A Bishop for Victoria!

Release from Fr. John Laszczyk, Diocesan Administrator and Cynthia Bouchard-Watkins, Chancellor, Diocese of Victoria

Early on June 14, 2014, it was publicly announced by the Vatican that Pope Francis has appointed Most Reverend Gary Gordon as Bishop of Victoria.

Bishop-Elect Gary Gordon was born on June 10, 1957, in Vancouver, British Columbia and attended Christ the King Seminary in Mission BC, and St. Peter’s Seminary in London, Ontario where he graduated in 1982. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 22, 1982 for the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Bishop-Elect Gordon was appointed Bishop of Whitehorse on January 5, 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI, ordained and installed as the 5th Bishop of Whitehorse on March 22, 2006.

As prescribed in the Code of Canon Law, Bishop-Elect Gordon will take canonical possession of the Diocese of Victoria within two months of receiving the apostolic letters. The Diocesan Consultants will meet with Bishop-Elect Gordon on Wednesday, June 18th and details pertaining to the installation will be announced after that meeting.

As members of our Diocesan family we look forward to welcoming Bishop-Elect Gordon with open arms and loving hearts and we wish him many graced years of health and happiness in our midst. ❖

Dear People of God...

Greetings and Peace.

My heart is filled with joy in the expectation of meeting you and getting to know you personally.

As I have traveled over many years throughout the Diocese of Victoria, usually fishing or kayaking, I have always been amazed at the incredible way the Creator has blessed your land and sea.

But also in more recent years I have had the privilege of meeting many of the people of the different First Nations and all the other cultures and faiths that make up God’s lovely Island Garden. I was also privileged to meet the Catholic faithful in your communities while on a speaking tour for Catholic Missions in Canada.

Indeed the natural beauty of the Diocese is magnified in the beauty of God’s grace in the hearts of God’s people, clergy, religious sisters, and lay faithful.

The history of the Church of Victoria is part of the missionary dynamism of Christ on the Pacific Coast stretching from the Strait of Juan de Fuca all the way to Alaska and the Yukon—an amazing grace and foundation for the new evangelization that Pope Francis is inviting the whole Church to embrace.

I look forward to our moving ever forward together as missionary disciples to participate in some small way to renew the face of the earth as the kingdom of our gracious God, in the mercy, peace and justice of Jesus, with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

In the mystery of our Triune God, Father Son and Holy Spirit, I hold you in prayer.

My heart is filled with joy in the expectation of meeting you and getting to know you personally.

I look forward to our moving ever forward together as missionary disciples to participate in some small way to renew the face of the earth as the kingdom of our gracious God, in the mercy, peace and justice of Jesus, with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

The St. Andrew’s Alumni Dinner was a great success!

The St. Andrew’s Alumni Dinner was a great success!

My heart is filled with joy in the expectation of meeting you and getting to know you personally.

I look forward to our moving ever forward together as missionary disciples to participate in some small way to renew the face of the earth as the kingdom of our gracious God, in the mercy, peace and justice of Jesus, with the grace of the Holy Spirit.
The Diocese of Victoria Congratulates the 2014 Graduating Class of St. Andrew’s Regional High School

