



ANGLICAN MONTREAL



Conference SYNOD 2015 Yes! God is with us. Stronger together.

“Partnerships enrich our diocesan life and make a difference in the lives of those around us,” says the Synod planning committee. “Synod 2015 will bring the Diocese together – clergy and laity, delegates and non-delegates – as one community for the first time in three years. The Synod planning committee has designed a rich and varied agenda that we hope will expose you to fresh liturgy and learning; opportunities to discover practical approaches to building and strengthening your partnerships; provoke questions and lively discussion and inspire ministry action. We hope you’ll be able to make time to join us for conference Synod 2015; if not, then we hope you will participate in one or more events over the two days.” See Pages 14 and 15.



POPE FRANCIS

The Pope’s encyclical on the environment, issued this summer, begins, “*LAUDATO SI, mi’ Signore – ‘Praise be to you, my Lord.’*” In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.” See highlights from the encyclical on Pages 22 and 23 and book reviewer Colin Macgregor’s take on it on Page 24.

(Photo: Korean Culture and Information Service, Jeon Han)

September 2015 • A section of the *Anglican Journal*

Official Publication of the Diocese of Montreal

First woman bishop says Montreal ‘always in my heart’

Metropolitan of eastern Canada to consecrate new bishop Sept. 29

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Anglicans in the Diocese of Montreal can expect to have their first woman bishop in the 165-year history of the diocese on the evening of the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels, Tuesday, September 29.

The service of consecration and installation of Bishop-Elect Mary Irwin-Gibson, dean and rector of St. George’s Cathedral in Kingston since 2009, as the 12th Bishop of Montreal will get under way at 7 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral.

As the Metropolitan of the venerable Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made up of seven dioceses in Atlantic Canada and Quebec, the Most Rev. Percy Coffin, archbishop of Western Newfoundland, will preside at the consecration. The Primate of Canada, Most Rev. Fred Hiltz and a number of other bishops from eastern Canada and other parts of the country are expected, as well

as ecumenical guests from other churches and other dignitaries.

The bishop-elect, a Montrealer who served as rector of Holy Trinity Church in the resort community of Ste. Agathe des Monts, in the Laurentians, between 1991 and her move to Kingston in 2009, told delegates just after her election was announced that, “Montreal has always been in my heart.”

Just over 80 clergy and 60 lay voters voted separately and a majority in both “houses” was needed for election. Four ballots were required.

Among clergy voters, the Rev. Karen Egan, director of pastoral studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, was a fairly close runner up to Dean Irwin-Gibson in all four ballots: The dean led Dr. Egan 21-15, 21-17, 29-26 and 32-27 in the four ballots. Among lay delegates the dean’s lead was unequivocal, she had 28 votes on the first ballot, more than double



Bishop-elect Mary Irwin-Gibson speaks to delegates to the electoral synod after her election. She urged them to join her in putting their trust in the Holy Spirit. “I am calling you to pray for our diocese. “The Lord does with us what he wants to do with us. Let us lay our lives before God in a spirit of dedication and love.”

(Photo: Tony Hadley)

anyone else. She led Dr. Egan 28-12, 37-18, 57-23 and 55-26 in the four lay ballots.

The fourth ballot was required because of five spoiled ballots by clergy on the third ballot, apparently votes for candidates who had withdrawn. The diocesan chancellor, David Eramian, chairman of the electoral synod, ruled that these ballots meant that the 29 clergy votes Dean Irwin-Gibson received fell just short of what she needed for a majority.

The bishop of Quebec, the Right Rev. Dennis Drainville, who had announced he was running in order to promote the merger of the Dioceses of Quebec and Montreal for more effective ministry, withdrew after the second ballot. He got nine clergy votes in the first and second ballots, 13 lay votes in the first ballot and 10 in the second.

Montreal Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray had eight clergy votes in the first ballot and five in the second and

12 lay votes in each of the first two lay ballots. He withdrew after the second ballot, as did the Rev. Patricia Kirkpatrick of the McGill University faculty of religious studies and the Rev. Canon Joyce Sanchez of Trinity Memorial Church, who had not submitted nominations in advance but let their names stand as the synod began and received some votes.

For more information on the bishop-elect, see Pages 4 and 5.



‘You have been my teacher as I have been yours’



Bishop Barry Clarke spoke to a congregation at Christ Church Cathedral for the last time at a celebration of his 11-year service as bishop in the form of a service of evensong on August 8. He told a congregation of close to 350: “People of God, you called me to serve in this diocese and now God has seen fit to lead me to another stage in my life and service. I praise God for the time which we

have shared together. I have known your love and your patience. You have ministered to me as I have ministered to you. You have been my teacher as I have been yours. You have forgiven me as I have forgiven you. Hand-in-hand, we have walked in the light of Christ, and we have grown together in the Gospel. Our lives have been intertwined by the Holy Spirit.” See Pages 8 & 9.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Pastoral Letter



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am filled with gratitude to have served as the 11th bishop of the Diocese of Montreal. I am thankful for the strong clergy and lay leadership that has supported God's mission within the life of the Diocese.

We shared some challenging and exciting times together and I am grateful for your prayers that have supported me. I have learned much along the way and hopefully I have been able to reciprocate in some way.

I will miss the diocese and the wonderful staff who have served me. They often exerted themselves and gave more of their time than what was required and am so very proud of what has been accomplished with the help of so many.

I say thank you to each of you with a depth of sincerity and love I have for the people of this diocese.

My prayers for you continue under the leadership of Bishop-Elect Mary Irwin-Gibson.

I use the prayer from Saint Paul to the Ephesians:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ Barry

Here's a partnership that could use a helping hand



Partnerships is the theme of our diocesan synod October 16 and 17. Perhaps it would not be amiss for *Anglican Montreal* to mention a unique partnership through which diocesan newspapers like this one have co-operated for decades with *The Anglican Journal* to bring stories that matter to you, your parish, your diocese and the national church.

This has been achieved through joint printing and mailing arrangements, co-operation in some news coverage and other content and exchanges of ideas and technical knowhow, in part at the annual conference of the Anglican Editors Association.

The conference also helps diocesan editors get a better knowledge and feel for the church across Canada.

The accompanying photo (by Simon Chambers of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund) shows editors attending this year's conference, mainly in Regina. The photo was taken outside St. Peter's Church in Qu'Appelle, Sask. – today a small church with few parishioners and next to no clergy, but at one time the "pro-cathedral" of what

is still called the Diocese of Qu'Appelle. (Can you spot the editor of *Anglican Montreal*?)

Together, the diocesan papers and the *Journal* have sought to provide thoughtful coverage of Anglican, religious and other news, and viewpoints.

Whether encouraging a response to a humanitarian need, informing you about new and thriving ministries and ministries facing challenges, or helping you make sense of the ever-evolving religious landscape, we hope *Anglican Montreal* and the *Anglican Journal* help spark meaningful conversations and action.

This year marks the 140th anniversary of the *Anglican Journal*. With your help, we can keep the connection and conversation going.

Please fill out and return the enclosed postage-paid donor reply card, or call 416-924-9199, extension 259. Alternatively, you can email mross@national.anglican.ca or go to www.canadahelps.org to make your gift today.

Gifts from, this diocese are split between *Anglican Montreal* and the *Anglican Journal*. Thank you.

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer – Canada Praying through the five facets of prayer with the Diocesan Representatives



Loving God, we thank you for the legacy of Bishop Barry, especially for reviving and supporting the AFP-C in this Diocese. We pray that this ministry will continue to flourish under the leadership of Bishop Mary. We give thanks for her presence among us. We believe that you have brought her into the life of this community at an opportune moment. We pray for your blessing and protection on her as she guides us through the many trials and tribulations of life together and celebrates our triumphs and joys. We beseech you gracious God to continue to fill her with your Holy Spirit so that she may face the pressures of this calling with sound judgement and humility. We pray also for her family that they may be a dependable and compassionate support for her in this demanding environment.

Heavenly Father, it takes many people to make your vision a reality. We pray for all who will work with Bishop Mary, especially the Synod staff, to ensure that the Diocese is run in an upright manner. We pray for all committee members throughout the Diocese so they may continue to work in a spirit of co-operation and trust to build up your kingdom. Gracious God firmly uphold all the clergy who will turn to Bishop Mary for pastoral care. Through your guidance, may she offer them compassion and support as may be best for them. As we look beyond the Diocese we pray that under this new era, the church will continue to look outward to make a difference in the Montreal community and to deepen its ecumenical ties with other faith traditions. This we pray in your name most merciful Lord. Amen.

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



Official, Editorially Autonomous
Newspaper of the Diocese of Montreal
Deadline for Oct 2015 issue: Sept 1

For subscription changes contact your parish secretary or send the information to: *Anglican Journal*, 80 Hayden St, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2. 416-924-9199 or 1-866-924-9192 Ext. 245/259
E-mail: circulation@national.anglican.ca
www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe

Editor: Harvey Shepherd
Editorial Assistance: Peter Denis – **Circulation:** Ardyth Robinson
Production: Studio Melrose
Editorial Office: 1444 Union Avenue, Montreal, QC H3A 2B8
Phone: 514 843-6577 – Fax: 514 843-6344
E-mail: editor@montreal.anglican.ca

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

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

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

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

Legal deposit: National Library of Quebec, National Library of Canada
Printed and mailed by Webnews Printing Inc., North York, ON



We live in a world where 1 in 8 people don't have enough to eat.

Let's do something about it, together. Please join us at the next PWRDF meeting...

Tue, Sep 10 at noon in Fulford Hall

We'll learn about the Primate's food security project, *Veg Out*, and how we can help Tanzanian farmers plant the seeds of change. For info, call 514-843-6577.



News in brief

Provincial Synod meets in Fredericton

By CHARLES FERRIS

The 2015 Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, made up of seven dioceses in Quebec and Atlantic Canada, met in Fredericton June 25-28 at the St. Thomas University Conference Centre.

The theme of the Synod, "If I have not love I am nothing," was introduced during the opening Eucharist in the inaugural address by Archbishop Percy Coffin of Western Newfoundland, metropolitan of the province, at St. Margaret's church.

"If the church has a mission at all, it is to manifest the deeds of Jesus," the archbishop said. "The church has to reach out to the displaced, the periphery, to the new missionary frontiers of the contemporary world. The

mission of Jesus is one of making the culture of the Good Samaritan our own, feeling as our own the pain of the oppressed, getting close to them and freeing them.

"Without this commitment, all religiousness is false. As St. Paul says, 'If I have not love I am nothing.' Ours is a time to leave behind the shallow waters of maintaining the institution and launch out into the deep waters of evangelization."

The Provincial Synod conferred an award of merit on Eric Dryden of the Diocese of Montreal for long and effective service as the provincial treasurer.

'Cantors' raise \$5,500 for PWRDF

A benefit concert by the priest-singers called the Three Cantors on May 20 at St George's Place du Canada was "a memorable evening" in the opinion of many, including Bishop Barry Clarke. The concert raised \$5,500 for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.

yes! God is with us!
stronger together

conference synod 2015
st paul's lachine, fri & sat, oct 16-17
gala dinner on friday!

time to register - go to www.montreal.anglican.ca
register by sept 15 - save 25%!

Notable

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ANGLICAN MONTREAL – WE NEED SOME HELP!

The Anglican Montreal Board of Management, a small group of volunteers that meets from time to time to discuss practical issues regarding this newspaper, currently has a vacancy. Anyone interested should get in touch with Nicki Hronjak, program administrator, at 514-843-6577 or nhronjak@montreal.anglican.ca

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ECUMENISM

Receptionist
The Canadian Centre for Ecumenism is seeking an individual with strong interpersonal skills, an openness to world religions and the ability to communicate in English and French. The working schedule is flexible depending on the volunteer's availability.

Computer Technician

The centre is also looking for someone with the skills needed to maintain its small computer network, perform updates, create backup copies and so on.

If you have these or other talents to share, call the centre at 514 937-9176 or visit the website at www.oikoumene.ca

Notable

Nova Scotia spiritual director, storyteller

at this year's clergy conference

The Rev. Lynn Uzans, a retired parish priest, and now a spiritual director, congregational consultant and storyteller as well as vocations co-ordinator for the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, will lead the 2015 Clergy Conference, with the theme of "Connections," at the Centre Musical CAMMAC du Lac MacDonald in Harrington Sept

20-22. This will be an opportunity for clergy to connect with one another and the bishop-to-be, the Very Rev. Mary-Irwin Gibson.

The date of the conference was advanced to accommodate her consecration as bishop September 29 (The announced registration deadline for the conference was August 28).

‘Let us lay our lives before God in a spirit of dedication and love’

New bishop has MBA in French from UQAM

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Bishop-Elect Mary Irwin-Gibson, 59, has been dean and rector of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston since 2009 but is a committed, bilingual Montrealer with family connections and 28 years' service in the diocese.

She also, apparently, has a broad and diverse base of support. Her nomination papers were signed by Dean Paul Kennington of Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal, Rev. Chris Barrigar of St. Peter's in the Town of Mount Royal, known as a leading and articulate evangelical, and by two laywomen particularly active in the spiritual life of the Diocese of Montreal, Sally Harrington Philippo of St. Paul's Knowlton and Valerie Bennett of St. Paul's Greenfield Park.

She also trusts the Holy Spirit, to judge by her remarks after her election in the electoral synod June 6.

"I am calling you to pray for our diocese," she said in her brief bilingual remarks. "The Lord does with us what he wants to do with us. Let us lay our lives before God in a spirit of dedication and love."

Dean Gibson, who moved to the Montreal area as a young girl and grew up in the area, was ordained as a deacon and priest in 1981 and 1982. She grew up in the area and was ordained there in 1981. She served for three years as an assistant curate in the Parish of Vaudreuil, then for seven years as rector of the Parish of Dunham-Frelighsburg in Quebec until 1991.

Then she spent 18 years as rector of Holy Trinity Church in Ste Agathe des Monts, in the Laurentians, earning an MBA in French along the way from the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). In 2009, she



The bishop-elect receives congratulations from the Rev. Michelle Eason, priest of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels Parish in Pierrefonds, and her husband, the Rev. Lorne Eason (who has just become incumbent of the Parish of St. John the Baptist in Pointe Claire).



Lay delegates file up to polling station.

became the rector at St. George's Cathedral.

Then, in 2009 she moved to St. Paul's Cathedral, in the relatively small Diocese of Ontario, in and around Kingston, as dean and rector, where her track record was impressive by some accounts.

When nominations were open for the next Anglican bishop of Montreal, "I felt the Holy Spirit asking me to let my name stand," she told Matt Gardner of the Anglican Church of Canada news service.

"I was willing to go if I was elected and willing to stay (in Kingston) if I wasn't elected, because something I've learned from the military (in Kingston) about deployment is that when the boss calls you to go, you go, and if the boss says stay, you stay. And the Holy Spirit's the boss."

On her election, Diocese of Ontario Bishop Michael Oulton issued a statement congratulating the bishop-elect.

"It has been a joy and pleasure to work with her in this diocese and, while I am feeling a few twinges of loss beginning to settle in, which are growing by the moment, I am thrilled that we will continue working together as colleagues in the House of Bishops." He added that

Dean Irwin-Gibson "served us so well here in the Diocese of Ontario and particularly in supporting my ministry as bishop over these past four years. Our loss is a gain for the Church and the people of Montreal."

The bishop-elect's husband, Mark Gibson, has a diverse business and consulting career, particularly in renewable energy and technical sales. He was executive officer of the Diocese of Montreal for about 10 months in 2006. They have two adult daughters.

Notable

St. Lawrence Anglican Church
520 – 75th Ave., LaSalle

presents its

thirty-second annual

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT DINNER

Saturday, October 24

Cocktails 5:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m.

Admission: Adults \$35,
Children under 15 years \$15

For information call 514-966-4652

‘We face transitions that challenge us. That is not new for the Church’

Irwin-Gibson offered vision for ministry

The chairman of the electoral synod, Diocesan Chancellor David Eramian, invited the four candidates for bishop whose nominations were submitted in advance to each provide a statement of his or her “Vision for episcopal ministry in the Diocese of Montreal. Here, slightly edited, is the statement from Dean Mary Irwin-Gibson.

I believe that Episcopal Ministry is shared: developing over time and building on the gifts that each person in the leadership group brings. God has given us the gifts we need for accomplishing the mission we are called to at this time and in this place.

The particular gifts I bring to this partnership in ministry include:

- Loving God and people.
- Fluency in English and French.
- Experience from 34 years of ordained ministry served in several parishes, including rural, suburban, vacation-country, and inner-city ministries.
- Gifts as a pastor, reconciler and a healer, and faith that the God of love and hope is with us always and in every circumstance.
- A heart for justice in society and for ecological issues.
- Wide experience of the Diocese of Montreal as a lay worship leader, theological student, curate, priest, regional dean and archdeacon, with active participation on Diocesan Council, AWARE (Anglican Women Alive Renewed Enriched), and Visioning 2005-6 and on franco-phone provincial committees.
- Recent experience in another diocese, participating in shared leadership, management and decision-making in a Cathedral, on Diocesan Council, as Bishop’s Commissary, and as a member of the Bishop’s Advisory Committee under two bishops
- An executive MBA (UQAM, 2005) with study focussed on the Church and its future

Together we will work to strengthen this part of God’s Church. As a Diocese, we will apply our gifts of leadership, listening for the voice of the Spirit of God and growing ministry and service where the opportunities and gifts are present.

We are facing transitions that challenge us. That is not new for the Church. We have a message of hope, grace and healing to share; that message is rooted in our life in Christ. Although we may wonder what lies ahead, the mission of Jesus Christ is not diminished and there is much remaining for us to do.

My priorities in ministry will be:

- To minister the Holy Spirit, bringing encouragement and hope.
- To focus together on building and sharing the Kingdom of God and the good news of Jesus Christ, strengthening our witness of faith, grace and hope in this city and in the province of Quebec.
- To unite members of this Diocese in faith, fellowship and shared mission.
- To find authentic and realistic ways to be the church in a changing spiritual climate.
- To be a pastor who supports and motivates the clergy, who play a

critical role as equippers of the saints and leaders in worship.

- To continue the Diocese of Montreal’s inclusive policy of ordaining partnered gay people.
- To share in the decision-making processes of Episcopal Council, Diocesan Council, and Diocesan Synod as we clarify and carry out the mission of Jesus Christ.
- At a practical level, to continue to build a shared vision for ministry in the Diocese, finding ways to manage the financial and other constraints, all the while seizing opportunities for mission.
- To build our fellowship ties with other Christian denominations, our partners in mission and within the greater interfaith community.

Later, the chancellor invited each candidate to reply to three questions. Here they are, with Dean Irwin-Gibson’s replies:

How can we attract and nurture new believers of all ages to greater participation in our Church life in Montreal?

If we want to attract and nurture new believers we need to be intentional in praying for that to happen and in creating opportunities and events with loose edges which are not closed and heavily structured. We need to reach out in new ways to where people are. How do we meet newcomers? Is our mission convincing, authentic and loving? The congregation is the face of the Church. Its members need to be equipped and ready to meet those who are hungry for God, to offer them a Christian faith which feeds them and a community that genuinely cares for them. We must not only welcome them and offer pastoral care but integrate them into our communities. Are we willing for God to send people who are not like us?

