



Catholic Ottawa

Advent: Getting ready for Christmas

By Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, SJ

The holy season of Advent is a time for us, as Christians, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Mystery of the Incarnation: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3.16).

In this *Year of Faith* we have a renewed opportunity to open the door to our hearts, minds and even our relationships with family and friends to celebrate the Birth of Christ with reinvigorated love and devotion.

As beautiful and special a time as it is for us, for some, Christmas can be a time of loneliness or sadness. Perhaps this Advent, as part of our preparations within our family, our parish and our community, we might resolve to pay extra attention to those among us for whom this joyful season is difficult.

The birth of Jesus brings the Light of Christ into the world at the darkest time of the year. In the Mass at Dawn on Christmas Day, the Church prays in



Opening Liturgy for the Year of Faith on October 11. Photo courtesy of Paul Lauzon

the Collect at the beginning of Mass: “Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds.”

May we receive the Light of the World with joy this Christmas and reflect the Light of Christ in our family, parish and community.

Celebrating Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

By Archbishop Prendergast

In late October, I joined a large delegation of native peoples and other Catholics from Canada for the canonization of Kateri and six other new saints.



Detailed only known portrait of Kateri Tekakwitha, 1690, Canada, painted by Fr. Claude Chauchetière, SJ

On Saturday evening, October 20, we took part in a Vigil of Prayer in anticipation of the next day’s canonization Mass. This was held at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the Pope’s cathedral in Rome.

The vibrant dress, songs, and drums of the Algonquin and Mohawk nations to which Kateri belonged were united to traditional Catholic prayers and readings in a ceremony that was both solemn and joyful.

The following day, the canonization itself was awe-inspiring as the story of Kateri’s heroic life of virtue was recounted. Her relics were brought forward in solemn procession and her image was unfurled on the facade of St. Peter’s Basilica.

On Monday, October 22, we returned to St. John Lateran for a Mass of Thanksgiving for Saint Kateri, presided by Archbishop Richard Smith, President of the Catholic Bishops of Canada. Tears of joy and exultation were very much in evidence.

Kateri no longer belongs to the prayer life of North Americans only. Now, she is held up for veneration by the Universal Church!

What meaning that holds for faithful native Catholics! Their culture and customs lead to a holiness of life that may be imitated by all.

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Archbishop's Office

(Continued from page 1 – Celebrating Saint Kateri Tekakwitha)

Kateri was close to nature and often went to pray in the woods and by riversides. People see in her a patron of the environment, which remains at risk in our world.

Christians may freely invoke her intercession with God for the protection of creation and that we humans may live in harmony with nature in ecological balance. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us!

From left to right: Bishop Robert Harris of Saint John, NB, Jake Finkbonner, and Archbishop Prendergast. Jake was infected with a flesh-eating bacteria in 2006. The Vatican determined that Jake's cure was a miracle due to the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha



Homelands Mass to be held on Sunday, January 27th 2013

Archbishop Prendergast will preside at the Homelands Mass on Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica – 385 Sussex Drive, Ottawa. It will be an occasion for the Church of Ottawa to give thanks to God for the canonization of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha.

Members of the national parishes of the archdiocese are especially invited to join Archbishop Prendergast for a unique Mass, which will feature a procession of traditional costumes and flags.

“I look forward to welcoming members of our national communities, including the Chinese, Croatian, Spanish, German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Lebanese, Polish, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Vietnamese parishes in Ottawa,” said Archbishop Prendergast.

Mass will be celebrated in approximately 10 languages. A reception with international dishes will follow in the Cathedral Hall. All are invited.

Photo taken at the canonization ceremony of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha on Sunday, October 21, 2012 at 10:00 am in Saint Peter's Square. Photo courtesy of the Osservatore Romano newspaper



Archbishop's Reception for the Epiphany

Sunday, January 6
3:00 p.m.

Archbishop's Residence
and Cathedral Hall

All are invited!



Archbishop's Charity Dinner benefits seniors

Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, SJ hosted his annual charity dinner on Wednesday, October 17, 2012. Approximately 700 people once again generously supported this event. Two important local charitable organizations were designated as the beneficiaries of this year's dinner.

Centre d'accueil Roger-Séguin (CARS) is a long-term care facility, for individuals of 18 years of age or older who are experiencing a loss in their psychosocial and functional abilities. The Centre's client-centric services include housing, supervision, support, assistance, nursing, medical and pharmaceutical care in a francophone environment. It also responds to residents' psychosocial and spiritual needs, rehabilitation and accompaniment through palliative care.

St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa has been recognized in the community as a leader in the care of the elderly since it was founded in 1865. Inspired by the compassionate spirit of St. Marguerite d'Youville, staff, the Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and volunteers reveal the healing presence of God by creating an enlivening and welcoming home. Supported by the Mission-driven volunteer Board of Directors and the generosity of donors, additional and necessary financial resources provided by the St. Patrick Home of Ottawa Foundation ensure that each resident receives the best care possible.