Keisha Andrade
Erika Bajwa
Zachary Bird
Jennifer Boomer
Camille Brinas
Payal Chandel
Amber (Hsien-Ya) Chou
Neil Croswell
Shaun Cuglietta
Sophie De Boever
Fabian De La Fuente Olivas
Matthew Den Boer
Vijayvir Dhillon
Jasleen Kaur Dhill
Alan Ditch Jr.
Derek Dimock
Kathy Do
Sai Doppalapudi
Hailey Fantetti
Daniel Fratzak
Juan Carlos Gallegos Dupuis
Annastasia Goodfellow
Cassidy Graham
Alana Grohovac
Jordan Henneberry
Brian Hinds
Ryan Howe
Gemma Jean Kerr
Chloe Kersen
Manphie Lai
Sabrina Lai
Jason McCracken
Emily McDonald
Evan McDonnin
Marcus Merryfield
Aiko Mollard
Chad Morgan
Isabel Neeson
Tiffany Ng
Rebecca Nguyen
Michael Nolin
Jessie Ogden
Stephen Olmos
Jordyn Piercy
Megan Poulin
Sunil Rahl
Erin Reder
Emil Rehak
Brody Hamilton Reid
Kisha Roxas
Peter Savage
Jared Saxby
Julia Searle
Johnathan J.A. Sheffar
Jae Min Song
Hannah Taft
Kristian Tanquilut
Jessica Tonkin
Graydon Turner
Yuki Uei
Emily Vaughan
Michael James Webb
Eric White
Ryan Wilson
Sumi Yadav
Celina Yousief
Griffin S. Yundt
Katherine Zeng
Shenming Zhang
Stephen Zhu
Noteworthy Musicians at St. Andrew’s High

by Philip O'Reilly, Music Director, St. Andrew's Regional High School

This Spring, our own St. Andrew's Regional High School Music department has recently experienced some noteworthy success (pun intended?) both at home and outside the local community.

St. Andrew’s Singers recently gave a fantastic performance at the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival, earning the Gardiner Shield for top performance by a secondary choir while competing against such strong schools as Brentwood College and Oak Bay Secondary, among others. In addition to winning the award for top secondary choir, the singers also received the Victoria Choral Society Award for most outstanding choral performance and a cheque for $250. Our choir has also been recommended to go on to compete in provincials. This tremendous accomplishment is a first in the thirty-year history of St. Andrew’s High School and a wonderful testament to the dedication and hard work of our students!

In addition to the Choir’s success, our bands have also experienced triumph at the recent Brio Whistler Music Festival, where 83 of St. Andrew’s young musicians (almost a third of the school) performed from April 24 – 27. Both our Concert and Jazz Bands received silver medals for their performances in Whistler, where as many as 20 other schools were also participating. In addition to performing on their own, our students also had the chance to play with over 1,000 other young musicians from British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario in one of the largest massed band performances held at the Whistler Conference Centre. Students also participated in workshops with first-rate clinicians, allowing them to further their musicianship in a way that they greatly appreciated.

Our music students have been excellent ambassadors for our school and have certainly helped identify St. Andrew’s Regional High School as a school that strives for excellence! ⭐

“Wonder Women” of the 1850s

by Kathleen Burton, Executive Director, Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation

The Sisters of St. Ann arrived in British Columbia to begin teaching and caring for the people of the territory on June 5, 1858. They established the tradition of care that became the gold standard for schools and hospitals throughout the province. In 1941, they established Mount St. Mary Hospital, a long-term care facility for adults of all faiths. The residents of the Hospital have varying degrees of dementia, complex behaviours and physical disabilities.

The Hospital, while now relocated to 861 Fairfield Road from its original site on Burdette Street, continues to carry on the Sisters’ legacy providing care and compassion to 200 residents, offering quality of life or a peaceful and dignified death.

Nearly 156 years later, the work and institutions established by the Sisters of St. Ann have improved the lives of thousands of British Colombians. The Sisters themselves chose Mount St. Mary Hospital as their legacy to our province. Their hope is that the standard of spiritual, physical, emotional and intellectual care they have provided will always continue for Mount St. Mary residents. To ensure that vital programs like pastoral care and art and music therapy continue to enrich the lives of residents, the Mount St. Mary Foundation established a fund to ensure that the Sisters’ plans are fulfilled and the Legacy Fund.

The Sisters of St. Ann: A proud Catholic heritage. A promise for the future and wonder women to Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation.

In Profile: Bishop-Elect Gary Gordon

by Patricia Rivera, Editor of Catholic Missions in Canada Magazine

For a priest who, growing up in Burnaby, British Columbia, only wanted to play hockey, play baseball and go camping as a kid, Fr. Gary Gordon, [now the Bishop-Elect of the Diocese of Victoria], has had a wonderful and remarkable journey of faith.

