministry Area of the ELCIC.

Believing in Heaven, protecting Earth third Green Church Conference

Members of various churches from around Quebec will be gathering for a third ecumenical Green Church Conference April 14 to reflect together on environmental challenges facing the planet and to share information about the solutions. The conference will be held at St. Ignace de Loyola Roman Catholic Church in Quebec City. The keynote speaker and theme will be

Norman Lévesque, director of the Green Church Program, expects about 200 participants from Roman Catholic, Anglican, Orthodox, Evangelical and Reformed Churches are expected to attend. They will include pastoral workers and members of faith communities, and environmental groups. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Quebec, Gérald Cyprien Cardinal Lacroix, and the Anglican bishop, Dennis Drainville.

"Churches everywhere in Quebec are involved in the environmental movement and showing their commitment in concrete ways: using recycling bins, serving fair trade coffee in reusable cups, improving their lighting sys tems and even opting for geothermal heating! The most amazing thing is that their actions are motivated by a Christian spirituality," Mr. Lévesque, says.

For information on this conference and the two previous conferences, visit www.GreenChurch.ca.

McGill chaplaincy seeks coats

Christ Church Cathedral has received a request from the McGill Office of Religious and Spiritual Life (formerly the Chaplaincy) to publicize its annual Winter Coat Project. McGill University has many international students and each year, the McGill chaplaincy collects and distributes winter jackets, hats, mittens, scarves and boots free of charge to university students from outside Canada, to help them get through the long Montreal winter. As McTavish Street is closed for construction, the drop-off point for donations has changed. Drop-offs can now be made at the Newman Catholic Centre at 3484 Peel St. between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. There is free parking for short periods of time in the parking lot. Simply mark all bags clearly as "Winter Coat Project" and deposit them in the lobby. Please be sure items are clean and nothing is left in the pockets. Regular clothing and baby clothing is not needed at this point.

Notable

St. George's Church 23 Perrault Ave. Ste. Anne de Bellevue, QC H9X 2C6

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Notable

The Council on Palliative Care presents

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

Wednesday Nov. 5, 6-8 pm Navigating the System Joan Foster BN, Zelda Freitas SW

Wednesday Nov. 12, 6-8 pm An End of a Life Choice with the film "Dying Wish" Sue Britton RN

Wednesday Nov. 19, 6-8 pm

Death Cafe Kit Racette BSc www.kitracette.com

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

Westmount (entrance at 395 Elm Ave) Atwater Metro - Buses: 24, 104, 138 Free. No Registration required. For further information: The Council on Palliative Care

fmpa202@aol.com Visit us on the Internet for news of other events:

www.council-on-palliative-care.org

Surprised to be leaving but still appreciative that she was here

For almost five years, Janet Marshall sought to boost resources for mission

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Leaving the Diocese of Montreal unexpectedly after 4½ years as head of its congregational development office, Janet Marshall says she feels more appreciation than regret.

She does not know why it was decided not to renew her contract but she still feels appreciation for clergy willing to dedicate their careers to the Diocese of Montreal. "That takes courage." She also appreciates the devotion of many lay people to their parishes. She said in an interview that she leaves with the hope that some of things she and they were able to put into place, particularly at the parish level and in regions, will "stick."

Up to the end of this calendar year, when her contract winds up, her major responsibility will be to help a number of parishes and groups of parishes where initiatives are under way "to be in the best place they can be" by the time she leaves.

After that, she does not know what she will be doing, although she will probably continue to live in Montreal over the winter. She was active as a church-development consultant before coming to the Diocese of Montreal and could do that again. She and her husband,

Rev. Canon Eric Beresford, still officially a priest of the Montreal Diocese, will at least be pondering the future together, since he left his post as president of the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax this summer after serving two terms, as the rules of that school provide.

The Dioceses of Montreal and Quebec face far greater challenges than most comparable dioceses in other parts of Canada, she said. Some Anglicans elsewhere in Canada look at these two dioceses and wonder if they are looking at their own future in about 20 years.

"The Diocese of Montreal has about the same number of parishes as the Diocese of Ottawa, for example, but about half as many people. Facing numbers of that kind, it is hard for parish leadership in the parishes to focus on mission when so much of their energy is focused on paying the heating bills.

She's a vigorous advocate of mission outreach, but the motto of many people in church development, like her, is "Health Before Mission." Resources are needed to make mission possible.

Among her first tasks when she arrived in the Diocese of Montreal was to help it identify and commit itself to a strategic vision. She played an important part in helping develop a "Ministry Action Plan" and it guided the work of her office for the ensuing four years.

"A focus was on helping parishes become closer to having the resources they need was and remains important," she said. "We want people in parishes to move from being administrators to disciples."

Part of that effort involved various schemes for development of church properties.

Another initiative was the introduction to several parishes, among them St. Thomas in West-End Montreal, St. George Ste. Anne de Belleview, Christ Church Cathedral and St. Phillip's Montreal West, of the "Natural Church Development Program" – a tool worked out in churches in Germany and intended to help parishes become healthy and attractive.

Beginning with a questionnaire designed to point up what distinguishes healthy and growing parishes from ones that are not and what cultural changes a parish has to experience to grow, the process is not particularly designed to get parishes to introduce new programs, although there may be some adjustment in existing ones.

In the upshot, parishes may come to "recognize the need to be more confident and to put forward their faith in Jesus Christ and why we are what we are and do what we do for the sake of God's world." They may take more time to reflect on where Christ is in all this – even if that means accepting some of the home-



Janet Marshall, centre right, talks to Dean Paul Kennington of Christ Church Cathedral during a demonstration last year against the then-proposed Charter of Quebec Values.

less on their lawns and paying a penalty through their insurance premiums.

Janet Marshall played a part in efforts to beef up the diocesan stewardship council and set up a system of "GUM grants" under which the diocese is to set aside a portion of the funds it realizes from selling vacant churches and other property as a fund to support mission-oriented capital projects.

("GUM" stands for "growth, understanding and ministry.")

As a contribution to the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese of Montreal also made some of her time and skills in the decision-making process available to the national church to help with issues like the blessing of same-sex couples, the reform of church structures and support for younger clergy.

Bishop reaffirms Ministry Action Plan in message on Janet Marshall's departure

In a message to Anglicans of the Montreal Diocese in late September, Bishop Barry Clarke said he is grateful for the work of Janet Marshall in the diocese and affirmed his commitment to mission.

In particular, the bishop said he is committed to the Ministry Action Plan, adopted by the diocesan synod in 2010 as a guideline for the diocese from then until 2015. Mrs. Marshall played a central role in preparation of the plan and efforts to implement it since then.

The bishop's September 26 message says:

"These are times of transition as the diocesan staff changes and responsibilities are revisited within the life of the diocese. "I am grateful for the work that Janet Marshall has shared with us in the diocese in the last few years.

"I pray for her work on future ministries. Her contract in the Diocese of Montreal has not been renewed.

"I am committed to the Diocesan Ministry Action Plan, that is 'our' plan for the Diocese of Montreal and if there is anxiety of the Bishop having his 'own' plan, my only desire is to strive to be faithful with God in God's mission in the life of the church and the world.

"I present to you the Ministry Action Plan:

"'Through MAP we recommit ourselves to inspired, able leadership, healthy, sustainable parishes and community ministries, and transparent governance and management.

"'We reaffirm our value for diversity and continue to develop ministry that speaks to the realities of Quebec society and its peoples: its cultures, languages, ages, ethnicities.

"'Motivated by ministry more that maintenance, we embrace the need for courage to make difficult decisions and take risks.

"'Leadership in the chur easy. There is a deep concern on the part of many that our churches may no longer have a relevant voice or program that is attractive to people today. Our buildings, which were once a resource and gift, are becoming increasingly financially burdensome and time consuming to manage and maintain. Decline in numbers and participation is shifting the burden of parish leadership onto fewer volunteers who are feeling tired and burned out. Clergy increasingly find themselves spending more time and energy worrying about the financial viability of their parishes than their pastoral ministries. For the sake of our participation in God's mission here in the Diocese of Mont-

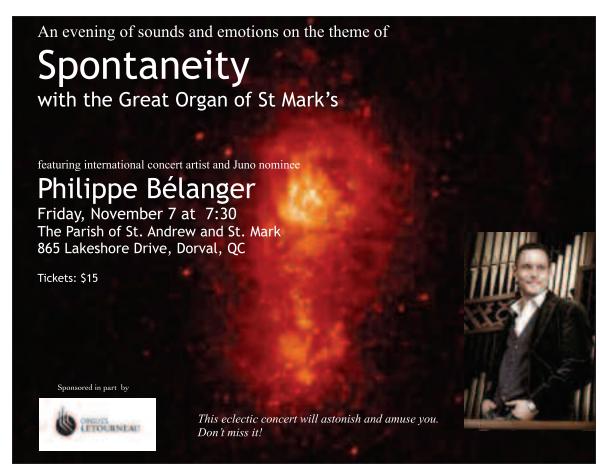
real, this situation must change.



