



WHITE COSMOS

This flower did its part to make the renaissance of the Stanbridge East Flower show at St James the Apostle Anglican Church in this community success in August. See Page 14.



EPISCOPAL SLIPPERS

An exhibition of historic mementos was one of the many musical and other contributions by Christ Church Cathedral to a downtown festival called the Journées de la Culture in late September. Cathedral volunteers are pretty sure these slippers were given to one of the past bishops of Montreal by someone or other but would appreciate hearing from anyone who can fill in a few details. Page 16.



ANNIVERSARY BALL

A souvenir Christmas ornament was given to each person who attended a celebration September 12 of the 175th anniversary of St. Thomas Church in Rougemont. See Page 16.

Drumbeats evoke the heartbeat of the Creator as diocese welcomes a new bishop

Bishop, dean cite new era of Truth and Reconciliation

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Drumbeats resounding through the gothic-revival interior of Christ Church Cathedral September 29, evoked “the heartbeat of the Creator, Mother Earth, life and people” and heralded the arrival not only of a new Anglican bishop of Montreal but also, many Anglicans hope, of a new era for indigenous peoples and their neighbours.

The Very Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, who was previously dean of St. George’s Cathedral in Kingston but whose deep roots in Montreal were demonstrated to by the many friends of long standing and some family members in the congregation, became the Right Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, 12th bishop of Montreal (and the first woman to hold that office).

The Most Rev. Percy Coffin, bishop of Western Newfoundland and metropolitan of an ecclesiastical “province” made up of seven dioceses in eastern Canada, and Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, presided over a service of consecration and installation that followed long-established Anglican rituals and music from the western Anglican tradition.

But a half-hour at the start of the service was devoted to drumming, gift-giving, oratory and prayer intended to evoke even older traditions – those of First Nations people. A team of First Nations drummers was led by Lee Greyfeather, a parishioner of the downtown Church of St. James the Apostle and a Mi’kmaq holy man, or shaman.

“The drum is the heartbeat of the Creator, Mother Earth, life and people,” he explained. “We spend the first nine months of our life in our mother’s womb, listening to her heartbeat, which sets the pattern of our existence. We play these drums in ceremonies to bring in the spirit of the Creator. The drumbeats call to the spirits and ancestors for their presence and participation in the ritual. The drumstick is sometimes referred to as then the arm of the Creator, who is breathing life into the ceremonies.”

The indigenous greeting and worship was quite a surprise for many of a Cathedral congregation of close to 700 – and largely, if the truth be told, for leading participants.

However, both Archbishop Coffin and the homilist at the service, the



Lee Greyfeather, parishioner at the Church of St. James the Apostle and a Mi’kmaq shaman, greets Mary Irwin, about to be consecrated as bishop of Montreal at Christ Church Cathedral.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Very Rev. Shane Parker, dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa, emphasized traditions of indigenous presence and spirituality. The Right Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada, participated actively in the indigenous rites and later described the evening as “beautiful.”

Both the new bishop herself and the dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal, the Very Rev. Paul Kennington, who played a pivotal part in organizing the consecration service, said after it that the indigenous rites reflected the need for Anglican liturgy, particularly on occasions like the consecration, to reflect the work of the Canadian government’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which recently wound up its lengthy series of hearings and issued its report.

“It is important to us as a diocese

to take seriously the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and have representatives of First Nations in our liturgy,” the bishop said.

The dean agreed: “After the Truth and Reconciliation Commission it is essential that we have a First Nations presence at events of this kind and when we do so we have to go by their rules.”

The dean said that in preparing for the service, he had been in touch with Lee Greyfeather, whom he knew through Mr. Greyfeather’s work promoting justice for indigenous peoples and indigenous spirituality at the cathedral and elsewhere. Mr. Greyfeather, an Anglican active at the Church of St. James the Apostle in downtown Montreal, is a Mi’kmaq of the Bear Clan who attended residential schools in northeastern Quebec for almost six years. After 32 years of study and

training among the Mi’kmaq, he became a holy man (shaman) in 2008.

The dean had asked Mr. Greyfeather if it would be possible to organize a team of drummers to drum the bishop-to-be into the consecration service, but the shaman replied that more than that would be in order. He recruited several other participants from Mi’kmaq, Mohawk, Western Métis and Abenaki traditions to round out the team and largely planned the ceremonies that began the consecration.

The dean said after the service that in the aftermath of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission such recognition would have been needed regardless of who was the bishop-elect.

But in that regard things turned out rather nicely.

It turns out that one of the new bishop’s two daughters, Catherine

Irwin-Gibson, trained as a lawyer and based in Kingston, is a consultant on public policy issues affecting indigenous peoples and with indigenous clients. During the opening ceremonies, Mr. Greyfeather asked her to come forward and made several presentations in appreciation of her work for aboriginals.

Catherine Irwin-Gibson read one of the lessons, Revelation 12:7-12, during the latter part of the service. She attended the service along with her sister Sarah, of Vancouver, the new bishop’s husband, Mark Gibson, members of their extended family and a sizeable Kingston contingent that included the choir of St. George’s Cathedral. Bishop Michael Oulton of the Diocese of Ontario (in and around Kingston) was one of at least 11 bishops who attended.

For more on the service, see Pages 8-10.

Bishop's Message



(Photo: Janet Best)

In the two months since I have begun working in the Bishop's office, so much has happened. There have been lots of meetings and consultations; there were preparations and planning for the consecration service; a Diocesan Clergy conference animated by the Rev. Lynn Uzans of the Diocese of Nova Scotia, where the clergy were able to get to know me and ask me questions. I have also been able to visit and meet with a number of congregations and members of the Diocese. It is clear that we face both challenges and opportunities which will require courage, vision, and a willingness to faithfully listen for and follow God's call.

I am so grateful for the dedicated and hardworking people who are engaged in the ministry and mission we are all called to. I took a few days off for a pre-consecration retreat with the very hospitable and prayerful Society of Saint John the Evangelist in Massachusetts. The Provincial House of Bishops gathered for dinner the night before the consecration and had a meeting in the morning before the excellent rehearsal conducted by Dean Paul Kennington.

The service of consecration at the Cathedral was inspiring and moving for all who were present and indeed many who have watched the YouTube video (link via www.montreal.anglican.ca) have said the same.

While we were invoking the Holy Spirit to fill me for the office and work of a bishop, I sensed that we were all being drawn into God's presence, being filled with the Holy Spirit and being invigorated and renewed for Jesus' mission in the world. The service was a high point for our diocese and I know that we will have to draw on it for the times when we are tired and discouraged.

Another high point was our gathering for a Conference Synod with partners from the Diocese of Masasi and the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior (APCI). It was good to meet Bishop James Almasi (who was made a bishop a little over a year ago) and Canon Geoffrey Monjesa (whom many of you already know), to see Bishop Barbara Andrews again and to learn more about their dioceses and ministries. Many people from our diocese have visited Masasi and APCI and the bonds of friendship and shared mission continue to grow. This past summer, several Montreal Youth went to Masasi; ask them about their experiences and about the vigor of the churches in spite of very limited resources and few clergy!

Immediately after Synod, I will attend my first House of Bishops, in Niagara Falls, when the bishops from across Canada meet for a week. I am really grateful for the generous encouragement and letters of support from my fellow bishops, and especially for those who made the trip to Montreal for our celebration.

I have had a chance for both formal and informal visits to parishes: Christ Church Cathedral's English and French congregations; St. Matthias', Westmount; Grace Church, Arundel; St. John the Evangelist, Montréal; St. George's, Place du Canada; Trinity Memorial, NDG; Holy Trinity, Ste-Agathe; St. Lawrence, LaSalle; St. James the Apostle; and St. James, Rosemere. It is a pleasure to meet you all and to see where you meet to practice being the Body of Christ, and to share in your joys and sorrows.

Let us pray for God's plans for our church to flourish in our time. Please keep me in your prayers as you remain in mine.

+ Mary

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Correction

A mislocated cornfield

An article in the September issue dealt largely with a visit by Joyce Berno Mtauca, a farmer from Masasi Diocese in, Tanzania, a partner diocese of the Diocese of Montreal, to the Sharing Bread workshop organized by the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund in July at the Sorrento Centre in BC. In a photo she was seen standing in a cornfield. The cornfield was wrongly identified as being at the Sorrento Centre. It is actually on her farm in Masasi.

Refugee advocates hope to channel outpouring of concern

Sponsorship, alternatives pondered by parishes

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Organizations linked to the Anglican Diocese of Montreal have been active in seeking ways to respond to an outpouring of concern for the fate of refugees from Syria and elsewhere. One group has been advising parishes and others looking into prospects for welcoming refugees, another is calling for the federal government to do more.

But there has also been concern about the daunting financial and other challenges that might face parishes getting involved, especially in seeking to actually welcome refugees to the Montreal area.

Action Réfugiés Montréal, which among other things acts on behalf of the Montreal diocese for private sponsorship of refugees, was already helping some refugees last year.

In a written report to the October synod of the Diocese of Montreal, Paul Clarke, executive director of Action Réfugiés Montréal, says that

in the 2014-15 program year, 18 Syrians arrived.

"Please know that the Anglican diocese is a strong partner helping Syrian refugees."

More recently Action Réfugiés organized at least two public and ecumenical meetings for potential sponsors and others interested in helping.

Mr. Clarke commented September 9 that for about a week Action Réfugiés had been inundated with offers to help from parishes and others.

In an article written for secular media, he said the organization had been receiving inquiries about sponsoring refugees from Syria since May of 2013 and built up a waiting list of 240 potential sponsors. Other groups in Montreal also had waiting lists.

But there was little public awareness of debate about the issue until a photo of a boy who drowned while trying to reach Greece with his family was widely published and attracted attention to bureaucratic problems relatives had encountered

in Canada.

"The combination of a dead child and paperwork not in order seems to have awakened an energy among the Canadian public. It's sad that it took a boy's death, but the challenge now is to harness this new awareness and caring in order to help others, as earlier generations of Canadians welcomed Hungarians and Vietnamese.

"The outpouring of support is gratifying. Since (the beginning of September) people from all over Quebec have been calling us. They want to sponsor Syrian refugees, do we know any? How does it work? People from Berthierville, Gatineau, Rivière-du-Loup. Even New Brunswick. People are offering rooms to Syrian refugees, as well as clothes, translation and furniture.

"Next, we need to find a way to match all these offers to help with Syrians already long-resident in Montreal who have relatives stranded in Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt – a way to make real the compassion being offered. There is a need for greater co-ordination among the 10

or so small groups in Quebec that work with refugees, and for greater resources, to facilitate matches between potential sponsors and specific refugees."

Three parishes in the N.D.G.-Montreal West area, all facing financial challenges of their own, were discussing, among themselves and with other churches in the Deanery of Western Montreal, prospects for sponsoring refugees or at least helping out in some other way,

"This is still just at infant stages and we're still doing a lot of education – educating ourselves," the Rev. Canon Joyce Sanchez of Trinity Memorial Church in N.D.G. said in early October.

On the advocacy front, the Canadian Council for Refugees and Amnesty International Canada released a statement September 11 on behalf of 12 organizations saying that Canadians from all walks of life are looking for Canada to do much more to assist Syrian refugees. (Action Réfugiés Montréal is a member of the Canadian Council for Refugees.)

The statement noted that the 12 organizations have decades of wide-ranging experience in refugee resettlement, protection and advocacy, and include the Syrian Canadian Council, which has been at the forefront of highlighting the pressing needs of Syrian refugees in Canada and abroad.

"Canada has the experience and the capacity to make a substantial response to the Syrian refugee crisis and Canadians have shown they have the will. We are proposing clear recommendations to make the response a reality," said Loly Rico, president of the Canadian Council. "They include measures to reunite families, a substantial boost in the country's resettlement commitments and removal of barriers to speedy private sponsorship. And none of that will be effective without a dramatic increase in the human, financial and logistical resources needed to ensure refugee cases are processed quickly."

New principal urged to stand by gospel of inclusion

New bishop instals Donald Boisvert Oct. 4

HARVEY SHEPHERD

A recent teaching colleague of the Rev. Donald Boisvert, the new principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, has urged him to keep embodying a gospel of inclusion, hope and justice at a time when especially in Quebec, Christian faith seems to many to be intolerant, outmoded or even irrelevant.

Carly Daniel-Hughes, associate professor of religion at Concordia

University, preached at Dr. Boisvert's installation as principal of Dio October 4 at Christ Church Cathedral. Dr. Daniel-Hughes, a graduate of Harvard Divinity School, has been on the staff of the Concordia Religion Department since 2007, teaches courses in the history of Christianity, biblical studies, and women, gender and sexuality in religion, and is director of the Ph.D. program in religious studies.