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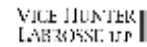
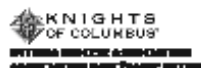
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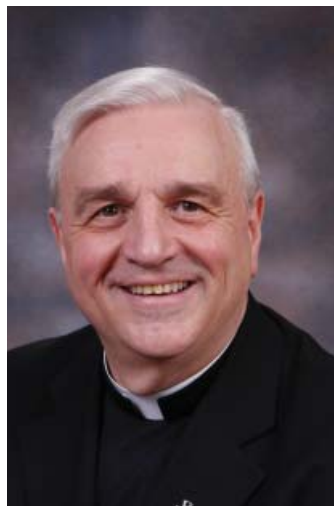


Thank you Msgr. Muldoon, and welcome Fr. Kerslake

By Annmarie Brown

On behalf of the staff and volunteers of the Pastoral Services Office, I would like to express our sincere thank you to Msgr. Joseph Muldoon for more than four years of dedicated service as Episcopal Vicar at the archdiocese. Whether accompanying Archbishop Prendergast on visitations to parishes, answering questions or concerns of those who contact the office, representing the archdiocese at conferences or assisting in parishes, Msgr. Muldoon showed us very clearly his belief in the importance of the ministry of presence and its value to the New Evangelization. I will personally miss the laughter and the sense of fun that permeated Msgr. Muldoon's presence in the office – a sure sign of the joy that comes from faith in Christ. We wish him all the best as he continues his ministry of service as Pastor of Holy Spirit parish in Stittsville.

Archbishop Prendergast has appointed Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake as Episcopal Vicar, as of August 1, 2012. Fr. Kerslake, whom you may recognize as the Roman Catholic 'Religion Expert' in the *Ottawa Citizen*,



Msgr. Joseph Muldoon and Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake

has been working diligently in his new role, learning the extent of his new responsibilities and getting to know those with whom he will work most closely. We welcome Fr. Kerslake and ask God to bless him as he continues to serve the Church of Ottawa in this way.

The Year of Faith and the archdiocesan Youth Office

By Ted Hurley

The *Year of Faith* has provided an opportunity for the Youth Office to look at its function while providing gathered and non-gathered opportunities for youth and young adults to grow in faith. Over the upcoming year, the Youth Office will be surveying and entering into discussion with young adults in order to determine the best ways to respond to their needs.

Ottawa is graced with a number of parishes with strong youth ministry and with local and national groups and movements such as Challenge, CCO (Catholic Christian Outreach), NET (National Evangelization Teams) and Youth for Christ, and the office will be using the Ottawa Catholic Youth website, www.ottawacatholicyouth.com, Facebook and Twitter to communicate these events.



Ted Hurley visited Rio de Janeiro with Tour Design in September 2012

The diocesan *Year of Faith* kicked off with a vespers service held at Notre Dame Cathedral on October 11, and youth and young adults were highly encouraged to attend. Hannah Sheridan gave an

inspiring witness on her faith journey in the post-Vatican II Church.

On November 16, the Youth Office will have a special screening of *The Restless Heart*; an inspiring movie about the conversion of St. Augustine.

The Youth Office has been encouraging the purchase, reading and use of the *YouCat*, the Catechism of the Catholic Church developed especially for youth. Many schools and parishes have ordered multiple copies and another order will be placed for Christmas.

In July, the archdiocese will be bringing approximately 80 young adults to World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro. This pilgrimage is focusing on entering into a deeper love of Christ and the Church through understanding its mission.



Deacon Matthew Keshwah's ordination

By Deacon Gilles Ouellette

On June 23, Mr. Matthew Keshwah, one of our diocesan seminarians, was ordained to the transitional diaconate by Archbishop Prendergast at Sainte-Marie parish in Orleans. Deacon Matthew had selected that date as it fell on the day the Church in Canada celebrated Saint John the Baptist, one of his favourite saints and as a tribute to the faith he inherited from his parents and in honour of his mother's Franco-Manitoban roots. Deacon Matthew had interned at Sainte-Marie in 2010-11.

Deacon Matthew, the only son of Gisèle and Ken, graduated from the University of Ottawa in Commerce, and worked for IBM in Toronto before answering God's call. He is presently finishing his studies at St. Augustine seminary in Toronto.

The ordination Mass was attended by many friends and relatives from all over Canada as well as by parishioners of Sainte-Marie parish. Deacon Matthew said: "I am so overwhelmed by the love and support of the people, especially the parishioners at Sainte-Marie who welcomed me like family from day one of my internship...My ordination to the diaconate was such a powerful experience of faith, hope and love.

When the archbishop's hands touched my head, I gave thanks to God in my heart for calling me to this life. I knew then that this is the path that will lead me to holiness...Committing my life to serve others is what I know I am called to do. I look forward to being a faithful herald of the Gospel in Ottawa." Let us keep Deacon Matthew in our thoughts and prayers.



During the Consecration, from left to right: Deacon Matthew Keshwah, Archbishop Prendergast, and Fr. Chris Lemieux from Toronto. Photo courtesy of Joe Goski

Permanent deacons will serve the poor during the Year of Faith

By Deacon Michael Seath

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says: "The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself." The response to this truth is faith. Again it states, "By faith man completely submits his intellect and his will to God." A fruit of this submission is seen in hearts open to a vocational call to the permanent diaconate.

On October 4, the Memorial for St. Francis of Assisi – a humble man dedicated to serving the poor, Archbishop Prendergast celebrated a special Mass for the deacons to recognize their ministry in



Archbishop Prendergast received five new candidates for the diaconate – the beginning of their formation journey towards ordination

the archdiocese, particularly their contribution to serving those in need and to accept their renewal of commitment to service.

The deacons' wives also renewed their support of their husbands' diaconal ministries.

As the Year of Faith begins, the diaconate community, deacons and their wives, will continue to look for ways to live out their faith in response to the Holy Spirit, such as the newly formed Child poverty committee. This initiative will look at the causes of child poverty and find ways to address both the physical and spiritual poverty children suffer every day in Ottawa. As Saint Paul reminds us, "Let us not grow weary of doing good; if we do not relax our efforts, in due time we shall reap our harvest." (Galatians 6:9).