Janet Marshall

MAP directs our next steps in this process of change.

"'Parishes and faith communities are founded on God's radical hope for a better world. This hope is realized by participating in God's mission for the world. Now is the time we need to rediscover the deep roots of real hope in parish life, in our diocesan relationships, and in our community-based ministries. Real hope, rather than wishful thinking, will give courage for the challenges that lie ahead. The Ministry Action Plan is an invitation to stretch ourselves, reaching further into the world around us with courage and trust, challenging each other to do a new thing inspired by God's promise, joy and abundant hope."





Comforted by an interpreter, Rushdia Mehreen, Tahira Malik speaks to reporters.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Women with heart condition able to leave church sanctuary

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Over a year after seeking refuge in a Montreal church, an ailing Pakistani woman threatened with deportation has been able to exchange her sanctuary in the church for what freedom her health permits under a \$5,000 bond posted by Bishop Barry Clarke of Montreal.

Supporters and a daughter said at a Montreal press conference September 22 that Khurshid Begum Awan, 58, has been living with her daughter, between hospitalizations for her heart condition and other problems, since she left St. Peter's TMR Church in the Town of Mount Royal in early August. She was not at the press conference for health reasons.

In August, she presented herself to Citizenship and Immigration Canada and applied for what is known as a Pre-Removal Risk-Assessment. She is entitled to remain in Canada, subject to the \$5,000 bond, pending results of the assessment and of an earlier application for permanent residency on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

Lawyer Rick Goldman of a refugee protection organization said that under relatively recent changes to Canadian law an application for a Pre-Removal Risk-Assessment cannot be filed before a year after a deportation order. (Many refugee-status claimants would already have been deported by then.)

Mrs. Awan, her husband Mohamed Khalil Awan, who was deported to Pakistan in 2013, their daughter Tahira Malik and her son, Ali Own,

16, are Muslims of the Shia tradition, a minority in Pakistan. Mrs. Awan argues that she and her husband face persecution and the threat of violence from members of Pakistan's Sunni Muslim majority, particularly an organization known as Sipah-e-Sahaba or Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat that has targeted them in the past.

Tahira Malik fled to Canada earlier to escape the conjugal violence of her ex-husband, leaving her son, then 1 year old, in the care of his grandparents, who brought him to Canada in 2011. Tahira Malik obtained refugee status in 2000. She and her son are now Canadian citizens but she says she and her son, deeply bonded to his grandmother, would accompany her to Pakistan if she were deported.

Bishop Clarke described the Awan family as "voices crying in the wilderness." He said actions like offering sanctuary may bend the laws but Anglicans are called "as people and citizens" to stand with people in such circumstances. She said Mrs. Awan's physical state and mental condition are both causes for concern

Stewart Istvanffy, the Awan family's lawyer, said the family faces a lack of recourse under Canadian law and the federal government needs to step in "to correct serious mistakes."

"This family has been the victim of very serious terrorism in Lahore."

Once a relatively tolerant society, Lahore has been a focus of terrorism in about the last two years, Mr. Istyanffy said.

"Does Canada stand against terrorism or not?"

Ministry of staff archivist ends

Diocese seeking alternatives

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Staff of the Diocese of Montreal have been working to set up alternative arrangements for the low-profile but vital diocesan archives after the announcement in September that the ministry of the assistant archivist, Barbara McPherson – the only paid archives staff – had been wound up. Three volunteers who had been working with Mrs. McPherson

Neither diocesan staff nor Mrs. McPherson commented on the decision, although Bishop Barry Clarke told the Diocesan Council in September that the decision had been reached "sadly."

She has held staff positions in parishes of the diocese for about 24 years and had been on the staff of the diocese itself for almost 15.

She remains organist and choirmaster of the Church of St. John the Baptist in Pointe Claire, where she joined the staff in 1990, and has been the part-time secretary of St. Stephen's Lachine since 2005. She joined the staff of the diocese in January 2005 as assistant to the then vicar-general, Archdeacon Peter Hannen, with the additional responsibility of organizing the annual diocesan synod.

Mrs. McPherson agreed to fill the vacant post at the diocesan archives in 2008 in a reorganization of diocesan staff after the arrival of a new executive archdeacon, Ven. Janet Griffith. The responsibility for synod arrangements was combined with those of a new human resources coordinator.

Mrs. McPherson worked to upgrade her qualifications as an archivist and earned a master's degree in library and information studies at McGill University, specializing in archives, about two years ago.

Her efforts to keep up with a growing volume of demands for archives services despite a reduction in her hours of work included recruiting a team of three volunteers, who put in volunteer work at the diocese at least twice a week.

For several years, Heide Kaspar-Glorieux and Sam Keuchguerian worked with her as volunteers, filing documents and responding to requests.

Barbara Hall, who had retired as bookkeeper for Christ Church Cathedral after 30 years, joined the team last year. She concentrated on helping the diocese carry out its obligations under the Truth and Reconciliation Agreement on the residential schools for aboriginals formerly operated by churches on behalf of the federal government. While there were no such schools in the diocese, groups in the diocese were involved as donors or in various other ways in schools in other parts of Canada.

Diocesan archivist Richard Virr (an officer of the diocesan Synod and not himself a member of the archives staff) said in his report to the recent diocesan synod, apparently written before the departure of Mrs.

McPherson and the volunteers, that the three volunteers had contributed many hours.

"With their participation, we have responded to more than 300

requests in the past year. By far the most substantial research project was the identification and reproduction of documents that may be of interest to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In addition, our volunteer contingent also undertook a wide variety of archival tasks, including weeding, arranging and describing present holdings and recently transferred acquisitions....

"Without their capable assis-

tance, valuable work in the Archives would soon grind to a virtual halt.

"Recent transfers to the Archives have included: deposits from individuals, including parishioners from across the diocese and beyond; serial acquisitions, such as *The Montreal Anglican* and the *Anglican Journal*; semiactive and permanent records from the accounting department; and, records and artefacts from: Grace Church, Arundel; Saint Paul,

Lachine; Church of Saint James the Apostle, Montreal; Trinity Memorial Church, Montreal; Church of Saint Columba, Notre-Dame-de-Grâce; Saint George, Rockway Valley; and Church of the Redeemer, Weir.

"Finally, I owe a debt of gratitude to Barbara McPherson her care and enthusiasm; without her, the myriad activities that the Archives under takes would not happen."



The archives staff gather for a photo about a year ago. Barbara Hall is at the front and behind her are Barbara McPherson, Heide Kaspar-Glorieux and Sam Keuchguerian.

As challenges in serving homeless increase, mission seeks new direction



George Greene shows some recent artwork by clients of the mission.

George Greene will speak at bishop's annual dinner

HARVEY SHEPHERD

George Greene was having another busy day.

That morning, a woman had miscarried at the entrance to St. Michael's Mission, where he is executive director. A little later, another client of the mission had turned up with a gift. He had managed to land a job at a supermarket and used some of his first paycheque to buy Mr. Greene a cup of coffee, which he brought to the mission.

In the mean time, the mission's quarters in the basement of the downtown Church of St. John the Evangelist were to be repainted the next day and he and the mission secretary, Susan Charlebois, were concerned about whether there would be enough volunteers and

enough paint.

Mr. Greene also had some good news to talk about. Along with the mission's recently well publicized efforts to reach out to itinerants in Métro stations, there were new arrangements with Doctors Without Borders, which since June has brought a mobile clinic with medically trained staff to the clinic to provide services to a clientèle some of whom cannot manage to organize themselves to have valid medicare cards.