Comment pouvons-nous mieux proclamer la Bonne Nouvelle aux francophones et aux minorités visibles à Montréal?

D’abord, nous devons comprendre que les cultures des francophones et des minorités de Montréal sont distinctes et que l’objectif de partager la Bonne Nouvelle n’est pas de sauvegarder l’image et la culture de notre église. Comme nous voulons proclamer la Bonne Nouvelle, nous devons accepter de changer nous-mêmes. Cela implique une réflexion importante au sein du diocèse, soit des rencontres et échanges véritables. Si vraiment nous désirons partager notre foi avec les francophones et les minorités, nous avons besoin de personnes formées et motivées et qui sont prêtes à oeuvrer là où se trouvent ces gens. Avec cet élan missionnaire, nous serons munis de l’amour de Dieu pour ceux et celles qui ont de profondes blessures et qui sont en quête de la foi.

How do you envisage the future of lay and ordained licensed ministers within the Church so that they can better serve the Mission of God and the people of our Diocese?

It is difficult to see into the future but our present situation shows that we are stretched as we attempt to



Bishop-Elect Mary Irwin-Gibson addresses delegates.

continue with traditional patterns of ministry. We will have to look for creative, experimental and tailor made solutions based on the gifts and resources available. Lay cate-

chists often anchored congregations in the past with clergy ministering the sacraments when they were able to be present. Lay readers or non-stipendiary clergy may take on

liturgical leadership in parishes where a full-time paid priest is not available. There may be a greater role for clergy in equipping, training and motivating vital congregations.



Clergy delegates await the counting of one of the ballots.

Laurentian Regional Ministry settles in

Archdeacon Ralph Leavitt was formally installed as incumbent of the new Laurentian Regional Ministry and the Rev. Nick Pang as associate priest at a service in St. Simeon's Church, Lachute, on Sunday, August 2.

Preaching at the service in one of his last acts as bishop of Montreal, the Right Rev. Barry Clarke said that, like the Christians of the First Century, those of the 21st need to overcome rivalries and work together.

Archdeacon Leavitt, who was already territorial archdeacon of St. Andrew's, of which the new regional ministry is a part, continues to live in Ste. Agathe, part of the regional ministry. Nick Pang moved to the rectory in Lachute in July after serving as assistant and then priest-in-charge of St. George's Place du Canada in downtown Montreal. The Rev. Paul Tidman retired at the end of June after five years' service as priest of St. Simeon's.

Two of the accompanying photos by Tony Hadley of the St. George's congregation show Nick Pang preaching his last sermon there and Sylvia White of the St. George's Guild presenting him with a cope, a warm vestment often worn for outdoor liturgies in a chilly weather. Other photos, by Harvey Shepherd, are from the induction service, attended by a capacity congregation of about 150.

A spring-summer newsletter of Trinity Church in Morin Heights and St. Francis of the Birds in St. Saveur provides some detail on the new Laurentian Regional Ministry, serving 10 churches in the Laurentians. They are the churches in Ste. Agathe, Arundel, Kilkenny, Morin Heights, St. Sauveur and Lachute and four churches of the "Lower Laurentians": in Louisa, Dunany, Lakefield and Mille Îles.

Archdeacon Leavitt and Nick Pang are joined on the regional ministry team by several retired clergy and lay readers.

"As no one church can afford full-time ministry on its own, the regional team will be able to provide for our needs, hopefully at a lower



cost," the newsletter says.

"We owe so much to the group of lay readers and priests who have given so generously of their time and energy to ensure that we continued to have weekly services during this period without regular ministry. We have truly, truly benefitted from the gifts they each brought us: different energies, different approaches to the weekly texts, insights, personal reflections, smiles, warmth, love they have shared.

The jointly owned rectory in Morin Heights that served then church there and the one in Ste Agathe has been sold.

"In some ways this is a sad step giving up part of our tradition and heritage..." the newsletter says. "But in today's reality very few parishes can manage the costs of full ministry and the associated costs such as a rectory. So in another way it is a release from the financial burden of upkeep which has been a reality for so long."



Partnerships upon partnerships: Montrealer meets Tanzanians in B.C.

ROS MACGREGOR

The Rev. Roslyn Macgregor is the incumbent at the Parish of St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke in Montreal.

Thanks to funding from our diocese I was able, as our diocesan representative, to attend the Sharing Bread workshop organized by the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund at the Sorrento Centre in British Columbia July 5-11. What an awesome experience! Full of surprises!

One of them was Joyce Berno

Mtauka, a farmer from Masasi Diocese in Tanzania, a partner diocese of my Diocese of Montreal. I am in awe of what Joyce has accomplished. A single Mom, she became a farmer who not only developed her own farm, but works with the agricultural officer of the area and as a peer farmer, modelling and helping others to develop sustainable farming practices. One of the challenges is to resist the pressure to use chemical fertilizers rather than natural ones.

The PWRDF brought Joyce and the Rev. Geoffrey P. Monjesa, development co-ordinator for the Diocese of Masasi, to the conference as partners in changing the world one corner at a time. Joyce stood in front of us proud and confident, explaining her farming practices in Kiswahili and Geoffrey translated.

Since 2011, Joyce has increased her goats from 5 to 22, chickens from 6 to 58, and doves from 21 to 41. She has also dramatically increased production of maize (corn), bambara nuts, cashews and sesame.

She was also interested in the prospect of taking back to Tanzania some of what she learned at the Sorrento Centre about organic farming techniques and the idea of adding salads and raw vegetables to her diet and that of others at home.

Geoffrey P. Monjesa – who was ordained as a deacon in the Montreal

Diocese, told us about his work for food security in Tanzania. He praised the PWRDF for its willingness to work in outlying districts like Masasi.

The statistics were amazing and the work accomplished beyond belief, yet – what I come away with that most impresses me is the commitment, joy, and grace of these two individuals.


The Sorrento Centre is a divers-

fied retreat and conference centre which is close to, and has strong ties with, the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, which is in a partnership with the Diocese of Montreal. We visited Sorrento Centre's organic garden, and helped pick raspberries and garlic, amongst other goodies, and we ate the produce.

Our diocesan PWRDF chapter

will be raising funds and awareness for work in Masasi this year through the PSWRDF "Veg Out" campaign. For more information, visit pwrdf.org/2015/introducing-fred-says-2015/ and www.fredsays.ca/fredism/veg-out.

In the photo below, which is used by permission, you can see Joyce Berno Mtauka in a cornfield at the Sorrento organic garden.



Veg Out

FIND OUT WHAT ARCHBISHOP FRED HILTZ MEANS AT FREDSAYS.CA

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA




yes! God is with us!
stronger together

synode conférence 2015
st-paul lachine, vend & sam, 16-17 oct
un gala très spécial le vendredi!

c'est le temps de vous inscrire
visitez www.montreal.anglican.ca
inscrivez-vous avant le 15 sept - épargnez 25%!



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE
MONTREAL

'A true answer to the prayer of the Church in this place'

Primate says Bishop Barry Clarke has done much to renew all the Church's ministries

FRED HILTZ

Here is a summary of remarks by the primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, at a diocesan farewell dinner for Bishop Barry Clarke in Montreal June 21.

What an honour to be here with you tonight to give thanks for the ministry of the 11th Bishop of Montreal, the 283rd bishop in the succession of the Anglican Episcopate in Canada!

I remember when Barry was elected Bishop of Montreal in September 2004. How happy I was to know the Synod had discerned the Holy Spirit's hovering over him. In many respects his election was a true answer to the prayer of the Church in this place that "we receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and support us in our ministries." I remember with thanks his invitation to me to preach at his consecration on October 14, 2004. It was an honour to do so.

We all know Barry has consistently endeavoured to support the clergy of the diocese in their vocation and ministry – through his parish visits, and the annual clergy retreat. He set forth high expectations of the clergy in regard to standards of conduct in ministry, for excellence in their role as presiders and preachers, diligence in their pastoral duties, and passion in ministries of advocacy for the protection and preservation of the dignity and human rights of all people. All of these expectations asked of them, he too modelled in an exemplary manner.

'To be among the people'

Barry has done much in his episcopate to renew all of the Church's ministries. He has been a great support to the Lay Readers through their annual conference and commissioning. He has encouraged the ministries of all the baptized and celebrated and affirmed a number of "particular" ministries of a liturgical, pastoral and prophetic nature.

I know Barry and I share this truth – that one of the greatest joys in episcopal ministry is to visit parishes, to be among the people, worshipping together, and taking counsel together. Barry, from the times that I have accompanied you on these visits, it is evident that the people had not only a great respect for you but a great love for you.

Barry's episcopal ministry has been marked by so many exciting developments in the diocese. Clearly there has been a renewed focus on mission. He has consistently and in a variety of ways held up The Marks of Mission as a reference point for "ministry action plans" (MAP) in parishes and in the diocese at large. He has oriented Synods around these marks. He has called the Synod to a broader and yet broader view of the Church – national and international. He has been deeply committed to the Companion Relationship with The Diocese of Masasi.

In his time as bishop, the diocese

has had to come to terms with its finances. It has shed a number of properties and harnessed the financial resources realized through sales into resources for mission. The diocesan office has been reorganized a couple of times, each in accord with changed circumstances requiring due attention.

I am aware that in Synod decisions with respect to blessing same sex unions Barry bore some considerable insult and pain. Throughout it all, he endeavored to be patient and respectful. He persevered in maintaining to the greatest extent possible the bonds of affection within which Christ would have us live. His willingness to make provisions for Shared Episcopal Ministry for several parishes within the diocese was honourable and graciously received. The manner in which he and Bishop Leonard Whitten have worked in this regard continues to be a model for the rest of the Church.

Within the wider circles of our church he has always taken his place with grace and good cheer in the Provincial House of Bishops, Council and Synod. Barry, I have many fond memories of your wonderfully gracious welcome when we gathered in Montreal.

When he spoke it was from the centre

In the National House of Bishops Barry was never what Archbishop Michael Peers called "one of the regular speakers," but when he did speak, it was always from a deep centeredness in the gospel of Christ, a deep love for the Church, and a deep commitment to what in God's eyes is good and right and just for all. People listened to what he had to say and in one way or another we benefited from hearing his perspective on the matter at hand.

Barry, you have been a wonderful ambassador for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) not only as a member of the Board, but in supporting your Diocesan Co-ordinator and parish representatives.

I am very grateful for Barry's abiding commitment to the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue, to Anglican-Lutheran Relations, and other ecumenical conversations as well. In so many of those circles, Barry, you are regarded as a true companion in conversations that would move us into a fuller realization of our Lord's Prayer "that they all may be one".

Exhilarating but exhausting

Throughout his episcopal ministry he has worked very hard. While this ministry can be very exhilarating it can be exhausting too. On top of all his work, Barry had the care of Leslie through her long journey with MS and cancer. Although he had personal care workers tending her every day, it was he who tended her through the silent hours of the night. I know that at times he had little sleep. But he carried on to the very best of his strength and ability. It was a privilege to be invited to be a part of the journey he shared with Leslie, to visit with them at home, and to



The primate of Canada, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, pays tribute to Bishop Clarke as "a good and faithful servant."

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

preach at the requiem in which we gave thanks to God for her life and commended her into the hands of the Lord in the sure and certain hope of The Resurrection.

As Barry's exhaustion caught up with him and he recognized his need for a Sabbath, many of us prayed for him that this time away would be restorative and refreshing. I will remember him saying at one point that he was working hard not just at "restoring myself for my ministry" but at "reclaiming my life." And indeed Barry, you have, not only to your own delight but to that of so many of us who love and respect you for the wonderful person you are.

I rejoice in your marriage to Janet. Indeed we all do and we pray that you both will be blessed with every happiness. As the liturgy says "may their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle

about their shoulders and a crown upon their forehead." May you, O Lord, lead them into all peace."

I am also absolutely delighted to know of Barry's appointment as the Interim Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario. Bishop Bob and Bishop Terry are so happy that this arrangement has been endorsed by the Cathedral. Barry's presence and leadership will do much to bring about a fresh vision of the role of the Cathedral in the life of the diocese. It's a ministry for which he is particularly and wonderfully graced. My friend, I pray you enjoy it.

Well Barry, there is so much more that I could say by way of recognition and appreciation for your ministry. I join a cast of people who reflecting on your work as Bishop of Montreal are saying with such great respect, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Editor's note: The primate referred in his remarks to Bishop Clarke's wife, Leslie James, who died in October 2012 after a long struggle with multiple sclerosis and, finally, cancer. The Diocese of Masasi, with which the Diocese of Montreal has a companion relationship, is in Tanzania. By agreement with Bishop Clarke, Bishop Leonard Whitten, retired bishop of Western Newfoundland, has presided at confirmations and offered some other services at Montreal parishes with concerns over the issue of same-sex blessings. The primate also referred to Bishop Robert F. Bennett and Suffragan Bishop Terrance A. Dance of the Diocese of Huron, where Bishop Clarke is now serving as interim dean of the cathedral.

‘Thank you and I love you’

Bishop praised as compassionate model of clergy wellness

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Bishop Barry Clarke said farewell to many of his “co-workers in the body of Christ and in the Kingdom of God” at a farewell dinner June 21.

“We recognize that we are in a new place,” he said in a brief response to tributes.

He said he was honoured at his election as bishop almost 11 years before and has been inspired by, especially, the lay people of the diocese. He also expressed the hope the diocese will become more and more French-speaking.

“Thank you very much and I love you.”

Diocesan Treasurer Norman Spencer paid tribute to Bishop Clarke as a pastoral and caring man “who sees the individual” and has “enormous courage.”

“He taught me to think about the other guy.”

Bishop Barbara Andrews, who oversees the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior (of British Columbia), a group that has had a partnership covenant with the Diocese of Montreal, attended the dinner. She said Bishop Clarke exemplifies “speaking listening, learning and serving in the best way possible. She presented the bishop with a medalion honouring both the diocesan partnership and his recent marriage to the recent executive archdeacon of the Diocese of Montreal, Canon Janet Griffith.

“We are blessed in the Central Interior because of our relationship.”

The current executive archdeacon, the Ven. Bill Gray said the bishop “modelled clergy wellness” in the way he faced the personal and others challenges of his episcopacy.”

There were other mementos and tributes from Susan Winn, who has a number of key lay functions in the diocese, and from the bishop’s daughter and the mother of his three grandchildren, Melissa of Burlington, Vermont, who made a special presentation since it was Father’s Day.



Bishop Clarke and his recent bride, Canon Janet Griffith, admire a gift from Bishop Barbara Andrews, left, from the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior. The primate, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, is in the foreground and Bishop Clarke’s daughter, Melissa, is to the right. (Photo: Harvey Shepherd)



Lay leader Susan Winn makes a presentation to Bishop Clarke. In the foreground are Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray, his wife, Ruth Gray, Bishop Barbara Andrews and Archbishop Fred Hiltz. (Photo: Harvey Shepherd)



Diocesan Treasurer Norman Spencer

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

Going out on a roll



One of the last events in Bishop Barry Clarke’s episcopacy was a “Bishop’s Bowling Bash” in June to raise funds for the mission work of the diocese. It replaced an annual golf tournament. Here, the bishop gets ready to release his ball.



Farewell to Dio principal: John Simons leaves after 24 years

From left in the photo, by Janet Best, are the Rev. Keith Schmidt, rector of the parish, Bishop Barry Clarke, the Rev. Catherine Smith, who is a United Church minister in Sackville, N.S., and Canon Simons' recent bride, Bishop Dennis Drainville of the Diocese of Quebec, who paid tribute

to Canon Simons in a sermon at a Eucharistic service before the dinner, and the Rev. Karen Egan, director of pastoral studies at Dio, as the college is often known. Standing to the rear is Beth Reed, Dio administrator.

Former students and fellow teachers of the Rev. Canon Dr. John Simons, fellow parishioners at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Montreal and others joined in a

dinner in the parish hall May 19 on the occasion of his retirement after 24 years as principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

A graduate of Georgetown Uni-

versity, Washington D.C., he has taught at the universities of Alberta and Toronto. As a priest, he has served parishes in Alberta, the United States and and Montreal,

where he has been an honorary assistant at St. John the Evangelist. His intellectual passions are metaphysics, theology and ecclesiology. At McGill University he recently

taught principles of Christian theology, and at the college, a course on church, ministry, and sacraments.

John Simons: looking back on 24 years

Daily into wonder: learning from Christ the Teacher

JOHN SIMONS

The Rev. Canon Dr. John Simons, Principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College 1991-2015, now lives in Sackville, N.B. with his wife Catherine. This article and those by the Rev. Patricia Kirkpatrick and Archdeacon Bruce Myers are reprinted or slightly condensed from the latest issue of Pro Christo et Ecclesia, the journal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College

In Christian iconography, the teacher is depicted holding a book which is often open to a text indicat-

ed by the teacher's hand. The book, of course, represents sacred tradition, of which scripture is the norm. The icon effectively situates the viewer in a school, inviting her/him into the world posited by scripture and expositied by the teacher. My vocation to priestly ministry has brought me to return to this icon both in imagination and in its many concrete instances again and again over the years. As Principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Dio), it was my privilege to live in the presence of this icon, not as a lonely spectator, but in the company of so many others – colleagues, students, ecumenical partners, administrative staff, board members,

etc.

To be sure, there are those whose experience of the college will be quite different from mine, but, for me, the everyday tasks of administration were given context by those moments in the chapel, reciting the daily office or singing the eucharistic prayer of the church or listening to, and being inspired by, the sermon of a colleague, as well as by those conversations in the classroom reflecting on the mysteries of faith or on our individual acts of ministry in the field. And, of course, there were the meals we shared: breakfast after the Friday morning Eucharist, lunch on Wednesdays in term, and the Advent potluck – extensions of the

sacramental meal we celebrated regularly. To have been a part of Dio, of the Montreal School of Theology, and of the McGill community was, for me, extraordinarily stimulating. Nor, lest my earlier reference to sacred tradition mislead, was it simply a matter of my passing on information to the next generation. To the contrary, the tradition in which we live and breathe as Christians is not a system closed to exploration, a metanarrative that settles all questions in advance. The fact that we speak of the mysteries of faith should be a clue. There is more than information in our creed; there is poetry that stretches and breaks our expecta-

tions and always surprises us with its imaginative possibilities. For me, this is one reason why theology and ministry cannot be divorced.

At my retirement dinner, I said that my work as Principal had drawn me daily into wonder and that now I looked forward to living more fully with the things that inspire that particular movement of the soul. So, in one sense, my life after Dio will, I hope, be an extension and deepening of the lessons I have begun to learn in the school of Christ the Teacher. I am profoundly grateful to all of you who have been my classmates in his school. You will always be with me.