Caring for the elderly during the *Year of Faith*

By Patricia Marsden-Dole

Followers of Christ attempt to live for others as He did through His attention and love for the poor in physical and mental health, the poor in friends, and the poor in the basic essentials for human flourishing. Seniors in long-term care residences at Saint Patrick's Home in Ottawa and the Centre d'Accueil Roger-Séguin in Clarence benefited from this year's charity dinner.

Caring for frail seniors is about a lot more than fundraising. We know from the gospels that Christ healed people on a one on one basis – not over the Internet, a television podium, or some distant throne.

We have a large and growing population of elderly in our midst – many of whom do not have visitors and some can no longer feed themselves. Their dignity as human beings comes from

the dignity we give them with our presence. Their human rights depend on the love of justice which others ensure for them.

Make a note to contact the volunteer coordinator in a long-term residence of your choice and offer to feed or visit those who need your care and protection. Your faith and hope in Christ's promises, and in life itself will grow with the love you extend to those in need.



Left to right: Bishop Landriault, Bishop Cazabon, OMI, and Archbishop Durocher at the Archbishop's Charity Dinner in support of seniors. Photos courtesy of Robert Du Broy



Archbishop Prendergast and some of his family members at the dinner. Left to right: Caitlin, Renee, Tim and Gillian Prendergast

Environmental stewardship and poverty reduction

By Patricia Marsden-Dole and John Dorner

The Social Justice Office at the archdiocese continues to work with Catholic parishes and with partners in the faith communities in Ottawa on issues as diverse as poverty reduction, ecological justice, dignified eldercare, affordable housing, and refugees. In the context of the new evangelization, we attempt to strengthen and share our faith with others in the spirit we find in the Letter of James 2: 15-17: "If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead."

We work on poverty reduction through the Ontario bishops in the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform

Committee. In 2009, all of the provincial parties committed themselves to reduce poverty in this province by 25 per cent in five years. Since then, Ontario has become a have-not province with over 13 per cent of people living under the poverty line which includes 6.5 per cent of the population dependent on public social assistance in 2011.

Our office also supports environmental stewardship through education programs and interfaith and community partnerships. We support our bishops' call for a conversion of heart as reflected in lifestyle changes that show respect for the dignity of all human life and care for all God's creation. Through actions, we demonstrate love for our children and care for future generations and the poor who now face suffering due to environmental degradation and climate change.



Year of Faith resources

By Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake, EV

The Universal Church started celebrating the *Year of Faith* on October 11. Pope Benedict XVI has written a special Apostolic Letter “The Door of Faith” (*Porta fidei*) to mark this occasion. In it, the Holy Father reminds us: “the ‘door of faith’ (Acts 14:27) is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into his Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace. To enter through that door is to set out on a journey that lasts a lifetime.”

There are numerous opportunities within the Archdiocese of Ottawa to celebrate this year and grow in our faith. In addition to the diocesan liturgy that began this year at the cathedral, many parishes are sponsoring programs and activities to challenge, encourage and equip Catholic Christians to co-operate with the work of the Holy Spirit and grow in their faith. Individuals may wish to purchase a copy of the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* or the *YouCat*

(the *Catechism* for young people) to better understand and appreciate the truth, goodness and beauty of our Catholic Christian faith. Under the prayerful protection of the primary patron saints of the archdiocese, Saint Joseph, and Mary the Immaculate Conception, we have the opportunity to engage our faith more consciously and actively, with the same hope and trust that they demonstrated.

There are many excellent resources available to help Catholics become better informed about our faith:

The Web: The best *Year of Faith* resources available online can be found on: annusfidei.va. It includes links to the *Catechism* and the *Compendium of the Catechism* as well as many other great resources.

Vatican II: For those looking to explore the seminal teachings of the Second Vatican Council 50 years after its opening: Norman Tanner ed. *Vatican II: The Essential Texts*, available from Novalis.ca.

For Children: St. Patrick Basilica’s bookstore in the scavi has many wonderful books for young (and old) Catholics.

Audio Resource: *Lighthouse Catholic Media* has many CDs and MP3s available on topics of faith. They are great for commutes to work as a way to informatively spend some otherwise ‘dead’ time bringing your faith back to life. They are available online at lighthousecatholicmedia.org. Also available is a dramatized New Testament online: truthandlifeapp.com.

Speaker: Michael Dopp of Mission of the Redeemer Ministries is available for talks, retreats and five-day “schools of evangelization” to equip Catholics to witness to their faith to family, friends, co-workers, and others. Missionoftheredeemer.com or (613) 596-9111.

One Project for Everyone: One great goal for Catholics is to memorize the Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed is the single most comprehensive statement of our faith. If someone were to ask you “What do you believe?” responding with an informed knowledge of the Nicene Creed would be a great start. An explanation of its verses can be found in the *Catechism* or online at annusfidei.va.

The role of philosophy in priestly formation

By Jonathan Kelly, seminarian with the Archdiocese of Ottawa

I recently completed a degree in Thomistic thought at St. Philip Neri seminary in Toronto. When I had first told my fellow parishioners that I was entering the seminary, one frequently asked question was “What are you going to study?” and I answered “Philosophy,” and they would ask “Why philosophy?” At the time, the answer was not clear to me, but after I entered my first year at St. Philip’s, my professors explained

how valuable philosophy is for theology.

Since the beginning, the Church has used philosophy to work out difficult mysteries, such as how Jesus Christ is one person with a divine and human nature. Faith is not contrary to reason, even though human reason is not able to fully grasp the mysteries of the faith. My peers and I learned about the relationship between faith and reason. In the Middle Ages,

philosophy was called the handmaid of theology, and theology was known as the queen of the sciences. Good philosophy supplies the ground work for good theology. This explains why it is good for seminarians to learn philosophy, and philosophy courses such as logic and metaphysics supply helpful tools for studying theology. I am grateful for my professors. As of now, I have begun the spiritual year at St. Augustine’s seminary in Scarborough.