He was also waxing enthusiastic about something of a coup in the mission's continuing effort to make use of the fact that St. John the Evangelist and the mission are neighbours of the Place des Arts and the Montreal's Quartier des Spectacles to link the arts world to the mission's efforts to enhance the dignity and draw on the creativity of its clients through the arts.

He was looking forward to the launch, which took place October 8, of Homeless Projections: Place des Arts *2014.* This creation of international cinematographer Krysztof Wodiczko will be projected on the exterior of the Théâtre Maisonneuve in the Place des Arts until November 22. This production, the latest of over 80 such creations that Wodiczko has caused to be projected on public buildings in Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Mexico, the United States and nine countries in Europe, is designed to offer the homeless, immigrants, survivors of violence and others a space to tell their stories.

Among other things, this produc-

New Testament, and Church History occupied much of my time. But what I did nick up from the courses at McGill and the community of Dio was the urgent necessity of being steeped in the Christian tradition in order to speak and act with intelligence and compassion in the world around me. And I discovered that engagement is the key to faith. A faith that is engaged with the world is lively and life-giving. Whereas a faith that just wants to sit back and protect time-honoured traditions and turn inwards is only of interest to the Undertaker of the world.

You cannot read the prophets of the Old Testament and hear the urgent call of Jesus without wanting to roll up your sleeves and get involved with the concerns of your age. So what if attendance is down at Church, what are we going to do

wondering where all the young them on the Climate Change March! Worried about terrorism? How about combatting the hysteria that Western justify the military-industrial complex? It's not that hard to connect the

about my Pension Plan and whether this Anglican Church can keep me gainfully employed until the day of my retirement. But I also realize that the weight loss being experience in the Anglican Church could just be

of them are.

The dynamism of some of the youth who support the mission gives him some hope in the face of another big preoccupation these days. As growing numbers of the distressed strain the resources of the mission and challenge its commitment to turning no one away, he is increasingly convinced that it will need to be more discriminating in those it supports.

"The services we give have to be redefined. We have to raise the bar and become more or less a resource centre."

Many of those who rely daily on the mission - among others, aboriginals and people being treated for emotional disease, many of them of relatively mature years - have no alternative and his commitment to continuing to welcome them is firm.

But there are some people, often younger, for whom he thinks a firmer approach may be called for to encourage them to be more active in resolving their own problems.

"We have to get to the youth. We have make the younger ones move up. If you just enable them, you don't encourage them to go farther."

A cradle Anglican and a former parishioner of St. Stephen's Lachine and Christ Church Cathedral, Mr. Greene now worships at the host church of the mission, St. John the Evangelist. He was a textile executive before going on to run his own lingerie business and got acquainted with the mission when his employees served Christmas meals there.

He volunteered at the mission and was a member of its board for six years, eventually performing many of his present functions but as a volunteer, before taking on the staff post of executive director about a year ago.



Operations co-ordinator Mateao Pablo shows part of the mission kitchen.

Meanwhile, Mr. Greene was, as

always, involved in discussions about

with public officials, including Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre, who has

identified the homeless as a priority,

about the future of joint projects. He

was pondering comments by

Matthew Pearce, chief executive

to become more focused in the

year's featured speaker Thursday,

Nov. 27, at Bishop Barry Clarke's

3505 Atwater Ave., a \$200-a-plate

annual dinner at the Club Atwater,

benefit to support the mission work of the Diocese of Montreal, of which

support for St. Michael's Mission is

While the mission, which he

though there are missions offering

benefactors, to help it meet an ever-

increasing demand, he views support

Direct financial support from the

Diocese of Montreal is actually quite

modest, but support from parishes

diminishing – in the form of money,

important in practical ways and buoy

"Without the Anglican Church

we would not survive. The Anglican

He is particularly heartened by

the participation of young volunteers

from various sources. By no means

all of them are Anglicans, but some

Church holds me together."

across the diocese – even though

food, clothing and volunteers are

their number and resources are

accommodation that are larger)

relies on a wide range of public

bodies, foundations and other

from religious institutions, and

Anglican ones in particular, as

believes to be Montreal's largest day mission serving the homeless (al-

services it offers to Montreal's

most vulnerable citizens.

a part.

crucial.

officer of the Old Brewery Mission,

that the venerable institution needs

It looks as if Mr. Greene will have things to talk about when he is this

tion will complement the mission's own longstanding and continuing efforts to encourage clients to express themselves through artwork, some of which adorns the mission's

Equipping the Saints Marked by mission

Being smaller makes us nimbler and maybe also more healthy and faithful

This is one of a series of columns by students, staff and friends of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College (or "Dio). Tim Smart is a graduate of MDTC and can still be found there working in the Centre for Lay Education.

TIM SMART

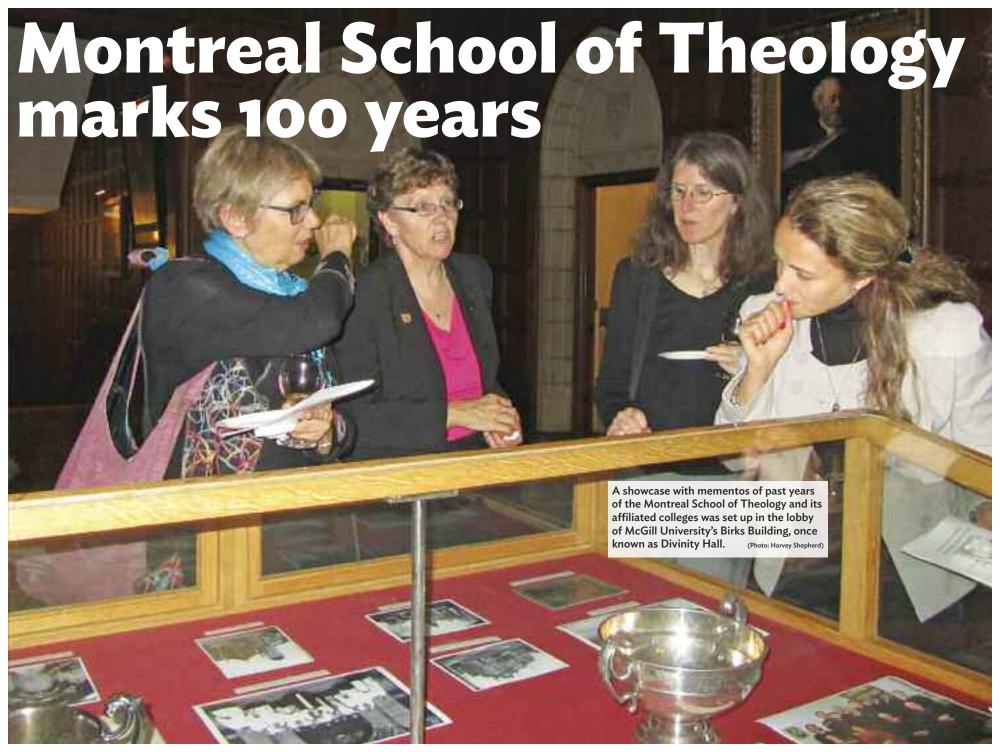
Climate Change, Terrorism, and Corporate Greed. The Unholy Trinity. In the olden days, when I was at Diocesan College, these were not on the curriculum. Greek, Old and

about Stephen Harper selling out our country to oil interests? Are you people have got to? Go out and join governments encourage in order to faith of our fathers and mothers to the issues of today, you just have to hold the Bible one hand and the newspaper in the other (Google Karl Barth).

I'm tied to this world and I worry the radical diet that was needed.

So we're not as big and prosperous as we used to be. Let's get over it. Being smaller makes us nimbler an maybe also more healthy and faithful, having gotten rid of any pretense that our Church is in the business of merely producing good lawabiding citizens.

Time for the compost disturbers of the Church to rise up and cry out in the wilderness: "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." A kingdom that cares for Creation, a kingdom that puts people ahead of profits and a Savior who invites us to hope and work for justice and peace, instead of giving ourselves over to the spirits of fear and slavery - to those would-be-kings who want to bury us alive in flyers and false promises.



Partnership of McGill with colleges has survived despite tensions

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Open house at the three denominational seminaries on the McGill campus, a worship service with a distinguished ecumenist as preacher and a conference on the future of theological education in Montreal marked the centenary of pioneering ecumenical venture that still continues.

The celebrations in late September marked 100 years of a consortium that began as a "Joint Board of

the Theological Colleges affiliated with McGill University" but has called itself the Montreal School of Theology since 2004.

