Catholic Herald

the voice of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough



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EDITORIAL

Fr. Ray Rick

St. Peter-in-Scaffolding

Our cathedral, St. Peter-in-Chains, is undergoing major repairs to its roof and stonework. Anyone who owns or manages property knows this kind of work is necessary from time to time, and it isn't cheap. If you can assist with the financial burden, the Cathedral staff would be delighted to hear from you.

In the meantime, we have an opportunity to reflect on the meaning (I might say, "the importance") of a cathedral. It is timely to do so because Bishop Miehm has just recently issued a decision regarding the annual feast of our cathedral. Please take the time to read the letter on the next two pages.

The cathedral signifies the bishop's connection to the apostolic tradition, as it is a symbol of the continuity of teaching authority from the apostles to the present day (*Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church: Christ – Our Pascha*, #365). The word "cathedral" derives from a Greek word, "*cathedra*", meaning "chair", the name for the specific chair, or "throne", used only by the bishop. It is a major focal point in the cathedral, where the bishop presides over liturgical celebrations and teaches the faithful. This is rooted in an understanding that the bishop acts in the person of Christ, serving as a living sign of the Lord's presence among the community (St. John Paul II, *Pastores gregis*, 7 & 34). The act of sitting in the cathedra during the liturgy signifies the bishop's authoritative role in guiding the worship and spiritual life of the community (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1184). It also harks back to Christ sitting and teaching His disciples in the Gospels (Mt. 5:1; 15:29; Lk. 4:20; 5:3; Jn. 8:2.)

Although there is no requirement that a cathedral be build of stone, it is nevertheless fitting, for the faithful are described as "living stones" that make up the Body of Christ, with the cathedral serving as a physical manifestation of this Body. It is a reminder that the Church is not just a building but a vibrant community of believers who are called to live out their faith in various aspects of life (St. John Paul II, Apostolic Journey to the United States of America: Liturgy of Vespers at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark, 4 October 1995).

On a somewhat personal note, I (who was ordained a Priest in this cathedral) am very eager to see a cross returned to the top of our steeple, announcing to the city that salvation is found in this sacred symbol. The steeple has looked "wrong", if I may say so, since its cross was literally blown off in a windstorm more than two years ago. Granted, securing anything to such an elevated point will be an engineering challenge; but it seems virtually necessary. Given that the church tower is enwrapped by scaffolding (as seen on our front cover), I am hopeful that this may be in the plans .

I invite the Faithful, not only in the city but throughout the diocese, to rally around our cathedral, recognize its historic and spiritual significance, and support it financially if possible. The cathedral is a special place; it is a focal point for our identity as living stones, being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:5). ✠

Fr. Raymond Rick is Pastor of St. Paul's Parish in Lakefield and Editor of the Herald.

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NEXT ISSUE

— Advent 2024 —

will be distributed to the parishes in Mid-December 2024.
Submissions must be received at the e-mail address below on or before November 1st.

Stories and photos of events from every parish and organization in the diocese are welcome. Photos should be sent as attachments, not embedded in a text document, and the bigger the image file the better. Submissions as PDFs often do not reproduce well. No contributor to the Catholic Herald is remunerated in any way.

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough

March 11, 2024

Rev. Father Tom Lynch
Rector
Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains
411 Reid St.
Peterborough, ON

Dear Father Lynch,

Correspondence from Christina Ronzio at the National Liturgy Office of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has drawn new attention to an old issue – the apparent lack of information about the date of the Dedication of the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains, first established as a parish church and constructed in 1837-38.

The date recorded in the Canadian Ordo (pointed out by Ms. Ronzio) has been listed for a long time as September 21, 1825. This is plainly wrong, since records establish clearly that St. Peter-in-Chains Church was not opened until 1838. The date of September 21 also seems to be a polite fiction, though it is the date of the installation of the first Bishop, Msgr. John Francis Jamot, in 1882.

A search of "From the Pioneers to the Seventies," the usually reliable diocesan history book, provides no date for the Dedication of the church. Likewise, Robyn Henighan has been unable to find anything in the Diocesan archives. I understand that you have likewise been unable to find anything specific in records at the Cathedral. It seems like the actual date of Dedication may be lost to the mists of time.

So, I must make some decision to clarify this matter. Henceforth, we shall recognize the date of the Dedication of the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains (at the time, the parish church of St. Peter-in-Chains) as September 22, 1838. This acknowledges what we know from the historical record, that the church began to be used for worship in the latter months of 1838. I have

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opted for September 22 rather than September 21 because the latter date is the Feast of St. Matthew. Since we are basically picking a date, we may as well select one that does not collide with a major feast in the liturgical calendar.

I have communicated this information to Christina Ronzio at the National Liturgy Office so that the Ordo may be corrected. Let us bear in mind the provisions around the Anniversary of the Dedication of a Cathedral, of which Christina has reminded me: that the Anniversary is a solemnity in the Cathedral and a feast day in every other parish of the diocese. I do note that it's a solemnity I may often miss, as it will tend to coincide with the plenary meeting of the Canadian Bishops.

I believe it makes sense to settle on this date, at least in the absence of more precise information. I ask that you retain this letter in your Cathedral records. We will do likewise in our Diocesan Pastoral Center and in our Archives, so that future generations do not have to cover this ground and will understand why this date was chosen.

Thank you for your ongoing pastoral care of the Cathedral given its great importance in the life of the local Church.

In Christ,

+Daniel Miehm

+Most Reverend Daniel Miehm
Bishop of Peterborough

+DJM/dlt

c.c. Rev. Father Raymond Rick, Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs
Ms. Robyn Henighan, Vice-Chancellor and Archivist
Ms. Christina Ronzio, Director of the National Liturgy Office

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Pilgrims of Hope - Jubilee 2025

PILGRIMAGE - RECONCILIATION - PRAYER - LITURGY - PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Jubilee 2025 Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform
from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen



Scan the QR Code for a list of our Diocesan Events:

Jubilee Opening Mass:
Celebrated by Bishop Daniel Miehm
December 29th, 2024 at 10:30am
Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains

A Jubilee Year is traditionally proclaimed by the Universal Church every 25 years. It is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life. The 2025 Jubilee will be centered on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope."

peterboroughdiocese.org

CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Commitment to Indigenous reconciliation

Wednesday, 24 July 2024

Two years ago this month,Pope Francis stood before an assembly of Indigenous Elders and former residential school students in Maskwacis, Alberta. He offered a profound and heartfelt apology to the Indigenous Peoples, and sought God's forgiveness, for the suffering endured in Canada's residentials schools.

On this anniversary, we find ourselves reflecting on the profound sorrow Pope Francis expressed for the devastating effects of the residential school system on Indigenous communities, and on the journey of reconciliation and healing we have embarked upon together. Two years later, the Pope's words still compel us to recognize this painful legacy and walk alongside the Indigenous Peoples in a spirit of repentance, solidarity, and hope.

We contemplate the Holy Father's words: "The Church is the house where we conciliate anew, where we meet to start over and to grow together". This vision of the Church as a "living body of reconciliation" has guided us in our ongoing commitment to justice and healing. In this spirit we reaffirm our pledge to work for healing and reconciliation, and to reflect on our efforts since the Holy Father's visit to Canada in 2022.

"We want to talk together, to pray together and to work together, so that the sufferings of the past can lead to a future of justice, healing and reconciliation." – Pope Francis

Financial Support for Indigenous Priorities

Reconciliation calls for a deep understanding and respect for Indigenous culture, identity, and priorities. In 2021, the Bishops of Canada pledged to raise $30 million for projects that support healing and reconciliation. These initiatives are identified and selected by Indigenous Peoples at the local level and overseen by the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF). We are pleased to announce that the Fund has already raised over $15 million, and is therefore ahead of its five-year timeline.

"Drawing strength from our experiences and using that understanding to help others guides us in assessing proposals, and grounds our efforts in the traditional teachings and ways of healing that are so important for Indigenous people." – Rosella Kinoshameg, Chair, Indigenous Reconciliation Fund

The IRF has funded important projects emphasizing healing and reconciliation for Indigenous Peoples and their families, the revitalization of cultures and languages, education and building of communities, as well as dialogues for promoting spiritualities. We encourage the Catholic community to review the **work of the IRF** and promote opportunities to contribute.

Transparent Access to Records

Pope Francis emphasized the significance of uncovering and recognizing truths about the historical injustices faced by residential school survivors and their families. Truth must come before reconciliation and all dioceses are strongly encouraged to make their relevant records available to Indigenous researchers and communities, in order to help them find the truth they seek. To support this work, we have established **Guidelines** for documentation and access to relevant records, including mission, sacramental and burial records, to help Indigenous Peoples identify the facts pertaining to their loved ones. This work is supplementary to that of other Catholic entities that administered or operated residential schools established by the Government of Canada and who have made relevant documents available to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

This painstaking work will take time, and, with you, we are committed to the journey of truth. It is incumbent upon us to assist survivors and their communities in finding healing from traumas they suffered. We join the Holy Father in his prayer "that Christians and civil society in this land may grow in the ability to accept and respect the identity and the experience of the Indigenous Peoples."[1]

Continuing the Dialogue with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples

We are deeply grateful for the relationships we have established with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples. We want to continue to walk side by side in solidarity. Since each Indigenous community brings unique gifts and challenges, local dioceses and parishes play a fundamental and leading role in fulfilling this commitment. Above all, this means walking together by a humble and open listening to the wisdom and counsel of Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

As Bishops, we have established structures within the CCCB to support dialogues and foster greater understanding of Indigenous cultural, linguistic, and spiritual traditions and values. We also wish to develop academic collaborations to understand the concepts commonly associated with the "Doctrine of Discovery", as well as to engage with the Canadian government on shared concerns, such as the Indigenous belongings currently held at the Vatican museums.