After a long career at Concordia in administration and, since 2003, teaching, Dr. Boisvert took early retirement from the religion depart-



ment and as its chair to take up his post of principal at the beginning of September. He and Dr. Daniel-Hughes are co-editors of a forthcoming book on religion, sexuality and gender.

In her sermon, Dr. Daniel-Hughes urged her former colleague to continue to follow Jesus in emphasizing community, compassion and relationship to others.

"Jesus never turned down dinner invitations," she said.

"Theological education is never just for itself."

In the photos, both by Harvey Shepherd, Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson formally instals the new principal, assisted by then Rev. Deacon Jean-Jacques Goulet of the Cathedral staff, Dr. Boisvert greets members of the congregation after the ceremony and Dr. Daniel-Hughes preaches.



Parishes, diocese, prison chaplains seek

Prison chaplains paint a bleak picture of the impact of spending cutbacks

A bleak view of the tough-on-crime policies of the federal government and uncertainty about the future of Anglican prison chaplaincy mark the report to this year's synod by the Rev. Canon Peter Huish, who notes that he has been in prison chaplaincy 17 years.

Indeed, Deacon Huish says that, with the Correction Services Canada's move toward contracting chaplaincies to specialized agencies rather than faith communities, he is surprised he still has his job, or some of it.

"I am surprised again this year to be serving yet another optional year of a chaplain's contract at Federal Training Centre (in Laval) when it seemed inevitable that I would become one of many cuts in the correctional services. I am also surprised at the seeming evenness and stability in the work given the dramatic changes of the last couple of years.

He writes that many changes have been occasioned by the "tough-on-crime" and "punishment-over-rehabilitation" ideological bent of the government.

He says the most shocking changes have included:

- The determination of the government to eliminate part-time chaplains, who traditionally ensured service to minorities, including anglophones in Quebec. However, the Rev. Canon Tim Smart and he have managed continue in part-time roles so far.
- The elimination of faith communities as contractors for chaplaincy services – including the Diocese of Montreal, which has been a contractor to Correctional Services Canada – for many years, and the shift to a sole contractor, in the name of greater efficiency, cost-cutting and increased accountability. In his view, the government seems to feel that faith communities are not to be trusted – especially perhaps those who may understand that the imprisoned are Jesus' brothers and sisters.
- The increase in prison populations (approximately 2,000 across Canada and a 250 per cent increase at the Federal Training Centre). In his

view, this bespeaks a blight in our societal life at a cost far greater than just the increase in dollars spent to imprison, since it also includes a loss of productivity, a loss of hope, and the cost of "debilitating scarring to those directly affected by an unnecessarily harsh justice and correctional system. A further cost in his view, is the "violentization of all of us in the complicity which is imposed on us by the government that claims to act in our behalf."

Other harsh measures imposed in the last couple of years include the stresses of over-crowding, double-bunking, the "rationalization" of food services and the severe cuts in earnings for work by inmates, on which they depend for basic necessities.

This second year under the new contract system has seen the administrative amalgamation of two Laval institutions. The Federal Training Centre and the Montée St. François Institution are now one, although their roles remain quite distinct.

In seven hours a week he convenes a weekly chapel activity around a Bible study, alternating between the two sites, co-ordinates a group of dedicated volunteers who take seriously the gospel call to visit Jesus and his family members in prison, and "I spend a good amount of time in usually long-term, one-on-one accompaniment sessions, as requested by inmates.

"Seven hours doesn't really do it but I work hard at trying to manage myself in a never completed ministry".

His current contract runs until next March and that could be his final year.

"My concern now ... is for the future of this chaplaincy work. For me it has been a time for significant relationships and a period of intentional standing against brutality and standing for those who are lost in their being condemned. This has been my vocation and my passion, as well as a blessing, for 17 years.

"In standing down personally I am reassured by the new team of chaplains that has formed, by the faithful experienced volunteers who could not do otherwise but to serve as they do, and by the always-encouraging arrival of new volunteers on whom depend, not only our beneficiaries but also myself and others who serve.

Government cutbacks have also had an impact on another side of Deacon Huish's ministry – offered to former prisoners and those on through an organization called Montreal-Southwest Community Ministries.

This is a shoestring operation that has not had funding from the diocese for over a decade but "I am convinced that the work which we do at MSCM is a definitive piece in the ministry of the Church and my initiative in reporting seeks to have the church join me in this conviction."

In addition some diocesan seed funding for three years, the ministry received yearly financial support as one of several projects operating under Correctional Service Canada's Community Chaplaincy endeavor in Montreal. But this has declined in the last few years.

"Neither community nor institutional chaplaincy seem to have the interest and support of the present federal government and a number of projects have declined and some have failed, or been cut outright.

"A particularly dramatic instance ... is the dropping of their support for Circles of Support and Accountability nationally, a program which has been demonstrated by long-term, rigorous measurement, to reduce recidivism of sex offenders by some 80 per cent. This loss of funding has hit us heavily."

Financial support for other activities has been reduced by between 25 and to 30 per cent on three separate occasions in recent years and in the current financial year MSCM has yet to receive even the reduced sums that are supposed to be due.

"In spite of these financial straits, perhaps because of them, we see more clearly the vision on which MSCM was founded in 1999, and which continues to propel us today, an understanding that our shared desire for safety, peace and fulfillment in our community calls us outside the squint of condemnation, punishment and exclusion that come with a 'tough-on-crime' agenda, to the eyes-open practice of gospel hospitality. The riches which seem to abound for us and for which we are always grateful are the volunteers, who constitute, shape and carry our community in their extraordinary self-donation and thanks to them we continue to serve in responding to needs that are on the increase, given the harshness of these times.

"Inadequate funding challenges us seriously but in spite of that we are buoyed by the continued strong

community that exists and in fact continues to grow with the participation of faithful volunteers and ex-inmates who remain an integral part of our community even long after they have been released, and for many of whom we have become their permanent, rather than their transitional community

"We are greatly encouraged also by the ongoing gift of space at Fulford Hall, donated by Christ Church Cathedral and the Diocese of Montreal, where every Tuesday night we host some 30-40 persons at Open Door, our weekly community meeting where typically there are equal numbers of volunteers and ex-prisoners. Open Door is the crossroads, the meeting place where gather all who participate in or who are curious about our shared endeavor of community-making."

The Rev. Canon Tim Smart reports on how federal cutbacks have affected his part-time chaplaincy at the men's medium-security prison in Cowansville.

From April 2014 to March 2015, he was working 20 hours a week there but on April 1 that was reduced to seven hours a week.

"Within this constraint, I continue to open the chapel up on Monday evenings for inmates and welcome church volunteers from the outside

who come in to share in singing, Bible study, and prayer. We have volunteers from local Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, as well as volunteers from Evangel Pentecostal and Union United in Montreal.

And on Friday mornings, volunteers from Yamaska Literacy in Cowansville arrive to help the guys with English; and on alternate Friday mornings, volunteers from Sac à Mots in Cowansville come in to help us read and write in French.

"There is very little time left over for me to meet with the guys one on one as I used to. Our Chaplaincy Team at Cowansville is strong, however. There are two full-time chaplains, while myself and another Catholic priest are part-time. We have an Imam coming in one day a week and a Rabbi occasionally. There are currently about 700 inmates in Cowansville, serving sentences from two years to life.

"While finding our work rewarding, chaplains are continually frustrated and dismayed to see the current federal government cutting back on services for inmates which might assist them in their rehabilitation. The emphasis now is more on security and incarceration and less on offering the skills needed to succeed when one is released from the system.

'Reimagining Church' courses setting under way

Long involved in evangelical efforts in the diocese and nationally, the Rev. Nick Brotherhood reports briefly on his work as in the new quarter-time position of "Bishop's Missioner for Reimagining Church," to which he was appointed by the then bishop, Barry Clarke, last February.

The new missioner's mandate is to promote and present the course "Reimagining Church: shaped for Mission" throughout the diocese. He writes that "Bishop Barry was

inspired in some measure by the experience of four Toronto-area bishops who themselves have taught the course.

The free, downloadable, five-session course, was been designed by Dr. John Bowen, (former Professor of Evangelism at Wycliffe College, Toronto, "for those who know something is wrong and want to understand what can be done about it."

continued on the next page

Deadlines have their effect on synod coverage

While the synod on October 16 and 17 will be over by the time you read this, our deadlines do not permit any "live" reporting on the synod. This will have to wait for the December issue. Synod reports in this issue were prepared before the event, on the basis of reports to the synod, available in advance.

In a somewhat similar way, it may be worth mentioning that when this issue went to press the October 19 federal election was still in the future.



The Rev. Canon Peter Huish, left, participates in a farewell service this summer for Bishop Barry Clarke.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

responses to financial challenges

Regional ministries becoming reality in Laurentians, Townships, South Shore

Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray reports that in recent months there has been a movement from dialogue on regional ministries to formally setting up regional ministries in the Laurentians, the Eastern Townships and the South Shore.

Under the diocese's five year Ministry Action Plan, now reaching the end of its last year, this is part of an effort to "help parishes to find their mission and stem decline, moving from an attitude of survival towards a life of vibrancy and hope through a ministry of invitation and hospitality."

By the end of March, individual congregational and parish vestries had agreed to work together in each of the regions to share clergy, finances, staff, volunteers and other activities.

A major objective is to ensure that each region has at least one full-time paid clergy person (sometimes achieved through a combination of part-time clergy) so that parish ministry and activity may go beyond the mere provision of Sunday worship services in individual congregations. Archdeacon Gray says the success of this venture depends on the many retired, occasional and visiting clergy and lay readers and leaders who continue to leading worship and provide other services, sometimes at very minimal or no remuneration.

The diocese has provided administrative and financial support for these efforts.

The archdeacon provides is a list of regional ministries that have been formally set up, with the anticipated clergy staffing:

Laurentians

(Arundel, Lachute, Lower Laurentians, Ste. Agathe, St. Sauveur, Morin Heights, Kilkenny.) Two full-time stipendiary clergy persons and other retired, occasional and visiting clergy and lay readers/leaders. The Rev. Nick Pang was appointed associate priest of the Laurentians effective August 1.

Eastern Townships

• *Deanery of Bedford:* (Bedford, Stanbridge East, Philipsburg, Farnham, Frelighsburg, Pigeon Hill.) One full-time stipendiary priest and two occasional clergy plus lay readers and lay leaders. The current incumbent is the Rev. Andy O'Donnell. The change was effective date April 1.

• *Granby/Brome/Sutton Region:* (Iron Hill, West Brome, Sutton Junction, Rougemont, Brome, Abercorn, Granby, Waterloo, Cowansville, Abbotsford, Mansonville, Sutton.) "This area is still in development and not all relationships have been formalized yet but discussions, planning and negotiations continue," Archdeacon Gray writes. The Brome-Sutton cluster of congregations has been formalized into a regional ministry. A combination of two stipendiary priests, one two-thirds time and the other one-third time with the continued support of retired, occasional and visiting clergy and lay readers and leaders. The current incumbent is the Rev. Tim Smart and the Rev. Richard Gauthier provides bilingual worship services to St. George's Granby and nearby congregations. Effective date: April 1.



The Rev. Nick Pang and Archdeacon Ralph Leavitt, the clergy team and the helm of the new Laurentians Regional Ministry, share a light moment at the service in Lachute that formally launched the ministry. (Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

South Shore

• *Brossard, Greenfield Park, St. Hubert, Hemmingford and Havelock* are led by two stipendiary clergy with financial support from the diocese. The clergy persons are the Rev. Christopher Belle and the Rev. Linda Faith Chalk.

• *The congregation of St. Mark's Longueuil has joined the parish of St. Barnabas, St. Lambert.* The clergy incumbent is the Rev. Gwenda Wells. St. Mark's Longueuil continues as a site for community events and social action-justice outreach, with the intent of exploring a church plant

focused on French-language ministry. There, the clergy person is the Rev. Richard Gauthier. "These initiatives are due for further review."

West Island

Archdeacon Gray writes, "With this success there are now new plans to explore and develop other regional ministries with the first priority to be the West Island of Montreal, composed of the deaneries of Pointe Claire and St. Anne's."

Study of 're-purposing' properties continues

A relatively brief report by Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray summarizes efforts by the diocese to "support ongoing innovative property development including re-purposing in order to transform properties from burdens into opportunity."

He notes that the Diocese of Montreal has made professional consultants available to parishes in order to assist them in their property development needs and "future visioning"

They include: Wayne Heuff, a real estate professional who specializes in identifying potential property redevelopment and developers; Omnia Technologies Inc. for property and infrastructure assessment; Altus Group for property appraisals and Ron Rayside, who specializes in property "re-purposing."

"The Diocesan Mission Committee has organized "Proportunities" workshops providing forums to educate parish leaders about property development opportunities and resources," he writes.