The young Gary Gordon had always loved the outdoors. And his parents encouraged these healthy pursuits. “We had very few rules,” he recalled in a phone interview from the Diocesan office in Whitehorse, Yukon [in 2009]. However, he and his brother Brian were taught early on that ‘Mass was non-negotiable.’ “It didn’t matter where we were—camping or in the bush—we had to go find the nearest church and attend Sunday Mass. And that was what we did. My father would wake us up, even at five o’clock in the morning, in time for Mass in whatever town we were near.”

As a teenager, he says, “My father cautioned me: If you can’t give one hour of your whole week for the Lord, then you’ve got a problem. It makes so much sense now,” he laughs, “to think how little the Lord asks from us.

Faith-filled family

The Gordon brothers grew up in a faith-filled household. Dad Hugh, who worked for the Burlington Northern railroad, was a daily communicant; their mother Denise was just as devout in all the practical ways as a mother, as well as working as a bookkeeper and taking care of the Gordon household.

“My Mom and Dad worked their hearts out to give us a good Catholic education. In those days, there was no funding for Catholic schools,” Bishop-Elect Gordon went from St. Francis de Sales Elementary School on to St. Thomas More High School in Burnaby, BC.

They also had an uncle, Fr. George Gordon, who was a priest in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, and two aunts who joined the Sisters of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary and the Sisters of St. Ann in Victoria, respectively. “I knew the priesthood from behind the scenes,” Bishop Gordon says, “I knew the life of the priest from observing my priest-uncle and the priests who came to the house to visit my father and mother. They were there from the very beginning: talking to parishioners, helping the poor, visiting the sick.”

Their pastor at St. Francis de Sales parish in Burnaby, Msgr. Edward Brown, was an early influence, and so were assisting priests Fr. Titcher and Fr. Chang. But the one missionary who inspired him the most was the late Fr. Raymond Campeau, a White Father from Africa, who came to their school when the young Gary was in Grade 3. “Fr. Campeau spoke about his missionary work in a far-flung area, in an unknown part of the world. It gripped me, something deep inside me was touched. It was a foundational moment,” says Bishop-Elect Gordon. “He taught me that every possible sacrifice is worth it. Working with people, touching their hearts where it’s most important.”

As a young priest, Bishop-Elect Gordon was posted by his bishop, Archbishop James Carney of Vancouver, as a missionary priest among the Sto:lo people in the Fraser Valley and St. Mary’s parish in Chilliwack. For 25 years he was immersed in a native community that many Canadians then did not know about.

When his father visited him, the older man wondered aloud about how many Canadians do not realize the rich spirituality and faithfulness of the First Nations peoples.

Keeping the pipes of faith open

As fifth bishop of Whitehorse, Bishop Gordon recalls that one of his most memorable incidents was when he slid off the roof while cleaning the rectory chimney. In hindsight, he says, it brought home to him that his role as bishop was similar to a chimney cleaner’s. “Keeping the pipes open so the fire of Christ’s love could burn brighter. A bishop has a similar role: he’s someone who’s tasked with the responsibility to give direction to his flock.”

He says if God would give him 25 years to build enough bridges, plant some seeds, and nourish communities of faith, he will have succeeded in his task.

“Remember the trillium, Ontario’s official flower? The seeds take seven years to germinate. I see my work as planting a few seeds. God will water those seeds and someone else will come to harvest.”

Incredibly blessed by God’s call

Everyone, he says, has to be prepared to plant a few seeds of faith, and embrace the crosses that come our way. “When we have the Cross we are already entering into glory.” He inscribed this motto for his ordination prayer [as Bishop of the Diocese of Whitehorse] on May 22, 1982. His friend and mountain-climbing mentor, the late Fr. Damasus Payne OSB, wrote it for him.