[1] https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/from-strong-words-to-meaningful-partnership-a-renewed-catholic-commitment-to-indigenous-reconciliation/#_ftn1

Embracing the Path of Unity and Hope

As we continue this journey of truth and reconciliation, we also acknowledge the many difficult conversations taking place around the country regarding our painful legacy. For example, we know that some have called for more rigorous investigations into reports of unmarked burial sites, which we had to confront as a nation three short years ago.

Let us keep in mind that this deep desire for truth and transparency resides first with Indigenous communities and residential school survivors. Decisions to study this history are best made locally by Indigenous leaders, who have the most direct understanding of the needs of their respective communities. Many resources can be made available to explore and understand residential school history, such as archival and archaeological research. We encourage dioceses and all Catholics to support their local Indigenous communities in this sensitive work. We invite all parties to move forward in mutual transparency, respect, humility, compassion, patience, and trust.

Our aim must be to help Indigenous Peoples seek and know the facts pertaining to their loved ones and community ancestors. By working together in these and many other ways, we are all prepared to advance more effectively along the path of reconciliation.

When Pope Francis visited our country, he called the Church in Canada to firm action and an irreversible commitment to the new path we are forging with the Indigenous Peoples of this land. The way of reconciliation and hope is one that must be walked together. That is why we shall continue to listen to and support survivors and Indigenous communities during this journey. We are grateful to all who accompany us on this path of healing and reconciliation.



Parish:
Lindsay

CWL supports Lori's Place





On August 20, 2024, St. Mary's CWL hosted a housewarming shower for Lori's Place, second-stage transitional housing for abused women and their children which will open in September. A total of 280 items of bedding, personal care and other items plus cash were donated. In attendance were: Kelly Russell, Audrey Johnston, Jane Antal, Shirley King, Dorothy Carroll, Cathy Bushell, Gloria Broad, Lillian O'Connell, Marg Johansen, Lyn David, Audrey McLaughlin, Jo-Anne McPherson, Glenda Klein, Josette Chase, and Anne McKinnon. Many others donated but were unable to attend. Pictured with the shower gifts that they received and opened are Alisha Fisher and Keara Pagniello of Women's Resources.

Tribute to the Sisters of St. Joseph — June 9, 2024

In 1890, three Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, led by Mother Austin Doran, signed up to teach at the Loretto Academy in Lindsay which was a boarding and day school. This became the motherhouse-convent for the newly formed Sisters of St. Joseph of Peterborough. They changed the name to St. Joseph's Academy. They changed the system and renovated the classrooms to include students to Grade 12. They also taught vocal and instrumental music. In 1893, they established a commercial department. As well as St. Mary's Girls Elementary School and the Academy High School, in 1929, the Sisters took over St. Dominic's Boy's School. In 1954, the new co-ed St. Mary's School was built and the Sisters taught there. Following the demolition of the building in 1977, the Sisters continued to minister in the parish, teaching, visiting the incarcerated the sick from their new convent. Once this convent was sold, the Sisters maintained a residence for one at Guy Mills Court 2002-2024 where Sr. Kathleen Harrigan, then Sr. Loretta LaPointe, followed by Sr. Sandra Boyer lived and ministered in the parish until 2023. In 2012, Sr. Veronica O'Reilly, the former general superior at the Peterborough Sisters of St. Joseph, was elected the leader of the newly amalgamated national congregation.

Sisters came from Peterborough, London and Ottawa and former students came from many other locations to attend the Mass which was concelebrated by Associate Pastor Fr. Simón Magaña and Fr. Tom Lynch, a former student of the Sisters and former pastor who had worked very closely with the Sisters in Lindsay. Father Tom gave a wonderful tribute to the Sisters in his homily.

A reception followed in the St. Mary's School Hall. Many presentations were coordinated by the emcee Pat Clarke: Fr. Dominic Clovis (St. Mary's Parish), Fr. Peter Seabrooke (Chaplain, Mount St. Joseph), Pat O'Reilly (brother of Sr. Veronica O'Reilly), Noreen Brasier (fellow teacher), Lillian O'Connell (CWL), Joanne Hough (SSVP & PVNCCDSB), and Leona Saxun (Associates of Sisters of St. Joseph).



This spiritual bouquet from parishioners collected by the Legion of Mary was presented to Sr. Sandra Boyer and Sr. Loretta LaPointe. Coordinator Glenda Klein read the congratulatory letter from Bishop Daniel Miehm.



Experiences and memories were shared by Sr. Sandra Boyer and Sr. Loretta LaPointe (R). Sister Helen Russell (L), Councilor on the CSJ Leadership Team, explained about the new directions and initiatives being taken by the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada.



Pastor Fr. Dominic Clovis presented a framed colourized photo of the academy/convent - the original for the Sisters and a copy to be hung in St. Mary's Church as a reminder to all.



Parishioner Pat O'Reilly, former town councilor and brother of the late Sr. Veronica O'Reilly, spoke favourably about a vocation in the family. He also presented certificates of appreciation to Sr. Sandra Boyer from municipal, provincial and federal governments.

Upon arrival each Sister was presented a corsage by the Knights of Columbus. The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul created a lasting photo book. Memorial bookmarks were presented to all attendees.

The tribute was hosted by CWL and K of C.

Following the CWL choir singing their "We Thank you, Sisters" tribute to the Sisters of St. Joseph in Canada, CWL President Lillian O'Connell presented a framed copy of the song for the CSJ archives. She thanked the Sisters and all the groups and parishioners who had helped to make the event a success.



Why not consider a quick Pilgrimage to Montreal?

2024: 400th Anniversary of the Dedication of Canada to St. Joseph

Perhaps your parish, or a group therein, might like to organize a little pilgrimage to St. Jospeh's Oratory this fall, in honour of good St. Joseph. This link may be helpful:
https://www.saint-joseph.org/en/4th-centenary-of-the-dedication/#english





Parish:
Campbellford

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 2024 MEGA RAFFLE REPORT

Our third and final $20 Mega Raffle was once again a marvelous success! Proceeds totaled **$60,000** which was split between our bell tower debt and the final stage of our accessibility project. On behalf of St. Mary of the Visitation Parish, a heartfelt thank you to all who purchased and/or sold our mega tickets. A list of the 22 winners follows this blurb.

FYI – Our fundraising committee found selling the $20 tickets more challenging this time for various reasons. We have decided a different approach and have organized a smaller raffle entitled Cash for Christmas. Tickets are $10 with three prizes on December 1st of $3,000, $2,000 and $1,000 plus the early bird draws on October 31st for $500, $300 and $200. *Please note the winners of the Early Bird Draw will have their names placed back in the drum for December 1st.*

If you have any questions or would like to purchase or even sell some of the Cash for Christmas tickets, please call Fr. Bill Moloney at 705-768-0844.

see winners, next page

1st Prize – Yamaha Kodiak 450 EPS ATV ***or*** $12,125 cash won by Douglas Waldie of Napenee (chose the cash)	$12,275
2nd Prize – Karavan 5' x 8' Utility Trailer ***or*** $2,775 cash won by Kathleen Galligan of Campbellford (chose the Cash)	$2,775
3rd PrIze– ¼ beef, ¼ pork. ¼ chicken from Grange Farms won by Margie Monaghan of Madoc	$1,000
4th Prize – Queen Sized Quilt -Dresdan Plate Pattern by Joan O'Leary won by Brian Thorpe of Campbellford	$500
5th Prize - Char-Griller Barbeque won by Barb Lynch of Otonabee	$450
6th Prize – A Bond Portable Propane Outdoor Fire Bowl and Fire Pit, Donated Canadian Tire won by Dale Clemens of Marmora ON	$290
7th Prize - A Painting entitled "Love of Algonquin Park" by Patricia Annaert won by Christy McGrisken of Havelock	$250
8th Prize - Portage Vehicle Cleaning – a car detailing won by Helen O'Rourke of Campbellford	$200
9th Prize - Antonia's Bistro Gift Certificate won by Charles Boucher of Ottawa	$100
10th Prize - Bennett's Furniture Gift Certificate won by Joe Lowe of Warkworth	$100
11th Prize - Abu Garcia For Life Cardinal S Canadian Edition Rod + Reel won by Brenden J. Moher of Peterborough	$100
12th Prize -Dooher's Bakery Gift Certificate won by Mary Garneau of Campbellford	$100
13th Prize - Giant Tiger Gift Certificate won by Christine Dooher of Campbellford	$100
14th Prize - Hand Made Rustic Coat Rack donated by Melanie Clark won by Julia Nichollas of Campbellford	$100
15th Prize - Sharpe's Food Market Gift Certificate won by Paul Plazek of Peterborough	$100
16th Prize - Westben $100 Voucher for a 2024 performance won by Dan Hunt of Peterborough	$100
17th Prize - World's Finest Chocolate Gift Certificate won by Chuck McGrayne of Peterborough	$80
18th Prize - A wooden bowl donated by Paul O'Brien won by Joanne Anandappa of Campbellford	$75
19th Prize - Empire Cheese Gift Certificate won by Augustus Churchill of Warkworth	$50
20st Prize - Fisher's No Frill's Gift Certificate won by Kasia Tryba of Peterborough	$50
21st Prize - King's Automotive – a free oil change won by Caroline Heffernan of Smiths Falls	$50
22nd Prize - V & S Stedman's Gift Certificate won by Shauna Mann of Peterborough	$50



FROM THE PEW

David Beresford

Internet Maps

"There is a disadvantage of a stick pointing straight," answered the other. "What is it? Why the other end of the stick always points the opposite way. It depends whether you get hold of the stick by the right end." G. K. *Chesterton. The Mistake of the Machine.*

"It's easy!" they said. "Convenient, you get great bargains!" they said.