"Diocesan staff, clergy and lay leaders are also working together with the councils of the diocese to help determine surplus diocesan property that should be sold in order to relieve the diocese of their expense, especially in cases when there is no benefit, and use the proceeds to assist other diocesan ministries as prescribed under diocesan guidelines."

Archdeacon Gray adds a brief list of parishes and other sites where possible projects are mooted:

- St. George's, Place du Canada
- St. Philip's, Montreal West
- St. Barnabas, Pierrefonds
- St. James the Apostle, Montreal
- Resurrection, Pointe Claire
- St. George's, Granby
- St. Mark's, Longueuil
- St. John the Evangelist, Montreal
- St. Paul's, Lachine
- Cathedral Place
- St. Peter's, TMR
- St. George's, Châteauguay
- Trinity Memorial, N.D.G.

continued from the previous page

The first three sessions look at changes in our culture, the spiritual resources the church has to respond to the challenges, and what it means these days to be a "Christian." Then participants explore some of the ways churches are already changing and adapting and then, finally, what this might mean in their own situations.

"Reimagining Church" involves lots of group discussion, colourful visual presentations, thought-provoking video, Bible discussion, opportunities for prayerful reflection, and (of course!) refreshments. The materials, teaching files, instructor notes etc. (but not the refreshments!) are all freely downloadable at www.freshexpressions.ca/project/reimaginingchurch.

The missioner is in conversations with archdeacons and regional deans about presenting the course in their areas. He urges people to speak to your own regional dean or archdeacon if they think the course might be helpful in their context.

Nick Brotherwood said in a conversation that courses would begin before the end of October at St. George's Ste Anne de Bellevue, in a joint effort with Christ Church Beaurepaire, and St. Michael and All Angels Pierrefonds. Discussions were under way with the Laurentians Regional Ministry.

Synod finances under control but parish finances prompt concern

Finance committee seeks fresh ideas

The finances of the synod of the Diocese of Montreal are well managed and under effective control but the financial health of parishes is "an area of concern," Michael Hiles, chair of the standing committee on finances, says in a written report to the diocesan synod Oct. 16 and 17.

He says the synod's finances are well managed and under effective control. "Expenses are generally managed well against the annual budget, and the income is usually close to what was anticipated."

For this, Mr. Hiles says thanks are due to the manager, financial services, Stephen Tam, and the treasurer, Norman Spencer. (The synod was to vote on a recommendation to elect Ronald O'Connell, a parishioner of St. George's Place du Canada known for his leadership on the board of the Tyndale St-George's Community Centre, to succeed Mr. Spencer as diocesan treasurer.)

"Our over-all synod finances remain tight. We are running a small but manageable deficit. We are not

facing any immediate financial crises, but long-term deficits are an issue to be taken seriously."

However, Mr. Hiles is concerned about parish financial health.

"While we are not revealing anything that will be a surprise, we see evidence of financial stress in more than a few parishes. Some parishes are often or chronically late in paying their assessments, or more worryingly, their payroll costs. It is in some cases difficult to see how the resulting arrears will be paid, and too often is there a limited response to a request for a plan to move towards sustainability. This issue needs prompt and clear-eyed attention.

"We are mindful that sources of income are generally stressed. Even though we have successfully maintained our total assessment on parishes, we recognize that parishes are fewer than in prior days, and fewer Anglicans are being asked to shoulder a greater burden. The Synod office constantly looks for ways to responsibly cut expenses while continuing to be both viable and effective in pursuing our Christian mission."

Mr. Hiles concludes, "we know that we are not alone in our concerns regarding the financial and overall health of parishes and other entities around the diocese. We are open to, and looking for, effective ideas that will support the fundamental mission of being a Christian in the medium and longer term."



Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray makes a point at a "Proportunities" workshop last year on making better use of church properties. (Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Missions report to Synod on ministries

'The Mission Effect' helps Mile End Mission cope with big challenges

Where 'mission' is a verb, not a noun

At the Mile End Community Mission, the most recent fiscal year was both challenging and very rewarding, reports Linda (Lou) Hachey, executive director.

"Challenging because of the continual increase in poverty and suffering that we've seen during these increasingly trying economic times. Rewarding because, at the same time, we also regularly witness ways in which our Mission helps and touches everyone who walks through our doors.

"In what I view as 'the Mission effect,' members, staff, volunteers, students, board members and guests are often touched by acts of caring, moments of being included and valued here at the Mile-End Mission – and one caring act just seems to lead to another!

"Embracing the word Mission as a verb instead of a noun, Mission is alive, something that we do – not just something that we are called."

She notes that over the past year, the mission, a little north of Mount Royal Avenue and a little east of Park Avenue, has seen a 45 per cent increase in the number of free hot breakfasts and lunches served compared with 2012 figures, for a total of 9,565 meals. Demand for food bags through a weekly food bank remained relatively consistent, reaching almost 9,000 for the year.

An art program remained active and volunteers provided "an amazing 9,200 volunteer hours," among other things logging about 750 incidents of information and referral or other support personally or by telephone.

The food program has continued to thrive since the mission began 24 years ago.

"What started as soup and food bags for 20 people each week has expanded into almost 200 hot meals and 180 bags of groceries a week serving approximately 350 individuals and family members annually.

"Demand for our hot meals has never been higher. A recent review shows a 77 per cent increase in attendance for the Mission's breakfast program over the last two years, along with a 32 per cent increase in attendance for our lunch program.

Local restaurateur Marc Cohen and his team at Restaurant et Boucherie prepared and delivered a monthly meal to the mission.

The "Friperie Joyce" continued to sell donated clothing, house ware items, books and so on at low prices. The proceeds help supporting programs and activities.

"Our Drop-In program continues to be highly popular with a weekly participation of approximately 200 members. Through this program, members engage in art, play the guitar or piano, use our free community telephone and computers with internet, or simply have a coffee and snacks with friends. During this time, members are also encouraged to meet with staff to get needed information and referral, active listening, support and follow-up regarding the many pressing issues that they face in their lives," Ms Hachey reports.

Funds from the Anglican Diocese and Fondation Marcelle et Jean Coutu permitted individuals, families and children at the Mission to take part in such outings as a day at the Yamaska National Park beach, a visit to Granby Zoo and a day of sugaring off, among others. There were also several Christmas activities.

A recent open house featured the launch of our new Terrace Connie, where members can gather outside

to enjoy the spring, summer and fall months under umbrella-covered picnic tables surrounded by plants and flowers. This initiative, funded by the Anglican Diocese and the City of Montreal, honors one of the Mission's founding members, the late Connie Olson, who served the mission for 21 years.

In partnership with the McGill University Mobile Dental Outreach Clinic and the Sign of the Theotokos Orthodox church, two dental clinics for the working poor were offered to members of the Mile End Mission in 2014. The clinics were set up in the large basement of the Sign of the Theotokos church, allowing almost 40 individuals to receive dental care by dentists and student dentists from McGill.

Since February 2014, the mission and two Rosemont churches – St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke (St. CHL) Anglican Church and Trinity United Church – have developed and offered a "Love in Motion" group for children aged 3-10 years. Twenty one children were recently taking part in this monthly program at St. CHL, open to all, regardless of faith.

Lawyers and law students continued to offer a weekly legal clinic.

Plein Milieu, a local organization that works to improve the quality of life of young people and people who use drugs, began offering information kiosks in the Mission's lunch room every six weeks.

"At the Mile End Mission," Ms Hachey reports, "we help nourish people with food – but, even more than that, we all help to nourish each other – equally with caring, respect, support, fellowship, belonging and purpose."

News not all bad at St. Michael's Mission

George Greene, executive director of St. Michael's Mission, a day centre providing a wide range of services to a largely male clientele, homeless or otherwise in distress, at its quarters in the basement of the downtown Church of St. John the Evangelist, found a number of positive things to report despite the rising challenges of the latest fiscal year.

His report – previously presented to the mission's June annual meeting – said it was a good year financially, thanks to new government grants, more support from corporations and fund-raising by high school and college students. But support from Anglican sources and the community remain crucial for the used-clothing service and food pantry.

The mission also grew "in mind and body" through partnerships with the McGill School of Nursing, and various projects in pet therapy, music therapy and art therapy. Staff of a mobile medical clinic offered their services. An accountant for the first time offered help with income tax forms (which can be useful to people of little or no income in obtaining certain benefits).

The winter of 2014-15 "came early, hard and extremely cold." At the request of the City of Montreal, the mission served as an overnight "warming centre" on some very cold nights. The project was "a huge success" for clients of the mission and other homeless people in the surrounding area. The project is to continue next December. However, the cold weather contributed to the deaths of some clients.

There were shortages of both dried good and fresh produce, owing

to both reduced deliveries from a surplus-food agency and increased demand as more people laid off turned up at downtown missions.

A program of outreach by crisis workers expanded to four more Métro stations. Crisis workers also began placing some women in women's shelters recently opened by other agencies.

"There is a new trend and it is very encouraging to St. Michael's staff, volunteers and clients. Many schools, colleges and universities and corporations have created Days of Experience, Days of Service as part of their curriculum. Students or employees come in for the day; some bring sandwiches and cookies and others just their energy and enthusiasm. Some bring clothing but all pitch in and help – again realizing that homelessness is a fact of life and not about to vanish overnight."

Mr. Greene closed, "This has been a remarkable year. We are proud to continue serving an often-forgotten population. I would like to say that the challenges in the coming year are daunting: over 12 months our population has grown over 25 per cent in the same confined space and limited budget. As we continue this service and ministry to an average of 300 people a day, thank you for your continued support – and remember: *They are not helpless; they are homeless.*"



'waiting for Santa ...'

Christmas at the Mile End Community Mission

Again this year, the Mile End Community Mission is calling upon your generosity to help make Christmas a time of greater joy for the many individuals, families and children who suffer the daily effects of poverty in our neighborhood and surrounding areas.

With your help, we hope to host another wonderful Christmas dinner for more than 300 individuals & families, fill 150 Christmas baskets, provide toys for 100 children of the Mission and prepare special Christmas stockings with much needed personal items for 40 men and women.

Sadly, without these activities, many of our members would have very little joy during the holiday season. In the Spirit of Christmas, we encourage you to make a donation of money, non-perishable food, toys, personal items and/or offer your volunteer time.

These events are made possible by you!

To volunteer or to arrange a donation please contact us at:
(514) 274-3401 or general@mileendmission.org

Monetary donations can be made:

online : www.mileendmission.org

by cheque: Mile End Community Mission
99 Bernard O. Montréal, QC H2T 2J9

to homeless, minorities, francophones

Si Dieu ne désespère jamais de nous, nous aussi nous ne devons jamais désespérer

Year of transition for Christ Church Sorel

Mission Communautaire Christ Church, Sorel

The Rev. Yves Samson became the incumbent priest at Christ Church Sorel last year, responsible for both the small French-speaking worshipping community in the historic church and Café Christ Church, which reopened in the former rectory in December, serving primarily low-income residents of the community.

Father Samson works with Denis Gévy, a lay assistant until he was ordained as a deacon last May. They divide their time between Christ Church and Église St-James Trois-Rivières in the Diocese of Quebec.

Father Samson's French-language report to synod reports that both the worshipping community in Christ Church and Café Christ Church continue to cope with challenges. But since God does not give up on us we must not give up either, he writes.

Here is an abridged version of his report on what he calls a year of transition. He raises several questions and seeks to address them:

La revue de ce qui s'est passé en 2014:

Qu'est-ce qui a fonctionné ou pas? Qu'est-ce qui a touché les gens? À quoi a servi notre argent? Quel serait le mot qui résumerait cette année?

La dernière année en a été une de transition. Au long des quatre premiers mois, j'ai assumé l'intérim en collaboration avec le ministre laïc Denis Gévy. En mai, nous avons appris la décision de la Révérende Holly Ratcliffe de quitter ses fonctions. L'intérim s'est prolongé jusqu'en septembre, moment où je suis devenu officiellement prêtre de la Mission.

Au cours de la période de septembre à décembre, j'ai multiplié les rencontres avec les gens du milieu, notamment les intervenants du monde communautaire. Portant le projet de réouverture du Café Christ Church, nous avons signé une entente de partenariat avec le Regroupement des Assistés Sociaux du Bas-Richelieu. Les portes du Café se sont ré-ouvertes le 4 décembre. De plus, pour tenter de donner un coup de pouce à la clientèle du Café, nous avons repris la formule de nos repas aux beans, cette fois sous la forme d'un souper qui a lieu le dernier dimanche du mois après la célébration de 17h. Enfin, pour le temps des fêtes, une équipe s'est rapidement mise en place pour offrir une célébration de Noël et un repas partage qui a regroupé une trentaine de personnes.

Des musiciens sont venus agrémente la période précédent notre célébration; grâce à collaboration de plusieurs, nous avons pu servir un repas chaud aux gens venus vers nous.