Nurturing vocations grounded in knowledge

PATRICIA KIRKPATRICK

Dr. Patricia Kirkpatrick is Chair of Biblical Studies and Graduate Program Director at the McGill Faculty of Religious Studies. She is also an alumna and honorary faculty member of Montreal Diocesan Theological College

For over 24 years as Principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College, the Rev. Dr. John Simons steered a course for the college through seas filled with some very murky waters. Not only was theological education in question at the university and the numbers of theological students at the academy diminishing but those who were entering to be trained in the classical

disciplines of Theology were coming with perspectives which could hardly be thought of as typical. Early on it became clear that our Principal would be required to proceed with the task of Formation for Anglican Orders in ways quite different from previous generations.

With his training and extensive background in both matters intellectual and parochial, John soon set about defending the college's place in the consortium and the consortium's place in the Faculty of Religious Studies and therefore the university. A monumental task, even if unrecognized by those in the parishes.

John's philosophically trained mind was not sympathetic to more

businesslike approaches to education, much less theological education. Certainly he had little time for those who preferred to see in their vocation a means to an end if that end was a career in the ordained ministry. John was acutely aware that whatever else was needed it would be a generation of ordained scholars whose knowledge base would allow them the flexibility to cope with ever-changing ministerial patterns.

He was also acutely aware, as anyone in theological education can be, that the context of theological education was no longer one of privilege but was one that had to fight to be heard in the ever increasing din of competing town square

voices. The recovery of the '50's and early '60's when theology seemed to be regaining its place, was short-lived and by the time of the '90's theology was more commonly seen as arcane and irrelevant. In times like these it was our good fortune to have as Principal of Montreal Diocesan Theological College someone as articulate as John, and someone who could provide such much-needed Christian Apologetics as John provided time and again, both in his lectures in the College and the University as well as in his profound and thought-provoking sermons.

Of course life in a consortium is many-faceted and I would be remiss were I not to doff my cap in thanks-

giving that I was so fortunate to have had such a wonderfully good-humored and generous colleague. One who could genuinely understand the absurdities of life and so not become convinced of the academy's ever incessant demand that reward be given out on the basis of so-called merit.

It will be above all John's understanding of God's grace and his living out his life in that grace that I will be thankful for in years to come. Indeed I do not think that it is too much of a stretch to say that I will be able to tell those students apart who were trained by our Principal: students who will, God willing, show forth that same grace in their ministries.

A teacher of Anglicanism with an ecumenical spirit

BRUCE MYERS

Archdeacon Bruce Myers, a member of the Order of the Good Shepherd and one of the Dio class of 2004, is the Anglican Church of Canada's co-ordinator for ecumenical and interfaith relations.

I first learned about Faith and Order – and so much about the ecumenical movement as a whole – from John Simons. It was impossible to be a student of John's without encountering ecumenical texts, and through

them catching something of the ecumenical spirit to which they give expression.

With John as our guide we explored Anglican sacramental theology through the lens of *Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry*, a groundbreaking convergence text. We studied systematic theology using the documents of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission. We learned about the implications of the Waterloo Declaration at the very moment

our church was coming into full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

This was far more than some perfunctory inclusion of historical texts on church unity in the bibliographies of John's courses. It was rather evidence of his own deep commitment to the church's visible unity, something he gave witness to in his daily life and work.

While I was a student at Dio, John served as a member of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue

of Canada; he opened the door to Armenian Orthodox and Lutheran students studying at the college; and he made it possible for Anglican students to experience full communion firsthand by allowing us to serve internships in a Lutheran parish.

John also modelled for his students – in that quiet and understated way of his – an ecumenical spirit in his wider role within the Montreal School of Theology. The respect he held for the students, faculty, and ecclesial traditions of our sister

colleges was palpable. I still remember a sermon John delivered in Saint Luke's Chapel, gently (but unmistakably) admonishing the Anglican students for having sometimes adopted an air of liturgical, ecclesiological, and doctrinal superiority when it came to our Presbyterian and United Church classmates.

In both his teaching and personal example, John has embodied the notion that to be Anglican is to be ecumenical, and that our tradition of

continued on the next page

Dio has seen big changes but new principal expects more

Boisvert is first francophone, first alumnus in the post

As he steps into his new job as principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, the Rev. Donald Boisvert is bringing some attributes the college has not seen in its 142-year history.

He is a francophone committed to increasing the place of French in the Anglican Church Quebec and at "Dio," as the college is often informally called. He was raised in another religious tradition and once studied for the Roman Catholic priesthood. He's the first openly gay principal the college has had.

So far as he knows, Dr. Boisvert, who himself studied for the Anglican priesthood at Dio before being ordained as a deacon in 2012 and priest in 2013, is the first alumnus of the college to become its principal. At 63, he must be one of the oldest new principals the college has had, if not the oldest, which means he will probably have fewer years in the job than most of his predecessors.

"In choosing someone who has these things in his profile, the college is saying some important things about diversity," he said in an interview.

Dr. Boisvert was born in the United States of French-Canadian parents and has lived in Canada since the late 1960s. His career up to now been largely at Concordia University, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1975 as one of the first graduating class at that institution, formed by a merger of Sir George Williams University and Loyola College the year before. He went on to earn a master's from that university and later a doctorate in religious studies at the University of Ottawa, which he received in 1990.

He was on the administrative staff



Visitor no more: Principal-Designate Donald Boisvert congratulates Bishop-Elect Mary Irwin-Gibson. (Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

from 1979 and dean of students from 1996 to 2003, when he turned to teaching. His early retirement in August as a professor of religion to move to Dio also cut short his term as chair of the department of religion, a post he had held for about a year.

His arrival September 1 as principal of Dio – succeeding the Rev. Canon John Simons, who had the post since 1991 – will cap a total change in staff in less than three years. Since 2013 the college also replaced its other academic faculty member, when the Rev. Karen Egan succeeded the Rev. Paul Jennings as director of pastoral studies and its chaplain, when the Rev. Rhonda

Waters, associate priest at Christ Church Cathedral, took on the additional responsibilities of Dio chaplain, succeeding the Rev. Elizabeth Rowlinson, who retired.

Beth Reed became college administrator in 2013, taking over some of the responsibilities of Afra Tucker, who remains part-time college development co-ordinator. Ms Tucker succeeded the Rev. Canon Tim Smart as lay education co-ordinator for the Diocese of Montreal. As he was, she is physically based at the college, although the job – at least up to now – is technically a diocesan appointment rather than a college one.

Dr. Simons oversaw some mo-

mentous changes at Dio, including the sale of most of its historic late-19th-century building to McGill University, although the college retains the use of modest administrative quarters and the picturesque chapel.

His career is also ending – and Dr. Boisvert's is beginning – on a high note. Enrolment in the college has never been large but this year's figure will be double last year's: 10 rather than five, with five of this year's crop entering the first year.

"There are a lot of exciting things happening at Dio," Dr. Boisvert said.

For the moment, he can't say what they all are, partly because they haven't been decided yet. One of the first things on his agenda for this fall

is a "visioning process."

"Dio needs to re-vision both its mission and its mandate."

He does see some challenges. The college needs to recruit more students, locally but also from Eastern Canada but perhaps also from nearby areas of the United States.

"We need to bring in the best and the brightest."

To do this, the college would capitalize on assets including its participation in a consortium that gives its students access to the teachers at the Presbyterian and United Church seminaries on the McGill campus and the McGill faculty of religious studies.

Dr. Boisvert also thinks the college should broaden its mandate and reach out to people in lay ministries and lay leadership. In part this would build on past co-operation with training programs for lay readers and the Education for Ministry program, which seeks to improve the theological acumen of lay people. But he's also interested in prospects for professional training leading not just to ordination but to lay ministries in, say, social agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Some of this would also involve some discussion with the diocese about who should do what in lay education.

There's a need to strengthen a trend that is already discernable toward more emphasis on bilingual training for ministry.

"There's a lot of hope, a lot of good stuff that can happen. And we need to shepherd it."

Dr. Boisvert took early retirement from Concordia to assume his new post. He remains attached to the Cathedral, where he has had special responsibility for French-language ministry, although he said he "may not be as present as currently."

Notable

Théologie de la libération, évangile sociale et Père Claude Lacaille Liberation theology, social gospel and Father Claude Lacaille

Série 'dialogique' en trois parties avec le professeur Norman Cornett en collaboration avec Père Claude Lacaille

A three-part 'dialogic' series by Prof. Norman Cornett with the collaboration of Fr. Claude Lacaille.

**Saint Columba House/
Maison Saint Columba**
2365 Grand Trunk St.,
(Métro Charlevoix)

Mondays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28
6:30 p.m.
Les lundis 14, 21 et 28 sept. 18h30.

Cost: \$5 a day, 5\$/jour

Information:
www.haveyouexperienced.wordpress.com,
professor.norman.cornett@gmail.com,
www.saintcolumbahouse.org

continued from page 10

Christianity is called to a particular vocation of giving visible expression to the unity of Christ's church. At the same time he has shown his students that in recognizing and receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit in other ecclesial traditions you aren't somehow compromising those of our church.

It wasn't until I had graduated from Dio, and began encountering more regularly Anglican clergy who had studied elsewhere, that I came to appreciate just how ecumenically saturated my theological education had been, inside and outside the classroom. This evident widespread lack of ecumenical formation of Anglican clergy has become such a preoccupation that it has become the focus of my doctor of ministry research.

I am ever grateful for a theological education that obligated me to confront the scandal of Christian division, and to resist the temptation to grow comfortable in those divisions. It has become the focus of my ministry, and an important dimension of the ministries of so many other Anglican clergy, because it was also a fundamental aspect of the ministry of John Simons.

Four students complete tough course of theological education for lay mission



Four recent graduates of the Education for Ministry course, a four-year course of theological education for lay people, pose with clergy who worked with them. Clockwise from top left are the Ven. David Oliver of St. Barnabas North Hatley, Norm Starkey, the Rev. James Pratt of St. Phillip's Montreal West, the Rev. Sophie Roland of Resurrection Pointe Claire, Ann Cumyn, Lorna Gordon and Gabriel Kwenga.

Six deacons begin their new adventures

Three men, three women, three francophones

Shortly after ordaining six deacons on May 24, Bishop Barry Clarke announced where they will be working. In some cases but not all, the destination was something of a foregone conclusion.

Five of the new deacons, who will probably become priests in a year or so, become assistant curates (a term often shortened informally to “curate”) in various parishes. Mary Pickup is a “vocational deacon,” expected to continue to carry out her ministry largely in the outside world.

Here are the appointments, in some cases with additional information added:

• **James Duckett**, who graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in education in 2004 and taught school for several years while studying at McGill University and the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, has been appointed assistant curate at St. George’s, Ste Anne-de-Bellevue, effective August 1.

• **Denis Gévry** has been appointed Assistant Curate at Christ Church Sorel, effective June 1. He continues to work with the Rev. Yves Samson at that church and St. James Trois-Rivières in the Diocese of Quebec.

• **Jean-Jacques Goulet** has been appointed Assistant Curate at Christ Church Cathedral, effective June 1. See story on this page.

• **Amy Hamilton**, who was in the Sisters of St. John the Divine and then studied for the priesthood at Trinity College in Toronto, was taking a five-week immersion course in Chicoutimi before taking up her new post as assistant curate at the downtown Church of St. James the Apostle, effective Sept 1st.

• **Josée Lemoine**, a francophone with an ecumenical background, who has already become a familiar figure in some parts of the diocese, has been appointed to a strategic post as assistant curate at St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda and St. Luke – or “St. CHL” – serving the “faithful remnants” of over a dozen parishes that once existed in eastern Montreal. The priest, the Rev. Roslyn Mac-

gregor, writes on the parish website that Josée “is francophone and fully bilingual, has a lovely sense of humour, is eager to minister with us in the East End, beginning June 1st. We don’t have plans of how our ministry will develop. I remain half-time. We will see what Josée’s gifts are, and we’ll ALL discuss together.”

• **Mary Pickup’s** appointment as Vocational Deacon at St. Stephen’s Lachine, effective June 1, adds another dimension to her longstanding commitment to that historic parish. She was born in Glasgow and came to Canada when she was 5; she and her husband of 43 years, John, have two adult sons. She worked at the Royal Bank of Canada for 25 years and took an early retirement to

stay home and take care of her mother who had Alzheimer’s. She became interested in the diaconate at a conference in 2012 at the Church of St. James the Apostle entitled “Becoming a Diaconal Church, A Visioning Conference,” led by Bishop Mark MacDonald. A few months later, at a retreat sponsored by the Montreal Diocese, she decided to start the process to become a vocational deacon. She completed the Education for Ministry course in 2010 and has completed a supervised practicum at St. Margaret Residence under the leadership of the Rev. Sinpoh Han. She is still active there and considers that working and visiting with seniors is where she is called to be as a vocational deacon.



James Duckett and his wife Sacha are going to Ste Anne de Bellevue.
(from a Facebook capture)



The Rev. Deacon Mary Pickup and the Rev. Shirley Smith will remain a team at St. Stephen’s Lachine.
(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)



The Rev. Yves Samson and the Rev. Deacon Denis Gévry will work together at Christ Church Sorel.
(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)



Jean-Jacques Goulet



Deacons Josée Lemoine, Amy Hamilton and James Duckett get together for a closeup.
(From a Facebook capture)

Cathedral takes another step in French-language ministry

Associate minister ordained as deacon

HARVEY SHEPHERD

A group of about 12-15 people who meet twice monthly in a lounge behind Christ Church Cathedral is the nucleus of an attempt to develop a larger French-speaking community at the cathedral and also represents a step in the career of the cathedral’s newest addition to its staff.

“Pain, partage et prière” is the name of the group, which has been sharing a pot luck lunch, studying the Gospel of Mark (at present) and exchanging thoughts and prayers twice monthly after the weekly 12:45 p.m. French-language Eucharist at the Cathedral.

It is led by Jean-Jacques Goulet, who joined the Cathedral staff last October 1 as associate minister for the pastoral care of people over 40 and for French-language ministry, some months before his ordination as a deacon May 24. That ministry continued, with liturgical enhancement, when he was ordained as a deacon May 24 and will in all probability do so when, as is expected, he is ordained as a priest within a year or so.

For Deacon Goulet, who has just turned 63 (and whose position is half-time), this is another stage in a ministry as pastor, administrator and chaplain in the Mennonite Church, which he joined after returning to his Christian faith in his early 20s. He was raised in Montréal as a Roman Catholic and later earned a bachelor’s degree in religious studies from St. Jerome’s College of the University of Waterloo in 1982 and, still later, a master’s degree in divinity from



Richard Desjardins, a participant in Pain, partage et prière, designed this logo for the group.

Waterloo Lutheran Seminary in 1990.

He pastored in congregations in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec and from 2001 to 2004 he served as director of Evangelism and Church planting for Mennonite Church Canada. From 2003, Jean-Jacques served as a community chaplain for Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, first as co-ordinator of the Centre for services in restorative justice, and for the last 10 years, until he retired September 30, as co-ordinator for Circles of Support and Responsibility Quebec.

In this last role, working with teams of volunteers helping people convicted of sex crimes to avoid reoffending, he was closely associated with the Rev. Canon Peter Huish, an Anglican chaplain to prisoners and ex-prisoners (and now also on the Cathedral team).

This was one of the things that helped draw him to the Anglican

Church and the Cathedral, along with the interest that they (like many Mennonites) have in issues of social justice.

Also, he is a gay man whose partner is an Anglican. Deacon Goulet recalls one Sunday when the couple made a church-shopping visit to a largely English-language service at the Cathedral, how pleased he was to discover that it actually included quite a bit of French.

He says that when he retired from his Mennonite ministry September 30, the day before he began his ministry at the Cathedral, his Mennonite Conference “warmly blessed me as I continued my ministry in the Anglican Church.”

“Pain, partage et prière” had grown out of a French-language Alpha Course – an introduction to Christianity through presentations and discussion – at the Cathedral. When it wound up, participants wanted to continue that group, although there have been arrivals and departures since then. Deacon Goulet said the 12-15 current members of the group include both francophones and allophones of diverse origins. Several of them had little previous experience of Bible study and find it “refreshing.”

Only one of the members of the group was an Anglican to start with but about half have joined the church through confirmation or otherwise.

The group is one among many efforts by the Cathedral to enhance its French-language presence, some of which go back many years. More recently, the Very Rev. Paul Kennington, dean of the Cathedral, and Rev. Donald Boisvert, an assistant (and the incoming principal of the Mon-

tréal Diocesan Theological College) have played an essential part in Eucharistic leadership, although Deacon Goulet often preaches.

The Cathedral has also participated in downtown, largely French-language, community cultural events, including the Journées de la Culture last September 25-27 and La Nuit Blanche in February.

In Deacon Goulet’s opinion, there is a spiritual yearning among Québécois and the Anglican Church can help respond to it, although “I think it’s a challenge.” In his view, the term “Anglican” carries a lot of negative freight for Québécois, for starters.

“I prefer to say ‘Église Épiscopale.’”

The Boomers of St. Lawrence Church presents a:

Variety Concert and Supper

Saturday
September 19th, 2015

Held at St. Lawrence Anglican Church
520 - 75th Avenue, LaSalle, Qué.
Starting at 5:00^{PM}

Admission
Adults: \$30.⁰⁰

For more information, please contact 514-366-4652

‘The same Holy Spirit...will always be there to quicken and enliven you in your ministry’

FRED HILTZ

Here is the sermon preached by Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, at Christ Church Cathedral on Pentecost, May 24, at a service at which six candidates were ordained as deacons. One is a “vocational deacon;” the other five will probably become priests in a year or so.

“Stay here in the city,” Jesus said, “until you have been clothed with power from on high.” That’s the beautiful image with which he spoke of the coming of the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples in that Great Commission to take the Gospel into all the world. Alongside the wind and fire of the Day of Pentecost this is a beautiful image of the Holy Spirit surrounding and gracing men and women who in every generation have given themselves to proclaiming the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

It’s a beautiful image for the Church’s celebration of baptism. Praying for those who have been brought to new birth, signed with the Cross and marked as Christ’s own forever, we sing:

“Number them among your people, bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling;

compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart’s delight.”

(Hymn 35, *Common Praise*)

It’s also a beautiful image for Ordination, – that those who are consecrated for the work of a deacon, priest, or bishop in the Church of God be clothed with power from on high that with joy and steadfastness they might fulfil their sacred calling.

In his book *Here I Am: Reflections on the Ordained Life*, Richard Giles writes, “This work is not for the fainthearted, the lazy, or for those constantly checking their allowance of time off. It is for those who are absolutely fascinated by God, and who remain absolutely fascinated by and therefore tirelessly interested in people knowing that this fragile and funny stuff called human nature is the raw material of God’s ceaseless recreating...”

“We have the supreme privilege of shaping with our hands, our prayer, our preaching, communities of faith, caravans of pilgrims, who will together discover the love, healing, hope and transformation of life in God’s grace.”

For such holy work as this Josée, James, Jean-Jacques, Amy, Mary and Denis are about to be clothed with power from on high.