Originally the Joint Board was a consortium of the Anglican, Presbyterian, Wesleyan (Methodist) and Congregational seminaries then on the campus. A lot has happened in 100 years including the creation of the United Church of Canada by a merger of the Methodist and Congregational churches and about two-thirds of Canada's Presbyterians and the departure of "continuing" Presbyterians from the consortium and their later return.

Today the school is a partnership

of three seminaries – Presbyterian College, the (United Church) United Theological College and the (Anglican) Montreal Diocesan Theological College – with the McGill faculty of religious studies, itself created only in 1948 under the name "Faculty of Divinity." It has been suggested that the nature of the partnership, unique or close to it 100 years ago, owes much to the fact that McGill was founded as a non-denominational institution at a time when most Canadian universities were created by churches.

But the general idea remains the same: not a merger but a consortium that respects the non-denomination-

al character of McGill. The school of theology has some activities of its own, including seminars, trips and a fieldwork program Students attend non-denominational classes in subjects like theology, Bible and church history at the university and receive training specific to their denominations from the denominational colleges.

Bishop Barry Clarke said at a reception that in his experience interviewing new priests coming into his diocese he finds their background richer than those of graduates of other Canadian seminaries.

Participants in the celebration including Rev. Karen Hamilton,

general secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, in her sermon at the centennial service, recalled that the history of the school and the McGill faculty have been marked by debate and challenges from those who see them as a threat to their respective traditions or, on the other hand, to the secular traditions of McGill.

She said as churches and the Montreal School of Theology go boldly into the future they may find themselves with partners they did not expect, not necessarily Christian.) "God uses whom God chooses."

South Shore men find longing for peace of mind is no sign of weakness

Busy summer for new group in Greenfield Park

John Gocek

John Gocek is a member of the parish council of St. Paul's Church in Greenfield Park. This article is condensed from one in the parish newsletter.

In the spring of 2014, a few of the regular parishioners of St. Paul's Church expressed a desire to get together as a group, outside of regular church activities. A consensus began to form. "Maybe the men in the congregation have something

to talk about together." What would the goal be? Just mentioning the idea over coffee stimulated some strong opinions: "I get enough preaching in Church, and don't want more during my 'free' time." Or: "It would be great to speak my mind without repercussions!" After all, men don't gossip right?

It appeared that we could count on a regular attendance of six or eight men out of a group of about 15. The first meeting was in early June. It was like going on the school bus for the first time. Would there be bullying? What are these men I see every Sunday really like – you know

- when they act like themselves? For starters, there was coffee and doughnuts. I quickly felt good about the Monday evening being well invested. It turned out that just getting together was fun. Men do have a certain – what shall we say – "air" about them. It does not always smell like garlic or beer!

We met every two weeks over the summer. Discussions ranged from ideas for community activities, to individual priorities, to rehashing a few of the services in regular Church, and even discussion of morality and ethics and certain scripture, from the man's point of view. A man's point of

view can be of many shades; from head of a household, to half of a marriage, to struggling parent. Many of us speak well, but don't necessarily share well, and that will not change. Some things are easier to discuss though, with members of the church congregation, no matter how briefly. Maybe Christian men in North America have been honing their active listening skills.

Whatever the reason, it worked, and we kept coming back: over a dozen participants on average at a meeting.

We held a first event in – a breakfast from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – in August. God does not go on vacation, and also there is no baseball in winter. Over 88 people attended and over 100 purchased tickets. The men did all the cooking. We raised \$500 to give to the Brossard Braves Peewee baseball team. We also received

a donation of six high quality major league baseball bats for the team. The team went on to win the championship in their division, winning five games in a row in the playoffs.

A family game day and barbecue in early September was also well attended. More events are to come.

Please let the men in your lives know, that longing for peace of mind, harmony and acceptance, is not a sign of weakness in a world defined by conflict, exploitation and materialism. It is a sign of the Holy Spirit working through us, to overcome division and strife in our lives and relationships.

Drinking water from the well will not make you a saint, but it will keep you alive along the road to Damascus, in case something remarkable really happens.

Comment

New québécois documentary scratches surface of key spiritual questions in Quebec today

Jenna Smith

Quebec is a strange place in which to get religion.

For those of us who were raised in that enigmatic pocket of churchgoers, we understand this. We share the childhood memories of always feeling a bit weird. Explaining to our soccer clubs that Sunday morning practices were not an option and covering the phone receiver when our friends called so they wouldn't hear the singing bible study upstairs.

We're part of that weird fringe group that brings about awkward silences over dinner talk.

We are quietly disregarded, or simply misunderstood at best. We or the groups to which we belong are hated and disdained at worst. And when we must deal with our own aversions and reactions to the fundamentalism, the institutionalism, the dogma of our childhood religious upbringings, our company is thin. Our soul mates are few and the road to our own religious and spiritual self-identity can be... lonely.

I believe it was in this context that Guillaume Tremblay, a thirty-something filmmaker created *L'Heureux* Naufrage: L'ère du vide d'une société post-chrétienne" (translation: The Fortunate Shipwreck: The era of emptiness in a post-christian society),

a documentary of conversations and reflections on spirituality, religion and values in a Quebec that has shed its Christian, namely Catholic, heritage.

The cast of this well-made work is a slew of philosophers, journalists, theologians and artists, with a few names that jump off the page: Denys Arcand, Ginette Reno, Eric Emmanuel Schmitt. It's worth seeing the film just for the wonderful words of philosopher Frédéric Lenoir and the ever classic, ever brilliant Père Benoit

It is a very white, very male cast, and most of the interviewees are baby-boomer age, with the exception of singer-songwriters Samian and Jonathan Painchaud. Make no mistake: this is not a work of sociological research, statistics or facts. It is rather a revisiting of the generation that in a certain sense was at the heart of the Quiet Revolution, asking questions in a spirit of, "so how's that working out for you?"

Their words are reflective, inquisitive, uncertain at times but always genuine and even vulnerable to a point of endearing. They admit to an emptiness; this alone is courageous. But the conversation goes further than that: how some of them came out of atheism, how others are learning to live with spiritual uncertainties. What values they are now going to transfer to the next generation, and how they will explain where those values (undeniably from a Christian heritage) came from. When I interviewed Tremblay in July 2014, he said the following, "this is not a film for those who have found the answers. This is a film that gives a voice to those asking questions.

"It is a film full of taboos, topics that make people uncomfortable: we (québécois) are not at ease with



The version of L'Heureux Naufrage (The Fortunate Shipwreck) with English-language subtitles had its première September 22 at the Church of St. John the Evangelist. The director of the documentary, Guillaume Tremblay is at the right; at left with microphone is Professor Norman Cornett who helped to organize the evening and lead discussion.

speaking about our own relationship to spirituality and religion. We can talk about its wrongs, its mistakes in history, but not about our own personal quest." Journalist Pierre Maisonneuve affirms this sentiment. At the launch of L'Heureux Naufrage on September 12th, he said to the audience, "if Tremblay had asked me to do this film 15 years ago, I would have said no. But I have journeyed in my reflections recently.'

Tremblay admits to this being a very personal work, a film that mirrored his own life story: that of someone raised in a religious setting (in his case an evangelical upbringing), who shed it in early adulthood and who has since been wandering, seeking his personal spiritual-religious identity. He publicly admits to being anxious and unsure of his own beliefs. He is someone, I sense, who deeply desires to connect with, or at least give a voice to those who are on a quest within their Christian heritage and worldview of Quebec's past. At the same time, he wants to distance himself with the type of audience who feels they've found all the answers, who expect the film to promote the truths they want to hear, who feel uneasy with the questions asked, or should I say, with the questions left unanswered.

The problem is that both parties are often found in the same room.

This was the case on September 12th's launch at l'Église St Jean Baptiste. From the reactions in the room, I felt that L'Heureux Naufrage touched many people while it offended others. This may very well testify to the fact that issues of personal spirituality and religious affiliation, or even questions of the Church, do not leave québécois indifferent. Maybe we are not so post-christendom after all.

Quebec used to be a cradle of religion. The Church had its hand on every sphere of life, from the schools to the hospitals to the home. In Tremblay's words, "The best of our heritage was that there was a time when people were invited, on a daily basis, to live out Christian values and reflect on inner spirituality and on their identity within it. But that was also a time - and this is the worst when the Church was God, and God was the Church."