Overall, says Bishop-Elect Gordon, “I’ve been incredibly blessed by God’s call to priesthood, a wonderful family and great friends. There’s no retirement for me. Yup, I hope to see myself at 95, still working, still serving in some capacity as a priest.”
Clergy Appointments

Please note that Reverend John Laszczyk, Diocesan Administrator, has in consultation with the Diocesan Consultants, made the following pastoral appointments:

- Upon the recommendation of his Religious Superior, Fr. Krzysztof Pastuszka SDB has been appointed Administrator of St. Peter's Parish, Nanaimo, effective July 12, 2014.
- Fr. Piotr Lapinski SDB has been assigned, by his Religious Superior, to the Formation Team at the Salvatorian Seminary in Poland.
- Fr. William MacDonald OMI, having served as an Oblate priest for almost 50 years and a priest in our Diocese since 2002 will retire from active ministry on July 31, 2014. The Diocese is most grateful for Fr. Bill's pastoral ministry in the parish communities of Our Lady of Grace (Salt Spring Island), Sacred Heart (Victoria), St. Patrick's (Campbell River), and St. Patrick's (Salt Spring Island), Sacred Heart (Victoria), Fr. Bill will move to Vancouver and we wish him well in his retirement.
- Fr. Alfred Allio has been appointed Administrator of St. Patrick's Parish, Victoria, effective August 1, 2014.
- With the consent of his Religious Superior, Fr. Dan Gurnick OFM has been appointed Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria, effective August 30, 2014.
- Fr. David Hogman has been re-appointed Associate Priest at St. Andrew's Cathedral.
- Deacon Harrison Ayre has been appointed to Holy Family/Notre Dame Parish in Port Alberni from July 25 to August 30, 2014 and then is assigned to Holy Family/Notre Dame Parish in Port Alberni to take over the parish ministry of Fr. William Hann, as an Oblate priest for almost 50 years and a priest in our Diocese since 2002. Deacon Ayre has been appointed to Holy Family/Notre Dame Parish in Port Alberni from July 25 to August 30, 2014 and then is assigned to Holy Family/Notre Dame Parish in Port Alberni to take over the parish ministry of Fr. William Hann, as an Oblate priest for almost 50 years and a priest in our Diocese since 2002.
- Fr. William Hann has been granted an extended vacation period from June 23 until September 15th, to allow him an opportunity to spend time with his elderly mother in Newfoundland. Fr. Jim Beckema will serve as the replacement priest at St. Joseph the Worker Parish during Fr. William's absence.

Miscellany

Tuesdays
- St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: CCD’s Faith Studies Program for all ages. 6:30 – 10pm in the SJTW Community Room.

Wednesdays
- St. Patrick’s, Victoria: Moms & Tots group. Come together with the moms of St. Patrick’s Catholic Church (2060 Haultain Street, Victoria) for faith, fellowship, and laughter. We discuss everything from two-year-old tantrums, to the dignity of women, to faith in our families and back to potty training. We meet at 9:30 am on Wednesday mornings; childcare is provided. Contact Bonnie at (250) 213-4948 or koala bear_unter@yahoo.ca for more info.

Thursdays
- St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: CCD’s Corement Program for ages 16 – 35. 7 – 9 pm in the SJTW Church Hall.

Fridays
- Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria: 9:30 – 11 am, Moms & Tots Group. All mothers with children 6 years and under are welcome. For more information contact Rosemarie Urbanani at (250) 391-6618; no registration is required.

Saturdays
- Our Lady of Peace, Victoria: Traditional Latin Mass at 10 am.
- St. Joseph the Worker Parish: 3 – 4:30 pm, Jesus Youth at SJTW Parish invites youth in high school to come out to the (jesu Youth Prayer meeting) Jesus Youth is an international Catholic youth movement with a charismatic spirituality. For more information contact: mr.georgephilip@gmail.com.

At the Cathedral: 4th Saturday of each month the 9:30 a.m. Mass is offered for the sanctity of human life and for the intentions of those who support Respect Life Ministry. All are welcome to participate.