A power to listen and speak, to seek and serve in the name of Christ, a power to announce and labour for the coming of God’s reign of mercy, justice, and peace for all people.

We have come from near and far to be with them today, rejoicing in the Spirit’s call in their lives, in Her coming in this glad hour, and in Her quickening of their souls for the ministry entrusted to them for years to come.

Of Her calling each of you has a story that is uniquely yours. In the sharing of them there might well be some familiar themes. No doubt you can all recall that time when you first sensed the Holy Spirit hovering over



The new deacons gather for a photo at the High Altar of Christ Church Cathedral. From left are Jean-Jacques Goulet, Denis Gévry, Amy Hamilton, James Duckett, Mary Pickup, Josée Lemoine and the primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz. Behind them are Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray, Bishop Barry Clarke, the Rev. Canon Peter Huish and the Rev. Yves Samson.

(Photo: Harvey Shepherd)

you, whispering a word of call to ordained ministry, and an invitation to explore it. There may have been times when you heard Her calling in the night, or at the break of day, or perhaps in the heat of your day’s work, whatever kind of work that may have been. Sometimes as we all know the Spirit’s call is exciting. Sometimes it is unsettling. Sometimes it’s comforting. Sometimes it’s disturbing. It displaces us from all that is familiar in our life in Christ. Sometimes it seems She pursues us – quietly, gently but without relent. At other times She seems as a popular hymn puts it “to sweep down and carry us away in Her embrace” to landscapes beyond our recognition or imagining. Sometimes She is in fact, calling us from one way of disciplined life of prayer and good works to another. Again and again She comes, She hovers, and She stirs our souls.

Eventually we confide our experience with someone we trust, some soul-friend with whom we can laugh or cry about it all, some companion who will walk with us and pray with us.

In time we share this sense of call with the Church and give ourselves into its care with respect to on-going discernment, training and formation, and assessment of readiness for ordination.

At the heart of this liturgy of ordination is the sacramental act of the laying on of hands with prayer by the bishop surrounded by the prayers of all the faithful in Christ. That ancient act is an outward and visible sign of that inward and invisible grace of God at work – in this moment when the Spirit who has for so long hovered over you, now comes to rest upon you, clothing you with Her beauty, grace and power.

The Liturgy for ordaining deacons reminds us that they stand at the edge of the community gathered for worship. They welcome, tend, serve and enable all of us in our respective roles within the liturgy. The one moment when they are front and centre is in the Proclaiming

of the Gospel, always in the hope that what they proclaim with their lips they show forth in their lives. Quietly they move in to set the table for the Eucharistic feast. Quietly they ensure all are fed and quietly they clean up the table and lead us to offer our thanks for this food and drink, so awesome and so sweet. And then quietly moving to the edge of the community they call us back out into the world, there to be the Body of Christ; his eyes and ears, his heart and voice, his feet and hands at work.

From New Testament times we know that deacons were appointed to look out for the poor, to tend the sick, to have a heart for the marginalized. In many respects deacons have always held the Church to account in making the care of the poor a priority after the teaching of the prophets and the Gospel of Jesus.

Historically deacons are called to keep the Church turned inside out. While tending to its domestic life as the household of faith, the Lord of the Church calls us not to be consumed by our internal affairs but always to have an eye to the neighbourhood, the city, and the world.

As Pope Francis has said “I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security. I do not want a Church concerned with being at the centre and which then ends by being caught up in a web of obsessions and procedures. If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light, and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life. More than by fear of going astray, my hope is that we will be moved by the fear of remaining shut up within structures which give us a false sense of security, within rules which make us harsh judges, within habits which

make us feel safe, while at our door people are starving and Jesus does not tire of saying to us: “give them something to eat” (Mark 6:37)

Our Church over the course of the last twenty-five years has seen a wonderful restoration of the diaconate as the distinct order of ministry that it historically is. Grounded in the Gospel of the Servant Lord, celebrated in the Acts of the Apostles, and referenced in several of the letters in the New Testament, it is a magnificent ministry that enriches the Church’s witness to the holistic nature of God’s mission in the world.

“God’s mission is holistic; its orientation is toward the redemption of the whole of creation. For Anglicans, indeed the whole Church, the Gospel is not just the proclamation of individual redemption and renewal, but the renewal of society under the Reign of God; the ending of injustice and the restoration of right relationship with God and between human beings and between humanity and creation. We recognise that social justice issues and global relationships are very complex and powerful.” (Page 14, paragraph 43, Lambeth Indaba, Lambeth Conference 2008)

In my travels across our beloved Church, I see the leadership of deacons and how they mobilize piles and piles of our people in supporting out of the cold projects, breakfast programs for kids, after school help with homework programs, soup kitchens, food banks, clothing banks, and programs for those struggling with addictions, ministries in prisons, the night shift at shelters for the homeless, and the day shift at aboriginal friendship centres across our country. Their ministries are multiple. And they give themselves to them with glad and generous hearts, bringing others alongside to share in these ministries. They help us all to know our summons to what Pope Francis calls Jesus’ “revolution of tenderness” in an otherwise cruel world.

I see what leadership deacons provide in accompanying people in

crisis in helping them through applications processes for social assistance or legal aid. I see their courage and tenacity in the work of advocacy to speak up and to speak out for what is good and right and just for all. I see their commitment to enter the realm of political diakonia. To enter it implies a continuation of working to relieve the suffering of the poor, while at the same time addressing the root causes of poverty and advocating for the social changes necessary to eliminate it.

For those for whom such a ministry is a life-long vocation the Church rejoices and is ever grateful.

For those for whom this ministry is “transitional” into priestly ministry, the experience of being a deacon ought never to be underestimated. I hold as I know many others do, to the saying “once a deacon always a deacon” and we pray our diaconal ministry continues to inform and inspire, shape and shine through any other ministry for which the Church has ordained or installed us. I pray that be your outlook too.

Never forget that the same Holy Spirit by whom you are called and clothed this day will always be there to quicken and enliven you in your ministry. As for the whole Church so for each of us She is that “unfailing comfort and heavenly guide” (Hymn 181, *Book of Common Praise*, 1938).

A prayer that has helped me through all my years in ordained ministry is that glorious hymn, “Come down, O love divine”. It was written in the 14th century by Bianco da Siena and translated in the 19th century by Richard Frederick Littledale. The text is so simply elegant in its humility of heart and holiness of yearning that it needs no commentary from me but only a quiet reciting:

Come down, O love divine, seek Thou this soul of mine, And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing.

O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, til earthly passions turn

To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;

And let Thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,

And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,

And lowliness become mine inner clothing;

True lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,

And o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,

Shall far outpass the power of human telling;

For none can guess its grace, till they become the place

Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

In you Josée, James, Jean-Jacques, Amy, Mary and Denis the Holy Spirit has found a dwelling. So called, clothed, and quickened by Her power may your lives be a canticle of thanks and praise for such a wondrous grace as this. Amen



ANGLICAN DIOCESE MONTREAL

Conference SYNOD 2015

Yes! God is with us. Stronger together.

October 16 and 17 at St Paul's Lachine

A very special venue. The Rev'd Annie Ittoshat is looking forward to welcoming us to the bright new home of Aboriginal ministries at St Paul's Lachine. The venue was selected to give you an opportunity to learn more about this newest partnership in ministry, to meet the people who are building this community and experience their space first hand.



FRIDAY...

9:00 am | Opening Eucharist and the Bishop's charge

Join us for a time of prayer and a very special Eucharist celebration, officiated by the newly installed Bishop of Montreal, Mary Irwin-Gibson.

To mark this occasion and reflect our theme

of partnership we will be joined by the Bishop James Almasi of Masasi, Tanzania and Bishop Barbara Andrews of the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior; our ecumenical partners and other groups and faith communities that support us in our ministry today. The liturgy and music have been especially chosen to honour our Aboriginal and African partners in ministry. We will also receive Bishop Mary's first charge to the Diocese during the opening service.

11:15 am | The business of Synod

All are welcome to join the Synod delegates as they participate in the business of Synod. The delegates will hear nominations and elect people for key positions in the Diocese. They will also receive, discuss and approve Synod reports including the financial report. We also expect that several significant formal motions will be tabled this year for discussion and approval. Look for the Synod convening circular to be posted by September 15th (www.montreal.anglican.ca/electoral-synod). We encourage delegates to come prepared to fully participate in the discussion during Synod.



3:30 pm | Learning from our partnerships in the community

You won't want to be late. The Rev'd Brian Perron will lead a lively interactive presentation with five of our most thriving community missions – Action Refugiés Montréal, Fulford Residence, Mile End Mission, St Michael's Mission, Tyndale St George's Community Centre – along with their strategic partners – to share their experience of building community missions together. They will share their real life experiences of stepping out, their passions for doing the work of Christ and let us in on the opportunities and challenges they are facing together. Expect to learn about new tools and ideas to empower your church community.

5:30 pm | Celebrating together - The Gala

Share an exceptional evening of fellowship, food, entertainment, and for those who are young at heart – dancing at our Synod gala dinner. The meal will be catered by "By George" and the menu has been created to express our theme [without being too adventuresome]. Arrive early for cocktails and very intriguing appetizers. At the sound of throat singing you will be led into the banquet hall. Quavaria will provide their choral accompaniment through the meal and then for dancing. You won't want to miss this highlight of Synod 2015.

The ripple effect

Montreal Diocesan Theological College plays a crucial role in equipping us for partnership. Principal Boisvert will join us during the Gala to present how the Diocesan College has evolved from its origins to present day, and share his team's latest thinking on effective ministry education and partnership at the Diocesan College.

SATURDAY...

9:00 am | Opening the day with morning prayer

Begin day-two of Synod with Bishop James as he celebrates morning prayer with us.

10:00 am | The opportunities and challenges of partnership at a distance

Join Executive Archdeacon Bill in a panel discussion with Bishops Barbara, Mary and James. Discover how we as members of the global church are learning from each other and how we can work better together to achieve concrete mutually beneficial outcomes and community impact and what that means to the Diocese of Montreal.

2:00 pm | Partnerships & getting out of your comfort zone

Beth Reed will host a discussion with the recently returned "Out of Africa" youth Ambassadors. Learn how getting out of your comfort zone can enrich your experience and inspire new spiritual directions.

3:15 pm | Building thriving ministry

A series of interactive workshops. Participate in facilitated discussions around different mission themes including: Emerging ministry, French ministry, Youth ministry, Diocesan community missions, Aboriginal ministry, Ministry in the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior or, Ministry in Masasi. You can expect to leave having learned from each other about what's working and how we can get even better in delivering these important ministries and with ideas to inspire practical individual and community action.



4:30 pm | Learning from Synod 2015

Stay to hear Bishop Mary's closing reflections on her first Synod as Bishop of Montreal and join in a plenary discussion of what we've learned and the implications for action individually and as community.

Discover how we are stronger together!

FRIDAY

OPENING EUCHARIST AND THE BISHOP'S CHARGE

THE BUSINESS OF SYNOD

LEARNING FROM OUR PARTNERSHIPS IN THE COMMUNITY

CELEBRATING TOGETHER. THE GALA

| 9:00 am

| 10:00 am

| 11:15 am

| Noon

| 2:00 pm

| 3:15 pm

| 3:30 pm

| 4:30 pm

| 5:30 pm

SATURDAY

OPENING THE DAY WITH MORNING PRAYER

THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF PARTNERSHIP AT A DISTANCE

PARTNERSHIPS AND GETTING OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

BUILDING THRIVING MINISTRY

LEARNING FROM SYNOD 2015

Internship opened the doors of the church

Experiment in mission for five young adults:

BY THE MONTREAL MISSION INTERNSHIP 2015 PROGRAM TEAM

The Montreal Mission Internship, run by the Montreal Diocesan Theological College (or Dio), is a hands-on experiment in mission – what does it look like, how does it feel, what does it make us think about? Five very different young adults took up this challenge and designed five very different projects. They each learned a great deal and those of us with the privilege of spending time with them learned a great deal as well. The interns and their work have challenged us to think about mission in the broadest possible sense, to contemplate the ways in which God is already at work in the world and to be creative in the ways in which we can imagine joining in. They have asked good, hard questions about faith, about church, about community, and justice and truth and suffering and hope and relationships – and the list goes on and on.

Ben Stuchbury, for instance, designed a project around three distinct yet interconnected components: fair trade, French Bible study, and pastoral care. Ben writes:

“Each of these witnesses to care for human dignity in progressively smaller dimensions, namely: global, local/parish, individual. Yet there is always a dialogue to be had in relating each of these back to the church.”

While Ben has grown up in the church, fellow intern Nicolas Oligny was intentionally interacting with a church community for the first time. Nick states:

“My project has been to draw wisdom from the Church in order to inculcate positive values to myself and others who might be weary of the baggage affixed to certain world views or symbols. I can understand why some would want to distance themselves from one faith or another, for whatever reason; but there are universal values which I find important to hold onto: compassion, diligence, reason and temperance – the cardinal virtues.”

Amos Bohoussou injected joy and humour into his mission project as he focused on finding ways to share the Good News with others using comedy:

“As an intern, my mission project was to share the gospel with people while incorporating humour. Two main ways of doing that were by doing stand-up routines in comedy clubs and my local church and also hosting a night of dialogue with religious and non-religious people on the humour of God. When I did stand-up comedy at Comedy Works and Yuk Yuk’s comedy clubs, I listened to and reflected on the jokes of the comedians. They have been wounded in life and in return they used their wounds, painful or hurtful events in their lives to make their audience laugh. My hope was to see comedians and audience members not just laugh at jokes based on my wounds and frailties, but also to hear and take in a message of healing from a representative of the risen Christ.”

Intern Tala Strauss, whose project focused on raising awareness around foster youth who have “aged out” of the foster care system, articulates some of the challenges around the

concept of mission:

“The word “mission” is, for me, a complicated word. In fact, I don’t know that I believe in mission. The word itself acted as a stumbling block for me before I applied for this internship. Yet here I am, working on a project that has indeed taught me something positive about mission.

“It’s very difficult to imagine, as a twentysomething only two years into postgrad life, that I could find my way as a Christian, an activist, a storyteller, a photographer, a writer, a friend – or whomever else I am and become – without the support and mentorship of other Christians and professionals. This internship has given me just that: multiple people whose primary responsibility during this time has been to mentor me. They have become a network and a safety net, a family of sorts that I hope will continue to be a part of my life in Montreal and beyond.”

Each of the interns was paired with a mentor throughout the program who helped them reflect on their work and themselves on a weekly basis. This mentorship was crucial to the development of their sense of vocation. Nick Oligny remarks:

Few, if any, questions have been answered for either the interns or the program leaders. Yet we have all grown over the course of these weeks and it is certain that the full measure of that growth will not be realized until well after the internship is over.

Jaime Grennan, whose project was based on working with youth at St. Thomas Anglican Church in the N.D.G. district of Montreal, realizes that her internship project has been completed but her greater mission has only just begun:

“It is the mission work that is ongoing, lifelong, and sustaining that makes a difference and needs to happen. Coming into this summer of mission I had the mindset that regardless of what I did it needed to be something that would continue on somehow after I left. I also had the mindset that I would be gloriously happy had one person benefitted from the work done. And I realize now that I lost sight of this; as I was dealing with the struggles of church bureaucracy and parental controls I forgot what I wanted to do in the first place. What it boils down to is whether anyone received any benefit from the mission. Of course I don’t know that and may never be fortunate enough to find out. What I do know, however, is how I can absolutely go forth and be better at fulfilling His mission through what I have learned.”

The interns aren’t the only ones who have been experimenting with mission this summer. Dio and its funding partners, the Diocese of Montreal and the Anglican Foundation of Canada, have been experimenting as well. This internship has been an opportunity for us to think about how we reach out beyond our institutions and our traditional activities.

The interns were not hired in the hope that they would become priests or even active lay leaders in Anglican parishes around the city. Most of our time has not been directed towards formal educational activities, theological or otherwise. We have not used our lovely college chapel for worship. Instead, we have entered into the conversation as learners in



This summer’s mission interns pose with two of the leaders of the program. From left are Jaime Grennan, Nicolas Oligny, the Rev. Karen Egan, director of pastoral studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, Tala Strauss, Amos Bohoussou, Ben Stuchbery and the Rev. Rhonda Waters, Dio chaplain. Amos and Rhonda are holding Hope Bear, a mascot of the Anglican Foundation of Canada, which helped fund the internship.

our own right, as seekers after God and God’s desire for our own lives and the life of our institution.

Montreal Diocesan Theological College could hardly be more fortunate than it was this summer to host and support this thoughtful and dynamic group of young adults who

are the church of today. Tala Strauss reflects:

“It is increasingly difficult to find space to belong in the church. Internships like this one open the doors of the church to young people like myself, introducing us to the work of the church in a safe environ-

ment, where we can get a much more clear picture of the landscape of the church and all the valuable roles it is possible to play.”

(For more comments by interns visit thecommunity.anglican.ca/blogs/generation).

Equipping the Saints

A stable place

BENJAMIN STUCHBERY

This is one of a series of columns by students, graduates and friends of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College. Benjamin Stuchbery is an undergraduate student in Religious Studies at McGill University. He was born in Montreal and raised in British Columbia in the towns of Squamish and Penticton. His two passions in life are music and theology. He participates in the life of Christ Church Cathedral and the Diocesan College, writing, preaching and most recently participated in the Montreal Mission Internship. He is also a flutist and drummer, currently playing in a flute quartet and in the past playing in orchestras, chamber groups, and jazz ensembles.

My aunt is exploring a brainstorming method for her Grade Seven students. It begins by getting the students to come up with as many bad ideas as possible. I can just imagine the effectiveness of getting a bunch of 12- and 13-year-olds to come up with bad ideas. Coming up with a bad idea isn’t the end of the story however. The point is to transform a bad idea into a good one. So, for example, one child might suggest watching the grass grow for his project. Bad idea, right? Well, how about putting together a stop-motion animation which explores the process of grass growing? The child

will learn about film-making, and maybe something about the biology of grass in the process. Good idea!

We were discussing this on the veranda at our cottage a couple of days ago when the discussion shifted to me and writing this article. I hadn’t decided what I was going to write on so, we thought, how about coming up with some bad ideas for an article? Well, someone suggested (probably me), how about “how the grass speaks to us?” It sounds terrible and cheesy. But could it be transformed into a fruitful idea that would speak of my experience with the Montreal Diocesan Theological College? It sounded far-fetched. But there is always a way if you allow the idea freedom to make connections.

I immediately thought of the verse from the Book of Isaiah which reads, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.” The contrast between a fragile and transitory life, and the everlasting stability of God, and the intimacy of relationship between the two, in which God watches over that fragility, struck me as pertaining to my own experience as a student.