Compte tenu de mon engagement à St James Trois-Rivières, il a fallu penser en termes de changement d'horaire de la célébration dominicale. Dans un premier temps, pour la saison estivale, la célébration avait lieu à 9h le samedi matin. Je considère que ce ne fut pas une grande réussite! Au début de l'automne, nous avons changé l'horaire pour le dimanche après-midi à 17h.

L'impact semble négatif sur la vie de la communauté compte tenu de l'absence de quelques personnes que nous considérons comme « régulier ». La réflexion n'est pas terminée. La moyenne d'assistance à la célébration s'est établie à 12 personnes sur l'ensemble de l'année. Nous avons eu des célébrations à tous les dimanches.

Le bâtiment d'église a été fermé en raison de problèmes à la structure du plancher. Les demandes et autorisations nécessaires pour l'exécution des travaux ont pris l'ensemble de l'année. Cette situation a eu un impact sur notre vie communautaire: nous avons dû nous résoudre à célébrer des mariages ailleurs. Malgré tout, l'église a pu accueillir les touristes: malgré l'été maussade, notre guide y a reçu environ 335 personnes.

Enfin, dès le début du mois de décembre, j'ai participé au lancement de la campagne contre la violence organisée par l'AFÉAS.

Pour quelles raisons les gens viendraient-ils dans cette Église?

La réponse aura un impact sur le ministère autant à l'intérieur de la communauté qu'à l'extérieur.

Un des éléments qui revient le plus souvent est la chaleur de l'accueil et l'accessibilité des lieux, de la liturgie. Nos rassemblements sont l'occasion de partages intéressants et d'échanges profitable au grand nombre. Nous offrons un lieu ouvert, inclusif et sécuritaire.

Répondre à la question: si nous fermions nos portes demain, à qui manquerions nous?

Nous avons expérimenté la situation de quasi fermeture avec la durée de l'intérim et l'arrêt des activités du Café Christ Church. Notre raison d'être à Sorel est certainement liée à notre mission communautaire. Je ne sais à combien de reprises j'ai entendu les gens dire qu'ils avaient hâte de revenir chez-nous, et ils sont au rendez-vous. Notre présence a un impact majeur sur la vie d'une trentaine de personnes ayant des conditions de vie très différentes et qui comptent sur nous pour briser la solitude et l'isolement.

Se faire entendre pour les sans-voix dans notre propre cour. Nous avons au coeur de notre foi et de notre existence, un message qui peut changer, transformer le monde où nous vivons. Savons-nous le faire valoir auprès des décideurs et des intervenants locaux?

C'est précisément la raison pour laquelle nous voulions relancer les activités du Café Christ Church en partenariat avec au moins un organisme communautaire du milieu.

Notre prédication tourne essentiellement sur une incarnation de notre mission dans notre vie quotidienne. Comme nous l'avons dit à plusieurs reprises: dites-nous ce que ça change dans le monde le fait que nous soyons croyants! Nous sommes intervenus publiquement à l'occasion de la journée internationale de l'habitation abordable.

Nous sommes aussi intervenus auprès du député fédéral, Louis Plamondon, lors de l'arrimage d'un immense pétrolier au port de Sorel pour lui faire part de nos inquiétudes.

Aimer les gens, aimer les gens, aimer les gens. On ne le dira jamais

assez! Il faut être accueillant. Il faut aimer les personnes telles qu'elles sont et non pas comme on voudrait qu'elles soient! Il reste un travail de réconciliation à faire au sein de notre communauté. Les événements s'étant produit avant notre arrivée ont laissé une cicatrice sur le corps de notre communauté. Ayant effectué de nombreuses rencontres, j'ai pu saisir un peu mieux l'ampleur de la situation et la profondeur de la douleur.

Maintenant que tous ces événements sont derrière nous, il nous reste à travailler sur un élément primordial: nous réconcilier.

Si quelqu'un se présente dans notre église, qu'elle sera sa première impression? *Une communauté tissée serrée, chaleureuse et accueillante. Nous sommes un petit groupe de croyantes et croyants, des chercheurs et des chercheurs de Dieu en marche et ouvert à la présence de l'Autre.*

Cesser de toujours considérer le nombre de personnes dans l'assistance comme une marque de succès.

C'est souvent la grande tentation de la tradition protestante de tenir des statistiques de fréquentation des offices. Pour l'avoir déjà vécu, les chiffres qui se trouvent inscrits dans les registres sont souvent erronés et, disons-le honnêtement, gonflés!

Je suis bien loin de considérer notre « succès » en fonction des chiffres apparaissant dans nos registres. Notre succès il se mesure plutôt au sourire des gens qui entrent chez-nous, aux éclats de rire qui égayent les murs du presbytère, à la vie qui y circule.

Prier pour tout ... toujours prier. Patiemment, doucement, se laisser porter par la mouvance de l'Esprit. Prier pour l'Église, le monde, celles et ceux qui se recommandent à nous, nous-mêmes ... encore prier!

Nos célébrations sont le moment de s'intéresser à ce qui se passe dans notre milieu. Par exemple, nous avons prié pour les marins coincés au port de Sorel, abandonnés par leur armateur.

Donner plus. C'est déjà un engageant quand la santé financière va bien, c'est encore plus engageant dans les temps où la rareté des ressources se fait sentir. Mais en tant que communauté, prenons le risque de donner pour voir l'impact que cela peut avoir ...

Notre situation financière demeure malgré tout précaire. Grâce à l'engagement du diocèse anglican de Montréal qui paie le salaire du prêtre, nous pouvons maintenir notre présence à Sorel.

Ne pas abandonner l'Église. Même si le Christ a dit que les portes de l'enfer ne pourraient rien contre l'Église, on a l'impression parfois que ce n'est pas tout-à-fait ce que l'on vit. En tant que peuple de Dieu en marche, l'Église est composée d'hommes et de femmes avec leurs talents et leurs imperfections. Peut-être avons-nous une vision différente de l'orientation que devrait prendre l'Église (à la mesure aussi de notre Église locale), mais cela ne devrait pas nous conduire à quitter. Si Dieu ne désespère jamais de nous, nous aussi nous ne devons jamais désespérer.

Tyndale St-Georges reports 'another fantastic year'

Success upon success at Little Burgundy centre

The Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre, a diverse Anglican-Presbyterian outreach in the Little Burgundy district of Montreal, "has been blessed with another fantastic year!" reports Jen de Combe, executive director.

"It's always amazing to see the wonders of God's work unfold in the lives of those we have the privilege to work with," writes Ms. de Combe. (It's something of a swan song. Since writing the report, she disclosed she is stepping down from the post to resume studies toward the ministry of the United Church of Canada. A search is under way for a successor.)

She said the centre witnessed several "personal stories of triumph" in its latest fiscal year.

"This year we welcomed over 60 students in our after-school program, another 54 in our high school program and over 100 families in our early childhood department and had a staggering 860 individuals use the services of our adult development department. Programs grew: We increased seniors' programming; enhanced leadership and social skills building in our high school and after school programs; added an additional playgroup to the summer programming for our early childhood department to cover the ever-growing needs of our families; and started a parent-led yoga and relaxation group.

"Our physical facilities also got a mini-facelift with the addition of a new garden program-area behind our Richmond Square location, as well as a micro-library and reading corner in the front of our building."

Action Réfugiés aided refugees from Syria

The report to the synod from Paul Clarke, executive director of Action Réfugiés Montréal, which receives core funding from the Diocese of Montreal and Presbyterian sources, begins with a mission statement that the organization adopted last March.

Action Réfugiés Montréal is a strong voice for refugees in Montreal and beyond. As a not-for-profit, faith-inspired organization we seek justice for asylum-seekers and refugees.

We promote partnerships among people in refugee and faith communities and society at large for mutual empowerment. Through our Detention, Sponsorship and Twinning programs we provide hope and assistance while raising awareness of refugee rights.

Mr. Clarke reports that, "As the number of refugees and displaced persons has exceeded 59 million people globally, the need for the services of Action Réfugiés continues to grow. We support as many people as we can."

A sponsorship program, operating under an agreement of the diocese with the federal and provincial governments, saw 67 files sub-

mitted in 2014, representing 120 persons. As of December 31, 2014 there were 213 people awaiting news for their file.

"In the past year 25 persons arrived, including 18 Syrians, who arrived within a year! Please know that the Anglican diocese is a strong partner helping Syrian refugees."

Action Réfugiés has a program of visits to people seeking refugee status who are detained "for administrative reasons" at a holding centre in Laval "We met over 400 persons in the past year, including men, women, children, and some unaccompanied minors 16 and 17 years old.

Action Réfugiés released a study based on extensive interviews with persons who had been detained and met with government departments to share their findings and recommendations. The report is available on the Action Réfugiés website at www.actionr.org.

A program that pairs refugees with local volunteers saw 10 successful matches and many group activities. Action Réfugiés provided on-the-ground training to eight university students.

These stories capture the big successes that we celebrated, but there are countless other stories that also speak to the transformational presence of Christ. "Recently, I have been asked to officiate at a colleague's daughter's wedding. I was asked because Tyndale St-Georges is not only a place people go to learn, it's a place where people turn to find people to walk with them during their most sacred moments. This is the ministry that the Anglican Diocese supports. It's the small but significant ways in which Tyndale touches peoples' lives that lets them know that they are not alone. They live in God's world."

The Diocese of Montreal formally welcomes



This page, clockwise from above:

Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson takes her place in the Bishop's Chair in Christ Church Cathedral.

(Photo: Janet Best)

Toward the end of consecration service September 29 in Christ Church Cathedral, the new bishop greets her flock. At right is Archbishop Percy Coffin.

(Photo: Jesse Dymond)

Following tradition, the new bishop knocks on the main door of the cathedral. "I come as the elected and consecrated Bishop of Montreal to serve you, to proclaim the love of Christ, and with you, to worship and love God with heart and soul, mind and strength."

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Next page, clockwise from top:

About to be consecrated, Mary Irwin-Gibson kneels before the "presider of the consecration," Most Rev. Percy Coffin, archbishop of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland and metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made up of seven dioceses in eastern Canada.

(Photo: Jesse Dymond)

The Cathedral Dancers, choreographed by Rosemary Cass-Beggs, participated in the service.

(Photo: Jesse Dymond)

All smiles, the new bishop is congratulated by Bishop Dennis Drainville of the Diocese of Quebec – the neighbouring diocese, with its cathedral in Quebec City. Bishop Drainville ran unsuccessfully in the episcopal election June 6 won by Mary Irwin-Gibson, believing the two dioceses should merge. He later announced he expects to step down as bishop of Quebec, probably in 2017. The Quebec diocese will elect a coadjutor bishop last this month, who would work with Bishop Drainville for a preliminary period and then succeed him.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Shortly after being consecrated, the new bishop's itinerary took her from Fulford Hall at the rear of the cathedral to its front door. It was raining and server Elisabeth Evans-Olders, left, and the Rev. Deacon Amy Hamilton were ready with umbrellas.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

meets its 12th bishop – and the first woman



‘Everything we experience in life teaches us something’



Clockwise from top left:

Homilist at the consecration, the Very Rev. Shane Parker, dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa, drew on First Nations material to make the point that “everything we experience in life teaches us something.” He told the new bishop that it is “urgent for you to live into the experiences you have had and learn from them.” He said the church “needs to be clearly seen as a church that is safe for everyone and which welcomes those of every faith and no faith.”

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Bishop Mary poses with First Peoples drummers who welcomed her to the consecration, on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe land. In the photo are Naomi Jacobs, a Mohawk from Kahnawake, the bishop’s daughter Catherine Irwin-Gibson, Lee Greyfeather, a Mi’kmaq shaman and parishioner of the Church of St. James the Apostle, Isabelle Gagné, a Mohawk, Éric Côté, of Mi’kmaq and other traditions, and Rickki Qavavauq, Innu.

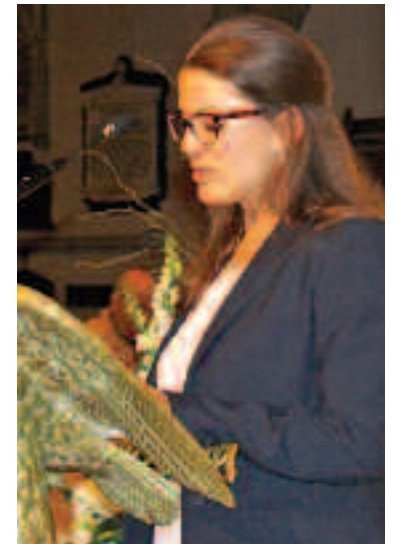
(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

One of the bishop’s two daughters, Catherine Irwin-Gibson reads from Revelation 12.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

The new bishop poses with Bishop Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada, who had a prominent part in the consecration.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)



Tree planting to foster reconciliation



Reconciliation requires forgiveness on both sides, a leading member of the Kahnawake Mohawk community said at a tree-planting ceremony September 21 on the grounds of St. Philip’s Church in Montreal West.