Our Lady of Fatima, Victoria: The Victoria Chinese Catholic Community will hold gatherings on the first Saturday of each month from 3:30 – 6:30 pm, starting September 7. Meetings will include Bible study, faith sharing, talks, prayers, singing and Chinese Mass (in Cantonese and Mandarin whenever a visiting priest is available). Meetings will conclude with a potluck supper. For more information contact Ben Chow by email to benchow@shaw.ca.

Calendars of Events

June
- 29 Our Lady of Grace, Salt Spring Island: Holystorm: Murder by Starvation. This is a one-person play performed by Fr. Edward Evanko as a benefit for Philippine Typhoon Relief. It is about the Ukrainian Famine (Genocide of 1932-1933). Those who attend the preceding 5pm Mass are invited to an austerity supper before the performance. Tickets: $15, free admission for children. For more information contact the parish secretary at (250) 537-2138.

July
- 4 Camp Barnard, Sooke: 2nd Annual Diocesan Family Festival "Conference: The Body of Christ Moving Each Other Up in Love. Cost is $140/couple with children two years old or younger, $240/family with children three years and older. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Watch your parish bulletin for more information. See story on page 8 of this paper.

- 13 Our Lady of the Rosary, Victoria: Our Lady of the Rosary presents its annual Summer Camp, 9am – 2pm daily, for ages 6 through 12. Ages 13 and older are welcome as volunteers. The theme for this year’s camp is 6off of Saints. Cost is $60 per child. For more information contact: (250) 478-1342 or clod@shaw.ca.

- 28 Aug St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: Vacation Bible Camp, 8:30am – 12 noon, for children aged 6 – 12. Cost is $60 per child. For more information contact the parish office: sjtwoffice@shaw.ca or (250) 479-7413.

Upcoming Events

October
- 3 St. Patrick’s, Victoria: 9:30am – 2pm. C.W. Good Used Clothing Sale on Friday 3 and Saturday 4, 2014. Bazaar only on Saturday. 2060 Haultain Street. Ample parking and wheelchair accessible. For more information contact the office: (250) 592-7391 or parishsecretary@telus.net.
- 4 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: 9 – 11am, Men’s Breakfast at the new Westshore White Spot on the Langford Parkway. Guest speakers: Fr. William Hann and Christopher Burke. To register call (250) 479-7413 or email sjtwoffice@shaw.ca.
- 6 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: Soul Searching: The Spiritual Journey of Thomas Merton begins October 6 and runs Monday nights (except Oct 13) through November 10. Presented by Dr. L. McKeown. To register call (250) 479-7413 or email sjtwoffice@shaw.ca.

To have your event included in the Diocesan Calendar of Events on the website, please email the details to editor@rcdvictoria.org.

The Diocesan Messenger

A Publication of the Diocese of Victoria 1 – 4044 Nellihope Street, Victoria, BC, Canada V8X 2A1 www.rcdvictoria.org

Circulation 6,600
2014 Publication Dates
February, April, June, September, November & December

Articles submitted for consideration must be received by the 5th of the month preceding publication. Submissions should be no more than 400 words in length, and those chosen for publication may be edited for content or length. Submissions and comments should be sent to: editor@rcdvictoria.org

Editorial Board
Connie Dunwoody, Editor
Cynthia Bouchard-Watkins
Char Deslippe
Leah MacKenzie
James O'Reilly

Contributors
Jean Allen, Contributor
David Baunstra,Proveedor
Fr. Dean Henderson, The Campus Mission
Bonnie Laundry, Face the Day
Gordon Reddy, Proveedor
Amber Santarelli, Connections
Fr. William Hann, Discern This
Knights of Columbus, Distribution

For more information please call
Leah MacKenzie (250) 479-1331 ext 231 leahm@rcdvictoria.org
L’Angelus: Ca C’est Bon!

by Kathleen Burton, Executive Director, Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation

Ca c’est bon simply translated means ‘That’s Good!’ or ‘It’s good, that’s all’. Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation believes both are true of the group L’Angelus and the music they effortlessly create. Residents and staff of Mount St. Mary hospital were recent benefactors of a live performance at the hospital when the group was in town performing as part of a ‘Tribute to Nashville’ series organized by the Oak Bay Beach Hotel.