The sense of fragility and vulnerability that comes from inhabiting a transitory stage in life is an experience shared by many students. It is a shock to the system being thrust out of the home environment and into an unstable environment that seems



to over-emphasize the need to “create your own identity” without effective nurturing community structures in place. This puts enormous strain on one’s emotional system. And what does one do when one is overwhelmed by such demands of life (whether real or imagined)? Well, at least for me, I sought refuge. I sought refuge in stability. I sought that stability in community. And that is what I found at Dio. I found a community with a pattern of worship and fellowship that was stable, rich and meaningful. I found people who welcomed me and included me in the community life of the college. I found outlets for my creativity. I was able to experiment with social interactions, with participating in worship, even with preaching. The college became fertile ground, an important safe space for nourishing my spiritual, intellectual and social development. I often leave the college feeling renewed and ready to move about in the world, all because I found that still point, that physical space with real people who watch over my fragility, much as God did for the people of Israel and continues to do for me and for everyone. How’s that for a bad idea?

Sunny skies join homage to Mile End Mission founder

'Terrace Connie' perpetuates Connie Olson's memory

LOU HACHEY

A lovely summer's day surrounded this year's annual Open House at the Mile End Community Mission! After two previous years of mostly rain and wind, it was truly a blessing to have the sun shine on everyone and on the day's activities, which were a great success!

The Open House was also a success thanks to: the fabulous live music provided by local musician Alexander Bullis and local band Weeping Buffalo, the smell of hot dogs on the grill, delicious treats that were prepared by friends of the Mission for our Bake Sale, the eye-catching tie-dye project organized by Joanne Racette and Naomi Lane of the Mission's Community Art Program, the wonderful social justice songs and street antics performed during our street fundraiser by the celebrated Raging Grannies of Montreal, Kayla Roberts' amazing

face painting throughout the day. Many old friends of the Mission stopped by to say hi as did many new ones, including neighbours and passers wanting to know more about what the Mission does.

Amongst all this activity, the highlight of the day was the official launch of our new "Terrace Connie", dedicated in loving memory, to one of the Mission's founding members, Connie Olson who very sadly passed away in 2012. It was so very special to have Bishop Barry Clark and the Rev. Roslyn Macgregor on hand to open the launch of the terrace with their blessings. This was followed by a few loving words from one of Connie's granddaughters, Suzanna Olson and the unveiling of a Terrace Connie commemorative plaque.

One of the founding members of the Mile End Mission, Connie devoted almost all of her time and her caring heart to being among and helping Mission members in their daily struggle with poverty. Connie made them smile, she fed them, she



made them feel loved, she loved them and they loved her. "In creating this terrace", as Connie's daughter Lori says, "we are creating a place where her memory will live on."

Among others who helped make this initiative a reality, we thank the Anglican Diocese of Montreal's Standing Committee on Mission Grants for funding that they provided to help support this initiative.

For many of our Mission members, the cost involved, as well as many other factors, make it difficult to be able to take part in something as simple and as enjoyable as sitting on a local terrace with friends and family for a cup of coffee or for a meal. With Terrace Connie, these possibilities open up, as do a couple more doors to a community that can welcome everyone.

In photos, Lori Olson of the Mile End Mission joins the Rev. Roslyn Macgregor, former executive director of the mission, in remembering Lori's mother, Connie Olson. The colourful Raging Grannies also put in an appearance.

Lou Hachey is the executive director of the Mile End Mission.



Two dinners will benefit Mile End Mission

Chefs plan affair at Le Rialto, October masquerade to follow

The Mile End Mission, which seeks to create a safe and welcoming community that meets the practical, emotional and spiritual needs of the needy in the east-central Mile End neighborhood, will be the beneficiary of not one but two benefit dinners in the space of just over a month.

- The emphasis will be on gastronomy at a "Mission Possible" collaborative event organized by a group of restaurateurs and chefs Monday, September 21, starting at 6 p.m. at the Rialto Theatre, 6723 Park Ave., not far from the mission.
- The Mission itself is planning its seventh annual Thanksgiving benefit dinner Thursday, October 22. This year's affair will be just before Hallowe'en and, appropriately enough, will be a Thanksgiving Masquerade. Participants are invited to bring a mask or buy one at the door.

The "Mission Possible" dinner at the Rialto will begin with oyster shucking by a team from Choice Harbour shucking oysters and live music by Barr Brothers. Contributors to the dinner will include such restaurants and other enterprises as Joe Beef, Hotel Herman, Lawrence, Ice House, Nora Gray, Hof Kelsten, Danny St Pierre, Pâtisserie Rhubarbe, Les Chocolats de Chloe and Café Myriade – and, for the libations, RéZin Sélection, Ward & associés, Oenopole, Glou, Primavin

and Ghost Farm.

The event began as an initiative by Marc Cohen, chef-owner of Lawrence, who with his team cooks for the Mile End Community Mission once a month. He thought it would be a great opportunity to do something on a grand scale and enlisted the aid of others in the business.

He said, "It promises to be a unique occasion in support of a special organization. This year alone, the Mission expects to serve 12,000 meals, fill 10,000 grocery bags and provide countless essential services to its growing membership. Not just a soup kitchen, the Mission provides structure, purpose and meaning for its chronically poor, socially excluded and disadvantaged members. The Mile-End Community Mission is a community hub that allows members to connect and support one another."

Tickets are \$325 and a tax receipt for \$225 will be available. For information visit "Mission Possible" on Facebook.

The Thanksgiving Masquerade October 22 at 6 p.m. will be at the same venue as the last couple of years: the Le Crystal Reception Hall at 5285 Henri Bourassa Blvd. W. in St. Laurent. The keynote speaker will be Lori Graham of CTV. Admission will be \$200. More details are to come, or send an email to mission-benefitdinner@gmail.com or call 514-947-2074.

Information on either event is available at www.mileendmission.org or by calling 514-274-3401.

SAVE the DATE



THE MILE END COMMUNITY MISSION *presents*
THE 7th ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER

Thanksgiving Masquerade

A FUNDRAISING EVENT TO FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY & SOCIAL EXCLUSION

GUEST OF HONOUR: LORI GRAHAM OF CTV

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 2015

LE CRYSTAL RECEPTION HALL, 6 PM

5285 HENRI BOURASSA WEST, ST-LAURENT, QUEBEC H4R 1B7

LIVE MUSIC * RAFFLE * LIVE AUCTION * FOUR-COURSE MEAL

Bring your mask or buy one at the door!

\$200 ADMISSION

INCLUDES COCKTAIL,
DINNER AND
ENTERTAINMENT

FOR TICKETS OR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

514.947.2074 | MISSIONBENEFITDINNER@GMAIL.COM



Maison de la Bible marks 150 years of spreading the Word

A celebration in Christ Church Cathedral May 10 organized by the Canadian Bible Society of Montreal marked 150 years of uninterrupted presence in downtown Montreal

for the Bible House, or Maison de la Bible. All photos below and at right are from the Bible House and its Facebook page.



Among those present, Bishop Barry Clarke enjoyed what appears to have been a lighter moment with Jaroslaw Kaufmann, a Sulpician priest and rector of Grand Séminaire de Montréal, who represented the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Montreal.



Archdeacon David Oliver of St. Barnabas Church in North Hatley, a Bible Society stalwart of long standing, was master of ceremonies for the event and was photographed in conversation with Gilbert St-Onge of the Salvation Army, president of the society, Mohawk translator Harvey Gabriel and Bible translator Manuel Jinbachian.



At another moment, Dean Kennington and Jaroslaw Kaufmann exchanged some thoughts with Glenn Smith, executive director of the non-denominational outreach organization Christian Direction.



On July 11 and 12, the Bible House, which is situated on a mezzanine inside the northeast entrance to the Promenades Cathédrale shopping centre, participated in a sidewalk sale on St. Catherine St. organized by the shopping centre. At these events “we reach many people who have never had a Bible,” says Ms Gordon, photographed with Léa Supple of the Bible House staff.



Dean Paul Kennington of Christ Church Cathedral had an informal moment with Liliane Gordon, director general of the Bible Society.

Notable

St. George's Church
23 Perrault Ave.
Ste. Anne de Bellevue H9X 2C6
Fall 2015 Courses and Programs
CPR

Christian Prayer and Reflection
Monday's 7:00 pm
Sept 14 – Dec 7
DivorceCare
Tuesday's 7:00 pm
Sept 15 – Dec 8

Boundaries
Tuesday's 7:00 pm
Oct 6 – Nov 24
55 + Fit!
Wednesday's
9:00 am and 10:15 am
Sept 16 – Nov. 25

Messy Church
Once a month every fourth
Wednesday 5:00 pm
Parenting Course
Thursday's 7:00 pm
Oct 1 – Oct 29

Amplified Youth Group
Friday's 7:00 pm
Begins Oct 2
For information contact our office at
514-457-6934 office@stg.church
See courses, events & worship
www.stgeorgesanglicanchurch.org

Obituaries

Ian Stuchbery served across Canada & in England

Also known as PWRDF supporter, spiritual director

Born in England, Ian Stuchbery was ordained as a deacon in Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal in 1960 and later served there as a vicar between 1969 and 1973 and as rector of St. Phillip's Montreal West from 1973 to 1978 and St. Barnabas St. Lambert between 1985 and 1999.

He was educated at Cambridge University and the Montreal Diocesan Theological College and served as curate, vicar or rector of two or three parishes in the English Diocese of Chelmsford (where he was ordained as a priest in 1961) and at St. Matthew's Church in Winnipeg. In an active retirement, he also served parishes in the Vancouver area and in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Archdeacon Stuchbery died peacefully on June 2 in Greenwich, N.S., succumbing to the long-term effects of Alzheimer's Disease, less than six months after the death of his wife, Sylvia.

He was known as a strong advocate and active committee member and officer of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund and author of a history of its first 25 years.

He also was known as a gifted leader, preacher, educator, pastor, spiritual director, liturgist, theologian and the author of three other books on religious subjects.

The last, *Experiencing God in a Secular World*, published about five years ago, reflects his concern as a parish priest about the declining number of worshippers at many churches and asks whether this is



because going to church has become a cultural habit with little attraction in today's society. According to a publisher's note, the book aims to speak to those who are questioning their faith and are tempted to drift away from their churches.

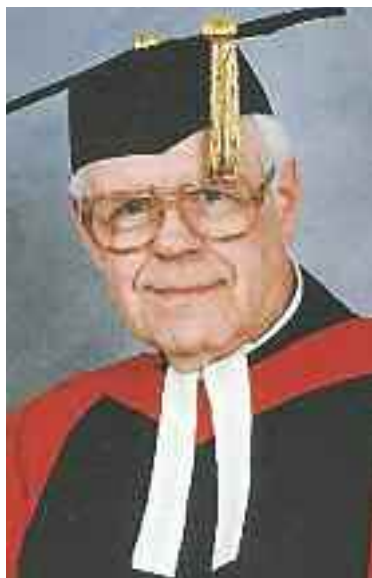
He was also an associate of the Sisters of St. John the Divine. Among other commitments through the years, he was a board member for the Centre for Bioethics at McGill University and a co-founder of Tel-Aide, a telephone crisis line, both in the 1970s, and served on numerous task forces of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

He is survived by his children Alison Lannan, the Rev. Canon Mike Stuchbery of the Kootenay Diocese, and Nick Stuchbery and his grandchildren Nicola, Alexandra, Robert and Matthew Lannan; Benjamin (currently active in the Montreal Diocese), Jonathan and Emily Stuchbery; and Spencer, Cooper and Finn Stuchbery.

Bill Bothwell was Cathedral dean during Expo 67

The Rev. Bill Bothwell, who died on June 23, was dean of Christ Church Cathedral from 1963 to 1968 and is remembered with great affection by those who were in the congregation then.

Ann Elbourne recalled in a note to fellow members of the Cathedral that, "The sixties, the period of the Quiet Revolution, were an interesting time in the cathedral. Declaring that 'the cathedral is not a venerable institution: it is a vibrant community of Christians,' Dean Bothwell made many innovations – the Nave Altar, a weekday French Eucharist, coffee hour, Lenten lunches, a men and boys choir, coloured vestments." The Eucharist became the main service each Sunday and names were removed from the pews. Liturgical dance was introduced. (Current Cathedral Treasurer) Jane Aitkens, whose father was People's Warden for three years, remembers confirmation classes run by his wife, Lois during which the youngsters visited other churches. Bill Bothwell was heavily involved in the ecumenical Christian Pavillion at Expo 67." At various times Father Bothwell



also served as rector of St Martin-in-the-Fields Toronto, taught at Trinity College and was a broadcaster and columnist.

There were two requiem masses in the Diocese of Niagara in July: at St Thomas' Church in St. Catharines, where a son, the Rev. Canon Kevin Bothwell is a son, and at St John's Church East in Orangeville.

Lay readers get a glimpse of Judeo-Christian origins



Members of the Lay Readers Association of the Diocese of Montreal got some insights into the beginnings of Judaism and the emergence of Christianity from a favourite speaker of long standing at their spring retreat May 1-3 at the Manoir d'Youville in Châteauguay.

With her usual brio, the Rev. Professor Patricia G. Kirkpatrick of the McGill University faculty of

religious studies explored some of the implications of this background for interfaith studies and dialogue in the 21st century, with illustrations from selected biblical passages, drawing on her 25 years as a teacher.

The ever-present lens of lay reader and photographer Michel Gagnon captured a moment of her presentation. In another photo, lay readers Claire Fearnley and Ian

Sinclair of the Parish of Vaudreuil lead worship, while the Rev. Canon Tim Smart, outgoing pastor of the lay readers, looks on.

The weekend was something of a swan song in that role for Canon Smart. The Rev. Lorne Eason, recently appointed as incumbent in the Parish of St. John the Baptist in Claire, has been appointed the new pastor of the lay readers.



IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

FIND OUT WHAT ARCHBISHOP FRED HILTZ MEANS AT FREDSAYS.CA

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

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

Caribbean Supper
Souper aux saveurs des Caraïbes

Saturday, September 19th 6:00pm
samedi le 19 septembre à 18h

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

514-769-5373
epiphany.verdun@gmail.com
www.epiphanyverdun.com
www.facebook.com/EpiphanyVerdun

4322 Wellington St.,
Verdun, QC
H4G 1W4

Montrealers find passion for prayer at Newfoundland gathering

Annual prayer conference in this diocese is a goal

VALERIE BENNETT
AND STACEY NEALE

Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale represent the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer – Canada in the Diocese of Montreal.

In June, we travelled to Holyrood, Newfoundland, to attend the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Consultation. The Rev. Greg Mercer drove us from the airport to the Lavrock Camp and Conference Centre, situated on a beautiful lake and well suited to the needs of the conference and our group.

The consultation was organized by the AFP executive committee to get a sense of where this organization stands at present, where it should channel its resources over the next few years and how to raise its profile. Discussions were designed to identify what was working, what wasn't and why the AFP was important to us. The existing resources were considered a solid base on which to grow, but the website, among other marketing tools, needed to be redesigned. A lot of other wonderful ideas emerged on how to move forward. We also met privately with executive members from Ontario, who listened to our concerns and gave us suggestions on how to lift up the AFP in Montreal. We are very grateful for the support we get from the committee, and, especially our mentor, Paul Dumbrille.

There were plenty of opportunities to practice prayer during this week long consultation. Each day opened with Morning Prayer and Bible study in small groups. We listened to faith stories from several participants and responded passionately to their poignant testimonies.

On June 2, the morning the Truth and Reconciliation Commission issued its report in Ottawa, the Rev. Ophelia Kamenawatamin, recently ordained in the new Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh in northwestern Ontario and northern Manitoba, shared a most harrowing experience

of brutality and murder from her community. Her soft-spoken nature did not conceal the profound pain this death caused the people she ministers to. The response in prayer was immediate and created what some spiritually minded people call a thin place.

We experienced new forms of prayer such as soaking prayer, praying with pictures and Qigong, a breathing technique linked to the martial arts and meditation. Music was a big part of every prayer session. The Ven. Paul Fehely, the executive director of AFP, led a talk on the importance of music and hymns in the liturgy and prayer, which was very insightful – as well as songful. We were blessed that he, Nancy Aasland, and Mark Perrin all shared their gift of music, so that we could pray twice on many occasions.

We had the pleasure of meeting diocesan representatives from Dioceses in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. In addition, the Rev. Lucy Kumarluk from the Diocese of the Arctic and the Rev. Lisa Brandt Francis from the Diocese of Moosonee attended the consultation. Their enthusiasm for prayer, learning and sharing was much appreciated by the other attendees. We shared our experiences of trying to raise the profile of the AFP in our respective Dioceses. It seemed that where there was strong support for the AFP from area bishops, the organization grew. Annual prayer conferences and workshops seemed to be most common activities offered by the representatives. In areas where APF was the strongest, these events were well attended and meaningful to the participants.

Two such bishops addressed the group during the consultation. The Right Rev. Geoffrey Peddle, Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, addressed us with words of encouragement and reflections on his faith journey. Many of those present found his *Moments of Grace* messages inspirational and meaningful. The Eucharist with Commissioning of Regional Diocesan Representatives was presided over by the Right



Back home, Stacey Neale and Valerie Bennett, congratulate the Rev. Nick Pang on his induction in Lachute as an associate priest of the Laurentian Regional Ministry.

(Photo: Valerie Bennett)

Rev. David Torraville, Bishop of Central Newfoundland, who also spoke enthusiastically of the AFP. Fervour and passion for AFP was also demonstrated by the large number of parish representatives from the area who attended the consultation. The people of Newfoundland are very dedicated to the AFP and very active pray-ers. Besides enjoying their hospitality, we were touched by their spirituality. Experiencing such enthusiasm has renewed our call to lift up the AFP in Montreal and inspired us to make a more concerted effort to build up a network of parish representatives.

We enjoyed a short sight-seeing

tour that took us to Cape Spear, Petty Harbour, and Signal Hill. After a nice dinner in Paradise, the bus driver took the scenic route back to the conference centre and we got to see the beautiful coastline and communities around Conception Bay. We were treated to an evening of Newfoundland music and skits lovingly presented by our hosts. The hospitality we experienced was simply wonderful and full of loving kindness.

We are truly blessed to be involved with this ministry and look forward to being part of AFP's renewal process. We want very much to expand our circle of pray-ers.

To this end, Stacey has prepared a presentation on the AFP and its resources which she has already shared with one Deanery. During the coming year, we will be reaching out to all the parishes and clergy to share this presentation and take questions on what the AFP-C is all about. Hosting an annual prayer workshop is one of our goals. We would be delighted to have some clergy aboard to help share their ideas of prayer with us. With God's help and Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson's support, we know our efforts in this diocese will be rewarded with many blessings.

Visions of church-planting

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

This business of "church planting" is really full of surprises!

I love how creative and inspired I feel at the prospect of it all. The possibilities are endless! And God is at the heart of this process.

This year a number of Montreal delegates attended a "Vital-Church-Planting Conference" in Toronto. As a result, I have found myself chairing a "Vital-Church-Planting task force".

Although the name is a little daunting and severe, the members are friendly and sincere and have a real heart for this critical ministry.

Before our last gathering we had decided to come prepared to discuss our visions of what a "vital church" might be. I found the exercise very challenging. It was so open-ended! I mean, one could go anywhere with this question. Then I found myself invigorated by the prospect.