We were talking – rather I was being talked to – about an online forum, for finding stuff other people have for sale. It is a kind of internet garage sale where you can buy items such as combination ashtray/radios, aluminum kettles, toy soldiers, or snowmobiles "As is, worked last time I used it."

The genesis of my enlightenment, was my complaint that two junk stores had gone out of business ending my supply of old tools to find and repair. Adding insult to my worldview, the free newspaper that used to have pages of advertisements and want ads also went out of business. Such is the power of the internet to make life better.

"Dave, you need to come in to the modern world!"

So I gave it a try. Two decades ago we used to raise rabbits for the freezer when the children were small, and work scarce. Raising meat from sweet clover growing along the ditch and free for the taking was a good idea. So, with the pigs and chickens butchered and in the freezer, it seemed like a good time to get back into raising rabbits as a source of fresh meat over fall and winter.

There were dissenting voices, nobody in my household likes rabbit meat and they were not shy with this information. However, I was certain that that if I ground up deboned rabbit meat it would be accepted as a lean alternative to ground pork or chicken. Everyone in my family had eaten and liked hundreds of meals of chicken (rabbit) burgers and deep fried chicken (rabbit).

I needed breeding stock of New Zealand White rabbits, a buck and two or three does if I could get them. With the free want-ads paper gone, my only hope was to look up Rabbits for Sale on the internet site. Sure enough, someone had some. The website said there were live breeding stock meat rabbits for sale in – no, I will not tell you the town – a small town about fifteen miles away, more or less an intersection with houses on all four corners. And, good news! There was a map beside the information about rabbit, with a red balloon on a stick pointing to the spot where I could get, "New Zealand White meat rabbits, $15, males and females available."

This was all I could find, there was no phone number and no street address. So I zoomed the internet map so I could see what house the stick was pointing at – fourth house south of the corner at the lights, more or less in the center of town.

I loaded my truck with some cages, and drove out with cash in my wallet.

"There is the house Theresa," I said to my wife, as I parked the truck.

"I do not think anyone is home. It looks abandoned. Are you sure you have the right house?" I saw her point, two windows were covered in plywood.

"Yep, look at the map!" There was the stick clearly pointing at the fourth house.

I knocked on the door, and after several minutes a lady in a dishevelled housecoat opened the door a crack.



"Do you have rabbits for sale?"

The lady looked at me and asked me to repeat my question, she seemed tired.

"Rabbits. Do you have meat rabbits? I saw on the internet that you had rabbits for sale, for breeding."

She said she did not.

"Do you know who does around here? The internet said someone in here has rabbits for sale."

She slammed the door.

"I don't think this is a good idea," Theresa said from the truck across the road.

Maybe the internet got the wrong house. So I went next door. "Do you have rabbits for sale?"

I worked along the street knocking on doors. I discovered that some of the people who live there are impatient, some are rude, others are downright insulting. I also learned that nobody had rabbits.

"This makes no sense! The map says there are rabbits here!"

"Maybe he knows who has rabbits" said Theresa, and she pointed to a Chip Truck parked in an empty lot across the road. Good idea. We ordered some hamburgers and coffee, and I asked, "Do you know if anyone along this road has rabbits?"

The man behind the counter paused. He looked like he was thinking. He wiped his hands on his greasy apron, lit a cigarette, then waved the match.

"Why do you think someone here has rabbits?" he asked.

And I explained.

I learned that this is not how the internet works. It turns out that the stick and red balloon were pointing to the town in general and not any house in particular. I learned that to get the address I needed to register on the website.

I listened and still have no idea what he was talking about except the gist – that the map was not really a map and that the stick was pointing nowhere.

We still do not have rabbits. ✠

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

PONTIFICIA ACADEMIA PRO VITA

SYMPOSIUM ON PALLIATIVE CARE
Towards a Narrative of Hope 21-23 May 2024

Internatinal Interfaith Symposium on Palliative Care

press release, 23 May 2024

Toronto, 23 May 2024 - The Canadian Conferance of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) and the Pontifical Academy for Life (PAV), in collaboration with other key partners, organized an international interfaith symposium on palliative care titled **"Towards a Narrative of Hope,"** which took place in Toronto from 21-23 May 2024.

The Symposium affirmed that hope, its central theme, is always possible, even in life's most challenging moments. Presentations explored educating and promoting a culture of social responsibility within palliative care. Experts in ethics, medicine, healthcare, law, and pastoral care discussed strategies to relieve suffering during illness and dying, as well as ways to provide appropriate human accompaniment to improve the quality of life and well-being of patients and their families.

In a written message, His Holiness Pope Francis warmly encouraged the participants to persevere in their commitment to promoting palliative care, which is an expression of compassion and respect for the infinite dignity of every person.

An interfaith panel featuring different religious and cultural perspectives highlighted the importance of faith and culture in supporting the needs of the sick and dying and alleviating their physical, spiritual, and emotional suffering.

The Symposium Chair, Bishop Noël Simard, noted that the initiative allowed for the exchange of ideas in a spirit of collaboration with mutual respect among national and international experts. "It is urgent that we work together to promote palliative care which is threatened by some practices," he stated. "Palliative care is the answer, offering to the suffering and dying person an accompaniment based on love, compassion and respect for the dignity of the human person until natural death." He added: "This Symposium demonstrates our collective and ongoing determination to advocate for improved access to palliative care in Canada and around the world."

Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, President of the Pontifical Academy for Life, noted, "even when healing is no longer possible, it is always possible to care for others. Palliative care is a deeply human vision of medicine. In the final stages of earthy existence, we must counter indifference and the culture of waste. Palliative care is a special form of charity and should be encouraged."

Msgr. Renzo Pegoraro, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy for Life, affirmed that "in addition to clinical experience, palliative care requires the contribution of the humanities and the indispensable word of truth and meaning brought by religion regarding the search for the meaning of life and the mystery of self-discovery, including how to prepare for the encounter with God for those who are believers."

A working group is now tasked with collating the participants' key recommendations, focusing on five areas: advocacy for palliative care, community engagement and support, education, integrating the cultural dimension into palliative care, and palliative care policy and legislation. CCCB President Bishop William T. McGrattan affirmed this follow-up work, saying: "Each of us, as a member of society, has a duty to assist and love the sick and dying and to support their loved ones with compassion so that no one is isolated, alone, or forgotten in their time of need. This Symposium signifies a strong commitment to life and holistic care, which will bear much fruit."

Your Will. Not Mine! (Mark 14:36)

103rd Diocesan Convention of the CWL

On May 4-5, 2024, ladies from twenty Peterborough Diocesan parishes and five Spiritual Advisors, assembled at St. Mary of Assumption Church, Huntsville, to celebrate the 103rd Peterborough Diocesan Convention of the CWL. Everyone was overjoyed that not only did His Excellency Bishop Miehm preside at the opening liturgy but also that he was joined by five CWL Spiritual Advisors and four guest members of the clergy. The twenty parish CWL banners formed an impressive backdrop for the liturgy.

Members gathered to share in the Diocesan theme "Here I am, Lord. I come to do Your Will" (Psalm 40 7-10), to pray together, for each other, for deceased members and clergy and for those in the parish communities they serve. They renewed acquaintances, made new friends and were excited to share the activities shared by the council presidents.

As opening guest speaker, Msgr D. Tramontini, North Bay, introduced the theme, he challenged everyone to identify how they present themselves (Here I am) to the Lord in each interactive role they play in their daily lives. Msgr., with reference to St. Paul who says "I am called to be a living stone out of which the world will evolve", shared that we are called to work on the stones/people we encounter as we respond to our baptismal call to be priest, prophet and king through the grace of God who is always present in our lives. The directed meditation session and reflections which followed the presentation, mirrored a grace filled retreat!

Closing guest speaker, Provincial 1st Vice president, Wilma Vanderzwagg, expanded the theme to include the National CWL theme, "Here I am Lord, …..send me" (Isaiah 6:8), as she challenged everyone to be open to God's call to identify what He calls them to do – "Your will. Not mine" (Mark 14:36). You might be the one God chooses to do a specific job. With an open heart, you pray for God's help to guide you as you discern your response – His plan for you. God does not call the qualified but qualifies the called!

Sincere thanks to the gracious hosts Fr. Dominik Mbah, the Huntsville CWL the assisting Northern Deanery CWLs and Chairperson, Diana Snowden, for a successful event. Convention 2025 will be at St. Mary, Lindsay, May 4-5.

















Conventions Highlights

Peterborough Diocesan

- Paddy Fitzgerald Nolan, Wooler, awarded the Life Member service pin
- Margurite Goodfellow, Diana Snowden, Huntsville, awarded Maple Leaf service pins.
- Elaine Beaton, Powassan, was unavailable to receive her Bellelle Guerin service pin. It was presented to her in person in June.