Fill out our social media survey for a chance to win great prizes

The Archdiocese of Ottawa would like to know which social networking sites you use, if you read Archbishop Prendergast's blog, and if you visit our website: CatholicOttawa.ca. If you'd like to be included in our draw to win a \$50 gift certificate at Flying Piggy's Bistro Italiano, a copy of *A Brief History and Parishes of the Archdiocese of Ottawa* signed by Archbishop Prendergast, and a professional photo taken with him,

please fill out our survey before December 31, 2012: surveymonkey.com/s/socialmediacatholicottawa. The winners will be contacted in the new year, and their photo with the archbishop will be published in the Spring / Summer 2013 issue of *Catholic Ottawa*, along with the results of the survey.

A year dedicated to strengthening our faith

By Sarah Du Broy

On October 11, Archbishop Prendergast celebrated a special prayer service at Notre Dame Cathedral to open the celebrations for the *Year of Faith* in the Archdiocese of Ottawa.

The opening and closing dates of the *Year of Faith* are important for the Church. October 11, 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II), one of the most historic moments in the life of the Catholic Church in recent times.

The theme for our pastoral year uses two quotations from Sacred Scripture to help guide us in the *Year of Faith*: "When they arrived, they called the church together and related all that God had done with them and how he had opened a door of faith" (Acts 14.27) and "increase our faith" (Luke 17.5).

This year, you are encouraged to grow deeper in your faith and to spend more time in prayer. Our website now includes Confession and Adoration times so you can find a convenient time and location to attend, and hopefully build this into your regular weekly or monthly routine

– with your family, friends, or individually.

Faith formation programming is also available on our web page dedicated to the *Year of Faith* (under the "Archbishop" tab at CatholicOttawa.ca).

You are also invited to join us in celebrating the *Year of Faith* liturgically as an archdiocese at Notre Dame Cathedral. The Homelands Mass on Sunday, January 27 at 2:30 pm will be celebrated in approximately 10 languages, and a reception with international dishes will follow in the Cathedral Hall.

On Tuesday, March 26, at 7:30 pm, Archbishop Prendergast will bless the oils at the Chrism Mass – the oil of catechumens, the oil of the infirm and holy chrism – which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the archdiocese for the year.

The Neophyte Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, April 14, at 12 (noon) for those who have joined the Catholic Church through baptism at the Easter Vigil.

On Sunday, May 5, at 2:30 pm, join us for the wedding anniversary Mass, where couples will come



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

together with their families and friends to celebrate their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th years, and more, of married life.

The pro-life Mass will be held the following Thursday, on May 9th at 10 am, prior to the activities on Parliament Hill for the March for Life.

Finally, this spring, please join us at the cathedral on Thursday, June 6th at 7:30 pm for the Diocesan Feast, where we will be celebrating our anniversary as an archdiocese.

For more information, please visit our website or contact us by phone: 613-738-5025 or by email: reception@archottawa.ca.



Three-year spiritual direction formation program began in September

By Claire Johnson, PhD, DTh and Fr. Terry Donahue, CC

Anyone who has ever attempted to find a spiritual director in the Ottawa area knows how difficult it is to find one. To help address this problem, the *Spiritual Director Formation Apostolate* (SDFA) has been established with the approval of the archdiocese and the support of the Companions of the Cross. On September 29, a group of 25 candidates began a systematic formation program in spiritual direction directed by us.

The program consists of a three-year cycle of monthly sessions from September through June, consisting of prayer, talks, discussion groups, practicums and reading assignments covering topics in human, spiritual, intellectual and ministry formation. Candidates will receive ongoing feedback and support from a mentor experienced in spiritual direction. Candidates are also expected to

complete several lay formation courses and *The Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The candidates are a very diverse group, including members from 18 different parishes, clergy and laity, single, and married – young parents and grandparents. After a full day of teaching, personal sharing and prayer, several expressed how excited they were about this opportunity to be formed as spiritual directors.

Candidates who successfully complete the program in June 2015 will receive a certificate of completion and begin ministering as spiritual directors in the archdiocese. They will also receive ongoing formation, support and supervision from the SDFA and the Archdiocese of Ottawa. A second formation program is planned for September 2015. For more information, email: spiritualdirectionottawa@gmail.com.



Photo taken at the training session on Sept. 29 at the Diocesan Centre. Photo courtesy of Claire Johnson and Fr. Terry Donahue

Keeping Christ in Christmas

By Fiona Hall-Ayala

Wishing *Merry Christmas* has become taboo, and stores bedecked with Santas declare *Happy Holidays* and *Season's Greetings*. However, as Catholics, we witness to God's great gift, the birth of our Savior – the Word Made Flesh.

Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas. Many Catholic traditions like Advent wreaths, calendars, Jesse trees and nativities help us prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's coming. Do you know the history of these, or the special family devotions associated with them? In 1223, St. Francis of Assisi created the

first Nativity scene to help people remember Christ's birth. Today, all these help us keep Christ at the centre of our celebrations. St. Patrick's gift shop and bookstore offers many Catholic resources for Advent and Christmas. These include books and DVDs, nativities, Advent wreaths, candles, Jesse trees, religious ornaments, gifts, and cards. Travel the road to Bethlehem with St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Francis de Sales, or Blessed John Paul II. Enjoy beautiful spiritual reflections by authors such as Michael O'Brien and Francis Fernandez (*In Conversation with God* series).