Speaking to about 40 people surrounding a birch sapling on the church grounds, Chief Christine

Zachary Deom congratulated the Anglican parish on what she described as an important first step in reconciliation.

The ceremony, intended to promote reconciliation between the Anglican Church and Canada’s indigenous peoples, came just under four months after Canada’s Truth

and Reconciliation Commission, which examined the legacy of residential schools, wound up.

In the photo, the Rev. James Pratt of St. Philip’s and Chief Deom shovel some earth around the tree. A birch was chosen because of the rich symbolism of birch trees in both aboriginal and western traditions.

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.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the new beginnings that you have granted this Diocese. We pray for Bishop Mary, Principal Donald, and the many priests assigned to new parishes this year, may all their ministries be blessed with open minds, creative vision, and willing hands. We pray that you will help us to appreciate your guidance and protection through all these changes.

We thank you for every member of this Diocese and for the gifts they bring to the life of the church. We realize that these will be times for major decision-making and reorganization. We pray that as a Diocese, we will submit to your will and allow you to direct our path through these difficult, but exciting transitions.

This we ask in your precious name, Lord. Amen.

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

Equipping the Saints

VIVIAN LEWIN

This is one of a series of articles by alumni and friends of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College. Vivian Lewin grew up in Pennsylvania. She came to Montreal in 1971 and soon became a member of Christ Church Cathedral, where she joined the Chancel Guild. She taught quilting at the Visual Arts Centre, worked as a writer and editor in the non-profit sector, and studied creative writing mid-career. Beginning in 2001 she trained as a spiritual director at the Ignatian Spirituality Centre of Montreal. She now chairs the Spiritual Direction Group of the Diocese of Montreal, volunteers with the Healing Pathway, a parish-based ministry in the United Church, and serves on the ministry team (Episkopé) of the Cathedral.

In addition to its degree programs, Dio [MTDC or the Montreal Diocesan

san Theological College] offers several options for lay people who wish to learn more about the faith. When I enrolled in Education for Ministry (or EfM) in 2010, I knew it was a small-group experience that included reading the entire Bible and studying church history. What I did not anticipate was how this four-year course was going to stretch my mind and heart, in several ways.

We shared our lives with each other, presenting our spiritual journeys at the start of each year with a slightly different emphasis and sharing our present challenges at the start of each weekly class during the round-table check-in. A dozen class members had come from several countries, had different church backgrounds and life experiences. This made our sharing more meaningful and more of an adventure, too.

We took turns organizing a short

opening prayer and a somewhat longer closing one for each class – and we all became more adept at this and some more adventurous as the years unfolded. It was delightful to see how a prayer service put together by one member, at home hours or days before class, could unerringly touch on the exact prayer needs that would arise during class discussion hours later!

Reading the whole Old Testament in one year really connected the dots. Have you ever had the good fortune to be travelling in an airplane on a very clear day and see your city, and then all the terrain surrounding it, snap into beautiful perspective – the Saint Lawrence flowing towards the Atlantic, the Great Lakes etc. sprawling below you? The altitude gives a perspective you cannot get on the ground. And taking the Bible in large installments, with appropriate guidance, similarly gives an overview

impossible to gain any other way. The snippets familiar from the lectionary acquire context and take their place in the unfolding history of God's relationship with creation.

Every week, as well as discussing our readings, we explored one topic in depth with our minds, our experience, our knowledge of scripture and our understanding of our shared tradition and the culture around us. Theological reflection is a skill to work at in the group. Where else would we have had the chance to hold up a family or work situation, something in the headlines, something we have been reading, to scrutiny from every angle including the light of faith? To discover how God is speaking to us and moving us, not only in Holy Scripture and personal prayer times, but through creation and in our personal and community lives?

Five of my classmates and I made



(Photo: Jonathan Sa'adah)

the four-year journey together; when we graduated together in 2014 we had already decided to continue meeting to support each other's journeys. Nancy Greene-Grégoire took the EfM mentor training. This fall, we began our second year of meeting monthly as an informal EfM alumni group. Thanks be to God!

This was clearly a pairing coming from the heart

A warm visit to central B.C. assembly

LYNN OSBORNE

Lynn Osborne reports on her visit with her husband, the Rev. Andy O'Donnell of the Deanery of Bedford, to attend the annual assembly of the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior (of British Columbia) last May. The assembly is the equivalent of a diocesan synod.

From the time we set foot on the ground in Kamloops, it was clear we were seen as honoured guests. There to attend the Assembly as representatives of the Diocese of Montreal, the companion diocese of the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, we could see that the relationship between the two dioceses was far more than an ecclesiastical relationship. This was clearly a pairing coming from the heart. Through dinners with Bishop Barbara Andrews, touring the Parishes of Lytton and Scw'Exmx with the Rev. Danny Whitehead, meeting with the Parish Elders, hearing traditional music with Cyril Spinks and riding on the bus with the delegates of APCI from



the Rev. Danny's parish, the hospitality was never lacking. On our last day in the Central Interior, we were in good hands with The Rev. Isabel C. Healy-Morrow, as she showed us various sites including Sorrento Centre (where we met the Right Rev. Jim Cruickshank, former bishop of the Cariboo Diocese), Margaret Falls, and her ranch with all the wonderful animals. In seeing the beautiful and vast landscapes including the meeting of the Fraser and Mackenzie Rivers at Lytton, the

Cariboo Mountain Range and the meeting of the Cariboo with the Rockies at Valemount (site of the assembly), it was as if the beauty in the surroundings were reflected in the people we met.

It was because we had spent time in Rev. Danny's Parish that we could get a sense of the significance of some of the motions passed during the assembly. The gathering is not called a synod because APCI is not a diocese, the previous Diocese of Cariboo having gone bankrupt because of the financial impact on the diocese of the residential schools issue. However the determination of the faithful to carry on helped them to remain as church communities in the Central Interior. Their number one goal from the beginning was to put the needs of those traumatized because of residential schools first, influenced in this direction by then-Bishop Jim Cruickshank. The active involvement of the parish elders and others in the First Nations communities was evidence that this priority was put into practice. They have recognized as well that they need to move forward. Thus, one of the motions at the assembly was that they become a Territory as opposed to an Anglican diocese. In legal terms, this would pave the way for them to have a bishop as opposed to a suffragan bishop as they do now. The parish elders and others spoke strongly in favour of this motion and it was carried. They also were active in advocating for a motion on action for the environment, and were specifically concerned about the dumping of BioSolids in and around some of the Parishes of the Central Interior. This and other motions were also carried.

We were further honoured as guests when Bishop Barbara presented a hand-carved bear which did a somersault and landed on its feet when pushed from behind. Bishop Barbara pointed out that this is a metaphor for APCI – when pushed from behind, the parishes and

people of the Central Interior land on their feet. We also, as representatives of our diocese, had the opportunity to present Bishop Barbara with gifts from the Diocese of Montreal, mainly maple syrup, the making of which was taught to us settlers by the ingenuity of the First Nations people.

The closing shared meal on Saturday and the Eucharist on Sunday at the Robson Valley Shared Ministry, in Valemount, was further evidence of the fellowship valued and nurtured in APCI. Throughout our time in the Anglican Province of the Central Interior, there was a strong impression that we needed to truly help the people of the Diocese of Montreal understand the beauty and uniqueness of APCI and the

importance of this companion relationship. We need to hold each other up in prayer, to understand one another in true friendship, to see the strengths and uniqueness in one another. In nurturing this companion relationship, in building a friendship, we can only learn from one another and thus grow together. We will have further chances to develop this important pairing through visits from APCI. I hope you all take the opportunity to greet them and get to know them and learn about the unique work they are doing in their hopefully-soon-to-be Territory.

The photo is of Jimmy Toodlican, an aboriginal Pastoral Elder who gave leadership on the motion to create a territory.

PARISH OF VERDUN-VILLE EMARD
PAROISSE DE VERDUN-VILLE EMARD
CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
EGLISE DE L'EPIPHANIE

Annual Turkey Dinner

Souper Annuel de Dinde

Saturday, November 21st 6:00pm
samedi le 21 novembre 18h

Tickets - billets: \$15⁰⁰
514-363-0825

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L'hospitalité chrétienne et défis actuels

Les défis sont nombreux de l'impact de l'accord de libre-échange, mais aussi comment vivre la foi dans un monde en constante évolution? Quelles sont les priorités actuelles pour nos communautés? Comment pouvons-nous mieux servir nos membres et nos paroisses?

Une de nos priorités est de proposer d'augmenter le nombre de services de l'hospitalité chrétienne et de nous appuyer sur nos paroisses pour offrir des services de soutien aux membres et à nos paroisses.

Avec: Martin Hebert, Président de l'Assemblée de l'Église catholique de la région de la vallée de la Sagouine et de la région de la Sagouine; Joseph Deschênes, Président de la Conférence des évêques catholiques du Québec; William Patis, Directeur général de l'Université de la Sagouine et de la région de la Sagouine.

Quand: Samedi 9 novembre 2015 de 17h à 21h (après un dîner de 18h à 19h30)

Où: Maison Hebert, 25 rue Jean-Guy, Montréal (à l'intersection de la rue Jean-Guy et de la rue Saint-Denis)

Ce rapport de l'Assemblée de l'Église catholique de la région de la Sagouine et de la région de la Sagouine est disponible sur le site web de l'Assemblée de l'Église catholique de la région de la Sagouine et de la région de la Sagouine.

Looking up and looking around

RHONDA WATERS

Although the Diocese of Montreal is, by Canadian standards, a relatively compact diocese, it is easy for clergy and laity alike to forget that we are not alone. We are, all of us, so focused on the challenges that face our own communities, the work that God has placed before us, that we don't take the time to look up and look around. We pray for our bishop, of course. We appreciate the hard work of our diocesan staff. We happily receive grant money and we pay our assessments. But, too often, that is as far as it goes. Day to day, we operate as sort of de facto congregationalists as if we are not a diocesan church united under one bishop.

And we are all weaker for it.

Last September, nearly 50 priests

and deacons of our diocese gathered at the CAMMAC centre for the annual clergy conference. Our focus this year was "Connections" and our facilitator, the Rev. Lynn Uzans, helped us connect with our new bishop, Mary; with one another; and with the mission and passion that God has entrusted to our common care.

Using an "open space" conference design, the participants identified the things they most wanted to share with their colleagues. There were numerous conversations about innovative ways to be church, conversations about how best to support one another and facilitate growth and wellness, about how to communicate effectively with those not in our pews; about how best to respond faithfully and productively to the current refugee crisis. The list goes on.

And good things came of those conversations – projects and possibilities and dreams. But most importantly, those conversations reminded us that God has given us one another for a reason.

On the last morning of the conference, Bishop Mary was invited to listen as the participants shared the ideas, questions, and insights that had arisen in their conversations. Connections were made between conversations; between the clergy and our bishop; across the differences of geography or worship style



or theological emphasis. And then, in our closing worship, we connected to the source of our hope and our strength, rejoicing in the fact that each of us and all that we do belongs, ultimately and completely, to God.

The Rev. Rhonda Waters is an associate priest at Christ Church Cathedral. The photo of a lakeside evensong service was taken by the Rev. Andy O'Donnell.

Green Church network offers training

The ecumenical Green Church network is offering one-day workshops and hour-long trainings to church staff and volunteers by appointment with parish and other groups, at the Green Church office in Laval or on DVDs.

Workshop participants will discover the riches of ecological references in the Bible and will be exposed to useful tools to help them promote environmental awareness and action in the Church.

The next training at the office at 16 St. Elzear Blvd. in Laval will be Friday, Dec. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$30, lunch included. To book a place or make other inquiries call 1-844-490-6464 (toll free) or 450-490-6464, send an email to info@greenchurch.ca or visit www.GreenChurch.ca.

Notable

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

January 2016 Courses and Programs

CPR

Christian Prayer and Reflection
Mondays 7 p.m.
Jan 11 – April 25

DivorceCare

Tuesdays 7 p.m.
Jan 12 – April 5

Boundaries

Tuesdays 7 p.m.
April 12 – May 31

Messy Church

Once a month every fourth
Wednesday 5 p.m.

Amplified Youth Group

Fridays 7 p.m.

For information about these programs please contact our office at

514-457-6934

office@stg.church

Check out our courses, events and worship gatherings on www.stgeorgesanglicanchurch.org

Notable

Associates and Friends SSJD Advent Quiet Day

Reserve the Date

November 28, 2015

Led by Rev Shirley Smith

at

St Stephen's Lachine
25 – 12th Ave

Registration at 9:30am

Details to follow

Notable

Fund-Raising Concert St Matthias' Church

131 Côte-St-Antoine Road
(corner of Metcalfe Ave.)

Sunday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.