Before I knew it, I had mentally

designed a purposeful space that incorporated worship, fitness, food and a garden. A community-based, multi purpose, wellness facility. I had chosen the colours, the furniture and the counter tops. The altar was sparse and sacred with plenty of floor seating. I even had a logo and a sign and a location picked out.

I showed up on a Tuesday morning eager to share my vision for our new church plant. We opened with prayer and I was eager to launch into my presentation. I was asked questions and I felt more and more excited about my fictitious new church! Then as other members began sharing, I began to reflect on this business of "vital-church-planting."

I heard people express a desire to build a platform for communication and connection. There was a lot of emphasis on relationships and on being present and listening. Finally, there was a real yearning to hear and follow God as a central focus. How thoughtful and profound! How interesting and inspired! I found myself very humbled by these visions and realized how easy it is to be arrogant and assume we know more than we do. Yet at the same time I felt stronger and more capable.

These conversations about church-planting are very intimidating and one has no idea at all if any of these visions will come to fruition but something remarkable happens when we gather together and avail ourselves of Gods plans for Gods people.


Lee-Ann Matthews
is youth ministry co-ordinator at
St. Thomas Church in the N.D.G.
district of Montreal

www.flameconference.ca

26th Annual

FLAME PRESENTS

The Rev. Canon Gene Packwood




For information
Call Roger Spack
At: 514-684-4356

30, 31 Oct, November 1

A weekend of spiritual enrichment, refreshment and fellowship for Men at:

Ermitage Ste Croix
21269 Gouin Blvd West
Pierrefonds QC H9K 1C1



Come and join us!

October 3rd

10am - 3pm



Want to reach families not in church on Sunday?
Messy Church is for you!

Experience & learn about Messy Church
for registration contact

église st. george's church
23, perrault ave. ste-anne-de-belleuve
514-457-6934 | www.stgeorgesanglicanchurch.com

Let's create liturgies of reconciliation, Primate says

International group meets in Montreal

HARVEY SHEPHERD

Some of the church gestures and documents aimed at reconciliation after past wrongs, like those associated with Canada's residential schools, already have the characteristics of liturgy, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, told an international gathering of specialists on liturgy Tuesday.

He suggested the church take another step and specifically make liturgy out of them.

For example, he said, a timeline poster almost seven feet long available from the national church and detailing the evolving history of relations between the Anglican Church and Indigenous Peoples between 1452 and 2014 does not just tell a story.

"It prays a prayer. It sings a song.

"Wouldn't it be marvellous to create a liturgy around this timeline?"

"You could share an incredible litany of reconciliation around this timeline."

Speaking to about 40 priests, scholars and other liturgy specialists from such places as Canada, the United States, Britain, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Uruguay and the South Pacific, at a gathering called the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation, the primate said he himself has used the timeline as an aid in prayer.

He mentioned other gestures with liturgical quality, among them the Apology to Native People by the then primate, Archbishop Michael Peers, in 1993, a Covenant for self-determination adopted by Indigenous Anglican leaders in 1994 and the emotional acceptance by Bishop Gordon Beardy of Keewatin, the church's first Indigenous bishop, of the 1993 apology at the 2001 General Synod in Waterloo.

Archbishop Hiltz said these and other developments were part of "a long litany of embracing, healing,



Michael Lapsley chats with Nak-Hyon Joo of Korea and Lapsley's personal assistant, Mosuo Rakuoane.

reconciliation and new life."

"Michael Peers set this church on a path from which we cannot and never will turn back."

Among other things, Archbishop Hiltz said, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (of which he is president) "has realized that it has work to do not just around the world but right here in Canada."

At the same time, Archbishop Hiltz warned against premature gestures of reconciliation.

He said such a gesture before the time is right can "feel kind of presumptuous."

"Reconciliation cannot be imposed. A gesture of reconciliation is something that has to emerge. My word of apology is insufficient in and of itself. I have to be comfortable that, once I've said I'm sorry I may

have to wait until the other party is able to hear it."

Others also sounded notes of caution. The Rev. Eileen Scully, director of faith, worship and ministry for the Anglican Church of Canada and chair of the liturgical consultation, said there has been something of a consensus in that body to "continue to talk about reconciliation and not rush to a statement."

Bishop Mark MacDonald, the national indigenous bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada, said he is convinced that it is in liturgy that issues like reconciliation "become real in the life of the church."

He said the work of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation commission shows the churches "that we have insufficient theological or

liturgical resources to deal with these dilemmas."

When people in western society encounter evil they look for a villain, he said. There are only meagre theological resources to deal with systemic evil.

"We are beginning to understand how deeply oppressors (as well as the oppressed) are hurt by their oppression."

He said the church "does not know how to repent as a church" and still fails to recognize, for example, that it was at one point a willing participant in a system that aimed to make Indigenous people disappear as a people.

Anglicans do not sufficiently recognize that the victims in residential schools administered by Anglicans were largely

baptised Anglicans.

He said the Anglican Church is beginning to recognize that the residential schools issue "will shape our identity for the rest of time."

The Rev. Michael Lapsley, an Anglican priest and social justice activist in South Africa, who lost both hands and was blinded in one eye in 1990 by a letter bomb apparently sent a pro-apartheid agency, also warned against hasty approaches to forgiveness in a talk Wednesday.

"I don't know who made the bomb or who wrote my name on the envelope. I don't know what it means to forgive an abstraction.

He said he believes in "a justice of restoration rather than a justice of punishment."

"We often reduce forgiveness to saying we're sorry. Reality is much more messy and ambiguous."

Notable

MESSY FIESTA

... a day to experience and learn about Messy Church

Are you looking for a way to reach families who are not in our churches on Sundays?

Messy Church aims to create the opportunity for adults and children to enjoy expressing their creativity, to gather together for a meal, to experience worship and to have fun within a church context.

Would you like to experience what Messy Church can offer your church? The session will allow you to experience a Messy Church, to brainstorm around your own Messy Church, to gather resources, and to explore the history of this innovative way of being church in a changing world. You will take away knowledge, skills and materials to help you get started. For participants who have already started a Messy Church, we will share ideas and network, facilitated by seasoned Messy Church practitioners.

Presenters: **Sue and Andy Kalbfleisch** (Messy Church Canada team leaders and practitioners)

Saturday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
(Doors open at 9:45.)

Location:
St. George's Anglican Church
23 Perrault Ave.,
Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue

The cost (includes lunch, crafts, handouts and a fun day) is \$25 a person (\$20 a person for a group of three or more). Registrations accepted to September 25 as we want to have enough food for everyone! Registrations limited to 50 participants.

Questions?

To find out more about Messy Church, **visit**
www.messychurch.ca and look for the video!

For information on program call **Sue Kalbfleisch 905-648-0302** or **ask@nas.net**

For information on registration or a registration form call **Elizabeth Shama 514-457-6934** or **office@stg.church**

Hope you can join us for a great day of fun and learning!

Pilgrimage to Rigaud



Last July 12, recognized by the Armenian Apostolic Church as the day of Transfiguration, or Vardavar, around 300 faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church Canadian Diocese participated in a pilgrimage to the Sanctuaire Notre Dame de Lourdes in Rigaud, which was jointly organized by the pastors and parish coun-

cils of St. Gregory the Illuminator Cathedral of Montreal and Holy Cross Church of Laval. Divine Liturgy was served by Bishop Abgar Hovakimian, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church Canadian Diocese, with participation of the children's choir of Holy Cross church of Laval.

Come and join us!
All are welcome!

doors open 5pm

église st. george's church

23, perrault ave. ste-anne-de-bellevue
514-457-6934 | messychurch@stg.church

september 23rd

theme: the biggest party ever

All ages are welcome

4th wednesday of every month

snacks | craft activities | celebration | fun

a light supper will be served at 6pm

'In the heart of this world, the Lord of life,

Here is a presentation by the Green Church Network of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism of highlights from Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment *Laudato Si'*, *On Care for our Common Home*, published in June.

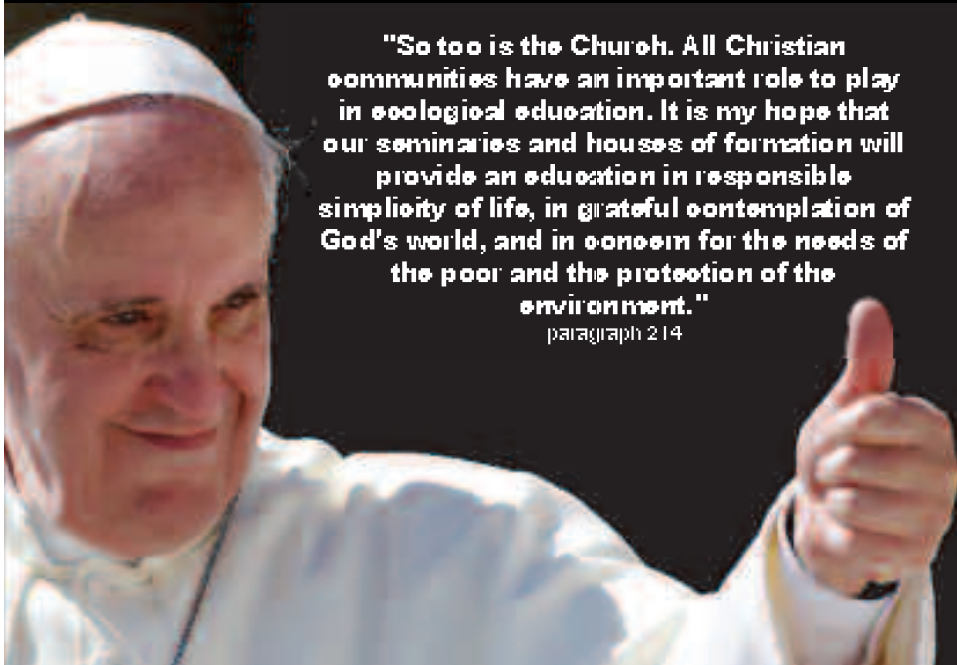


Laudato Si'

ENCYCLICAL LETTER OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



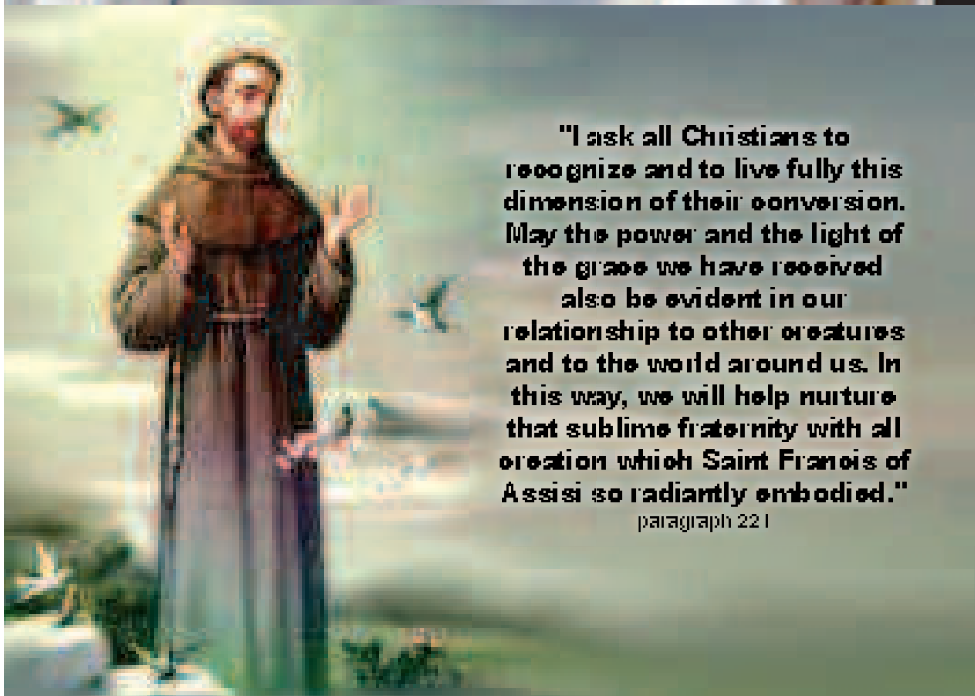
Highlights of the Encyclical



"So too is the Church. All Christian communities have an important role to play in ecological education. It is my hope that our seminaries and houses of formation will provide an education in responsible simplicity of life, in grateful contemplation of God's world, and in concern for the needs of the poor and the protection of the environment."
paragraph 214



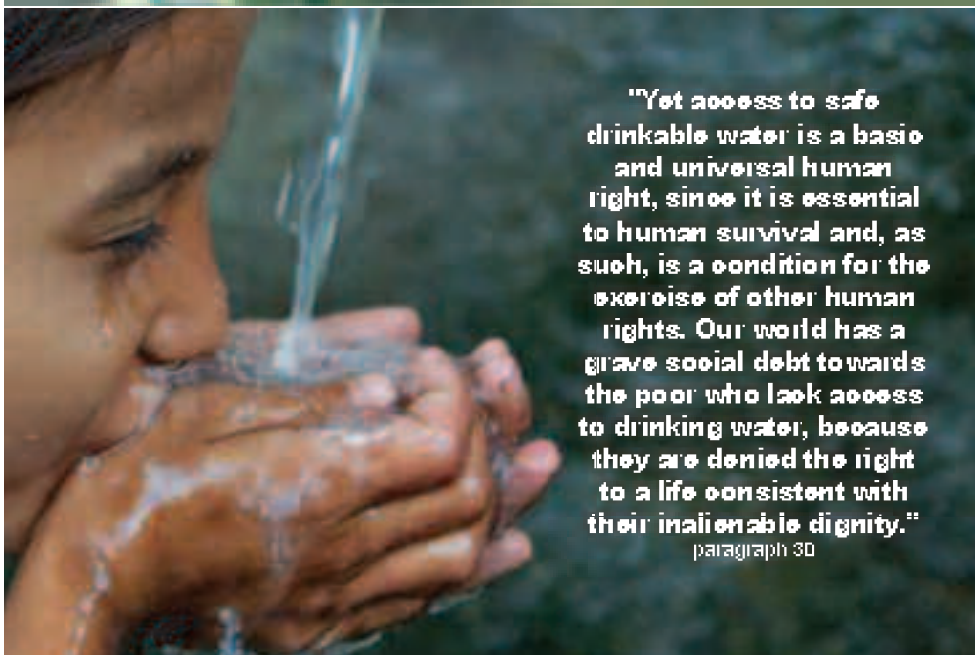
"When all these relationships are neglected, when justice no longer dwells in the land, the Bible tells us that life itself is endangered."
paragraph 70



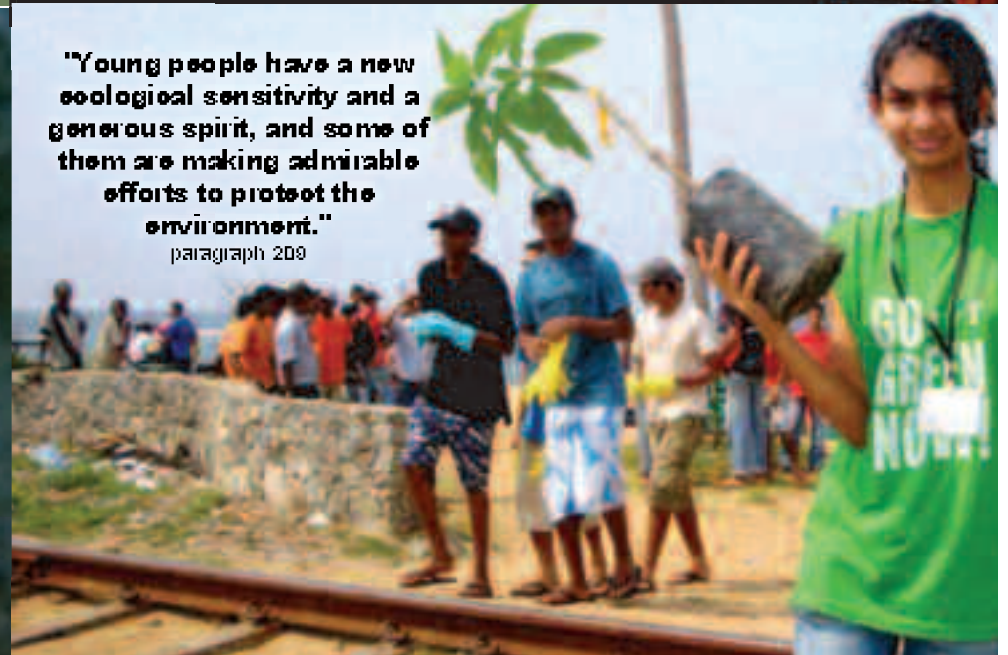
"I ask all Christians to recognize and to live fully this dimension of their conversion. May the power and the light of the grace we have received also be evident in our relationship to other creatures and to the world around us. In this way, we will help nurture that sublime fraternity with all creation which Saint Francis of Assisi so radiantly embodied."
paragraph 221



"We know that technology based on the use of highly polluting fossil fuels – especially coal, but also oil and, to a lesser degree, gas – needs to be progressively replaced without delay."
paragraph 105



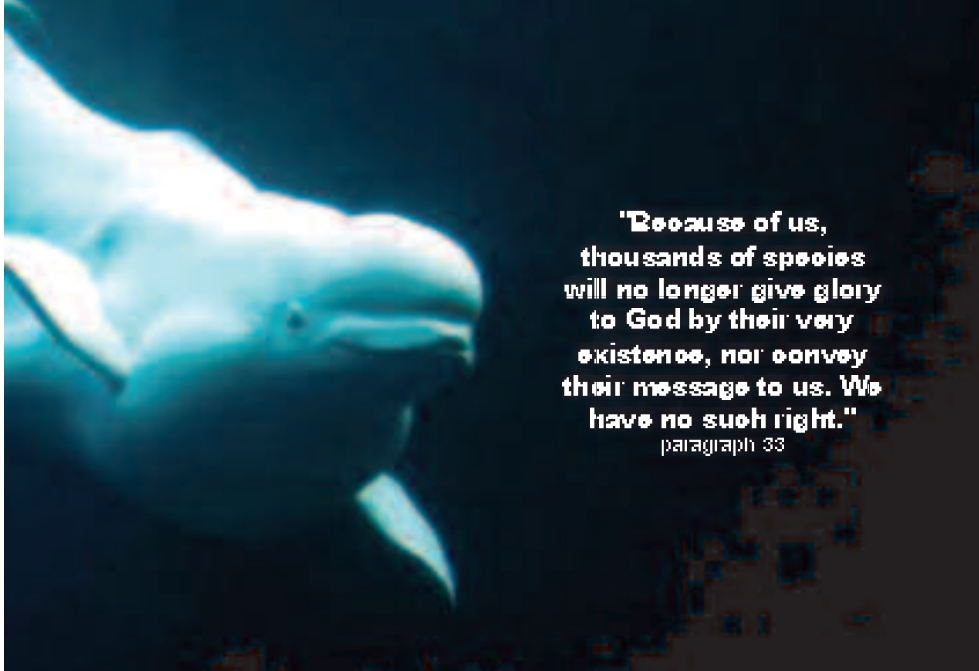
"Yet access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights. Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water, because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity."
paragraph 30