The *Year of Faith* calls us to deepen our relationship with God. Consider gifts this Christmas to assist you, your family and friends in this journey. Hundreds of books and sacramental items await you. Have a Blessed Christmas! *Pax Vobiscum!*

St. Patrick's gift shop and bookstore is open Monday-Friday 11 am to 5:30 pm, Saturday 3 to 5:30 pm and Sunday 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. You can reach them by phone at 613-235-7963 or by email: stpatricksgiftsandbooks@gmail.com. Visit their website for more information: www.basilica.org.



Catholic cemeteries: Sacred places for sacred memories

By **Benoît Bariteau,**
Director of Cemeteries

Cemeteries are part of our daily lives even if we don't always notice them. They are part of our environment and our neighbourhoods. Nevertheless, our cemeteries are sacred places, not only as guardians of our collective heritage of those who have departed, but are blessed grounds which welcome the faithful awaiting of the Resurrection.

There are 48 Catholic cemeteries within the territory of the Archdiocese of Ottawa. Forty-six of these are parish cemeteries and are serving members of their communities, and two are diocesan cemeteries: Notre-Dame Cemetery

and Hope Cemetery. These two offer their services to the entire archdiocesan community and to the remaining population.

Notre-Dame is the largest cemetery of the Ottawa region with its 135,000 deceased. It still offers cemetery services and has numerous plots and niches available to families who wish to have their final rest in these historical grounds.

Hope Cemetery opened in 1988 and has an impressive growth and offers a large variety of services such as lots, niches, and crypts in the Holy Family Mausoleum, and in *The Garden of the Resurrection*, its newest columbarium. With its crematorium

and the Elizabeth-Bruyère Chapel, Hope provides all the services required at the moment of death: cemetery services, Christian funerals, cremation services, interment, and will soon offer reception services.

Until December 31, 2012, Hope Cemetery offers a rebate of 10% on the niches in *The Garden of the Resurrection*. This rebate applies when purchasing a niche and a commemorative bronze plaque.

For more information, please visit www.ottawacatholiccemeteries.ca or contact one of our counselors at 613- 822-1212.

Eight Papal Honours were given at the Diocesan Feast in June

By Sarah Du Broy

This year, Pope Benedict XVI accepted Archbishop Prendergast's recommendations that Papal Honours be conferred on the occasion of the Diocesan Feast that was celebrated at Notre Dame Cathedral on June 7.

His Holiness has conferred the title of "Prelate of Honour" on Father Everett MacNeil, who has served the Church with distinction in Canada and beyond. In recognition of their ministry as Episcopal Vicars, the Holy Father has made Fathers Daniel Berniquez and Joseph Muldoon "Chaplains to His Holiness". These distinctions permit the three priests to use the title of "Monsignor". On August 1, Msgr. Muldoon was appointed Pastor of Holy Spirit parish in Stittsville and Fr. Geoffrey Kerlake was appointed Episcopal Vicar to succeed him in that ministry.

In addition, the Holy Father has awarded the Medal *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* (for the Church and the Pope) to the following members of our local Church: Sr. Pauline Lebrun, SCO, Mr. Andrew Doyle, Dr. André Gauthier, Dr. Sylwester Krzaniak and Mr. Gerald Larkin.



Monsignors Daniel Berniquez, Everett MacNeil, and Joseph Muldoon.
Photo courtesy of Heribert Riesbeck

As St. Paul reminds us, "If one member [of the Body of Christ] is honoured, all rejoice together with it" (1 Corinthians 12.26). Let us rejoice with our brothers and sisters in Christ!



Saint-Mathieu parish in Cheney-Hammond is celebrating its centennial (1912-2012)

By Fr. Louis Fohssié

A special committee was created to celebrate Saint-Mathieu parish's centennial. The president, Nicole Normand, relied on the help of numerous committees, parish organizations and sponsors like the Caisse Trillium Desjardins to help support the events that were planned.

A Mass was celebrated on December 11, 2011 with Archbishop Prendergast and Msgr. Daniel Berniquez, Episcopal Vicar, Fr. Louis Fohssié and Fr. Édouard Ntiyankundiye to open the celebrations. The mayor, a few deputies and other civil authorities, families and parishioners attended the Mass.

A souvenir book on the first 100 years of the parish was published. A large cross, a donation from the Knights of Columbus, was blessed and set up in the town of Hammond.

Several activities were organized to celebrate the parish's centennial. A talk was given by Prof. Elisabeth Lacelle on the theme *To Believe Today*, followed by a wine and cheese on April 20. The Knights of Columbus of Cheney-Hammond hosted a dinner on May 4. Then, on June 3, a Mass was celebrated, followed by



Photo taken at the Mass to open the celebrations, on December 11, 2011. Courtesy of Barryard Studio

a blessing of motorcycles. On June 10, a Mass was celebrated, followed by a Corpus Christi procession. On August 26, there was a ceremony at the cemetery and the benediction of the new columbarium. On September 2, Jojo's farm had a festival, and on October 27, the closing dinner took place.

This centennial celebration encouraged parishioners to rediscover and reinforce their belonging to the Christian community. It allowed us to express joy in belonging to the Church – the mystical Body of Christ – and to renew our commitment to work for its mission.

Twenty-five years since the foundation of Sainte-Marie parish

By Deacon Gilles Ouellette

This year, Sainte-Marie parish is celebrating its 25th anniversary. The parish has grown a lot since it was established in 1987. Fr. Gérard St-Denis (now Msgr.) was the first pastor. The faithful first gathered in schools before moving to their church building on Innes Road in 1998. Archbishop Gervais blessed the first stone and attended the sod turning ceremony.