This was a dangerous entanglement because when institutions were overturned, the values and beliefs attached to those institutions were left rootless. Let us not be nostalgic about the golden era of Quebec's Church; let us not weep too deeply over the forty-person congregations in buildings that used to serve communion to 1,500 loyal Catholics every Sunday. The Quiet Revolution was an explosion waiting to happen.

Questions of corruption and unhealthy ties between Church and State made sure of that.

The question, one that *L'Heureux* Naufrage scratches the surface at is, "Who am I now?"

Ienna Smith is, among other things, the director of a Montreal youth centre, Innovation Jeunesse. This column originally appeared on her blog at www.jennasmith.org, where you can also find out about her book, A Way: The Story of a Long Walk, which recounts her experiences on the Carmino di Santiago, a pilgrimage route in France and Spain.

More information about L'Heureux Naufrage is available at http://heureuxnaufrage.com/.



Jenna Smith

Every Tuesday at 5:45 pm ntemplative Practice



Méditation sur les Écritures. Ler et 3e mardi du mois

For hundreds of years, Christians have met God personally while praying on short passages of Holy Scripture. Participants will be led in the process and given silent periods to pray on a selected passage Depuis des siècles, des chrétiens font l'expérience d'une rencontre intime avec Dieu en méditant des textes des saintes Écritures. La méditation du texte choisi sera guidée (en anglais) et ponctuée de courtes périodes de silence.

Contemplative Prayer 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Prière contemplative, 2e et 4e mardi du mois

A brief talk (in English) followed by silent meditation for 20 or 40 minutes. Non-denominational, drawing on ancient Christian monastic traditions and Eastern religious wisdom. All welcome. Simple instruction available for beginners.

Une méditation silencieuse de 20 ou 40 minutes, précédée d'une courte réflexion spirituelle.(en anglais). An temps de prière non confessionnelle qui s'inspire de plusieurs traditions chrétiennes anciennes et de la sagesse spirituelle de l'Orient. Ouvert à tous et à toutes. Des instructions simples peuvent être offertes aux débutants.

Fifth Tuesdays

5e mardi du mois

An invitation to explore another form of contemplative practice: holy images, sounds, etc. Exploration d'une autre forme de prière contemplative : à travers des images religieuse, des sons, etc.

> Une oasis spirituelle au coeur de Montréal Cathédrale CHRIST CHURCH Cathedral

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



Lord Jesus, give to your church a renewed desire to pray, that together we may know your will, be filled with your love, and experience your grace and power for the healing of your world.

Lord Jesus, as we think of the Diocesan activities that fill the November calendar, we pray for:

- the Anglican Military Ordinariate of Canada and all the clergy serving with the military here
- all Veterans, remembering the sacrifices they made, peace, and all troops working to uphold freedom around the world.
- all the Lay Readers in the Diocese, may they have a productive study day and meaningful commissioning on November 22nd.

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

Notable

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

to assist with Love in Motion programme usually one Sunday a month.

Other activities/times possible and negotiable. A small honorarium is possible. Experience with young children, especially those who are vulnerable. Program is exceeding hopes and expectations and we need help.

St. CHL Anglican Church, 6341 de Lorimier, Rosemont. Up to 20 children aged 2-9. For more information, please contact Lori Olson at Mile End Mission 514-274-3401 or Rev. Roslyn Macgregor at St. CHL 450-646-3297

'Blessed are the poor' - but try to tell the insurance companies

Motion affirms that serving marginalized is 'normal church activity'

STAF

For a lot of Anglicans it goes without saying that the church exists to serve the marginalized and vulnerable.

But a motion presented to the Montreal diocesan synod last month asks the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada to make that even more official – and to try to convince the insurance industry.

Proposed by Dean Paul Kennington of Christ Church Cathedral and seconded by Rev. Chris Barrigar of St. Peter's Church in the Town of Mount Royal, the motion asks the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada to "affirm ministry with the marginalized and vulnerable as a normal church activity."

In discussion at the September meeting of the Diocesan Council, to which the motion was presented for information, it was described as largely a response to resistance from insurers to cover risks resulting from parish outreach projects serving the marginalized, including released prisoners and the mentally ill, as well as risks due to the presence of home-

less or needy people who gather and even sleep on the grounds of some parishes including the Cathedral and the downtown Church of St. James the Apostle.

Some council members were doubtful that the motion will convince insurance companies, but some saw it as an affirmation of the church's mission.

The motion asks the General Synod "to affirm ministry with the marginalized and vulnerable as normal church activity."

It notes that one of the Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion is "to respond to human need by loving service," that the ordination examination of deacons calls on deacons "to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick and the lonely" and that bishops promise in their ordination to be "merciful to all, show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper."

A preamble says the "the poor, the weak, the sick and the lonely, strangers, and those who have no helper" include the marginalized and vulnerable, among them "people who are homeless, people with multiple needs, including mental health issues and addictions, refugees, the poor, hungry and



A visitor to the lawn of Christ Church Cathedral protects himself from the late September chill.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

people in any kind of distress or pastoral need, ex-prisoners and people with a criminal record including sex offenders, irrespective of their race, age, religion, social status or sexuality."

It says service in the name of Jesus Christ to the marginalized and vulnerable includes offering "service, mercy, compassion and defence" in the form of pastoral care, counselling, advocacy, with hospitality, food and drink, welcome and safety in our church grounds and on our church property, in addition to responding to their spiritual needs."

It recognizes "the need to follow correct procedures, best practice and due diligence in all areas of ministry" but says "there is currently a lack of legal and administrative clarity that all forms of ministry to the marginalized and vulnerable" are indeed normal church activity and this can lead to uncertainty about insurance indemnity and other legal defences for clergy, parish corporations and other church institutions.

Because of publishing deadlines, *Anglican Montreal* is unable to report in this issue on debate and any decisions at the October 18 diocesan synod.

French-language mission can't neglect people, says priest who stepped down after 10 years

Holly Ratcliffe calls for team ministry

The Diocese of Montreal should pay more attention to personal and interpersonal issues in trying to develop new French-speaking ministries, according to a priest who stepped down this year after 10 years leading the predominantly French-language mission of Christ Church Sorel.

The recommendation is in a written report to the October 18 Diocesan synod from Rev. Holly Ratcliffe, who stepped down officially last May after five months' leave seeking help for what she describes as exhaustion and burnout,

"I spent ten years developing the Sorel ministry, and have been deeply inspired by its creative potential. So I have been in deep reflection about what this situation might have to teach the Church as we lean into new forms of mission in a post-Christendom context."

The problems were largely focused on Café Christ Church, an outreach mission that closed "for reorganization" in May 2013 because of problems encountered during an attempt that began the previous year to transform it into an independent non-profit organization.

These were related to a need to adhere to diocesan safe-church requirements regarding volunteer screening and management.

"At this point in time, the Café and the work of setting it on a course toward nonprofit status are inactive."

Dr. Ratcliffe is optimistic about

the French-speaking worshipping committee that meets in the historic Christ Church or the rectory, depending on the season, with a typical attendance of around 16, predominantly Roman Catholics. It carries on under Rev. Yves Samson, newly appointed priest to Sorel, with help from lay reader Denis Gévry, warden Jocelyn Gravel, "and other faithful members of la Communauté Christ Church Sorel."

"Next year's report for Sorel will certainly be more hopeful, as the planning and preparation which went into a new project of restoration of the church is brought to fruition."

She writes that typical attendance at services of the worship community "does not reflect the depth of the commitment of these people to this as one member put it: 'miraculous' mission community. Almost all are involved in some way or another in the life and work of the congregation and the Café. Given the many cultural barriers between francophone québécois and the Anglican Church, it is essential that there be no expectation of rapid growth in such a mission, or of an eagerness on the part of members to become Anglicans. But if described as an ecumenical faith community, the faith community in Sorel does attract inactive Roman Catholics informed by Vatican II."

Describing the past of Café Christ Church, she writes that it "is a simple act of opening the doors of the old rectory for radical hospitality. Volunteers, most but not all from the faith community, offer coffee and a doughnut and a listening ear to whomever comes in. But behind that simple act, the Café, open once a week on Thursday afternoons, seems to respond to a deep need for community, and for escaping a sense of isolation. Within a two-hour period, anywhere from 30 to 50 people might come..."