Ontario Provincial Convention, Sudbury

- New Provincial Executive elected – all councils now act under the new Strategic Plan. The new President is Colleen Martin, Thunder Bay.
- Ontario councils adopted one Resolution (re the expansion of school food programs) which was recommended for approval at the National Convention. Thank you CWL members for your membership and therefore your vote of support.

National Convention, Saskatoon

After much discussion, three resolutions were adopted for presentation to the Federal Government in 2025. Publication is not approved at this time. Ladies, as a member of the only organization (60,000 members) in Canada which is privileged to meet annually with the Federal and Provincial Governments, YOU – the CWL, continue to make a difference in the lives of every Canadian! Congratulations.

Maria Fitzgerald
Peterborough Diocesan President
Catholic Women's League of Canada



An ODE to a MIGHTY FEW

The CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
St Mary's of the Visitation, Campbellford

Who are Catholic Women's League? To many they are just a Service Group, but to others, a nation of very active women who get things done. The CWL of St Mary's of the Visitation are that; they are actively involved in all our church fundraising. Currently the CWL, along with other active parishioners, run Mary's Closet Thrift Shop. They are into their 3rd year of operation and have accomplished so much for the Parish, as well as the Community!

They continue to contribute towards the Bell Tower debt. This is due in great part to generous donations but also to the time and effort given by our dedicated parishioners and CWL members. This year they installed a debit machine by way of the SQUARE – since the Covid pandemic many people prefer not to carry cash; it was a great addition. Once per month, the CWL prepare and serve a hot lunch for farmers who come to buy and sell their cattle at the Hoards Station. Ours is one of a few church leagues at Hoards Station that provide a hot meal (with homemade pie and a drink of your choice) at a reasonable price. The CWL have been doing this for a number of years and expect to continue supporting the farmers of our area in years to come. In June of 2024 they put on a *Down Home Kitchen Dinner/Dance*. The CWL plated 66 fresh Lobster dinners with all the fixings, 6 Beef Dinners, plus 72 elaborate homemade desserts. Not bad for a first year! Will they do it again? Who knows what the future will bring. Our CWL are called upon for a variety of other activities that the church suggests. These are (but are not limited to) Yard Sales, Take Out Dinners, Raffle Ticket Selling, and the CWL Christmas Bazaar. The Catholic Women's League look after myriad other small jobs that require a dedicated group to pull it all together. If there a job to be done, the CWL is there. There is a saying "it takes a Village" … our Parish would be lost without this dedicated small army of ladies we call the Catholic Women's League.

MASS TO START THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The **Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington District School Board** began their 2024-25 school year with Mass at St. Alphonsus Liguori Church, Peterborough, on **Tuesday, August 27th**.

The Director of Education, Senior Administration, Managers, Principals and Vice-Principals of the entire school board were in attendance. Following Mass was a day of instruction and social time at the board office.



June 7, 2024

The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus





Bishop Miehm celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Herat of Jesus with his clergy (immediately upon returning from their annual Retreat) and many of the lay faithful at Sacred Heart church in Peterborough.





350th Anniversary of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Lecture on the 1st Apparition

Fr. Alex Salazar, IVE — 27 December 2023, Sacred Heart Parish, Peterborough



INTRODUCTION

This year – or better yet, this year and a half – we are in the 350th Anniversary of Sacred Heart of Jesus. One thing to keep in mind is that the revelations are never necessarily meant to be private, nor were they meant to be exclusive to a particular time frame or a particular country. A revelation is something in accordance with God – and God's truth is eternal, thus revelations are generally of a universal value to people of all places and all times, exposed to us at a providential time. This is the reason why we wish to undertake "The Reliving the Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus According to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque" so that the benefits that St Margaret Mary received may also bear fruit in our own lives.

NARRATION OF THE APPARITION

First, we can note there were a total of four apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus made to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. The first three are considered a unit which led to the fourth apparition, the fullness and completion of the revelation. This last revelation is also referred to as 'the Grand Apparition'; granted to Saint Margaret Mary on what was to be the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the year 1675.

It is strongly believed that these apparitions all occurred in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. St Margaret Mary was so often caught up in ecstasy that she appeared as a "marble statue." She would remain motionless, kneeling for hours absorbed in prayer – on one Holy Thursday she remained in prayer for 12 consecutive hours.

WRITINGS

There are very few personal writings coming directly from St Margaret Mary. What she recorded was all done under the vow of obedience; her superior asked her to write in order that these apparitions could later be examined and approved.

Humility persuaded her to lay down the pen, while obedience would convince her take it up again. In the beginning of her narrations she writes, "It is for thy love alone, O my God, that I submit to write this in obedience, and I ask thy pardon for the resistance I have made…let it never be seen by anyone except by him whom thou wishes to examine it." And in another she writes, "I proceed through obedience, O my God, without any other design than that of satisfying thee by the martyrdom which I suffer in penning these lines, every word of which seems to me a sacrifice."

APPARITION 1 – Dec. 27th 1673

Saint Margaret Mary was only 26 years old when she received this first apparition and had been under religious vows (evangelical counsels) for just over a year.

Although the exact date of the first apparition is uncertain, it is highly plausible that it would have been on December 27th of 1673, the Feast of Saint John the Apostle. Many commentaries on the Sacred Heart of Jesus in fact insist 'without a doubt' on this date, the same day Saint Gertrude (d. 1334) also received her spiritual experience of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Like St Gertrude, St Margaret Mary was granted the grace to rest upon the bosom of the Lord, experiencing the love, affection and warmth of the Sacred Heart. In some way, Jesus had made known to Saint Gertrude the pre-revelation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, but by Divine Providence He requested that she should not promote this devotion, insisting it would later be propagated at a designated time – that being through St Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673-75.

St Margaret Mary's experience: "This Divine Spouse… granted me the incomprehensible favour of which I was so unworthy, of allowing me to rest on His Heart with His beloved disciple, and of giving me His Heart, His cross, and His love."
In another letter, she writes, "Once being before the Blessed Sacrament and having a little more leisure than usual, I felt wholly filled with this Divine Presence, and so powerfully moved by it that I forgot myself and the place in which I was." Then Jesus revealed to her His profound love as the narration continues, "the marvels of His love and the inexplicable secrets of His Sacred Heart which … were hidden from me until then. He opened it to me for the first time, but in a way so real, so sensible that it left me no room to doubt, though I am always in dread of deceiving myself."

St Margret Mary was a very doubtful person – not doubtful about the existence of God nor about His Divine mercy and love. But she was very doubtful about herself; she did not trust her own impressions but always wanted to run them by someone else to make sure her experiences were not against any fundamentals of

being able any longer to restrain within itself the flames of its ardent charity, it must pour them out by your means and manifest itself to them to enrich them with its precious treasures, which contain all the graces of which they have need to be saved form perdition."

Our Lord continues, "I have chosen you ….as an abyss of unworthiness and of ignorance for the accomplishment of this great design, that thus all may be done by Me." Until then the Sacred Heart had only been revealed to a few, but here our Lord expresses that this devotion is not exclusive to her, nor only a few, but is to be universal – it is to be made known to everyone.

In the wonder of the miracle she was experiencing, she did not question the method Jesus was going to use to expose this devotion, nor when or how she was to promote the devotion. All of these questions were instantly answered in the love and trust she was experiencing.

Before disappearing, Jesus asked her one question to see if she was willing to give Him her own heart. She narrates, "He [then] demanded my heart, and I supplicated Him to take it. He did so, and put it into His own Adorable Heart, in which He allowed me to see it as a little atom being consumed in that fiery furnace. Then drawing it out like a burning flame in the form of a heart, He put it into the place whence He had taken it, saying, 'Behold My beloved, a precious proof of My love. I enclose in thy heart a little spark of the most ardent flame of My love, to serve thee as a heart and to consume thee till thy last moment." This moment of the apparition may remind us of the scripture verse from the Book of Ezekiel (36:26) which says, "I give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." We can say this verse foreshadowed the devotion of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

At the conclusion of the apparition Jesus Christ says to St Margaret Mary, "Until now thou hast taken only the name of my slave; henceforth thou shalt be called the well-beloved disciple of my Sacred Heart." As we said, this was revealed to St Margaret Mary so that all of us may participate in the benefits of this devotion. Thus, each person who practices this devotion faithfully is called 'well-beloved disciple of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.'

AFTER THE VISION

After the apparition, the Saint writes of the blessed confusion she experienced, suggesting she struggled to understand whether she was in Heaven or still on earth. She also experienced much exhaustion, indicating she struggled very much to do common daily tasks because of the excessive spiritual and physical fatigue. She experienced in a marvelous way the fullness of God that she could no longer express herself to her superiors.

She was filled with excessive guilt for her sins and wanted to distance herself so much from sin and make perfect amends. She would have loved to make a general confession in the refectory with all the sisters present, "so that they may see the depth of my corruption; so that they would attribute to me none of the graces I received."

She also understood the Catholic paradox between the cross and grace, as she would call it 'the pains of love.' She wrote at one moment, "the pain of this wound is so precious to me, causes me transports so lively that it burns me alive, it consumes me."