St. Matthias' Choir,
directed by John Wiens,
with special guests
Ariadne Ensemble

St. Matthias' Anglican Church is embarking in a year-long Capital Campaign, kicking off with a concert on November 1 at 7 p.m. in the church, in collaboration with special guests Ariadne Ensemble and director Chad Heltzel. A reception will follow the concert.

The choir and ensemble will perform Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*, as well as the *Triptych for Strings and Choir* by Tarik O'Reagan and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Ave Verum*.

Freewill offerings will go towards the Capital Campaign, raising funds for major and much needed repairs.

A chamber orchestra dedicated to the performance of contemporary and classical music, the Ariadne Ensemble was founded last fall by pianist and conductor Chad Heltzel, bassoonist Alec Richardson and percussionist Catherine Varvaro.

CHARLES GODDARD

Among many other things, Charles Goddard is an active lay reader.

Five years ago I was caring for my wife, Shirley, who had a condition in which the cells in her brain deteriorated rapidly. This was a condition for which there was no cure. Sadly, I was not at her side when she died. I was in the hospital with, what the doctor called a mini stroke and exhaustion. Shirley's funeral was put off for two weeks while I recovered.

During my first week in hospital, the doctor came to me and said, "Mr. Goddard, you have a problem. Your kidneys are in bad shape and

you will have to go on dialysis."

My response to him was "Dialysis is not for me! I will stay on the pills. When the good Lord is ready for me, I am ready to go."

In addition to the kidney problem, I have diabetes. I monitor my blood sugar faithfully and I take care with my food choices. I went to Barbados for several months to rest and regain my strength. Over time I changed my diet, and I began to feel better.

I will share with you what I am doing. I eat no canned products, and no sodas, no beef, no juice from cans or plastic bottles, and no alcohol. I have fresh orange juice every morning before a breakfast of one boiled egg with spinach. I also have Source-brand yogurt, and one slice of rye bread toast with butter (never margarine). I have either a cup of tea, or I drink the left-over spinach water. For lunch I eat any kind of fish with hash potatoes. Dinner consists of



chicken or fish with rice, fresh vegetables, a salad and another Source yogurt. By following this simple meal plan I have kept my diabetes under control and reversed the kidney problem. Today the doctors are surprised that I have regained the effectiveness of my kidneys.

Last year I had another health setback. Shortness of breath and light-headedness kept me from following my regular routine. After several tests it was confirmed that I had blocked arteries. I was very fortunate as the heart specialist was able to install stents to open the arteries. I credit my recuperation from this procedure to my healthy eating habits.

I am no longer a candidate for dialysis! Thanks be to God!

(Editor's note: Those who have seen Charles in recent weeks have commented on how well he is looking. Well done Charles!)

Notable

2015 Lay Reader Study Day and Commissioning Service

Sat., Nov. 21, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Church of St. John the Baptist, Pointe Claire, 233 Ste. Claire Ave.

Speaker and Study Day Leader:

The Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Director of Faith, Worship, and Ministry for the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada

Topic: Living into God's Life: personal prayer and community worship. The design and development of liturgy that engages in God's Mission.

A Day of Reflection and Learning for Lay Readers

A fee of \$35 covers all refreshment breaks, lunch and materials.

At 4 p.m.: Commissioning Service and Evening Prayer with Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson. followed by a reception for all family and friends.

Our speaker, Eileen Scully, currently serves as Director of Faith, Worship, and Ministry for the Anglican Church of Canada. She spent her twenties studying theology in an ecumenical context, her thirties in pastoral studies with Lutherans, and her forties engaging questions of Anglican identity. She and her husband Eric are parents of young adult sons and support artists by running a music recording studio. She is passionate about engaging the connections between prayer and work, leadership and discipleship, worship and mission.

In August, 2015, Eileen co-ordinated an international liturgical conference in Montreal. Her recent experience with liturgical experts from around the world will provide her with new insights to share with us.

A growing partnership



The Rev. Wendy Telfer, Warden of Lay Readers of the Diocese of Quebec, met twice this summer with several members of the executive of the Lay Readers Association of the Diocese of Montreal. Lay readers in the two dioceses are working together to provide continuing education to the lay readers of both dioceses and in particular are exploring ways of making programs accessible to people in more outlying regions. In the photo, Ms Telfer, left poses with the Rev. Lorne Eason, chaplain to the Lay Reader Association of the Diocese of Montreal and pastor of the host church of the upcoming, and Susan Winn of the Lay Readers Association of the Diocese of Montreal. Mr. Eason's parish, St. John the Baptist Pointe Claire, will be host church of the Montreal lay readers' study day Saturday, Nov. 21.

Books

Retrieving ‘a sustainable faith for our time and place’

James Carroll, *Christ Actually: The Son of God for the Secular Age*. Viking Penguin, 2014. 352 pages.

REVIEWED BY WILLIAM CONVERSE

James Carroll is a former Roman Catholic priest, author of 11 novels and seven works of nonfiction, including *Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews: A History* (2001) and *Jerusalem, Jerusalem: How an Ancient City Ignited our Modern World* (2011).

In *Christ Actually*, Carroll reprises themes from his earlier books, but here his aim is broader: namely, the “retrieval of a sustainable faith for our time and place.” Pivotal to this task is his recognition that Jesus Christ was Jewish. Carroll recounts his intellectual and spiritual development growing up in an Irish American Catholic family on a U.S. Airbase in Germany, where his father was an Air Force general. *Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl* and Elie Wiesel’s *Night* eventually forced him to acknowledge that Jesus was a Jew and that his God was the God of the Jews: “That was his Abba, the God of Love who – this must be emphasized – always was and always will be neither an ‘Old Testament God’ nor a ‘New Testament God,’ but the God of the Jews, pure and simple.” Moreover, for Jesus, “the Scriptures” were the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament!

Carroll repeatedly asks himself the question, Why does Jesus continue to influence me? He finds the answer reading the New Testament through the lenses of modern biblical scholarship and theological reflection. If the Jewish War (66-73 CE) was the metanarrative of the Gospels, the Second World War was the larger narrative of the Holocaust. The destruction of the Jerusalem Temple in 70 CE eventually led to the parting of the ways between the nascent Christian movement and what later came to be Rabbinic Judaism. Our Gospels, composed after 70 CE, reflect the growing antagonism between the two groups.

Carroll draws on the massive scholarship of John P. Meier, *A Marginal Jew: Rethinking the Historical Jesus* (1991-2009); Raymond Brown, *The Death of the Messiah* (1994) and John Dominic Crossan, *Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography* (1994). He acknowledges “a large debt” to Elaine Pagels and to the

distinguished Talmudic scholar, Daniel Boyarin whose controversial views regarding the identity of Daniel’s “Son of Man” he adopts:

“Informed by such scholarship, I am attempting an instance of faith submitted to reason, which, in this era, means doctrine rescued from all that is doctrinaire. Therefore, the beloved Creed must be criticized. Its



JAMES CARROLL

every word, the theologian Hans Küng writes, ‘must be translated into the post-Copernican, post-Kantian, indeed post-Darwinian and post-Einsteinian world, just as former generations, too had to understand the same Creed anew at decisive shifts of historical epochs.’ History shapes faith, which might seem the most banal of observations, yet in a tradition that long ago set itself against history, it is revolutionary.”

Carroll shows how the emphasis shifted from Jesus’ proclamation of the Kingdom of God to the person of Jesus himself. Once Jesus had been defined as one in being with the one God, his humanity and his Jewishness were de-emphasized. “The deep past is far more present with us than we think – not only a past that is defined by the figure of Jesus, but a past that took its shape from forces with which, despite seeming dissimilar at first, we are in fact quite familiar.”

The book’s title is from a letter Bonhoeffer wrote to his friend Eberhard Bethge, “What keeps gnawing at me is the question, What is Christianity, or who is *Christ actually* for us today?” (Author’s emphasis)

Bonhoeffer’s *Papers and Letters from Prison* and his *Ethics* thus form

the basis for Carroll’s reflections. Bonhoeffer had addressed the Jewish question in the historical context of Hitler and the Third Reich. Though he died before the War ended, he was quite capable of imagining the enormity of the Holocaust and Hiroshima. He clearly foresaw the negative consequences for conventional religion. Collins reflects, “What happens when traditional belief slams into the wall of the Holocaust? When it plunges into the abyss of Hiroshima?” Those questions draw me to Bonhoeffer and his crucial intuition that religion and Jesus Christ are not identical.”

Europe’s abysmal moral failure after 1945 to acknowledge the endemic anti-Semitism that enabled the Holocaust also called into question the underlying assumptions of the Enlightenment since Leibniz’s theodicy was unthinkable now.

Carroll quotes Elie Wiesel’s description in *Night* of the agonizing death of a Jewish youth on the gallows at Auschwitz: “For Wiesel, this moment epitomizes the death of God, an end of faith that equates, as negating revelation, with the theophany on Mount Sinai. Indeed, Auschwitz was the opposite of theophany – the manifestation of nothingness.”

If the Holocaust destroyed traditional Jewish understanding of God’s covenant with his people, it also empowered secular Zionists to establish the state of Israel in 1948.

Carroll takes up Bonhoeffer’s challenge, What is the future of Jesus in a secular age shaped by science and technology?

Bonhoeffer realized that a secular age would be “religionless.” Postwar existentialism in Europe and the “Death of God” movement in the United States in the 1960s presaged the “New Atheists” and today’s “Nones” (the religiously unaffiliated):

“In the 1960s, Bonhoeffer was posthumously conscripted into the briefly voguish Death of God movement in Britain and America, which made watchwords of his nascent notions of ‘religionless Christianity’ and ‘man come fully of age.’ Whether obsequies for ‘theological theism’ are a function of maturity is debatable, to say the least, yet Bonhoeffer’s seemed an uncanny anticipation of Europe’s postwar exodus from religion, with the resulting mass redundancy of church buildings and the muting of the voices of clergy. Today, apart from the hollow formalism of royalty-ruled churches in Britain and Scandinavia, institutional religion has entirely vacated the public realm of Europe – and, in some places, the private conscience, too. In America, the decline of mainstream religion was slower in coming, but the Death of God presented itself as a theological problem more in the United States than anywhere.”

Carroll ponders Professor Charles Taylor’s enigmatic question in *A Secular Age* (2007), Why was it virtually impossible not to believe in God in 1500, whereas in 2000 it is not only possible but almost unavoidable? Yet, as Taylor remarks, “Belief in God isn’t quite the same

thing in 1500 and 2000.”

Carroll restates in contemporary terms the question central to the Gospels, Who do you say that I am? He also explains why it still matters.

He subscribes to a “high” Christology. The ultimate paradox of Christianity is that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine. To deny this is to relegate Jesus to history, “ultimately to be forgotten.”

Carroll considers misguided the efforts of the Jesus Seminar to go “behind the texts” to find “the historical Jesus.” There is no “unmediated” Jesus:

“Yet Jesus is elusive. If he were not, he would be useless to us. An ultimate paradox lies at the heart of Christian belief: Jesus is fully human; Jesus is fully divine. Best to say frankly right here at the outset: *Jesus as God* and *Jesus as man* are the brackets within which this inquiry will unfold. It will look at Jesus, the Scriptures, and tradition in the contexts of both history and theology. It will ask how the texts about

Jesus were written at the start, how they were interpreted early on, and how they can be understood today. This means keeping in mind at least three distinct time frames – the lifetime of Jesus, the era some decades later in which the Gospels were composed, and the present Secular Age, when faith in Jesus and in the Gospels has become a problem unto itself.” (Author’s emphasis)

In the end, Carroll asks his readers to imitate Jesus. “The key to the actuality of Christ is *precisely* in the imitation of Jesus.” (Author’s emphasis) Albert Schweitzer, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Dorothy Day were three Christians whose lives imitated Christ’s. We need to follow their example.

This is a timely and thought-provoking book. There are a good index and over 50 pages of notes.

Recommended.

©William Converse

New DVD features pioneer ecumenist

The internationally-recognized pioneer of ecumenical and intercultural dialogue in Canada, the Jesuit priest Irénée Beaubien, founder of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, has spent his life building bridges between people who would otherwise be separated, says Adriana Bara, his current successor as executive director of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism. “Today, this work may be more than ever necessary in our society. The centre invites everyone to draw inspiration from his unusual journey and rich experience by watching a new DVD produced by the centre. In the course of a two-hour conversation, in French, with Dr. Bara, Father Beaubien recounts the history of the ecumenical movement in Quebec, Canada and internationally, as well as the creation of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism. “More than



simply informative, it is a moving encounter with a man of faith, who leaves young people a legacy of leadership, dedication and love,” Dr. Bara says. For details call 514-937-9176.