"The Café has potential to develop in other ways to respond to local needs of The Sorel ministry."

Dr. Ratcliffe writes that in dealing with her exhaustion during her leave she was inspired by Bishop Barry Clarke's openness about having sought out help for himself in a difficult period.

"I am deeply grateful for our bishop's courage and example in this regard, and his support of me in this difficult time. I have benefitted greatly from that time of support and reflection."

For the future of French-language ministry in the diocese, Dr. Ratcliffe makes three recommendations:

1. "RADICAL ACCOUNTABILITY."

"We are living in a world which does not share traditional Christian values. Bullying and undermining of those in leadership are even considered to be appropriate behaviours for getting what one wants in a culture that condones uncivil behaviour. The destructive, eroding effect of indirect communication patterns and in particular of negative gossip on the health of the community is still tolerated. While we want to be radically welcoming of our neighbours and are getting better at it, we also need to be attuned to these other intracommunal realities and develop creative responses to the need for appropriate boundaries if we are to witness effectively to Jesus' call to love one another in action as well as words...."

"Specifically, the Christian faith communities of the future will need to learn from the monastic tradition of a community rule of life, the 12 traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, and more recent studies in the area of behavioural covenants in churches...

"The diocesan emphasis on making sure our churches are safe churches through the screening of volunteers is only one element of this challenge."

2. TEAM MINISTRY

"Another important recommendation would be to respect the wisdom behind Jesus' sending out his disciples two by two.

"A new Christian mission is not well served by one minister on a part-time basis. I believe that we...are being called to develop new and vital francophone missions in the Quebec context, which are led by a team or better yet, a small community of committed bilingual Christians with a common vision (priests, deacons, spiritual directors, religious, community organizers, and people with other gifts as needed).

"Not only is a wider variety of gifts and talents made available for the growth and development of the mission, there is a common understanding of the inner work of ongoing personal and communal discernment as well as the outer tasks to be done. A built-in support system is made possible which might help



Holly Ratcliffe celebrates a last Eucharist at Sorel.

prevent situations of clergy burnout in the future."

3. FURLOUGHS.

"For missioners immersed in a second language and culture I would also recommend the reinstitution of regular furloughs, or rest periods of return home to the English-speaking, Anglican world, as missionaries in previous centuries were encouraged to take."

Looking forward, she expects that next year's report for Sorel will be more hopeful, as planning and preparation which went into a new project of restoration of the church is brought to fruition.

She also expects that the future will see greater collaboration with other Anglican and, she hopes, United Church francophone missions. "Our witness to ecumenism could only be strengthened by greater visible collaboration between the two denominations."

She concludes, "I care deeply for the Sorel ministry and pray for continued diocesan support of it, and for great blessings in its future."

Reports of this kind are not usually debated at the synod. Publication deadlines for this issue of Anglican Montreal were before the synod, and any debate that did take place may be reported in the next issue.

Priest engaged with end-of-life issues moves to Dorval church

U.S. priest "fell in love" with St. Mark's

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Up to now, Rev. Elizabeth Welch's career as an Episcopal priest has been mainly as a hospital chaplain in the San Francisco area, but that's about to end.

From Colorado and then Minnesota before a lengthy period in the San Francisco area, Ms Welch, now 36, became an Episcopalian after getting her first university degree but thought of herself as headed for an academic career. Studying for a master's in divinity, she was at first surprised to find most of her classmates were headed for the ministry, but was eventually ordained too. Along the way she was a volunteer prison chaplain, then moved to professional hospital chaplaincy and served on the ethics committee of the San Francisco General Hospital.

She was also attached as a pastoral assistant to All Saints' Episcopal Church, San Francisco.

When someone asked, she would say she would not rule out full-time parish ministry. But she came to Montreal about a year and a half ago primarily to work on a master of arts degree in religious studies at McGill University, where she is in the final stages of writing a thesis on biomedical issues – more specifically, end-of-life issues related to severe brain injury.

She saw this partly as a way of addressing in a more deeply reflec-

tive way some of the agonizing issues she he had confronted more urgently in her work as a chaplain. These were largely related to patients who were minimally conscious – loosely speaking, in vegetative states.

She also made the appropriate contacts with the Diocese of Montreal and, sooner than she expected, was asked if she would fill in temporarily at the Parish of St. Andrew and St. Mark in Dorval. The priest, Rev. Karen Egan, had stepped down to take a post as director of pastoral studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

'I was not intending to look for a full-time parish ministry but I came with trust that the Holy Spirit would open doors and that's what it felt like at St. Mark's. When I came to know the community, I really fell in love with them," she said in an interview.

The feeling was apparently mutual. Bishop Barry Clarke recently announced the appointment of Ms Welch, as incumbent of St. Andrew and St. Mark's Dorval effective December 15. Rev. Francie Nadeau-Keats, from the Quebec Lower North Shore, has had an interim posting there since September 1.

Among the attractions of Ms Welch's new parishioners, she said, is that they are "welcoming, thoughtful people, engaged with their faith."

They really want to be able to live out their faith in new ways, ways that connect with contemporary issues."

The contemporary issues being debated in Quebec certainly include end-of-life issues, and the perspective she brings to them include a conviction that these are very complex, more so than people, including medical people, on one side or another of questions like euthanasia are sometimes willing to acknowledge. In her work as a chaplain, she did her best to support families whatever their convictions on such issues.

She thinks a tendency to oversimplify issues is partly a result of a time when many people die in comparative isolation in hospitals, rather than at home, and when medical advances pose new questions.

"These days you can almost say that we can replace every organ in the human system except the brain."

She also thinks that palliative care, aimed at the comfort of the patient, and care with the usual medical goals are less mutually exclusive than is often thought, perhaps especially in Canada. In her view, there are often times where a patient should receive both at the same time.

Also, decisions about how actively a patient should be treated need to be made over and over through time as a patient's situation evolves.

Professional and medical considerations and the particular attractions of St. Mark's were not the only reasons she is where she is today.

"I chose Montreal because Montreal was attractive to me," she said. "I was also attracted by Canada."



Diary of Virginia Woolf Saturday 22 November, 4:30 pm Samedi 22 novembre, 16h30

Musique de films Jana Stuart, piano Music by Yann Tiersen, Philip Glass, Paul Cantelon, Michael Nyman, Alan Silvestri, Alexandre Desplat.

Saturday 29 November, 4:30 pm Samedi 29 novembre, 16h30

Songs for violin / des chansons pour le violon Marc Djokic, violin, Julien Leblanc,

Music by Gershwin/Heifetz, Eugène Ysaÿe, Jean Sibelius

Information: 514 843 6577 x236, loasismusicale@gmail.com, www.oasismusicale.blogspot.ca



Elizabeth Welch

Notable

L'OASIS MUSICALE

CONCERTS at CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Samedis 16h30 / Saturdays 4:30 pm 635 St. Catherine O, Métro McGill Freewill offering to support the artists / contribution volontaire pour soutenir les artistes

Saturday 1 November, 4:30 pm Samedi 1 novembre, 16h30 Baroque Romantique Victor Fournelle-Blain,

violin and viola Sanaz Sotoudeh, piano Music by Johannes Brahms, Eugène Ysaÿe, César Franck.

Friday 7 November, 7:30 pm Vendredi, 7 novembre 19h30 The Western Wynde and the Lamb

The Christ Church Cathedral Choir - Patrick Wedd, Director John Taverner: Western Wynde Mass, Audivi Media Nocte Sir John Tavener: The Lamb, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis

Admission \$35, âge d'or / seniors \$25, étudiants / students 15 Available at:

The Word, 469 Milton St., Cathedral

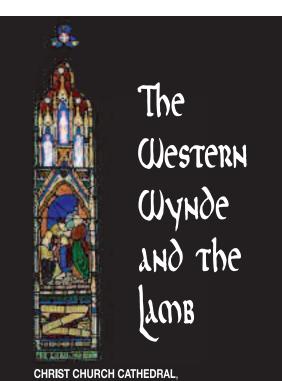
office, 1444 Union Ave. Info: 514-843-6577 (236)

Saturday 8 November, 4:30 pm Samedi 8 novembre, 16h30 Chamber Music Without Borders

Presents Classics to contemporaries; Featuring Students from the Schulich School of Music performing chamber music from beloved classics to new discoveries in both classical and jazz repertoire.