CONCLUSION

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque learned a few things that we should also be aware of for ourselves:

1. God Himself could not contain in His Heart the secret love He has for Humanity; it is up to us to contemplate and penetrate that love.
2. Faith and Trust —He would make use of her in order to reveal the Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We too do not know the plan nor path God has laid out for us, but all our questions are answered through faith, love and trust.
3. The devotions she practiced and the humility she expressed -

- in the love she had forJesus present in the Blessed Sacrament [Holy Adoration],
- her humility in that she never trusted in herself and her own opinion but rather always sought approval,
- the obedience she expressed in being faithful to write down the apparition as requested by her legitimate superior [a prallel for us could be our humble obedience to our priest and bishops although we may not totally agree] and
- the love she had for Confession, because although she did not make the public confession with the sisters in the refractory, she had recourse to the Sacrament of Confession often. In order to better understand God's Mercy and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we too should have frequent recourse to the Sacrament of Confession.

To us is given this year of grace, this extrarodinary Year of the Sacred Heart, to ponder, to practice the devotion St. Margaret Mary Alacoque had, and to make ourselves faithful disciples of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Note:
This article has been edited for length and clarity.
Fr. Salazar cited these books as his source material (public domain):
BOUGAUD, REV. EMILE — *The Life of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque*
BAINWEL, JEAN — *Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

Devotion and Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Nine First Fridays

Our Lord Jesus asked St. Margaret Mary for the Nine First Fridays in reparation to His Most Sacred Heart to atone for neglect, irreverence, abuse and sacrilege committed against the Holy Eucharist.

How to complete the First Friday Devotion:
1. Receive Holy Communion on each First Friday;
2. The nine Fridays must be consecutive;
3. They must be made in honour of and in reparation to His Sacred Heart.

On Friday June 27, 2025, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, His Excellency Bishop Miehm will be celebrating the closing Mass of the Year of the Sacred Heart at our northern parish of the Sacred Heart, Trout Creek, at 3:30 pm. Reception to follow.

To complete the Nine First Fridays prior to the close of the Year of the Sacred Heart, begin your novena of Masses on October 4th, 2024.

The Nine First Fridays

Friday October 4, 2024
Friday November 1, 2024
Friday December 6, 2024
Friday January 3, 2025
Friday February 7, 2025
Friday March 7, 2025
Friday April 4, 2025
Friday May 2, 2025
Friday June 6, 2025

The Promise attached to the Devotion

"I promise you, in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; my divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment."

~ Our Lord to Saint Margaret Mary

Novena to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
can be used for the Nine First Fridays

O My Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of…

Allowing your Most Sacred Heart to reign in my soul, in our families, our parishes and our Diocese.

Our Father,
Hail Mary,
Glory Be

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, if you ask anythin of the Father in my name, he will give it to you." Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of…

Allowing your Most Sacred Heart to reign in my soul, in our families, our parishes and our Diocese.

Our Father,
Hail Mary,
Glory Be

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away." Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of…

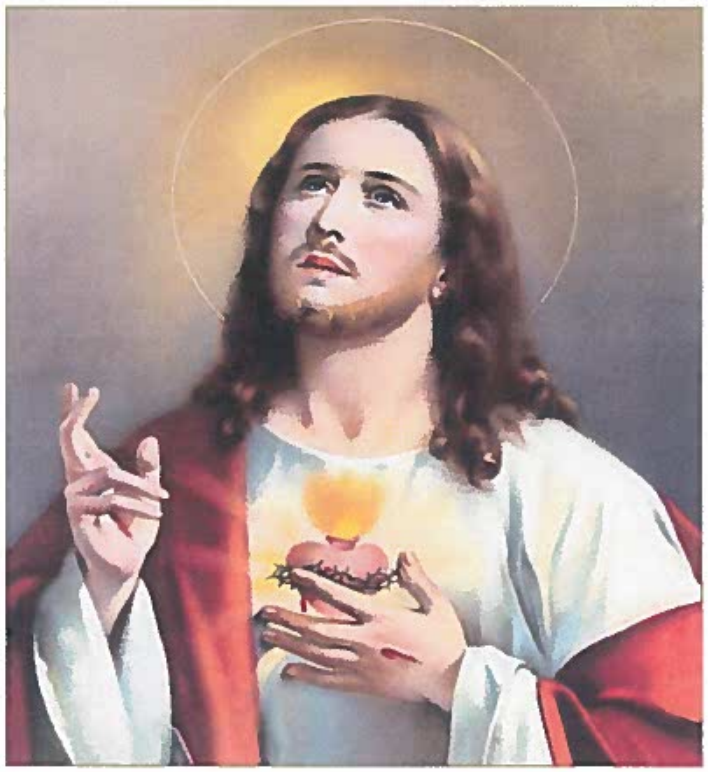
Allowing your Most Sacred Heart to reign in my soul, in our families, our parishes and our Diocese.

Our Father,
Hail Mary,
Glory Be

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, your mother and ours. Amen.





SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Friday, June 27, 2025, Conclusion of the Jubilee for the 350th Anniversary of the Apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary

At Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish 168 Main St. W. Trout Creek, ON

Pilgrimage to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish by the Northern Deanery Parishes

Holy Adoration from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with Confessions

Chaplet of the Sacred Heart at 1:30 p.m.

Talk on the Feast of the Sacred Heart at 2:00 p.m.

Benediction at 3:00 p.m. by the Dean of the Northern Deanery Fr. Roy Villas

Holy Mass with His Excellency, Bishop Daniel Miehm and guest Priests at 3:30 p.m. Prayer for Indulgence.

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

Parish:
St. Alphonsus

a spotlight on sanctity





As we wrapped up our ministry year, we have been drawing inspiration from heavenly places in our own walk with God.

Here are some highlights on how we've creatively shone a spotlight on sanctity in our parish this past spring and summer.

May for Mary

During the month of May, traditionally a month dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, our church took on its most ambitious parish prayer campaign yet. We developed a calendar that highlighted a different title of Mary (for example, Mary Undoer of Knots, Mary Refuge of Sinners, etc.) each day, and also gave an intention (for example, "for all mothers", "for migrants", etc.) that our whole parish family prayed for on that day. We concluded this month of prayer on the final weekend of May with a Marian procession around our church property, carrying a statue of Mary decked with flowers and singing Marian hymns. What a lovely month to re-devote ourselves to our Blessed Mother who is so devoted to us her children!



Sacred Heart Pilgrimage

In honour of the month of the Sacred Heart, and in keeping with the partial indulgence announced by Bishop Miehm, our parish made a special pilgrimage from St. Alphonsus Church to Sacred Heart Church in Peterborough in June. We prayed a dedication prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at our church, then our parishioners drove over to Sacred Heart Church for a beautiful Mass, followed by a talk given by Fr. Alex IVE on the Sacred Heart. A beautiful and prayerful time to focus on the Heart of Our Lord.











Honouring Grandparents

July 28th is a day set aside by Pope Francis to honour grandparents and the elderly. At our parish we went all out to show our love to our seniors with a special blessing, a speech from some children on the impact and importance of grandparents, and a gift of flowers for each grandparent in attendance at our Mass that weekend.



Our Patron's Feast Day

August 1st marked our patron St. Alphonsus Liguori's feast day. We provided our parishioners with a novena to begin nine days before the feast day, and on the day of had a special prayer service alongside our daily Mass. We enjoyed treats and handed out a commemorative picture of St. Alphonsus Liguori to all in attendance.

St. Alphonsus Liguori, pray for us!



Coming Up…

Kickoff - Our annual parish kickoff festival will be held September 15th after our 11:00AM Mass.

Ministry Fair - We take a weekend to encourage parishioners to discern where God may be calling them to serve in their local parish this year and facilitate the onboarding of new volunteers.

Youth & Kids Ministry took a break for the summer but are starting up again full swing in the fall.

Sign up for our newsletter The Loop to stay updated on all the happenings at our parish this fall! Visit stalphonsus.net/newsletter to be added to the mailing list today.



VOCATIONS

Fr. Stephen DeCarlo

Joy for the Diocese



Ordinations are occasions of great joy for any diocese and religious community! The liturgical ceremony by which a chosen man receives the sacrament of Holy Orders is one of deep symbolism and meaning. In it, the candidate makes promises relevant to his new state in life. He places his hands in between the bishop's hands and promises respect and obedience to him and his successors, underscoring the importance of obedience in the life of the ordained. He lays face down on the floor while the Litany of Saints is prayed over him, reminding him that without God, he is nothing. He has to lay down his life so that others could have life. The laying on of hands and prayer of consecration complete the sacrament and the man rises a newly ordained deacon or priest.

When I attend ordinations, I am naturally led to reflect on my own ordinations to the diaconate and priesthood. Much like how a married couple reflects on their marriage when they attend weddings, every ordination is a chance for me to reflect on my priestly ministry and my six years in the priesthood, a time of challenges but also of so many countless joys. For me, attending an ordination fills me with much joy and hope and reinvigorates my own vocation.

This past spring, our diocese was blessed to celebrate two men being ordained, Fr. Edmund Scott and Deacon Peter Bissonnette. Our diocese may be small population-wise, but it was still blessed to witness two men laying down their lives in Holy Orders.

Fr. Edmund Munroe Scott was ordained on May 29th, 2024, at the Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains. Fr. Edmund was ordained after a lengthy journey beginning with him belonging to the Anglican Church. He became an Anglican minister and served for many years in various Anglican parishes, with the last one being in Lakefield. After much spiritual reflection and searching, Edmund converted to Catholicism and began the process of being ordained a Catholic priest, following a process set down by St. John Paul II, where former Anglican ministers may be ordained as Catholic priests despite being married. Fr. Edmund celebrated his 1st Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Alphonsus Parish, with the guest homilist being Fr. Tom Lynch. Fr. Edmund has been assigned to the Cathedral where he will minister to a wide range of people from across the area.