Throughout the years, many services, committees and groups brought life to the parish thanks to the generosity of many volunteers and the leadership of the pastors. In 1999, the parish house and rectory moved from Prestwick Drive to its present location so the offices and the priest's residence could be closer to the new church building. Fr. Daniel Berniquez (now Msgr.) replaced Msgr. St-Denis and our present pastor, Fr. Michel Pommainville arrived

in 2008. A commemorative garden, embellishments to the church's decoration, a bell tower and, now, the imminent construction of an addition have improved our parish facilities over the years.

Sainte-Marie is a dynamic parish community. Each year, there are more than 150 baptisms, close to 300 children receive first communion, and there are more than 250 candidates for confirmation. The parish has well over 300 volunteers, including the Daughters of Isabella, the scouts and the Knights of Columbus, who are very active. The various councils, committees, pastoral teams and the administrative staff contribute to the parish's vitality. A Catholic high school and seven Catholic elementary schools are within the parish's boundaries. As the theme of our 25th anniversary festivities states: Our history continues...



Where to meet other Catholics once you are working

By Sarah Du Broy

Under the patronage of Our Lady of Lourdes and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, *Frassati Catholic Fellowship* provides opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship among Catholics between 24 and 39 years of age. It is open to people of varying vocations: single, engaged, married, religious, or discerning a religious vocation.

Events follow a simple formula which includes prayer – typically the rosary – and fellowship. The group meets twice a month, usually on Friday evenings at 7 pm. During the summer, meetings are most often held at the Lourdes Grotto in Vanier. The rest of the year, they are usually held at St. Patrick's Basilica in the scavi. Hikes in Gatineau Park are also organized in the summer and in the fall.

Events vary from fun outings to a nearby pub or restaurant, sporting activities such as skating on the canal or soccer, to attending public events such as Mosaika, Greek Fest, and the National Gallery exhibits. The group also encourages participation in diocesan and pro-life events by participating in the 40 Days for Life initiative, attending diocesan ordinations to



Photo taken on Friday, September 28, after a rosary and Mass at St. Theresa's church for the unborn. Courtesy of Norman Escobar

the priesthood, and attending Masses for the intention of the establishment of a pro-life medical centre in Ottawa.

If you'd like to attend their events, please email frassati.fellowship@gmail.com to be added to their distribution list.

CFC Singles for Christ: Proclaiming our God in faith and fellowship

by Renée Ardiente and Melodie Gabriel

CFC Singles for Christ (SFC) rejoiced in the Lord at their 14th annual Canadian conference August 24-26 at Carleton University. More than 300 delegates from across Canada and Bermuda gathered under the theme "Our God," proclaiming God's greatness through liturgy, teaching, and fellowship.

Through talks by dynamic speakers, we gave thanks for God's blessings on our community. We were presented with Mary as a model of discipleship, we were exhorted to pray personally about our individual missions, and we were encouraged to become people of "greatness".

We were blessed to have Archbishop Prendergast, Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake and Fr. Rico Dingal celebrate Mass with us. The weekend included vibrant praise and worship music. Participants also attended workshops that revealed ways to proclaim God's greatness in our personal lives and to the outside world.

We also celebrated our God-given talents through showcases in film, photography and song writing, as well as electrifying band and dance competitions. Saturday's sports events had many exciting moments, all in a spirit of true sportsmanship.

Strengthened in faith and fellowship, SFC Canada stands ready to fulfill God's call to greatness. Like our Blessed Mother, surrendering our lives to Him and bearing Christ to every single man and woman all over the world.

Couples for Christ (CFC) and its family ministries are a private international association of the faithful of pontifical right recognized by the Pontifical Council for the Laity of the Vatican. CFC Singles for Christ is a ministry of passionate professionals living renewed lives in Christ. For more information about SFC Ottawa, contact Boyd and Twilight Beltran by email: ottawasfc2012@gmail.com, or visit www.cfcscfcanada.com.



Marriage outside the Church

By Fr. Vincent Pereira, JCD

The Catholic Church is filled with sinners and She loves every member of Her community. We are the Church, the people of God, because of our baptism. In baptism, we each become a child of God, belonging to a parish community that welcomes us to receive the other grace-filled sacraments instituted by Jesus Christ for our spiritual nourishment on our pilgrimage to God's kingdom. It seems that couples married outside the Church are in danger of missing out on those sacraments, such as Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist.

Some couples drift away, misled and are insufficiently informed of our faith and Church's teaching. To borrow an insightful phrase of St. Anselm: "faith seeking understanding", is of prime importance that our people constantly nourish their faith by seeking progress in understanding, deepening the Christian knowledge by exploring the saints' lives, studying the papal encyclicals and heeding the bishops' exhortations. The couples must keep their faith alive.

The couples married outside the Church remind us of the picture Jesus drew of a scattered flock of people without a shepherd. How intense is his compassion for them! Similarly, the Shepherd seeking one sheep goes astray, finding it and rejoicing immensely. The couples married outside of the Church are encouraged to seek a pastoral solution by meeting with a pastor. In our archdiocese, there are many caring pastors and good friends who can assist them to re-engage, reconnect and return to the core of their spiritual life.

The ecclesial community is compassionate, deeply concerned for the spiritual well-being of each couple married within and more so, outside the Church.

Blessed Pope John Paul II's Apostolic Exhortation on the Christian family affirms that "the aim of pastoral action will be to make these people understand the need for consistency between their choice of life and the faith that they profess and try to do everything possible to induce them to regularize their situation in the light of Christian principles. While treating them with great charity and bring them into the life of the receptive communities" [#82]. It's time that the pastors and God's people encourage those friends married outside, to be reintroduced to the sacramental grace by a simple process or formality called Convalidation.