Saturday 15 November, 4:30 pm Samedi 15 novembre, 16h30

La vie d'une femme / A Woman's life Maude Paradis, voice,



635 STE-CATHERINE OUEST (MCGILL)







St. Thomas N.D.G. 6897 Somerled Ave. (entrance: green door off Rosedale Ave.)

FALL FAIR

Sat., Nov 1, 9:30a.m.-3 p.m.

Delicious home baking, jams and jellies, antiques table, used books. Lunch will be served. Info: 514-484-2750 or st.thomas.ndg@gmail.com

Epiphany Verdun 4322 Wellington St.,

ANNUAL BAZAAR Fri., Nov. 7, 1-5 p.m., Sat., Nov. 8

9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Handicrafts, bake table, Christmas table, jewellery, collectibles, white elephant, books. Info: 514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com.

St. Andrew & St. Mark Dorval

865 Lakeshore Drive

SPONTANEITY

Fri., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.

World-class organist Philippe Bélanger will play a concert of secular music on the Great Organ of St Mark's, offering sounds and emotions on the theme of spontaneity. When he was 9 he was organist of St Paul's, Aylmer. He has been the organist at Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica, Ottawa and St-Joseph's Oratory, for 13 years. Show tunes, familiar pieces played as you've never heard them before, musical novelties and virtuoso turns. Tickets \$15, call the office: 514-631-3601.

All Saints Deux Montagnes 248-18th Avenue

12th ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Fri., Nov. 7, 6-9 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Table rentals \$30, contact Adele 450-491-6279. Info: 450-473-9541, info@allsaintsdeuxmontagnes.ca, www.allsaintsdeuxmontagnes.ca.

St. John the Baptist **Pointe Claire** 233 St. Clair Ave.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Home-baked goods, fine dishes and silver, jewellery, Christmas crafts, hand crafted items and gift baskets.

St. Paul's Greenfield Park 321 Empire St.

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE & LUNCHEON

Sat., Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Bake table (lots of Christmas goodies), nearly-new table, candies, jams, Christmas decorations, angel table, raffles, door prizes and a new addition "Special doll clothes table & doll raffle." Lunch served from 11:15 am; \$8 or \$4 a child under 10. Info: 450-671-6000 or 450-678-2460.

St. Philip's Montreal West 7505 Sherbrooke St. W., corner Connaught Ave. Bus #51 (Snowdon), #105 (Vendôme), #162 (Villa-Maria) or #123 to Elmhurst bus terminal at Montreal West train station

CHRISTMAS **BAZAAR & LUNCH**

Sat. Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Home baking, books, knitted items, linens, collectibles, home furnishings, jams & preserves, candy, attic treasures, potpourri, CDs, games, & tapes. Free coffee, friendly smiles & more. Lunch 11:15 am-1:30 pm.

St. James Rosemere 328 Pine St.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

Sat., Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lunch of soup & sandwich. Info: 450-621-6466 or info@stjamesrosemere.ca.

St. Francis of the Birds St. Sauveur 94 St. Denis Ave.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The place to do your Christmas shopping! Great attic treasures, lucky draw tables, home-made baked items and frozen foods. A lunch of sandwiches, veggies & dip and squares, also including coffee and tea will be served. Cost \$8. Info: 450-227-2180.

St. CHL Rosemont 6341 de Lorimier Ave. (St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke)

FALL LUNCHEON & BAKE SALE

Sat., Nov. 8, 12 noon-2 p.m. RSVP 514-722-3061.

St. Paul's Côte des Neiges 3970 Côte St Catherine Road

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Sat., Nov. 8, cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Women's Auxiliary. Adults \$25, children under 12 \$15. Info: 514-733-2908.

St. Matthias' Westmount

12 Church Hill (near Metcalfe Ave. and Côte-St. Antoine Road, Bus lines 24, 104 and 138 stop at Metcalfe and Sherbrooke St.)

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sat., Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Christmas treats, frozen foods, attic treasures, jewellery, books and gifts. Hot lunch served.

St. Stephen's with St. James Chambly 2000 Bourgogne St. in Randell Hall **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & AUCTION**

Sat., Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

We have craft tables, bake tables with homemade baking, a make-an-offer table, & an auction at noon. A raffle for a beautiful handmade quilt. Our kitchen offers lunch, enjoy the start of the festive season. Info: Eileen Agley 450-658-1027 or 450-658-5882.

St. George's Place du Canada

1101 Stanley St. (Métro Bonaventure, near Bell Centre)

GUILD FALL BAZAAR & YE OLDE **CURIOUSITY SHOPPE**

Sat., Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m; lunch served 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

This event provides support to missions and charities in Montreal, along with other help. 514-866-7113.

Resurrection Valois 99 Mount Pleasant Ave., Pointe Claire (one block north of Donegani Ave.)

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Fri., Nov. 21, 7-9 p.m., Sat., Nov 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Attic treasures, books, crafts, home baking, work basket, gift centre, cuddles shop, jams and jellies, drawing table; silent auction. Friday evening: hot dogs, drinks. Saturday lunch from 11:30 am. A very warm welcome to all.

Epiphany Verdun 4322 Wellington St.,

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER

Sat., Nov. 22, 6 p.m.

Tickets \$15, call 514-3623-0825, Information:514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com

Trinity Anglican Church Morin Heights

At Morin Heights United Church basement hall, 831 Chemin du Village

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat., Nov. 22, 12 noon-2 p.m.

Home baking and gifts will be on sale, as well as a lunch of homemade soup, sandwiches and squares for \$8 (adults) and \$3 (children).

Christ Church, Beaurepaire 455 Church St., Beaconsfield

KIRKLAND **CONCERT BAND**

Sat., Nov. 29, 7 p.m.

The Kirkland Concert Band presents a concert of seasonal music. Refreshments after. Proceeds to the Band & the Christ Church Christmas Basket Fund. Tickets or info: 514-697-2204.

Christ Church, Beaurepaire 455 Church St. (corner Fieldfare Ave.), Beaconsfield,

WASSAIL

Fri., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

Kick off your Christmas celebrations with good friends and great carol singing, followed by "holiday cheer." Free will offerings support the Christmas Basket Program. Info: 514-697-2204.

St. Stephen's with St. James Chambly 2000 Bourgogne St. in Randell Hall CHRISTMAS TURKEY SUPPER

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

Join us for this beautiful festive meal. The price is a donation, but please call if you will attend: 450-658-5882.

Spiritual Calendar

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Individual spiritual direction is available in the Diocese of Montreal. For more information or an interview with one of the matchers, write to sdgroupmontreal@yahoo.ca or telephone 514-768-7807.

CHILDREN - CATCH THE SPIRIT AND LIVE

St. James Hudson

640 Main Road Saturdays 4-6 p.m.

The Parish of Vaudreuil has launched "a new worship experience that looks and sounds like day camp/Sunday school. There's an opening worship with music, focus on a Bible storv through drama/skits, music, dance/actions and a craft/art expression of the story. It ends with a supper for everyone. Children of all ages are welcome!

SPECIAL SERVICES St. John the Evangelist

137 President Kennedy Ave. (at St. Urbain St.)

November and Early Advent

Sat., Nov. 1, Solemn High Mass & Procession: 5:45 pm. Sun., Nov. 2, All Souls Day, Solemn Requiem & reading of the names of the departed: 5:45 pm. Sun., Nov. 23: Christ the King, Solemn High Mass: 10:30 am. Sun., Nov. 30, First Sunday in Advent, Solemn High Mass & Litany in procession at 10:30 am., followed by coffee & tea in the hall. Sun., Dec. 7, Second Sunday in Advent, Solemn High Mass: 10:30 am followed by coffee & tea in the hall. Advent procession with lessons & carols followed by evensong & benediction: 5 pm.

ALL SAINTS JAZZ MASS St. CHL (St. Cuthbert. St. Hilda and St. Luke)

6341 de Lorimier Ave Sun., Nov. 2, 10 a.m.

Come feel the heat! We got the jazz!

PAWS & PRAY Christ Church Beaurepaire

455 Church St., Beaconsfield Sun., Nov. 2, 1 p.m.

Paws & Pray is a service of Holy Eucharist that focuses on our relationships with our canine companions. Everyone is welcome to attend with or without a dog. The next service will be on December 7. Information: 514-697-2204.