PARISH OF VERDUN-VILLE EMARD
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Remembrance Day Jour de la Souvenir

Join us to honour those who served and those who died in combat
Joignez-vous à nous pour rendre hommage à ceux qui ont servi et ceux qui sont morts au combat



**Sunday, November 8th ~ 10:00am
dimanche le 8 décembre ~ 10h**

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Christmas Bazaar Bazar de Noël



**Friday, November 6th: 1:00pm – 5:00pm
vendredi le 6 novembre: 13h à 17h**

**Saturday, November 7th: 9:00am – 2:00pm
samedi le 7 novembre: 9h à 14h**

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After 12 years, flowers bloom again



SANDRA FORTIER

After a 12-year hiatus the renaissance of the Stanbridge East Flower show held on August 15 at St James the Apostle Anglican Church was a roaring success. The event was attended by approximately 150 people. There were 12 exhibitors that entered in 33 classes. There were also 10 classes for children. Alikra Crandall won the Debbie Rhicard Memorial Trophy for Best of Show in the

children's category.

The floral exhibits were arranged in the church itself. The Victorian Gothic Revival style of the church created a beautiful backdrop for the exceptional beauty of the flowers.

Tea, sandwiches and fancy cakes and squares was served under the big top, on a beautiful sunny day.

If you were unable to attend this year put it on your calendar for early August of next year.

Notable

OASIS MUSICALE

Concerts at Christ Church Cathedral

Saturday afternoons at 4:30 p.m.

November, 2015 – Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT!

Friday, November 6, 7:30 p.m.

Christ Church Cathedral, 635 Ste-Catherine St. West, Montreal

514-843-6577

Tickets: \$15-35

Choir of Christ Church Cathedral

Patrick Wedd, conductor, organ

Annual fundraising concert

Splendeurs de la tradition anglaise:

A pilgrimage through five centuries of English choral music

Perspice Christicola; Sanctus/Benedictus

Tallis: Lamentations of Jeremiah

Byrd: Mass for Five voices

Tomkins: When David Heard

Gibbons: O Clap your Hands

Vaughan Williams: Lord, Thou has been our Refuge; Psalm 23

Stanford: The 23rd Psalm

Howells: Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis "Collegium Regale"

Taverner: The Lord's Prayer

Dove: Ecce beatam Lucem, Run Shepherds, Run

Saturday, November 7

A concert for Remembrance

Adleisia

Directors, Amelia McMahon and Virginie Pacheco

For repertoire information, please consult:

www.facebook.com/events/1642178616025467/

Saturday, November 14

From Beethoven to Bartok – a violin, cello and piano recital of the three B's

Kainé Newton, violin – Ian Gibbons, cello – Viktor Lazarov, piano

L. van Beethoven – cello sonata in A major no. 3 op.69 – Ian Gibbons (pianist TBD)

J. Brahms – op. 117, piano solo – Viktor Lazarov

Bartok – solo violin sonata Sz 117, BB 124 – Kaine Newton

Saturday, November 21st, 2015

A European Voyage/ Un voyage européen

Alison Kilgannon, piano

Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924): Préludes, Op.103

Béla Bartók (1881 – 1945): Piano Sonata Sz.80

Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856): Piano Sonata No.1 in F-sharp Minor, Op.11

Saturday, November 28

A Diary of the Sea/ Un journal de la mer

Tomoko Inui, piano

Scriabin: Sonata No.2 in g# minor Op.19 "Sonate-Fantasia"

Miyoshi: A Diary of the Sea

Messiaen: I'le de feu I

Beethoven: Sonata No. 23 in f minor Op 57 "Appassionata"

Constantinescu: Toccata

Canada briefs

Rebuilt after blaze, historic N.B. church opens its doors

Less than a year after being ravaged by fire, Edmundston, N.B.'s oldest church, reopened with a dedication service on August 30.

Within two weeks in fall 2014, the church of St. John the Baptist and its nearby church hall were severely damaged by fire. Both were victims of arson, committed possibly by the same person. The 140-year-old church's roof and interior were destroyed, and virtually nothing from the inside could be salvaged.

"We lost everything in the fire – all our records, our vestments and holy vessels," said the church's deacon, the Rev. Fran Bedell.

Its foundation and walls, however, still stood.

"The walls survived," the diocesan bishop of Fredericton, David Edwards, told the congregation during the dedication. "This was God's grace, his intention to say, 'God's word is to be proclaimed in this place!'"

The same church building is also home to St. Paul's United Church. Over the following year, St. Paul's leadership committee met in the basement of a parishioner, planning the new church. They decided that the new building would keep the 19th-century appearance of its predecessor, and that as much of the reconstruction work as possible would be done by local people.

The rebuilt church occupies the same space as the old building, using the same walls and foundation. Its interior has been substantially redone, with a new meeting room behind the altar and seats instead of pews.

The New Brunswick Anglican

In Ontario's 'Chemical Valley,' hundreds march against pollution

An estimated 500 people, including representatives from Anglican, United Church, Mennonite and Roman Catholic congregations, took part in a march to raise awareness of environmental issues near Sarnia, Ont., September 5.

Dubbed the "Toxic Tour" by its organizers, the protest involved a walk through Canada's "Chemical Valley" – which is home to 40% of Ontario's petrochemical industry. Chemical Valley also abuts Aamjiwnaang First Nation Reserve, and the Toxic Tour was spearheaded by youth of the reserve.

According to one organizer, Lindsay Beze Gray, residents of the reserve consider chemical spills and warning sirens part of everyday life: children have been

sent home from daycares with rashes and burning eyes, and people frequently die from rare forms of cancer.

"We have a very big crisis. We have a very big change to make," Aamjiwnaang resident Kelly Kiyoshk told participants. "I don't know what's going to happen [to] these kids if we don't."

"We not only have to learn to stand up, we have to learn to be kind to each other, to share with each other. That's what the Creator gave us."

Activists are also planning tests of the soil and water in the area and working to oppose plans by energy company Enbridge Inc. to carry diluted bitumen from the tar sands through its Line 9, which runs through the area.

Last February, a group from the reserve launched a lawsuit against Shell Canada over a 2013 chemical spill involving toxins the reserve alleged made local children sick and potentially caused other long-term health problems.

The Anglican

Thousands attend fundraiser for Nepean food bank

Nearly 3,500 people took part in the inaugural "West End Food Truck Rally" in Nepean, Ont., this summer, to raise awareness and money for a local food bank.

The rally, which featured food from 10 local food trucks, was in support of Family Service Association of Churches (FAMSAC), an emergency food assistance program that services West Nepean. Participating food trucks donated 15% of the proceeds of their sales from the rally to FAMSAC.

"I wanted to help a local food bank, since it's easy to forget that not everyone has the luxury to go to bed on a full stomach each night," said Sifa Kalinda, a food truck owner.

Participants were also encouraged to bring one non-perishable food item to donate to FAMSAC. By the end of the day, event volunteers had collected and delivered about 4,000 food items to FAMSAC, and organizers passed on to the food bank nearly \$6,000 in donations given by the food truck owners, a local community association and members of the public.

FAMSAC, which originated in 1969, now supports up to 80 families per month. Since a flood earlier this year at its permanent location at St. Martin de Porres, a Nepean Catholic church, FAMSAC has been renting storage space at a nearby strip mall. To stay in this temporary space, the food bank has had to divert almost its entire monthly operating budget from food purchases to rent payments.

Crosstalk

Notable

Goodman Cancer Research Centre

Public Forum

Breathing New Life into Lung Cancer Treatments

Un nouveau souffle dans le traitement du cancer de poumon

**Wednesday, Nov. 4
Le mercredi 4 novembre**

**Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.
18 h 30-20 h 30**

Featuring/au programme:
Drs. Nicole Beauchemin,
Jason Agulnik, Victor Cohen,
Sidong Huang

Registration/Inscrivez-vous à:
www.alumni.mcgill.ca/events/GCRCpublicforum

Contact: 514-398-4970

Free of charge and open to the public. Gratuit et ouvert à tous.

Notable

The Council on Palliative Care

presents

Upcoming 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

Tuesday November 3rd 2015, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Last Chapter in the Book of Life

Joan Foster BN – Zelda Freitas SW

Tuesday November 10th, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

"Death Makes Life Possible"

discussion following the film with Sue Britton RN

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, 13

Free of charge. Registration not required.

For further information, please contact:

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

Sales & Events

Epiphany Verdun
4322 Wellington St.
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Fri., Nov. 6, 1-5 p.m., Sat.,
Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Information 514-769-5373,
epiphany.verdun@gmail.com,
www.epiphanyverdun.com/
facebook.com/epiphany/Verdun

All Saints Deux Montagnes
128 - 18th Avenue
TWELFTH ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR
Fri., Nov. 6, 6-9 p.m. and Sat.,
Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
In the church hall. Table rentals \$30;
please contact Adele, 450-491-6279.
Info: 450-473-9541, info@allsaints-
deuxmontagnes.ca, www.allsaints-
deuxmontagnes.ca

St. Thomas N.D.G.
6897 Somerled Ave.
FALL FAIR
Sat., Nov. 7, 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Home baking, preserves and pickles,
crafts, knitting, antiques and more.
Also, gently used books, jewellery,
winter clothing. Lunch, \$8. A warm
welcome to all. Info: 514-484-2750.

Trinity Memorial Church
5220 Sherbrooke St. West
EARLY BIRD CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat., Nov. 7, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Unique gifts ideas for everyone on
your list. Speciality vendors: jams,
scones and apple butters, soaps,
knitted hats and scarves, greeting
cards, children books. Bake table,
West Indian treats. Proceeds to
benefit Trinity Memorial Church.
Information: 514-484-3102

St. Francis of the Birds St. Sauveur
94 rue St. Denis
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat., Nov. 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Hidden treasures, baked goods and
frozen foods. Lunch \$8. Information:
450-227-2180.

St. Paul's Greenfield Park
321 Empire St.
COUNTRY CHRISTMAS SALE
Sat., Nov. 7, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Browse through many stalls for that
special Christmas gift for that special
someone. There will lots of craft
items, knitted goods, 18-inch doll
clothes, decorations, nearly-new
items, jams, preserves, baked goods,
candy, raffles, door prizes and more.
Enjoy a hot lunch from the Country
Kitchen. Info: 450-671-6000 or 450-
678-2460.

St. Barnabas Pierrefonds
12301 Colin St.
FALL FAIR 2015
Sat., Nov. 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Coffee/Tea: 9:30 a.m., lunch 11:30
a.m. Something for everyone. All
welcome to attend. Information:
514-684-4460

St. Stephen's with St. James, Chambly
Randell Hall, 2000 de Bourgogne St.
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND AUCTION
Sat., Nov. 14, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Craft tables with beautiful handmade
items, bake tables with delicious
homemade baking, a make-an-offer
table, an auction that begins at noon.
Raffle for a handmade quilt. Our
kitchen offers lunch as well. Bring
family & friends and enjoy the start
of the festive season. Info: Eileen
Agley 450-658-1027 or 450-658-5882.

St. Philip's Montreal West
Memorial Hall, 7505 Sherbrooke St. W.
(Bus #105 or #162 to Elmhurst terminus)
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat., Nov. 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Raffles, St. Philip's' famous home-
made baking, scrumptious candy
and fudge, and sweet jellies and
jams, hand-knitted sweaters and
scarves, linens, one-of-a-kind an-
tiques, furniture, books, elegant
jewellery, videos/CD's/puzzles and
many other items. Soup-and-sand-
wich lunch prepared and served by
the men of the parish. Info: (514)
481-4871 or office@stphilipschurch-
montreal.ca

St. Michael and All Angels Pierrefonds
5556 Cabot St.
ST. MIKE'S CHRISTMAS EMPORIUM
Sat. Nov. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
A variety of vendor tables, crafts,
bake table, "jarbola," luncheon,
more. Info: Helen Morris, 514-696-
4257.

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

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND LUNCH
Saturday, November 14, 2015. 10
a.m. - 2 p.m.
Home baking, books, knitted items,
linens, collectibles, home furnish-
ings, jams and preserves, jewelry,
candy, attic treasures, potpourri,
CDs, games and tapes. Free coffee,
friendly smiles and much more.
Delicious lunch served 11:15 a.m.-
1.30 p.m.

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. 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Christmas treats, frozen foods, attic
treasures, jewellery, books and gifts.
Hot lunch served 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

St. Simeon's Lachute
445 rue Principale
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat., Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Home baking and treasures and lots
more! Tea, coffee, sandwiches and
squares will be served. Welcome
everyone!