The Convalidation of marriage is an act by which an invalid marriage is rendered valid. I am talking about a couple's one and only union that has taken place outside the Church. This sacrament is a channel of mutual sanctification for their inner beings, the means by which the couple in love makes each other holy and brings each other closer to God. The role of each one of us is not only to be the stewards of the sacraments on earth, but also to be pathfinders of the road to heaven. Let each one of us be the real evangelizer, the messenger of the Gospel. When couples marry in the Church, they are married in the Lord Jesus Christ.

This article is the second of a series on the value of Marriage Law and the Tribunal Ministry. In the next issue, the article will be on divorce and remarriage.



Catholic Cemeteries
of the Archdiocese of Ottawa

Hope Cemetery
4660 Bank Street
Ottawa ON K1T 3W7
613-822-1212
hopecemetery.ca

Notre-Dame Cemetery
455 Montreal Road
Ottawa ON K1K 0V2
613-746-4175
notredamecemetery.ca

*Sacred places for sacred memories...
in the tradition of faith*



Finance

ROMAN CATHOLIC EPISCOPAL CORPORATION OF OTTAWA - GENERAL ADMINISTRATION FUND

Statement of Revenue and Expenses Year ended December 31, 2011

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Diocesan Administration Tax | \$ 2,454,311 | \$ 2,412,902 |
| Properties and parking | 999,129 | 1,039,357 |
| Investments | 286,299 | 254,776 |
| English Pastoral Sector | 332,957 | 318,269 |
| French Pastoral Sector | 171,863 | 173,757 |
| Youth Summit / World Youth Day | 275,925 | 73,557 |
| Donations and Bequests | 634,996 | 1,126,937 |
| Diocesan and Regional Tribunals | 52,577 | 31,508 |
| Episcopal Conferences | 58,967 | 64,470 |
| Chancery and archives | 6,747 | 4,955 |
| Other | 69,202 | 150,272 |
| Campaign for the Priests' Pension Plan and Compensation Fund | <u>771</u> | <u>22,757</u> |
| | \$5,343,744 | \$5,673,517 |
| Expenses | | |
| Archbishop's Office | 394,921 | 272,919 |
| Chancery and Archives Administration | 161,124 | 118,749 |
| | 424,435 | 383,654 |
| Properties and parking | 1,447,006 | 1,476,186 |
| Episcopal Conferences | 152,442 | 150,848 |
| Communications | 74,610 | 68,299 |
| English Pastoral Sector | 645,584 | 614,662 |
| French Pastoral Sector | 377,669 | 348,357 |
| Youth Summit / World Youth Day | 275,925 | 97,616 |
| Donations | 213,021 | 279,103 |
| Diocesan and Regional Tribunals | 177,545 | 169,296 |
| Education of Priests | 99,901 | 122,427 |
| Professional Fees | 188,838 | 76,905 |
| Interest and Bank Charges | 11,624 | 10,765 |
| Special Payment for the Priests' Pension Plan (1) | 175,308 | 272,350 |
| Development office | <u>158,258</u> | <u>147,467</u> |
| | 4,978,211 | 4,609,603 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses before the undernoted items | 365,533 | 1,063,914 |
| Amortization of deferred contributions - capital assets | 39,230 | 43,750 |
| Recognition of deferred contributions - disposal of capital assets | 0 | 127,230 |
| Amortization of capital assets | -194,457 | -192,970 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | \$210,306 | \$1,041,924 |

Complementary Notes to the General Administration Fund Statement

(1) Special Payment to Priests' Pension Plan - Represents the 1% increment of Diocesan Administration Tax contributed by parishes in order to help reduce the unfunded liability of the Pension Plan. In 2010, the amount on this line also includes \$100,000 from a donation. (2) Advances to Funds of the Corporation - The balances at the end of 2011 were as follows: \$5,766,834 to Hope Cemetery (\$5,766,834 in 2010), \$1,425,135 to Loan Fund for Parishes (\$1,075,135 in 2010), \$455,807 to Notre-Dame Cemetery (\$455,807 in 2010). (3) Trust Funds Assets and Liabilities - Amount held in Trust as per governmental requirements of the Province of Ontario for the assurance of the perpetual care of the 48 cemeteries under our jurisdiction. We are not allowed to use the capital. The interest serves to provide for the maintenance and care of our cemeteries. The amount held with a Trustee is listed on the Balance sheet as both an asset and a liability. (4) Transfers to/from Funds of the Corporation - Amounts transferred in 2011 were as follows: \$771 to Compensation Fund (\$22,757 in 2010), \$236,459 from Parish Real Estate Fund (\$671,930 transfer to Parish Real Estate Fund in 2010) and \$100,000 to Particular Works Fund (\$100,000 in 2010).

Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2011

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash | \$175,939 | \$215,960 |
| Accounts receivable | 948,333 | 846,644 |
| Interest receivable | 9,356 | 7,392 |
| Prepaid expenses | <u>67,123</u> | <u>159,823</u> |
| | 1,200,751 | 1,229,819 |
| Investments | 4,350,535 | 4,081,289 |
| Capital assets | 3,258,442 | 2,887,375 |
| Advances to Funds of the Corp. (2) | 7,647,776 | 7,297,776 |
| Long-term receivables | 353,640 | 626,094 |
| Trust Funds assets (3) | <u>10,679,169</u> | <u>10,170,278</u> |
| | \$27,490,313 | \$26,292,631 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$1,246,291 | \$792,168 |
| Deferred revenue | 964,518 | 976,656 |
| Deferred contributions - Capital assets | 489,528 | 528,758 |
| Long-term payable | - | 138,495 |
| Trust Funds liabilities (3) | <u>10,679,169</u> | <u>10,170,278</u> |
| | 13,379,506 | 12,606,355 |
| Fund balances | | |
| Invested in capital assets | 2,768,914 | 2,358,617 |
| Accumulated unrealized gains & losses on financial assets | 165,767 | 87,230 |
| Internally restricted | 6,222,641 | 6,222,641 |
| Unrestricted | <u>4,953,485</u> | <u>5,017,788</u> |
| | 14,110,807 | 13,686,276 |
| | \$27,490,313 | \$26,292,631 |