"Young people have a new ecological sensitivity and a generous spirit, and some of them are making admirable efforts to protect the environment."
paragraph 209

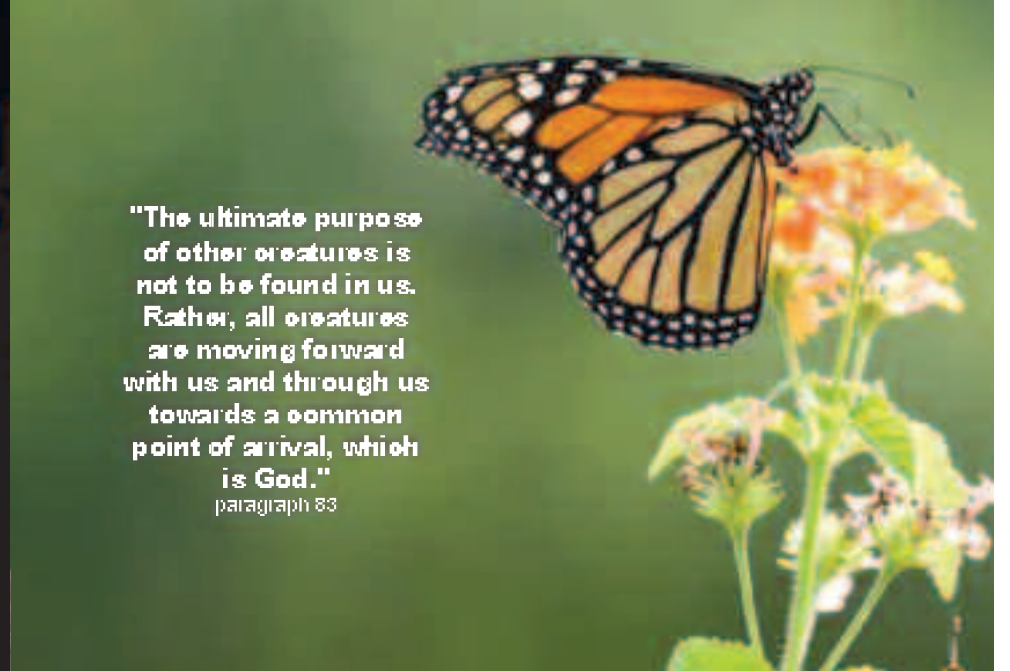
who loves us so much, is always present'

—POPE FRANCIS



"Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right."

paragraph 33



"The ultimate purpose of other creatures is not to be found in us. Rather, all creatures are moving forward with us and through us towards a common point of arrival, which is God."

paragraph 83



"Let us sing as we walk. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope."

paragraph 244



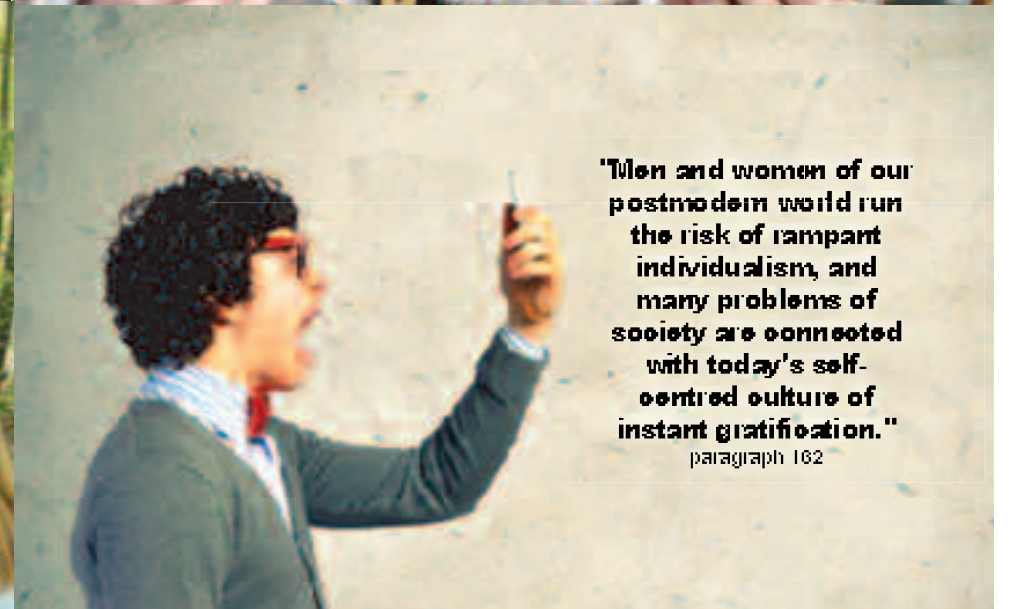
"Indigenous communities... should be the principal dialogue partners, especially when large projects affecting their land are proposed."

paragraph 146



"That moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life; it strengthens our feeling of gratitude for the gifts of creation; it acknowledges those who by their labours provide us with these goods; and it reaffirms our solidarity with those in greatest need."

paragraph 227



"Men and women of our postmodern world run the risk of rampant individualism, and many problems of society are connected with today's self-centred culture of instant gratification."

paragraph 162



"A person who could afford to spend and consume more but regularly uses less heating and wears warmer clothes, shows the kind of convictions and attitudes which help to protect the environment."

paragraph 211



"A technology severed from ethics will not easily be able to limit its own power."

paragraph 136

Books

'The trees are not oak or elm but trees of life'

Priest challenges traditional mind sets

Daniel C. Maguire, *Christianity Without God: Moving beyond the Dogmas and Retrieving the Epic Moral Narrative*. SUNY Press, 2014, paperback. 226 pages.

REVIEWED BY WILLIAM CONVERSE

Daniel Maguire is a liberal Roman Catholic theologian and Professor of Ethics at Marquette University. Author of 11 books and editor of three anthologies, he specializes in social justice, medical and ecological ethics.

The book begins with a disclaimer, disarming for anyone with preconceived ideas about what to expect from an ordained priest who has taught almost exclusively at Catholic universities: "When I knelt on the marble floor of the chapel in Rome and heard the bishop intone over me, 'Tu es sacerdos in aeternum' (you are a priest forever), I could never have imagined I would one day write this book. In these pages, I argue against the existence of a personal god, the divinity of Jesus, and the belief that continued living is the sequel to death. I find no persuasive arguments for any of those hypotheses."

Maguire claims that his intellectu-

al integrity required him to write this book. "The guiding maxim of my intellectual journey has been to follow the truth wherever it beckons." Accordingly he dedicates it to the American Association of University Professors "which stands tall as the defender of academic freedom and integrity."

Christianity without God comprises four parts. The first examines traditional concepts of a personal deity; the second, how Jesus of Nazareth came to be declared God; the third addresses the implications of human evolution for belief in immortality; the fourth offers a radical vision of humanity inspired by the Hebrew Prophets and the gospels.

Maguire's approach to the Hebrew Bible is literary rather than historical. Yet he maintains its abiding significance for our political and ethical values. In the Epilogue, he states: "One can profit from the poetry of early Israel in its polytheistic period without embracing polytheism. Biblical disarray and confusion about afterlife in some parallel universe does not destroy the poetic brilliance of that complex classic." The Hebrew Bible is our "epic moral narrative."

Maguire traces the tortuous path of ancient Israel from pre-exilic polytheism and monolatry to post-exilic monotheism. He targets supernatural theism, anthropocentrism and its concomitant, anthropomorphism. He eschews "god-talk." Human beings have never agreed on the meaning of the word "God." Morality does not depend on "unstable god-talk." In fact, morality does not depend on religion. This, after all, was the gist of Socrates' argument in Plato's dialogue Euthyphro. The distinction is important and also advantageous: "A definition of religion that leaves out god-talk can include nontheistic religions such as Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism."

Traditional concepts make it



Daniel C. Maguire

difficult to speak of God in a coherent way. The word "God" is either meaningless or misleading. Consequently philosophers resort to analogy, symbol and myth. Apophatic theologians have recourse to saying what God is not rather than describing what God is.

Maguire dismisses outright negative theology, calling it The Apophatic Hideaway. "In popular piety, moreover, the apophatic doesn't fly. Anthropocentrism reigns. There are no apophatic pews in churches."

For Maguire the three Abrahamic religions are intrinsically anthropomorphic. They depend on divine revelation (Torah, Gospel, Qur'an):

"The very concept of 'revelation' is as anthropomorphic as Jesus. 'Religions of the book,' Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, posit a talking deity, talking as *anthropoi* do. And Nicaea's *homoousios* decision made anthropomorphism official church doctrine."

Moreover the dogmas of the Incarnation and the Trinity accentuate the problem:

"Ironically, Jesus himself is a huge problem for Christians who want a transcendent non-anthropomorphic deity. From what we know of him, Jesus did not buy into a god hidden in abstractions. His god was not neuter but was clearly anthropomorphic and gendered. 'Abba, Father,' Jesus called him, the affectionate,

very personal term for father in Aramaic."

Maguire next traces the development of Christology, culminating in the Council of Nicaea (325 CE). Nicaea supplied the Emperor Constantine with the requisite theology for his project of unifying the Empire. He quotes Eusebius' description in his Life of Constantine of the lavish banquet that concluded Council of Nicaea, with the bishops entering the luxurious imperial apartments, flanked by the imperial bodyguards!

Maguire accepts the prevailing scientific worldview, citing Richard Dawkins, Stephen Hawking and Carl Sagan. Since evolution is integral to that worldview, it impinges directly on belief in an afterlife:

"Evolution poses questions for afterlife believers. The hardest question is: *when in the evolutionary process did immortality kick in?* Our divergence from the apes began about seven million years ago. How far did evolution have to advance before we became immortal?" (Author's italics).

The Hebrew Bible offers vague notions of an afterlife in *Sheol*, the abode of the dead in early Hebraic thought. The dualistic concept of an immortal soul entered Judaism during the late Second Temple era, with Hellenistic influence.

The final part of the book, The Quest for a Global Ethic, is by far the best. It offers a radical, visionary and prophetic view of humanity's future, inspired by the images of paradise in Genesis and Second Isaiah. Maguire traces its roots to Sumerian cuneiform and the dream of a paradise called Dilmun:

"It was poetry, not geography or history, and it echoes still in the Genesis story of paradise. Literal-minded folk have often taken the Genesis paradise story as fact and have done digs to see if there are remnants of this paradise somewhere between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers – a sorry witness to our

metaphor-crushing dullness. There are enough hints in the Genesis story to make the point that this is myth, not facticity. The trees are not oak or elm but trees of life and of the knowledge of good and evil, serpents talk, and angels staff the gates to this paradise. This is Dilmun poetically calling out."

The Christian movement began as a Jewish sect, called The Way (Acts 24: 5, 14). It was a way of life rather than the system of beliefs that developed later. Maguire maintains that Christianity needs to recover its Judaic roots. Consequently he privileges orthopraxis over orthodoxy.

The book reprises Lloyd Geering, *Christianity Without God* (2002) and Gretta Vosper, *With or Without God: Why the Way We Live Is More Important than What We Believe* (2008). It follows in the wake of Harvey Cox, *The Future of Faith* (2010) and Diana Butler Bass, *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening* (2013). It is indicative of a shift in global Christianity away from doctrines and dogmas to ethical and experiential concerns. For conservatives and traditionalists this movement is unsettling.

In the Epilogue, the author recounts the reaction of a colleague: "A theologian friend who read my manuscript is in somewhat reluctant agreement with the case I made but she chided me saying how it used to be exhilarating to wake and see the special glory of *Der Morgensonne-schein* [German: morning sunshine], to feel invigorated by a sleep that 'unravels care,' and to say in the face of it all "Thank you, God!"

This is an honest, engaging and challenging book, with a good index, extensive notes and an annotated bibliography. Though addressed primarily to the academy, it is recommended for the general reader.

Bill Converse frequently reviews books in these pages.
©William Converse, 2015

Encyclical Letter of the Holy Father Francis – *Laudato Si'*: On Care for our Common Home

Libreria Editrice Vaticana, issued June 18, 2015

REVIEWED BY COLIN MCGREGOR

An epistle is a letter intended to inform and instruct on religious matters. The first Christian epistles are the 21 found in the New Testament, written by apostles to members of the early church (did the Corinthians ever write back?). In Roman Catholicism, when the Pope writes an epistle it's called an encyclical. Until this summer, every papal encyclical ever written had been addressed to fellow Catholics. Pope Francis has written an open letter to all of humanity, begging us to stop destroying our planet.

Papal encyclicals are titled according to their opening words. This one begins:

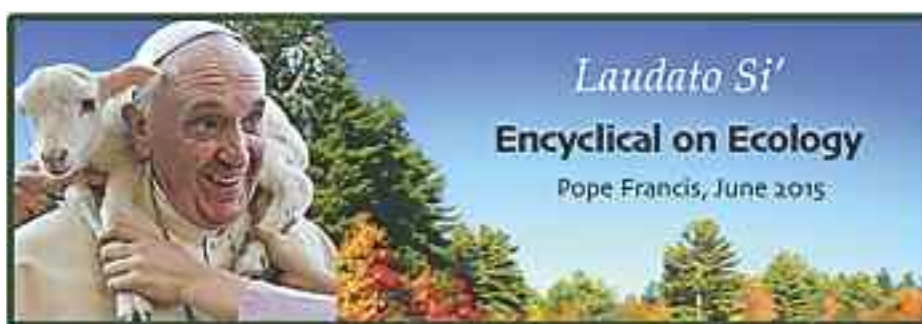
"*Laudato Si' Signore*" – "Praise be to you, O Lord." In the words of this beautiful canticle, St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life, and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.

Penned in a far less formal style than anyone has even seen from the

Vatican, much of this giant letter reads more like a Naomi Klein book than a Latin scholar's thesis. Its scope is broad. This is not vague philosophy – Pope Francis, who has a degree in chemistry, is very specific on how he sees human activity ruining the planet, and on how we can take better care of the our world. We learn, for example, that the Vatican is against "carbon credits," and is in favour of subsidies for solar energy.

Francis enumerates our sins, then proposes solutions. "Our common home is falling into serious disrepair," he observes: Genetically modified food and the privatization of rainforests provide dangerous precedents; the monetization of nature, the devaluation of labour and land, lead us to treat our natural heritage as a commodity, with even drinking water bought and sold; climate change affects poor regions more than rich nations... "Technology tends to absorb everything into its ironclad logic."

Francis writes: "Large-scale natural disasters as well as social and



even financial crises" show that "the world's problems cannot be analyzed or explained in isolation." And yet, "Many of those who possess more resources and economic or political power seem mostly to be concerned with masking the problems or concealing their symptoms." Technological advance has not been accompanied by "a similar advance in human responsibility, values and conscience." And that means that "because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no right."

Is there hope for mankind? Yes, suggests Francis. Once long ago in our Biblical past, mankind faced

destruction. "Although the wickedness of man was great (Genesis 6:6) ... through Noah, who remained innocent and just, God decided to open a path to salvation... All it takes is one good person to restore hope!"

He pleads for humankind to "take account of the value of labour," and of the world. "Stop and admire something beautiful," he writes: "Stop and give thanks to God before and after meals." We are asked to follow St. Therese of Lisieux's "little way of love, not to miss out on a kind word, a smile or any small gesture which sows peace and friendship." Why? "The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume."

"All Christian communities have an important role to play in ecological education." To underline the link between faith and ecology, Francis cites thinkers as wide-ranging as Aquinas, Romano Guardini, Vincent of Lerins, Danté, Teilhard de Chardin and Paul Ricoeur. He also references the previous encyclicals of some of his papal predecessors. Benedict XVI liked to link the

deterioration of the family and religious values, including gender reversal, to the degradation of the environment: if we take care of our own morals, the earth will heal. The brief passages of this encyclical that use Benedict's writings stick out like uninvited party guests.

In the end, there are prayers. In *A Prayer for the Earth*, he writes: *Teach us to discover the worth of each living thing; to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature...*

Colin McGregor is a frequent book reviewer for Anglican Montreal.

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.

WORSHIP SERVICES

St. James Rosemere
328 Pine St.
Summer worship schedule continues to Sunday, Sept. 13
A parish corn roast and hot dog lunch after the 10 a.m. service that day. The regular worship schedule of two services at 8:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. resumes on Sunday Sept. 20.

DROP-IN CENTRE

St. James Rosemere
328 Pine St.
Reopens Wed., Sept. 9, 10 a.m. and thereafter Wed. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Your hosts Winston and Becky Fraser look forward to seeing you. Information 450-621-6466

MEDITATION CIRCLE STILL PRESENCE SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Christ Church Beaurepaire, 455 Church St., Beaconsfield
Monday Meditation Circles resume Sept. 14
An Open House at 7 p.m. Gather in the chapel for this time of quiet reflection. Sessions led by the Rev. Cedric Cobb, Archdeacon Michael Johnson and Andrea Pinto. To learn more visit www.stillpresence.com or contact the Christ Church office at 514-697-2204. All are welcome.

TREE PLANTING FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

St. Philip's Montreal West
7505 Sherbrooke St. W.
Mon., Sept. 21, 5 p.m.,
To mark International Peace Day and call for reconciliation with aboriginal peoples. Wine and cheese will follow.

PAWS & PRAY

Christ Church Beaurepaire
455 Church St., Beaconsfield
The first Paws & Pray service of the season will take place on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 1 p.m.
Paws & Pray features a worship service of the Holy Eucharist where canine companions and their guardians are welcome. In collaboration with the Companion Animal Adoption Centers dedicated to animal welfare. Future services at 1 p.m.: Nov. 1 and December 6. All at Christ Church. Info: 514-697-2204 or christchurch@ac.aibn.com.

ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE

Concordia University
Montreal
Tues. Oct. 20 & Jeudi 12 novembre
50 YEARS AFTER NOSTRA AETATE.
The 2015 Irénée Beaubien Ecumenical Institute, a branch of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, plans two events on the theme "Interreligious Dialogue: Myth and Reality, 50 years after *Nostra Aetate*." Details to come. • Tues., Oct. 20, Panel discussion: "Is Peace a Myth?" • Jeudi, 12 nov., Université Laval, Québec. Colloque (en français): Relations judéo-chrétiennes au Canada: passé, présent, avenir.

NOSTRA AETATE JUBILEE CONFERENCE

Jewish Public Library
Montreal
Oct 27, Oct. 29 and Nov. 1
The Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal plans a series of three public events to take place from Oct. 27, 29 and Nov. 1. Proclaimed on Oct. 28, 1965, during the last session of the Second Vatican Council, the declaration *Nostra Aetate* on the relation of the Church to non-Christian religions has been a turning point in the relations between Christians and Jews. Speakers and participants will assess what has been achieved since *Nostra Aetate* and share their thoughts about the current challenges and the future of the dialogue between Christians and Jews. This bilingual conference will take place Tues., Oct. 27 at the Jewish Public Library (7:30-9:30 p.m.), Thurs., Oct. 29 at McGill University (4-6 p.m.), and Sun., Nov. 1 at the Grand Seminary of Montreal (1:30-4:30 p.m.). Details of the program will be released soon. Info: Adriana Bara, director, Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, at abara@oikoumene.ca or 514-937-9176, local 33.