Deacon Peter Bissonnette was ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on June 15th, 2024, at St. Michael's Parish in Cobourg. The beautiful and historic church was filled to capacity as Deacon Peter's friends and family, classmates, brother deacons and priests, as well as the parishioners of St. Michael's Parish, who all came together to pray for Deacon Peter as he became a deacon. Deacon Peter has family connections to St. Michael's and he would attend the parish when he was visiting his grandparents, which left a deep positive impression on him. The ordination Mass was cantored by his sister and brother-in-law, and the altar servers were a mix of seminarians and youth from the parish. He will spend the summer at St. Michael's, where he will get many opportunities to practice his new diaconal ministry by proclaiming the Gospel at Mass, administering Holy Communion at Mass and bringing it to shut-ins, leading Eucharistic Adoration and delivering Benediction, and celebrating Baptisms and leading burial prayers. Deacon Peter entered seminary in 2018 and his ordination to the diaconate is the second last step towards his priestly ordination in the spring of 2025.



Young Men's Discernment Retreat

The annual Young Men's Discernment Retreat was held July 2nd to 5th in beautiful Muskoka.

The retreat was led by Fr. Jerry Tavares, pastor of St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Parry Sound, and was attended by our seminarians and discerning young men. Fr. Jerry gave talks aimed at forming a priestly identity, celebrated Mass and led Eucharistic Adoration. In addition, the group went on a hike at Huckleberry Lookout, enjoying God's creation of nature and a wonderful view of Muskoka Lakes.

As Vocations Director, I have the privilege of travelling to different parishes every weekend, since I am not tied down to a particular one. This summer was no different and I found myself visiting St. Peter the Apostle in Parry Sound, St. Martin's in Ennismore, St. Alphonsus in Peterborough, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Hastings. When I visit parishes, I speak about vocations, about how it is important that we pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. All of us trace our spiritual lives to the ministry of the clergy: we were baptized by a priest or deacon, received Holy Communion from the hands of a priest, and were absolved of our sins by a priest. It was a priest who gave the Sacrament of the Sick to people who needed it most and it is by a priest that our lives are closed at our funerals. The more we pray for vocations, the more surely we will have priests to care for our spiritual needs. Without priests, there will be no more Eucharist or Absolution. Without the ministry of priests, our sacramental lives become impoverished, a struggle, perhaps a sterile desert. The more we pray for more vocations to the priesthood, the more we will be praying for our own spiritual benefit.





While I was in Parry Sound, I got the opportunity to tour that beautiful area. I met many lovely people, lots of whom were only there for the summer.

During my visit to that parish, Fr. Jerry took me and our seminarian, Andrew Roelands, to see Canada's most photographed tree, the windswept pine tree in Killbear Provincial Park. The tree is on its last legs… err, roots? So, if you want to see it, make sure you do while it's still standing. Also, if you're camping in the park during July and August, Mass is offered on Saturdays at 6:30 PM at the park itself, in the amphitheatre.

Vocations Outreach to the Poor Event

On May 18th, we held our vocations event with the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ (of Hamilton, ON) where young people had a chance to experience religious life and do ministry to the poor in downtown Toronto. It is one thing to pray and discern religious life; it is another to experience it first-hand. Approximately 200 meals were prepared for those least fortunate, as well as hygiene supplies, and distributed. We forgot to take a group picture before some of our group departed, but a few stayed behind for one picture!



Radio Maria Interview

On May 15th, I was interviewed by Fr. Jorge at Radio Maria Canada, speaking about priesthood and vocations to priesthood, and discernment in general. I was joined by the Sisters Poor of Jesus Christ community, based in Hamilton. They spoke about religious life and how they discerned their vocations. Together we highlighted our joint vocations experience to be held on May 18, at Santa Cruz parish in downtown Toronto, giving young adults a chance to experience religious life.

It was truly a tri-diocesan encounter, reminding us that the Church is a worldwide community, and we are all part of one big family. Video of the interview is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roo5QjYjFcc&t=1s



Youth Office

Last summer, the Youth Office celebrated its 1-year anniversary of foundation! As I reflect on the year, I have to give thanks to God for many adventures in the field of youth ministry.

The office aimed to support parish youth ministry and provide opportunities for youth and youth leaders to encounter Christ and grow in fellowship — a major part of living out our faith.

There are so many talented, dedicated people who are working so hard to witness to the Gospel for our young people, and their efforts are not in vain! This ministry has been rewarding despite the challenges and I have learned a lot. I look forward to the many opportunities the future holds, especially as we look at restarting the Vianney Fair for the Spring of 2025! Please keep the Youth Office in your prayers.

TEC (Teens Encounter Christ)

With youth groups being established, our TEC group in the southern deanery is hard at work planning and organizing retreats for area teens designed to encourage them to take part in their parishes in a new and dedicated way. TEC aims to allow teens to reflect on the call of Christ to love Him and to seek to serve Him in their brothers and sisters, beginning with one's own parish community. I encourage priests and lay faithful to support and pray for this effort that it may bear good fruit for the future of the Church.



Way of the Cross

The annual Way of the Cross was held on Good Friday through the streets of downtown Peterborough. Young people donned costumes and re-enacted the 14 Stations of the Cross. What resulted was a deep and moving experience for everyone, cast, crew and spectators alike. People from across the diocese and beyond packed the Cathedral for an opening prayer service, a service that was literally standing room only and with a good crowd waiting outside. Estimated attendees are upwards of 1,500-2,000 people.

One of our young participants commented on her experience…



"It was an experience that deeply touched me and one that I will cherish for a lifetime. Through portraying the role of a Woman of Jerusalem, I felt a deep connection to the emotions and experiences of those who witnessed the crucifixion of our Lord. Morning it was -3 so cold and I deeply prayed to Jesus to give us a hot sun as we were literally shivering under our costumes. When the walk of Jesus started from the Cathedral we all experienced the hot Sun which actually made me cry in tears, He does listen to us! It has been a journey of spiritual growth and reflection, allowing me to contemplate the significance of Christ's sacrifice in a profoundly personal way."

Please join us for next year's Way of the Cross scheduled for Friday, April 18th 2025.

Steubenville 2024

Every year, Steubenville, Ohio hosts the Steubenville Youth Conferences, where thousands of young people from across the USA and Canada gather together to praise and worship God and encounter one another. Over 20 plus youth and chaperones from the Peterborough Diocese made the long trek to Ohio on June 28th-30th and despite the distance and an occasional glitch, had a wonderful time! Being united with thousands of other Catholic youth is a special experience and everyone had a true encounter with Christ that transformed their faith lives.

Stay tuned for a 2025 pilgrimage to Steubenville!





Silver Peak Excursion June 28-30

Also, on June 28-30, over 50 young adults make a hiking trip to Silver Peak, a large hill located near Holy Family Parish in Britt. Despite the rainy and foggy weather, they made the trek, which included a canoe ride, and everyone had a great time! The weekend allowed for Mass, Adoration, confessions, and talks.

Many thanks to Fr. Neil Campbell pastor of Holy family parish, as well as Fr. Eric Mason and many volunteers who made it possible.





Young Adults Ministry

Campus ministry seeks to assist students to grow in and live out their Catholic faith while at campus. However, once they graduate and enter the work force, there is often not as much support for them at that stage. That is where the Youth Office seeks to come in. We run a general, city-wide young adults group in Peterborough and work with the young adults group in St. Alphonsus Parish. In addition, we are encouraging parishes to provide opportunities for young adults to meet and grow in their faith together.

In Peterborough, young adults are encouraged to attend the 6:30 PM Mass every 1st Friday at Sacred Heart Parish (208 Romaine Street) followed by activities such as a meal out, a talk, hiking excursions, dance, and many more options.

For more information, contact Fr. Stephen DeCarlo.





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All Tays and Thanks to God

THE CHOIR LOFT

Kathleen Moquin



I love food. When I am hungry, it's essential. When I am sad or tired, it's comforting. I am grateful for the blessing of having food to eat and people with whom to share it. I recall Hawaiian luau with our teenagers; four-course holiday tasting menus with friends; and river barge dining in deep France with my husband. Enhancing the convivial ambience created by conversation and cuisine is the dining venue. With memories of the shore lunch; afternoon tea in a Victorian garden setting; and street food in busy public squares, I hold a fondness for the cafeteria as a premier dining space.

Since my high school only boasted a lunchroom and I lived too close to remain onsite over the lunch hour, my inaugural cafeteria experience was the Friday salad bar (it was the '80's) at my local undergraduate university, where a classmate and I met to discuss that afternoon's Zoology lab. We became best friends over lunch and dissection diagrams. Long after daily meal service ended, cafeteria booths and tables remained available for solitary work and group discussion. In medical school, hospital cafeterias served as gathering places for house staff, for afternoon sign-out rounds, and sanctuaries for sleepy interns draining vending machine caffeine resources before morning ward rounds. My chief surgical resident introduced our team to his favourite never-miss macaroni and cheese when it appeared on rotation at the Health Sciences Centre cafeteria. I can't explain why St. Boniface Hospital's cafeteria was located along the same corridor as the staff smoking room (it was the '90's), but it was a large and friendly place serving tasty food that sustained me through my own residency.