Church of the Resurrection
Pointe Claire
99 Mount Pleasant Ave.
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Fri., Nov. 20, 7-9 p.m., Sat., Nov
21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Attic treasures, books, home baking,
crafts, jewellery, Xmas gift shoppe,
work basket, school supplies. Lunch
room Saturday from 11:30 a.m.

St. George's Place du Canada
1101 Stanley S. (Windsor Station)
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE & TURKEY DINNER
Sat., Nov. 21. Sale 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Dinner 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Turkey dinner \$12 a person. Sale will
have: Christmas crafts - home
baking goods, Christmas puddings,
book selection, treasures The bou-
tique on the lower level will also be
open 11a.m.- 3 p.m. for your brows-
ing and shopping pleasure. This is
the day of Santa's Parade so come in
for the turkey dinner. 514-866-7113

Trinity Morin Heights
Bazaar at the United Church Hall,
631 Chemin du Village
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat. Nov. 21, noon-2 p.m.
Admission \$8. Bake and gift table,
lucky draw, everyone welcome.
Information: 450-226-3845. (This is
the new church phone number.)

Epiphany Verdun
4322 Wellington St.
TURKEY DINNER
Sat. Nov. 21, 6 p.m.
Tickets \$15, 514-363-0825. Info: 514-
769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.
com, www.epiphanyverdun.com/
facebook.com/epiphany/verdun

ST. JAMES' HUDSON
640 Main Road
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat. Nov. 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Handmade wreaths and sprays,
Christmas Boutique, Bake Table,
Attic Treasures, Tea Room and more.
Info: 450-458-2705

St. James the Apostle
1439 St. Catherine St. W. (Corner of
Bishop St., Guy-Concordia Métro)
CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE, BAZAAR & LUNCHEON
Sat., Nov. 28, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Baked goods, cookies, bars, loaves,
jams, jellies and frozen dinners,
White Elephant table, knickknacks,
household items, men's and women's
clothing, books, handmade cards
and ornaments. Luncheon served at
noon: turkey dinner \$10. Info: Lorna
Titterton 514-485-7951, Glenda
Pietrantonio 514-366-6674, Nancy
Rassy 450-659-9876, office: 514-849-
7577.

Christ Church Rawdon
Christmas Bazaar
Rawdon Parish Hall,
3569 Metcalfe St.
Sat., Dec. 5, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Lunch \$10

St. Stephen's with St. James, Chambly
Randell Hall, 2000 de Bourgogne St.
PARISH CHRISTMAS SUPPER
Sun., Dec. 6, 6 p.m.
Info: Eileen Agley at 450-658-1027.

Spiritual Calendar

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

PAWS & PRAY
Christ Church Beaufort, 455 Church St., Beaconsfield
The next Paws & Pray service will take place on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 1 p.m. Paws & Pray features a worship service of the Holy Eucharist where canine companions and their guardians are always welcome. This program is offered in collaboration with the Companion Animal Adoption Centers of Quebec, a non-profit organization dedicated to animal welfare. The following service will be December 6. Information: 514-697-2204 or christchurch@ac.aibn.com.

Fund-Raising Concert
St Matthias' Church
131 Côte-St-Antoine Road (corner of Metcalfe Ave.)
Sun., Nov. 1 at 7 p.m.
St. Matthias' Choir, directed by John Wiens, with special guests Ariadne Ensemble. Freewill offering

CHRISTIAN PRAYER & REFLECTION
St. George's Church
23 Perrault Ave., Ste. Anne de Bellevue
Monday nights, 7 p.m.
A time of reflection, sharing, praying and meditating together while we draw closer to God. The only way to deepen spiritually is to deepen spiritually, that is, to practice the spiritual disciplines which sustain and nurture faith.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
St. James Rosemere
328 Pine St.
Sun. Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.
Special guests: The Aeternal Ministries. The Aeternal Ministries are beginning their 18th year and are dedicated to the mission of Christian Unity. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service. Information: 450-621-6466 or www.stjamesrosemere.ca.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
Epiphany Verdun
4322 Wellington St.
Sun., Nov. 8, 10 a.m.
Join the Epiphany congregation to honour those who served and those who died in combat. Info: 514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com/ facebook.com/epiphany/verdun

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS OUTREACH
St. Paul's Greenfield Park
321 Empire St.
Sat., Nov. 28, 10 a.m.-noon.
Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of a Special Baby Boy, Jesus, while enjoying such activities as face-painting, cookie-making, crafts, stories, games, treats and songs. For children 2 and older. Parents are invited to stay. Bring a friend. Info: 450-671-6000 or 450-678-2460.

ADVENT CAROL WINE & CHEESE EVENING
St. Paul's Greenfield Park
321 Empire St.
Sat., Nov. 28, 6 p.m.
Carols, spiritual readings, poems and great fellowship with a glass of wine and some treats. Info: 450-671-6000.

INTANDEM: A DROP OF WATER
Loyola Chapel of Concordia University
7141 Sherbrooke St. W. N.D.G. district (Bus #105 from the Vendôme Métro station or #162 from Villa Maria)
Saturday, Nov. 28, at 7:30 p.m.
Zerf Productions, which sponsors humanitarian projects, especially in Africa, will present a program of Christmas, classical, gospel and dance music. The Vidiunna Choir, conducted by Ivan Gutych, will be part of the program. Admission is a non-perishable food item for the N.D.G. Food Band and goodwill offering for Zerf's well-drilling project at Kikuhe Orphanage in Tanzania. Info: 514-486-0924 or www.zerfchallenge2020.com.



ALL SAINTS
JAZZ MASS
Sunday / dimanche
le 1 novembre / November 1
St. CHL
6341, de Lorimier (bw Bellechasse & Beaubien)

Around the parishes

St Matthias' kicks off capital campaign with concert Nov. 1

St. Matthias' Church in Westmount is embarking in a year-long capital campaign, kicking off with a concert on Sunday, Nov. 1.

It will feature the St. Matthias' Choir directed by John Wiens as well as special guests, the Ariadne Ensemble and director Chad Heltzel.



John Wiens

A reception will follow the concert, which will include Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*, and works by Tarik O'Reagan and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Freewill offerings will go towards the Capital Campaign, raising funds for major and much needed repairs for St. Matthias Anglican Church building. More on the Capital Campaign will be announced at a later date.

Epiphany welcomes back Brian Perron

JIM SHEPHERD

On Sunday, Oct. 4, the Rector's Warden of the Church of the Epiphany, Verdun, Wendy McCullough, read a letter from the Right Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, our new bishop, stating that she has appointed the Rev. Brian Perron as Incumbent of the Church of the Epiphany, effective Sunday, Oct. 18. Brian did his "Year in Ministry" just before ordination in 2012 at Church of the Epiphany under the guidance of the Rev. Patrick Wheeler. After his ordination to the diaconate he was assigned to St. Peter's in the Town of Mount Royal.

During his time at Church of the Epiphany, he was warmly accepted by the congregation and he and his wife Joyce felt the warm welcome. Their appreciation was evident from the fact that they made it a point to always attend the suppers, provided their schedule would allow it.

On October 11, Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday, our Interim Priest,

the Rev. Francie Keats, celebrated her last service ending five months of a wonderful ministry. She started with a move from Baie St. Paul which include travelling a few days aboard the ferry, Bella DesGagnes, and then driving from Rimouski. Once she settled in at the rectory of the former St. Columba Church, she blended in with the deacons and parishioners, as if she had been with us for years. We thank her for caring and compassion and wish her all the best.

Jim Shepherd is active at the Church of the Epiphany.

Josée Lemoine now at St. George's

The Rev. Josée Lemoine, ordained as a deacon in May, is now serving as an assistant curate at St. George's Place du Canada in downtown Montreal after a brief stint at the Parish of St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke in the Rosemont district. She notes in the St. George's newsletter that she worked in the legal field for about 20 years and was a Lutheran for most of her adult life. She was received into the Anglican Church by Bishop

Barry Clarke in 2011. She was active at Christ Church Cathedral and served at the Church of the Epiphany in Verdun in her in-ministry placement at the end of her studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

Downtown church seeks verger

St. George's Place du Canada in downtown Montreal is seeking a new head verger to succeed John Cavacece, who accepted a post as head verger of Christ Church Cathedral. The new holder of the full-time job will care for the physical plant "and be a welcoming presence to all who come through our doors." Responsibilities include keeping buildings and grounds clean and in good order, supervising the building for meetings and rentals and dealing with heating, plumbing, security and electrical systems. Spoken and written French and English required.

Historic church sold in Townships

The Diocese of Montreal has sold St. Patrick's Church to the municipality of Bolton East in the Eastern Townships for \$1. The parish was established in 1869 and the neo-gothic-style church was built in 1874 and consecrated in 1882. A municipal website says: "The exterior still has

its original vertical battened wood siding with bright green trim. The entry tower has a shuttered belfry but no steeple, and is framed by the steep roof of the church... The original organ purchased in 1889 has been modernized. The church had been repaired through the years without any important changes."

Worship services continued until recently, at a reduced frequency.

Eason inducted at St. John the Baptist...

The service of induction for the Rev. Lorne Eason as the incumbent of St. John the Baptist, Pointe Claire, took place Sunday, Oct 25, (barring any changes unforeseen at press time.

...and Mackison at St. George's Place du Canada

The Reverend Steven Mackison will be inducted as the incumbent of St. George's Church, Place du Canada, in downtown Montreal on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 4 p.m.

Duckett on paternity leave

The Rev. James Duckett, assistant curate at St. George's, St. Anne de Bellevue, began a paternity leave in September, to last to approximately the end of November. Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson congratulated James and Sacha on the birth of their first child, a daughter named Eleanor.

A South Shore mystery



The Rev. Eileen Steele found this two-foot model of St. Stephen's Church in Chambly, which she serves, outside the church door late this summer. Despite a month of inquiries, the Rev. Eileen, who is also regional dean of the South Shore, has no idea who made it or brought it.

Culture at the Cathedral



The participation by Christ Church Cathedral in a downtown Montreal festival called Les Journées de la culture at the end of September "was a glorious extended celebration" in the view of one of those involved. An official visitor from the organizers of the Journées stayed most of a day, perused the archives and other displays, attended a sketching workshop and stayed for a music-from-the-movies concert and a horn quartet afterwards. "She was clearly very impressed, as I think most of

our visitors were. We had over 2,500 visitors on Friday and Saturday and more visitors than usual on Sunday, but we didn't count them. The various concerts were particularly impressive, varied, interesting and of a very high standard, featuring mainly musicians who are part of this talented community. Evensong was magnificent, as was the cream tea on the forecourt with homemade scones and homemade jam." (See the photo which is from the Cathedral Facebook page.)

A painting for Bishop Barry



On April 26, the Right Reverend Barry B. Clarke was at St James Anglican in Bedford for a service of confirmation. Seven candidates were from the new Regional Ministry of Bedford-Stanbridge-East. As well, one new member was received into the Anglican Church and one had her first communion. The confirmation-preparation class also included Jessie Salois, who was co-prepared for his confirmation in June in the United Church.

During the reception following

the service, Bishop Barry was presented with a painting done by Sandra Fortier in appreciation of his ministry. The candidates for confirmation were Jasmine Boomhower, Lorraine Domingue, Paula Maundcote, Elizabeth Rose Osborne O'Donnell, William (Billy) Shonfield, Nathaniel Shonfield and Charlie Tinker. Nancy Coderre was received into the Anglican Church and Tamara Boomhower received her first Communion.

St. Thomas' Rougemont marks anniversary, Ancestors Day

MARION STANDISH

About 75 friends, families and former parishioners gathered at Rougemont on Sept. 12, to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of St. Thomas' church. The celebration started at 11 a.m. with a church service, led by the Rev. Richard Gauthier. The Rev. William (Terry) Blizzard preached the sermon, reminding people to go out from this service and spread the faith that inspired our ancestors so many years ago. The Rev. Tim Smart of the Granby Regional Ministry also attended the service.

This celebration was also the

second edition of Ancestor's Day, a day to honour friends in the adjoining cemetery. Each headstone was decorated with a fresh flower. Pots of flowers decorated the entrance. It was remarked that the cemetery looked like a "happy place." Descendants of three of the founding families were present: the Standish, Carden and Bachelder families.

A committee headed by Matthew Standish organized the events: a cemetery treasure search, a slide show of former residents and past events, a time-capsule to be opened in 25 years and, of course, a delicious lunch. A souvenir Christmas tree ornament was given to each person

in attendance; a deep-blue ball with a picture of the church and the inscription "1840-2105, 175th Anniversary." We were honoured to have two musicians from Montreal: Susan Palmer, an acclaimed harpsichord and baroque music performer and Linda Morrison, one of Canada's best known multifaceted singer songwriters.

Many volunteer hours went into the preparations for this event: clean-up in the cemetery and church, preparing the flowers, organizing the activities. Thank you to all and to those who attended.