Veg Out
FIND OUT WHAT ARCHBISHOP FRED HILTZ MEANS AT FREDSAYS.CA

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Rice is Nice
FIND OUT WHAT ARCHBISHOP FRED HILTZ MEANS AT FREDSAYS.CA

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sales & Events

St. Paul's Côte-des-Neiges

3970 Côte-Sainte-Catherine Rd.
CARIBBEAN BUFFET BREAKFAST
Sat. Sept. 12, 8-11 a.m.
Cost: \$12. Info: 514-733-2908

Trinity Memorial

5220 Sherbrooke St. W. (on the lawn)
BLOCK PARTY
Sat., Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Celebrating the parish's 175 years. A day of music on an outdoor stage and food and fun for the whole family. (Organizers are also looking for more entertainers.) For info and maybe to volunteer: 514-484-3102

St. Lawrence LaSalle

520 - 75th Ave.,
VARIETY CONCERT AND SUPPER
Sat., Sept. 19, 5 p.m.
Presented by the Boomers of St. Lawrence Church. Admission: Adults \$30. Info 514-966-4652.

Epiphany Verdun

4322 Wellington St.
CARIBBEAN DINNER/SOUPER AUX SAVEURS DES CARAIÈRES
Sat. Sept 19, 6 p.m.
Tickets \$15, 514-363-0825. Info 514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com facebook.com/epiphany/verdun

St. Stephen's with St. James, Chambly

Randell Hall, 2000 de Bourgogne St.
APPLEFEST
Sat., Sept. 19, 2:30-4 p.m.
Cakes, cookies, muffins, cupcakes and breads. Take them home or enjoy them with coffee or tea. Info: Eileen Agle 450-658-1027.

St. James Rosemere

328 Pine St.
MILITARY WHIST
Sat., Sept. 26, 1 p.m.
Prizes and refreshments. Admission \$8. Info 450-621-6466.

Epiphany Verdun

4322 Wellington St.
GARAGE SALE
Sat. Oct. 3, 9:30-2 p.m.
Information 514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com / facebook.com/epiphany/verdun

Kids Rock
FIND OUT WHAT ARCHBISHOP FRED HILTZ MEANS AT FREDSAYS.CA

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Stephen's with St. James, Chambly

Randell Hall, 2000 de Bourgogne St.
BOOK SALE
Sat., Oct 17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Browse through books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, games (computer etc., English and French). Stay for lunch. Bring your bags. Info or to donate, Dorothy 514-748-7748 ext. 1198 or Betty 450-658-4939.

Epiphany Verdun

4322 Wellington St.
HAM DINNER
Sat. Oct. 17, 6 p.m.
Tickets \$12, 514-363-0825. Info 514-769-5373, epiphany.verdun@gmail.com, www.epiphanyverdun.com / facebook.com/epiphany/Verdun

St. Lawrence LaSalle

520 - 75th Ave.,
INTERNATIONAL NIGHT DINNER
Sat., Oct. 24, Cocktails 5:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m.
The 32nd annual. Adults \$35, Children ≤ 15 yrs \$15. Info: 514-966-4652.

Epiphany Verdun

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

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.
Info: Eileen Agle 450-658-1027 or 450-658-5882.

Notable

Oasis Musicale
Concerts at Christ Church Cathedral
635 Ste Catherine St. W.
Saturdays at 4:30 p.m.

September 5
Voyage: 20th Century
Masterworks for Flute and Harp from Around the World
Jeffrey Stonehouse, flute,
Robin Best, harp
Works by Gareth Farr, Ravi Shankar, Cameron Wilson, Astor Piazzolla, Jocelyne Morlock.

September 12
Beloved flute and piano works of the 20th Century
Marie-Noëlle Choquette, flute,
Polina Gubnitskaia, piano

September 19th, 2015
Nicole Lorenz, piano
Works by J.S. Bach, Claude Debussy, Franz Schubert, Zoltán Kodály

September 26th, 2015
Les Journées de la culture
The Cathedral goes to the Movies!
Freewill offering to support the artists.
Information:
514-843-6577 ext. 236,
loaisismusicale@gmail.com,
www.montrealcathedral.ca

11th Annual Scotch Tasting

Thursday, September 17th 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Tickets \$100.00 (Tax receipt for \$55).

A selection of fine Single Malt Scotch Whiskeys & appetizers will be served

For tickets see Martin Taylor or e-mail us at office@stjamestheapostle.ca tinmar46@gmail.com or call 514-849-7577

St. James the Apostle Anglican Church
Shatford Hall 1439 St. Catherine St., W., Mtl., Qc. H3G 1S6
Metro: Guy/Concordia

Tree planting to promote reconciliation with indigenous peoples

RICHARD MATTHEWS

Richard Matthews is rector's warden of St. Philip's Anglican Church in Montreal West

On International Peace Day, Monday, September 21, St. Philip's Anglican Church in Montreal West will be host to a tree-planting ceremony to promote reconciliation between the Anglican Church and Canada's indigenous peoples.

The event comes slightly less than four months after the conclusion of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation

Commission, which addressed the sad legacy of the Indian Residential Schools. As explained in a statement by the Anglican Church of Canada and other Canadian Christian denominations:

"Beginning in the 19th century and continuing until the late 1960s, our churches were partners with the Government of Canada in running Indian Residential Schools. Notwithstanding the good intent and care of many who worked in the Schools, it is clear that Indian Residential Schools, in policy and in practice,

were an assault on Indigenous families, culture, language and spiritual traditions, and that great harm was done. We continue to acknowledge and regret our part in that legacy."

Archbishop Fred. J. Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, said we are called to listen, pray and work towards reconciliation. Mr. Justice Murray Sinclair, the Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, cautioned that it may take generations to restore and nurture relations with indigenous peoples.

He reminds us that churches have a special responsibility in this work.

St. Philip's stands in solidarity with Indigenous peoples in their cry for justice. The symbolic act of planting a tree is part of our efforts to promote awareness, healing and reconciliation.

We chose to hold this event on International Peace Day, a day that celebrates those who work to end conflict and promote good relations.

Our tree planting ceremony incorporates two symbols: a flying dove to mark Peace Day and the

Birch Tree, which signifies renewal. A flying white dove with an olive branch in its beak is a sign of peace in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and the birch, birch wood and birch bark had great practical and symbolic importance for many ancient peoples, including Celts, other ancient Europeans and native American peoples.

Please join us for this tree-planting celebration on the grounds of St. Philip's church, 7505 Sherbrooke St. West at 5 p.m. September 21. A wine and cheese will follow.

Fair trade town campaign

Members of the fair trade team at Christ Church Cathedral, are seeking support from members of other parishes and faith communities in a campaign to achieve "Fair Trade Town" status for Montreal. The Fair Trade Towns campaign is a global movement with more than 630 Fair Trade Towns in 18 countries and they want to add Montreal to that list! The Cathedral volunteers are tasked with gaining the support of faith communities.

"Fair Trade looks where Jesus looks: towards the margins, towards those who have been left out of the vast material wealth of the world," say Ben Stuchbery and Jonathan Bailey of the Cathedral fair trade team. "It is about standing alongside the people abused by our current economic model and affirming their fundamental dignity, humanity and sanctity. Fair Trade targets three of the Five Marks of Mission: To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom; to respond to human need by loving service; and to seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation. Here is an opportunity for us to



participate in a vision that upholds the gift of life."

Members of the team hope to establish a network of people across different faith communities who can work together and support each other to achieve the aims of the campaign.

For the first time, a Cathedral team participated in this year's Ste Catherine Célèbre street fair in mid-

July in partnership with the organization Montréal Ville Équitable, both to support the "Fair Trade Town" campaign and to promote "Equifruit" fair trade bananas.

The team distributed four crates of delicious Equifruit bananas, ripened to perfection, to hundreds of passers-by and provided tips on where people can buy Equifruit bananas and other fair trade products. In the photo, Jonathan Bailey in his banana suit has his hand on Ben Stuchbery's shoulder.

The team also gathered signatures on a petition calling for Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre to serve fair trade coffee at City Hall

For information about the Montréal Ville Équitable campaign and how you can support it visit www.mtlequitable.wix.com/montreal-equitable. For information on the bananas visit www.equifruit.com.

Well done, Winston



Winston Billing was the winner of the Canadian Trivia Contest at the Canada Day celebration at St. James Rosemere July 1.

Dorval parish, daycare plant a garden



On a beautiful sunny spring day an organic vegetable garden was installed at the Parish of St. Andrew and St. Mark, Dorval. The garden was made possible by a "Growth, Understanding and Ministry" (G.U.M.) grant from the Diocese of Montreal and a donation from Margaret Beattie, a member of the parish.

The garden is a joint project with CPE Dorval, a daycare that operates on the parish's property. Much of the produce grown is donated to Dorval Community Aid, a local support organization that, among other services provides emergency food aid to Dorval residents. Some produce may also go to other organizations that serve area residents in need.

St. Andrew and St. Mark already had an established relationship with DCA and members of the parish regularly donate non-perishable food items; with the garden the parish will be able to donate fresh organic produce, which is difficult for organizations such as DCA to obtain for their clients. DCA is only a 10-

minute walk from the parish, making transporting the produce very easy.

The Rev. Elizabeth Welch, rector, said starting an organic vegetable garden seemed like a good way to support the community in addition to being a way to live into the Fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion: "to strive to safeguard the integrity of Creation, and sustain and renew the life of the Earth." Growing food locally decreases "food miles," and thus use of fossil fuels. Urban gardens also provide natural places for urban pollinators.

Urban Seedling, a Montreal organization that specializes in edible landscaping and organic vegetable gardens, installed the garden and conducted a workshop for children of the daycare. With the assistance of the Urban Seedlings staff some of the children proudly planted the seedlings and watered and maintained the garden on weekdays. Members of the parish cared for the garden on weekends. Urban Seedlings planned a summer planting and a final, fall planting.

TRINITY BLOCK PARTY
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF MUSIC ON OUR OUTDOOR STAGE
FOOD, AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.
ALSO WE ARE LOOKING FOR PERFORMERS TO HELP ENTERTAIN.
IF INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT US

DATE: SAT. SEPT. 12TH, 2015
TIME: 10:00AM-4:00PM
WHERE: 5220 SHERBROOKE O
CHURCH LAWN
INFO: 514-484-3102

Interfaith cleaning – park



The Canadian Centre for Ecumenism was a partner in the Fifth Interfaith Eco-action Day.

More than 170 young people gathered together in the Raymond Préfontaine Park in east-end

Montreal. The park became "not only a place to clean up, but a place for exchanges and dialogue about our beliefs," says Norman Lévesque of the Montreal-based centre.

Around the parishes

Gauthier assigned to Granby, Rougemont, Abbotsford

The Rev. Richard Gauthier is the new priest-in-charge of the Regional Ministry of St. George's Granby, St. Thomas Rougemont and St. Paul Abbotsford, effective June 1. He succeeds the Rev. William (Terry) Blizzard, who has retired.

This is a half-time appointment. Father Gauthier also continues to oversee activities at the historic St. Mark's Church building in Longueuil and to explore prospects for French-language and community outreach there.

Epiphany seeks a new incumbent

A parish profile for the Church of the Epiphany, which is seeking a successor to the Rev. Patrick Wheeler, its first the incumbent, has been posted on the Diocese of Montreal website and distributed otherwise. It notes that the parish is the newest one in the Diocese of Montreal, having been established January 31, by the amalgamation of three churches in the Verdun-Ville Émard area – St. Aidan's, All Saints and St. Clements.

"We have gone from three distinct parishes with our own way of doing things and through very hard

work have developed into a dynamic and cohesive new parish. We have become ONE in creating the services, events and mission outreach that define us."

In the mean time, the Rev. Francie Nadeau-Keats began serving as interim priest on Sunday, May 17.

Before that a succession of eminent priests filled as celebrants, including the outgoing bishop, the Right Rev. Barry Clarke, the retiring principal and the director of pastoral studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, the Rev. Canon John Simons, Executive Archdeacon Bill Gray, the Rev. Roslyn Macgregor and the Rev. Rhonda Waters of Christ Church Cathedral.

Parish communicator Jim Shepherd notes that "a lot of time and effort has been put in in anticipation of our new incumbent. Members of a selection committee invested many hours in finalizing the profile for Epiphany and "pray that The Lord will direct a new Priest to be a part of this vibrant Church Community!"

Applications are requested by October 1.

Anglican Foundation approves grants to two Montreal parishes

The board of the Anglican Foundation of Canada approved two grants

to parishes in the Diocese of Montreal at its meeting in May.

St. James' Church in Hudson, in the Parish of Vaudreuil, is to receive \$15,000 toward renovation of the church interior, including updating of the audiovisual system and replacement of interior walls.

St. Margaret of Antioch Church in St. Hubert will receive \$7,000 toward renovation of the parish hall, including repairs to the exterior wall and replacement of windows and flooring.

Finnish, Estonian parishes merge

After being on the market for some years, an attractive 19th-century house at 1500 Docteur Penfield Avenue in the fashionable Square Mile district of Montreal that housed Saint Michael's Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church from 1960 has been sold and was deconsecrated June 7. The congregation has merged with the Estonian one that worships at Saint John's Church on Marcell Avenue between Terrebonne Street and Monkland Avenue in the Notre Dame de Grâce district. The Anglican Church of Canada is in communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church and Anglicans were invited to the closing service.

New rector at St. George's comes from bustling Mississauga



The Rev. Steven Mackison has moved from being the rector of a church in the huge Toronto suburb of Mississauga that describes itself as "a sacred space with deep roots in the past, firm grounding in the present and renewed for the future" to become the new rector of St. George's Place du Canada in downtown Montreal.

The appointment was effective August 1. Father Mackison, previously at St. John the Baptist (Dixie) Church succeeds the Ven. Bill Gray, now executive archdeacon of the Diocese of Montreal, as rector of St. George's.

Development issues – currently high on the list of challenges faced by

St. George's – will be nothing new to the new rector. St. John's Dixie – the name recalls the rural village where the parish began as a small church in the 19th century – has become a modern, accessible building after extensive structural and cosmetic changes were made to the building in recent years.

In 2010, the parish opened a chapel in the large cemetery next to the church expressly designed to serve the multi-faith population of present-day Mississauga.

Tony Hadley of St. George's took the photo of the new rector, his wife, Holly, and their children, Madeline and James.

St. Lawrence Anglican Church
presents its
Thirty second Annual

STUNDY, OCTOBER 24th, 2015

520 — 75th Avenue, LaSalle, Que.

ADMISSION
ADULTS \$35.00
CHILDREN UNDER 15 YRS \$15.00

COCKTAILS - 5:30PM * DINNER - 7:00PM

For more information, please call: 514-366-4652

'Retired' pastor's saga continues

The Rev. Canon David Sinclair is having quite a retirement. He "retired" to the Laurentians in 2004 from the Diocese of Ontario (in and around Kingston) but since then has occupied more or less back-to-back interim posts filling in vacancies at Morin Heights, Trinity Memorial in Montreal, Trinity Ste. Agathe and most recently the Laurentians parish of Arundel and Weir.

Canon Sinclair (a canon of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston) has now taken on interim responsibility for St. Paul's Cathedral in Kamloops, where Dean Louise Peters resigned to become director of the Sorrento Centre, a retreat and conference centre in the nearby Kootenay Diocese.

Pictured here at the recent installation of Archdeacon Ralph Leavitt and the Rev. Nick Pang at the new Regional Ministry of the Laurentians, Canon Sinclair is looking forward to serving in Western Canada for the first time and learning



more about Anglican-United Church parishes, of which there are several in the B.C. Interior.

His wife, the Rev. Georgia Copland, who looks forward to a few visits to Kamloops, is a United Church minister. Canon Sinclair turns 79 this month.

It's Summer fest season



Parishioners and visitors puruse the attractions at the annual Summerfest at St. Lawrence LaSalle June 26.

Two bishops of Montreal mark Trinity Memorial anniversary



Trinity Memorial Church in the N.D.G. district of West-End Montreal is marking the 175th anniversary of the founding of the original parish with a series of celebrations expected to include, as it turns out, participation by the departing bishop of Montreal in May and, in October, by the next one.

Celebrations of the anniversary of the founding of Trinity Church in 1840 in what is now called Old Montreal began with a choral Eucharist May 31, Trinity Sunday, in the present church, dedicated in 1926 on Sherbrooke St. W. at Marlowe St., now near the Vendôme Métro station. (The “Memorial”

commemorates First World War dead.)

There was a capacity congregation of close to 400 at the anniversary service and Bishop Barry Clarke presided. There was a massed choir of about 65 from several parishes. The preacher was the Rev. Canon Anthony Jemmott, rector of the parish between 1991 and 2001 and currently the incumbent at St. George’s Memorial Church, Oshawa, Ont.

One of the accompanying photos, by Rene Sanchez of the parish, shows Canon Jemmott and the current rector at Trinity Memorial, the Rev. Canon Joyce Sanchez, cutting a cake. Another shows the banner of the offering at the service to the Eureka Mothers’ Union, an important

parish group, being carried in a procession.

Canon Sanchez wrote in a note to parishioners that, “It was a marvelous celebration!... The massed choir, under the direction of Christopher Grocholski, was spectacular! I am still amazed that we managed to feed all our guests with food to spare!

“I can say with confidence that all who attended our 175th Anniversary service will remember it fondly for some time to come. It gives me joy as your priest to say that we shared who we are as a community with love and enthusiasm. Instead of dwelling on the past we find ourselves looking to our future. The donation of the offering at the service to the Eureka Mothers’ Union, an important

Ministry served as a powerful symbol of looking forward. I pray that we will continue to be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit at Trinity. May we embrace our future together in faith.”

Celebrations will continue on September 12 with a block party on the church lawn between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., featuring music on an outdoor stage and fun and food for the whole family.

Then, on Friday, Oct. 2, there will be a gala dinner-dance at the Buffet Il Gabbiano in LaSalle. The keynote speaker will be the Right Rev. (as she will be) Mary Irwin-Gibson, fresh from her consecration as bishop three days before on September 29.



Notable

Trinity Memorial N.D.G., 5220 Sherbrooke St. W.

175th –ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

BLOCK PARTY

Sat., Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (on the church lawn)

Celebrating the parish’s 175 years. A day of music on an outdoor stage and food and fun for the whole family. (Organizers are also looking for more entertainers.)

For information and maybe to volunteer: 514-484-3102

175th-ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER-DANCE

Event is at Buffet Il Gabbiano, 1550 Lapierre St., LaSalle

Friday, Oct. 2,

Cocktails 6:30 p.m. – Dinner 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: The Right Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson, new bishop of Montreal

Cost \$70 a person, cocktail/evening attire

Information: 514-484-3102