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances year ended December 31, 2011

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$13,686,276 | \$13,337,028 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | 210,306 | 1,041,924 |
| Changes in unrealized gains & losses on available-for-sale financial assets | 78,537 | 102,011 |
| Transfers to Funds of the Corporation (4) | 135,688 | -794,687 |
| Balance, end of year | \$14,110,807 | \$13,686,276 |

Audited Statements by Deloitte & Touche are available at the Diocesan Centre.



Endowment – another alternative

By Ted Prowse

Much has been written about the various methods to support your Church through the Planned Giving program. However, little has been said about the ability to support the various pastoral activities via an endowment.

An endowment enables the donor to establish a fund where the income from the capital is distributed to the Church to support its general activities or for a specific cause stated by the donor. The donor can request that the capital be preserved or distributed on a periodic basis.

An endowment can be created in many ways, such as:

- a donation of cash, securities or other assets
- life insurance
- a bequest, etc.

In addition, a donor can start an endowment and the capital can be built up over a period of years. This enables the donor to increase the periodic

funding because of the generous income tax credits that are available.

The creator of an endowment (donor) can also have their gift named after themselves or a loved one. This will create a lasting tribute to honour their recognition of the important role the Church has played in their life, including their desire to assist the Church in continuing its many activities for years to come.

The donor can specify how the funds are to be used such as supporting a specific pastoral activity or to support the activities carried out by a parish or the archdiocese. This is a lovely way to create a legacy for the donor or a family member, while also providing lasting support for the Church.

If you would like further information, please contact Louise Morton in the Development Office of the Archdiocese of Ottawa by phone: 613-738-5025, ext. 235 or by email: lmorton@archottawa.ca.

The advantage of a gift of securities

By Ted Prowse

This time of the year is an opportune time to review the many blessings we have received and to consider a donation to the Church to assist with its various pastoral activities.

The donation of publicly listed securities should be considered when making an immediate gift because of the following tax advantages to the donor:

- a tax credit for the full value of the securities donated, and
- an exemption from any capital gain tax related to the disposal of the donated securities.

If the choice is between making a donation of cash or securities, it is usually more advantageous to make the donation of securities which have appreciated in value.

However, the security must be donated to the Church and not sold prior to making the donation.

The archdiocese can facilitate this process. These are the steps for a donation of securities to the Church (a parish, the archdiocese or another Catholic entity):

- the donor completes the Gift of Listed Securities form with his or her broker;
- the broker informs the archdiocese of the upcoming transfer and initiates the transfer;
- the archdiocese sells the stocks upon receipt and issues a tax receipt to the donor for the value of the stocks on the day they were transferred to the brokerage account;
- if the donation is to a parish (or other Catholic entity), the archdiocese issues a cheque

to the parish for the net proceeds from the sale of the stocks (less minimal brokerage fees).

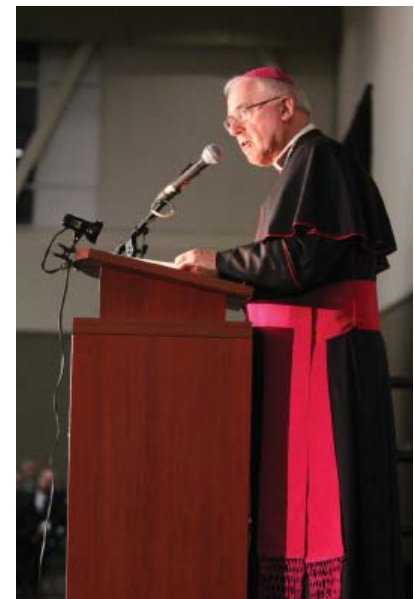
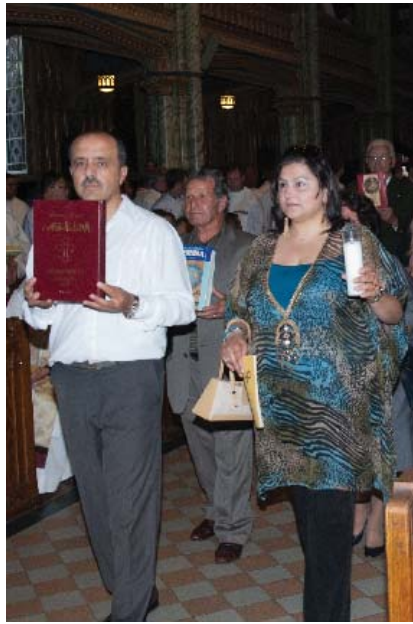
The *Gift of Listed Securities* form can be downloaded from the Archdiocese of Ottawa's website www.CatholicOttawa.ca, under the "Donate" tab.

For further details, please contact Jules Dagenais by phone: 613-738-5025, ext. 249, or by email: jdagenais@archottawa.ca.



Recent diocesan activities ...

Top: Diocesan Feast and Papal Honours
 Middle: Red Mass, Hope and Notre Dame cemeteries celebrations
 Bottom: Opening of the *Year of Faith*, Archbishop's Charity Dinner



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