Competing against Uber Eats and pop-up fast-food kiosks, today's cafeteria endures as a symbol of dependability, of reliability of menu rotation and efficiency of service. You'll need a cafeteria tray before joining the queue to view the offerings displayed on steam tables. If you demonstrate enthusiasm about the taco pie, might you get a coveted cheesy corner piece?! If the entrée doesn't tempt your taste buds, there's always soup and prepared cold sandwiches. Don't forget to pick up necessary cutlery and take an extra minute to consider dessert options, even if you settle on a piece of fruit or packaged cookies. Smile at the servers and the cashier. At the conclusion of your meal, please bus your own table of garbage and recycling.

"Cafeteria Catholic" is a pejorative description of those who accept some teachings and practices while rejecting others, but the Church is the ultimate cafeteria for every Catholic. Few would hold up the Church as exemplifying service efficiency and the history of doctrinal development against heresies raises questions about product reliability, but the Church has demonstrated enduring dependability by serving the Truth for over two millennia. Baptism admits us to the Church, where sacramental graces assist in exploring and sampling Her profound mysteries and great riches. Widely available and more accessible than Scriptural exegesis or theological dialogues, religious music and art tempt appetites that are only fully satisfied by God. Sacramentals such as rosary beads, scapulars, and miraculous medals are spiritual condiments, complementing the transformative experience of the sacred banquet of the Eucharist that is "wholly directed toward the intimate union of the faithful with Christ through Communion" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1997, para. 1382).

Nourished and united, those faithful rising from the Eucharistic table with underfilled spiritual vessels are encouraged to turn to the cafeteria community of the Church that specializes in accompaniment. Want to read about lesser-known saints or pray some new devotions? There's a "cafeteria Catholic" for that. Desire to explore details of Catholic social teaching or renew your commitment to the culture of life from conception to natural death? There's a "cafeteria Catholic" for that.

Let us aspire to be "cafeteria Catholics," sharing the flavours of the Church with each other so that all of us might share in the Heavenly banquet: "'Do not labour for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man will give to you; for on him has God the Father set his seal'" (RSVCE, John 6:27). ✠

Dr. Kathleen Moquin lives with her family in Parry Sound.

Diocese Refugee Sponsorship Program

Aida's Story: Faith in Action

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35

Aida was born to an Eritrean mother and an Ethiopian father in Ethiopia, an African nation torn by an ethnic conflict so deep that the country split into two in 1993. The uneasy peace between Ethiopia and the newly independent nation of Eritrea lasted for five years. In 1998 a territorial dispute plunged the nations into war. When the war ended two years later, the Ethiopian government purged the nation of its Eritrean population. Aida's family—half Ethiopian, half Eritrean—were caught in the middle.

Aida, still only a teenager, fled Ethiopia with her mother and brother, beginning an all-too-typical refugee's journey, one marked by violence, poverty, homelessness, and unemployment. After Aida's mother suddenly passed away in Kenya, her brother migrated to Sudan while Aida ended up in South Africa, where she gave birth to her daughter Ella. When anti-immigrant violence forced the family into hiding, Aida surrendered her meagre savings to human traffickers, who promised safe passage to America. Instead, the traffickers stole Aida and Ella's passports, leaving them stranded in a Guatemalan airport. Low on options, Aida took Ella to Peru. As a refugee, Aida had no recourse to justice when she was ruthlessly exploited by her employers.

Thankfully, Aida and Ella's journey doesn't end there. Thanks to the Diocese of Peterborough's refugee resettlement program, Aida and Ella, sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Cobourg, finally found their permanent safe haven in 2023. Ella is now enrolled at a local school and sings in the choir at St Michael's Church in Cobourg on Sunday mornings. It's the life that every parent wants for their children.

As a Sponsorship Agreement Holder, the Diocese of Peterborough works with the federal government and local individuals, organizations and parishes to settle families like Aida's. Since 2015, the Diocese of Peterborough has welcomed almost 400 refugees from around the world.

Your support of the Annual Bishop's Appeal funds critical initiatives like the refugee resettlement program. By donating, you help provide hope and security to families in desperate need. Please give generously to the Annual Bishop's Appeal, ensuring that we can continue to make a profound impact on lives like Aida and Ella's.

Donate to the Bishop's Appeal at www.peterboroughdiocese.org.

Khadija story: Gratitude!



Khadija Warsame fled civil war in Somalia in 1994. The military dictator President Mohamed Siad Barre, who had ruled since 1969, was overthrown in 1990 in a bloody civil war. There was constant fighting between various clan-based armed factions. The fighting continues to this day. The terrorist militant group Al Shabaab still controls half the country, mostly the smaller towns and rural areas.

Her first husband was killed in the war. For her first 6 months in Malawi, Khadija lived in a tent with her two children, pregnant with her third. The third child, a girl, was born in the tent, without medical assistance, after a difficult labour.

To this day when Khadija sees homeless people living in tents, she is reminded of those first six months in a tent in Malawi. "I feel bad for their suffering. I feel grateful to have a home."

When she talks about the homeless, she says "Every time before I leave my house, I look for change and put in my pocket. Always when I see a cup holder, I give them some change, because I know what they need but I can't do something more for them."

She spent five years in Malawi as a refugee, until she was privately sponsored by two churches in Peterborough (Anglican and Lutheran) to come in 1999. They later sponsored her fiancé Said Igeh, who arrived in 2002.

She met Sr. Ruth Hennessy (of Sisters of St. Joseph and Casa Maria) in 2000. That was the start of a strong friendship. Khadija and the late Sr. Ruth were both devoted to helping newcomers settle, both insisting that newcomers learn English and get a job, with the goal of being independent by the end of the 12-month sponsor period.

Khadija started volunteering with the New Canadians Centre in 2002, when they had a staff of 5; the Centre now has 50 employees. In 2010 she received the City of Peterborough Community Betterment Award in recognition of her contribution to the community. She was the New Canadians Centre's volunteer of the year in 2011. They describe her as a "one-woman non-profit organization" and call her "Mama Khadija."

She has personally brought 10 members of her own family, all Somali refugees, to Peterborough,through the Diocese of Peterborough SAH (Sponsorship Agreement Holder) program.

Her sister-in-law and her five teenagers arrived from Zambia in July 2023. The children are all fluent in English and have completed high school. Khadija supported them to live outside the refugee camp, ensuring that the children could attend a better school. Also, as her sister-in-law had medical problems, they would not have been allowed to stay in the refugee camp.

They are a happy, upbeat, hard-working family. While in Zambia, her sister-in-law suffered from serious health concerns which were trivialized by the doctors there. Since arriving here last year, she has received care, is now well, and she continues to be monitored monthly through the clinic at Peterborough Regional Health Centre. She is very grateful.

Khadija often says, "I will never forget the people who helped me and my family. I pray for them every day." She continues to be "on call" to help the New Canadians Centre and the YWCA Crossroads Women's Shelter. She fearlessly reaches out to people she sees in need of help or listening and understanding, and she feels she can endlessly give back, because she has received so much.

Khadija has not only faced displacement, she has had many losses. The loss of her first husband to war, the loss of 3 children and two miscarriages while she was in Somalia. And then the loss of her 19-year-old son here in Canada, in a car accident.

She says "I thank God, because still I have some (three children). Some people, they never hold even one child, so that's why I'm grateful, thanks be to God. And thanks to you (the Diocese), you helped me and I love Peterborough, because it's where I got settled and have peace and love. Everybody welcomed me. I never had any problems. Some people complain, 'Oh the city where I live, they don't like refugees, they don't like immigrants.' But I never complain, because I know where I came from, and I know where I am now. Thanks to God and to the people who have helped me."

On World Refugee Day 2023 (June 20th) she, alongside a panel of experts and individuals with lived refugee experience, delved into the challenges of displacement, the healing journey, and the essential role of compassion and support in rebuilding lives. It took place at the Peterborough Public Library. This work is ongoing.

The civil war in Somalia is also ongoing, where armed factions and the Al Shabaab continue to spread terror. There is also war in Sudan (power struggles, conflicts, reports of ethnic cleansing). And war in Ethiopia.

At this time, Khadija still has a widowed sister with five children in the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya.

Khadija's oldest daughter is married with six children. Her son, born here, is 21 and entering his fourth year in Biology at Trent University, and works at a coffee shop. Her other daughter, the one born in the tent in Malawi, lives in Ottawa and works for the government as a paralegal. "They are all happy."

Her husband Said Igeh who came in 2002 worked for Securitas Canada, at the Bus Terminal and Quaker Oats, for the first five years. Then he became a long-haul truck driver; he drives up to Northern Ontario and from there to California and back. "He works hard. He is happy."

Khadija often expresses her gratitude for the former St. Barnabas Church, the Lutheran Church, the late Sr. Ruth and former Casa Maria, the Muslim Community, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough, the New Canadians Centre. She is grateful to Thrive Housing and Support (former KPP Kawartha Participation Projects) for her rented townhouse. "I thank all of them. With them I now have strong wings to fly."

And what is her greatest dream? "My greatest dream is to own my own home."

Parish:
Bowmanville

Clergy Appreciation Dinner

June 8th 2024



















Classical Education is Booming. But, What Is It?

OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Amid the Pandemic, a Classical Education Boom," trumpets a recent headline in a major publication, just one of dozens of similar examples. Indeed, the idea that something called "classical education" has exploded in popularity since Covid, especially in the U.S., has been featured in major newspapers from *The New York Times* to *The Wall Street Journal*.