INFORMAL **EUCHARIST**

Christ Church Cathedral

635 St. Catherine St. W. Sun. Nov. 2

and subsequent first Sundays, 6 p.m.

CONTEMPLATIVE **PRAYER**

Christ Church Cathedral

635 St. Catherine St. W. Tuesdays 5:45 p.m.

Christ Church has begun two new worship programs. Contemplative prayer Tues., 5:45 p.m. after Evensong. The first & third Tues. are guided meditation on Bible passages in the Ignatian style, led by Dean Paul Kennington or Vivian Lewin. The second & fourth Tues. is an introduction & silent meditation led by Beth Adams. On the fifth week, another practice will be introduced. There is a new evening Eucharist – intimate, informal & experimental on the first Sunday of each month.

VISIT FROM ZIMBABWE

St. George's Place du Canada

1101 Stanley St. Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 8 & 9

Rev. Chris Hingley of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, will visit in November. He will be the guest speaker at a breakfast at 9:30 am on Saturday & preach at the choral Eucharist 10:30 am, Nov. 10, Remembrance Day.

CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

St. Paul's Greenfield Park

321 Empire St. Sat., Nov. 29, 10 a.m.-noon.

Come and enjoy games, face painting, crafts, music, lunch, gifts and much, much more, while learning about the true meaning of Christmas the birth of the special baby boy Jesus! It's free and open to children aged 2-12 years. For information 450-671-6000 or 450-678-2460.

GREAT ADVENT CAROL EVENING

St. Paul's Greenfield Park

321 Empire St.

Sat., Nov. 29, evening

After the Children's Outreach, enjoy an evening of sing along at the Great Advent Carol Evening. The price is \$10 a person. There will be wine, cheese and great "church ladies' desserts! For information, 450-671-6000 or Kim at 450-656-6994.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE St. Matthias' Westmount

131 Côte St. Antoine Road (Bus lines 24,

104 and 138 stop at Metcalfe Ave. and Sherbrooke St.)

Sun., Nov. 29, 5 p.m.

Carols and lessons for Advent, freewill offering.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE **Christ Church Cathedral**

535 Ste. Catherine St. W. Sat., Dec. 6, 12 noon

On the 25th anniversary of the tragedy at the École Polytechnique presented by the Anglican Church Women. Celebrant, Rev. Shirley Smith, homilist, Rev. Canon Joyce Sanchez, incumbent, Trinity Memorial Church, Deacon, Rev. Merlyne Howard. Light refreshments will follow in the baptistry.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

St. George's Place du Canada

1101 Stanley St.

Fri., Dec. 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m. A joyful tradition featuring carols in English and French.

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

St. Matthias' Westmount

131 Côte St. Antoine Road (Bus lines 24, 104 and 138 stop at Metcalfe Ave. and Sherbrooke St.)

Sun., Dec. 14, 5 p.m. Freewill offering.

Diocesan Clippings

Vestments, artifacts, big bug attract thousands to Cathedral

Participation by Christ Church Cathedral in the Journées de la Culture, a Quebec-wide festival Friday-Sunday Sept. 26-28 involving a wide range of community organizations, was a big success, organizers report.

There were displays with guided tours of Cathedral treasures including vestments (see photo below) and archives dating back two centuries (including, in photo, mementos of a visit by the Queen to the Cathedral

during the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.) Demonstrations and workshops featured organ music, liturgical dance, choral singing, Gregorian chant, handbell-ringing, sketching and photography.

A six-foot mosquito hanging from the Cathedral ceiling was not really part of the Journées but attracted attention. The model, made by members of the Cathedral youth group, was part of the exhibits for a "weave-a-net" campaign that wound up September 28 to raise funds for mosquito netting and other efforts to combat malaria in Tanzania.

Cathedral volunteer Ann Elbourne reports that during the Journées over 1,000 people visited the Cathedral each of the Friday and Saturday, and a substantial number on the Sunday, "when we held our usual services but did nothing special apart from offering an English cream tea on the Forecourt after Evensong.







Staff changes at Christ Church Cathedral

Rev. Deacon Peter Huish, active in ministry to prisoners and released prisoners, now has his liturgical base at Christ Church Cathedral. He has signed a ministerial covenant agreement with the Cathedral and is a member of staff with special responsibility for diaconal ministry and for justice and outreach issues.

Jean-Jacques Goulet is serving a nine-month internship at the Cathedral with special responsibility for pastoral ministries, especially to over-40s and with francophones

Waterloo church needs new furnace

St. Luke's Anglican Church in Waterloo, in the Eastern Townships, is appealing for donations for a new furnace. The old one is beyond repair. The parish bank account has been depleted by expensive work on the exterior of the church, despite assistance from then Quebec Heritage organization. "Over the past couple of years the church has been used not only for Sunday services but for community functions such as weddings, birthday parties and baptisms," reports David Willey,

people's warden. "As these functions help to increase our revenues we would hope to be able to continue." Send donations to the church at 420 rue de la Cour, Waterloo J0E 2No.

Marjorie Sharp honoured by Community Groups Network

Marjorie Sharp, active at Christ Church Cathedral, is one of the three recipients this year of the Distinguished Community Service Awards presented by the Quebec Community Groups Network. An announcement from the network says Ms. Sharp is a lawyer and tireless volunteer who has been active in women's and human rights. She helped establish L'Abri en Ville for individuals with mental health issues, Auberge Madeleine for battered women, and Elder-Aide for seniors. Over decades of community involvement she has participated in such organizations as the YMCA and Camp Cosmos for underprivileged children, as well as Christ Church Cathedral and its affiliated Social Services Society. She also sat on ethics review boards at the Royal Victoria Hospital. A fellow parishioner adds that she is also known at the Cathedral for organizing a

monthly lunch for some of the vulnerable people of Montreal. The other two people honoured by the network are James Hughes, former executive director of the Old Brewery Mission and currently active on behalf of the mentally ill and potential school dropouts, and lawyer Eric Maldoff, active in the community groups and as an advocate for minority rights.

25 years in Kirkland

Parishioners of St. Mary's Parish in Kirkland threw a surprise dinner at the end of September to mark Rev. Lorne Tardy's 25 years in the parish.

Paul Jennings in Annapolis Valley

Rev. Canon Paul Jennings, former director of pastoral studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, had a first Sunday as priestin-charge of the Parish of Wilmot in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia September 28. "It's good to be back in the saddle!" he wrote in a Facebook post. "Only a temporary appointment pending selection of a new rector, I should hasten to add—but it feels good nonetheless. Though three services in a morning are deadly!"

'If you go down in the woods today...'

A "teddy bears' picnic" Saturday, Sept. 27, was an initiative of "Love in Motion" an outreach of the Mile End Community Mission, St. CHL Anglican Church and Trinity United Church to children in the Mile End-Rosemont area and beyond, regardless of faith affiliation, in need of a caring group. The picnic took place in and outside St. CHL (St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luc).

Noreen Alexander and Rev. Ros Macgregor of St. CHL report: "We had a superb afternoon – the sun was shining; the children were having fun singing songs and playing games. Teddy Bears of all sorts, sizes and colours attended this wonderful afternoon. We started out by singing the Teddy Bear Picnic song and stomping around like bears. We had a delicious picnic lunch in the church hall, with a special dessert provided by Ros with tiny edible teddy bears sitting on cupcakes. Noreen Alexander and her grandson Lucas put the finishing touches on them.

After lunch it was back outside for

more games and fun, including "Going on a Bear Hunt" led by Sheri Cameron from Trinity United Church (in photo, in golden yellow shirt). We did leave our mark at the church – handprints and footprints were left on a mural to celebrate our wonderful afternoon, each print showing that each of us is unique.

At 2:30 p.m. there was a service, especially for the children with much enthusiasm and energy, but the children became very quiet when asked for the prayer of consecration, and they came reverently (and still enthusiastically) forward to receive communion. Everyone sang "God loves you and I love you." When we left, a papier-maché beehive was beaten apart by the children, smallest to biggest, until tiny containers of honey fell to the ground for all the little bears to share with their people. Several of the children carried on singing it in the car, at another event at St. Mary's, Kirkland, and later at a sleepover at the home of a Mile End





NOVEMBER 2 NOVEMBRE
10:00 @ St. CHL
6341 de Lorimier