The numbers certainly support the idea that something is afoot. The Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS), a U.S.-based evangelical organization, reports that member schools increased dramatically from 335 schools in 2021-22, to over 500 in 2023. Meanwhile, *Our Sunday Visitor*, a U.S.-based Catholic newspaper, recently reported that, since 2020, there has been a 78% increase in enrollment in Catholic classical schools in the U.S.!

As it turns out, however, it's not just a U.S. phenomenon. Classical schools are popping up all over the globe. I currently serve as the headmaster of Peterborough's only Catholic, classical school—Our Lady of the Wayside. In the past three years, our enrollment has more than doubled.

However, probably the single most common question I hear from people who are curious about Wayside is: What, exactly, is classical education?

To be honest, this isn't the easiest question to answer. Ultimately, classical education is a broad movement, not a strictly defined system. Classical schools come in all kinds of shapes, sizes and flavours. However, there are certain key characteristics that unite most classical schools. When I show prospective parents around Wayside, I tend to emphasize the following:

1) **Christ-centred** – Not all classical schools are Catholic, or even Christian. However, the majority are. Those that are, tend to take deadly seriously the idea that if Christ is God, and if He truly did rise from the dead 2,000 years ago, then this reality should inform and suffuse every aspect of the school day. At Wayside, that means that, at a minimum, we start every day with Mass, break at noon for the angelus, and end every day with the singing of a hymn.

2) **Great Books** – Until quite recently, there was a recognized canon of Big Important Books that almost every educated person had read, or was at least familiar with. These were the "Great Books," which formed and transformed civilization. By the time students graduate from a classical school, they will likely have read many of them, including the works of Homer, Virgil, St. Augustine, Dante, Shakespeare, Dostoyevsky, Dickens, and more. Even in the lower grades at Wayside, we tend to focus on the works of lasting literature, e.g. *The Wind in the Willows*, the "Little House" books, etc. It's not that the "Great Books" are the only books worth reading. There are millions of other books worth the time and effort, and we hope that our students will read many of them in their lifetimes. However, classical schools tend to believe that, in the short time we have our students, it is best to focus our attention on "the best that has been thought and said" (as the poet Matthew Arnold once put it).

3) **Trivium and Quadrivium** – Over 2,500 years ago, early Greek thinkers formulated what they called the "trivium" and the "quadrivium." The "trivium" includes the disciplines of grammar, logic and rhetoric. The quadrivium includes geometry, mathematics, astronomy and music. It would take longer than is available here to explain what the trivium and quadrivium are, and why they are important. In brief, however, the goal is to train a student with a rock-solid understanding of fundamental concepts (grammar), who can reason clearly (logic), and who can persuade others of what he or she believes to be true (rhetoric). This system of education produced some of the greatest saints, scholars, statesmen, and entrepreneurs in history. Modern classical schools are doing their best to replicate this system.

4) **Character Formation** – Classical schools are united in their belief that education isn't just about teaching a certain number of facts or skills, to prepare students for a successful career. A successful career is a wonderful thing, and classical schools certainly aim to train students who are capable of excelling in the world of industry and business, etc. But even better is educating excellent humans: that is, humans who are compassionate, just, courageous, generous, humble, honest, and so on. Humans who are capable of forming deep, meaningful friendships or relationships with others, of giving back to society with a self-sacrificial generosity, of being fiercely true to their word, of carrying out acts of heroism, etc. In other words, classical schools aim to educate students who are virtuous.

5) **Wonder and Beauty** – The Greek philosopher Plato once said that "wisdom begins in wonder." This world of ours is a strange, mysterious, dangerous, and at times over-

whelmingly beautiful place. Children who are indifferent to the mystery and beauty of reality are going to have a hard time learning anything about it. However, students who are inflamed by a desire to learn and to discover truth, will never have to be told to study. They will be driven by the inner fire of their wonder to seek out new knowledge. That's why classical schools tend to emphasize exposure to and participation in the fine arts, like drama, music, poetry and the visual arts, as well as hands-on exploration of nature (e.g. through gardening) or science. The goal is to light the spark that will ensure that our students become life-long learners.

There is so much more that can be said about classical education. However, these are some of the key ideas that I tend to emphasize. Of course, there are plenty of other schools that also emphasize one or more of these same things. But when brought together, they characterize the "classical" approach that inspires us at *Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School,* and that is capturing the imagination of many parents and students.

Dr. John Jalsevac

Parish:
Lakefield

Annual Beef BBQ

August 11, 2024











and before you know it…



OBITUARIES

Rev. Father Bill Russell
(September 23, 1946- April 21, 2024)



Recently, Father Bill composed his own obituary, below.

Father William John Russell grew up in Peterborough, Ontario.

He was the loving brother of Francis Russell and Lawrence Russell and sisters-in-law Mary Russell and Loretta Russell. He was a loving uncle to five nephews and one niece. He is pre-deceased by his parents Vernon Russell and Loretta Keating.

He was a Teacher and then became a Roman Catholic Priest on June 22, 1979 in Peterborough. He attended St. Basil's College at the University of Toronto. Father Russell influenced generations of Catholic educators as well as congregations through his passionate teachings and retreats.

He had a stroke in 2009 which resulted in right sided numbness and Aphasia. He is grateful to Michael Saver and Tony Boles for their friendship and support. Maria Villareal, who has been his long time Personal Support Worker, has been faithful and dedicated to his care. Donations to Heart & Stroke Ontario will be gratefully appreciated.

Memorial Visitation on Wednesday, May 1, 2024
at Paul O'Connor Funeral Home
1939 Lawrence Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario, M1R 2Y8
from 9:30 AM until the time of the Memorial Mass
in the Chapel at 10:30 AM.

Rev. Father William Joseph Brown
NOVEMBER 9, 1930 – JUNE 16, 2024



Father Bill Brown, born in Buffalo, New York in 1930, died on June 16, 2024. Father Bill was ordained as a priest on June 29, 1960, at St. Basil's Church, University of St. Michael's College, in Toronto. A Memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Basil's Church on Wednesday, July 17, at 10:00 am..

Paul O'Connor Funeral Home

1939 Lawrence Ave. E. Scarborough, ON. M1R 2Y8

Mark your calendar

November 1 — **All Saints Day**
November 2 — **All Souls Day**

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon them.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

OBITUARIES

Rev. Father Bart Burke



Passed away on Thursday, July 4, 2024, in his 96th year. Brother-in-law of Bernard McConville and Bob Glennon. Lovingly remembered by his nieces and nephews and their families and several cousins.

He was born in Kirkfield, Ontario on August 29, 1928, his parents were Wilfred Burke and Kathleen Condon from Douro; siblings: Tom (Jane and Helen), Bill, Gerrard, Jarvis, Charlie, Helen Glennon (Bob), Marie McConville (Bernard) and Bernadette Myers (Doug).

Attended high school and continued to St. Michael's College Toronto, graduating in 1951. He attended St. Augustine Seminary in Scarborough from 1952 to 1956.

Was ordained a priest at St. Peter's Cathedral on May 26, 1956. Father Bart was an assistant at Sacred Heart, Kinmount, Hastings and Douro. He was pastor at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Honey Harbour from 1960 to 1970 and St. Patrick's Kinmount from 1970 to 1974, St. Peter's Cathedral from 1974 to 1978, and St. Michael's Cobourg from 1978 to 1981. He was pastor in Labrador City in Labrador from 1982 to 1992 and served four Native Reserves in Sandy Lake, Ontario, and in Manitoba at God's Lake Narrows, God's River and Oxford House in the Archdiocese of Keewatin Le Pas from 1992 to 2013. He retired to Winnipeg in October 2013.

Visitation at the CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER-IN-CHAINS, Peterborough from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday, July 14, 2024, (Prayers for the Office of the Dead at 7 p.m. Sunday). Then visitation from noon to 1 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 2024, followed by a Funeral Mass on Monday at 1 p.m. Interment at St. Peter's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or the ALS Society would be appreciated.

(Adapted from on-line publication of the Peterborough Examiner, July 10, 2024)

Rev. Father Damian Smullen



SMULLEN, Father Damian (Roman Catholic Priest, Diocese of Peterborough). At Sligo University Hospital, Ireland on Friday, July 19, 2024, in his 63rd year. Fr. Damian, predeceased by his parents George Smullen and Mary Mullaney. Dear brother of Hazel Whelan and Ursula Smullen. Remembered lovingly by his relatives, friends and parishioners in Canada and Ireland.

Remembered lovingly by his relatives, friends and parishioners in Canada and Ireland. Father Damian was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop James Doyle in St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral on August 5, 1988, and served in several parishes in the diocese including St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral, St. Anne's Church, Peterborough, St. Alphonsus Church, Wooler, Immaculate Conception Church, Peterborough, St. Mary's Church, Lindsay, St. Paul the Apostle Church, Lakefield, and St. Martin's Church, Ennismore. Father Damian also served as Chaplain for Our Lady of the Wayside CES and Peterborough Regional Health Centre, where his compassionate ministry for the sick and the dying was a blessing for many patients and their families.

Father Damian will be remembered for his gentle nature, his sense of humour, approachability, and his genuine concern for those around him.

Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Anne's Church, Sligo, Ireland on Wednesday, July 24, followed by interment in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Scarden. A Memorial Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Peter-In-Chains, Peterborough on Friday, July 26, at 12:10 p.m.

A Memorial Guest Book and cards of condolences have been forwarded to Father Damian's family in Ireland. Please say a prayer for Father Damian or have a Mass celebrated for the repose of his soul. May he rest in peace.

(Adapted from on-line publication of the Peterborough Examiner, July 23, 2024)