The band is made up of the eldest of four siblings from the Rees family of ten children. They began performing in the mid 1990s. The group consists of Katie who plays guitar, Paige on the bass, Johnny on the drums and Stephen, or ‘Stevey’ as his siblings affectionately refer to him, plays the fiddle, saxophone and accordion.

Residents were delighted to have lively, energetic music being performed for them live in the Village Square. L’Angelus amazed us not only with their musical talent but in how they took the time to get to know their audience, addressing residents by name and even dedicating to some a few special songs. Of note was a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday to resident—and former Miss Esquimalt—Sr. Helen who was celebrating her 96th birthday the day of the L’Angelus performance; and the beautiful songs dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Christ and to their own grandmother Mary Lough as well as to St. Assunta who works at the hospital.

They explained to the audience that Assunta is a beautiful prayer and an important part of the ‘Assumption (of the virgin Mary into Heaven).’ It was heartening that the group would take the time to get to know their audience so personally. Their performance was nothing but brilliant.

The Foundation was honoured to have a group the calibre of L’Angelus performing at the hospital. The band had been selected by Billboard Magazine in 2006 as one of the six finalists in the Independent Music World Series and were later a featured guest at the World Youth Day with the Pope in 2011. They have been gaining international attention ever since, and on Saturday, April 26, 2014 the group certainly gained the attention of residents and staff at Mount St. Mary Hospital.

The four are incredibly talented and quite funny; they have a stage presence that is a joy to watch and quite fun. Paige is a delight as she beams a cheerful smile while tossing her hair about when she starts to groove on her guitar. Katie has the voice of an angel and had many in the audience in tears with her rendition of Amazin Grace and Ave Maria. While Johnny may have been hiding in the back with his drums, he in no way took a back seat to his siblings while performing. And Stephen, where does one start? He plays a mean fiddle, can channel an accordion like no other and has a way of expressing himself through his saxophone that is simply mesmerizing. Their voices harmonized beautifully as they wrapped things up like no other and has a way of expressing himself through his saxophone that is truly mesmerizing. Their voices harmonized beautifully as they wrapped things up.

The group certainly gained the attention of residents and staff at Mount St. Mary Hospital.

Residents and staff of Mount St. Mary hospital were recent benefactors of a live performance by L’Angelus. The Foundation was honoured to have a group the caliber of L’Angelus, ca c’est bon! Thank you for filling our hearts with music, joy and your generosity.

In the spirit of L’Angelus’s brilliant performance and in honour of the Music Therapy program at Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation, we’d like to share this musician’s prayer with you:

Oh Lord, please bless this music that it might glorify your name. May the talent that you have bestowed upon me be used only to serve you.

Let this music be a witness to your majesty and love, and remind us that you are always watching, and listening, from your throne above.

May your presence and beauty be found in every note, and may the words that are sung reach the hearts of your people so they will draw closer to you.

May your Spirit guide us through every measure so that we might be the instruments of your peace, and proclaim your glory with glad voices.

Amen ☀️

For he who sings praise, does not only praise, but also praises joyfully; he who sings praise, not only sings, but also loves Him whom he is singing for...

~ Cf. Sanctus Augustinus, Exsultatio in Psalmum 72, 1: CCL, 39, 986 (PL, 36, 914)

Mother’s Day Tea a Lovely Afternoon for Guests of the Ascension CWL

by Sandi Digras, Event Coordinator

The Hall of Ascension Parish was the scene of our Mother’s Day Tea and Fashion Show held Friday May 2, 2014. Chairs were covered in white and tied with blue and gold bows. The tables were decorated with white linen with blue centres and lovely fresh flowers prepared by Eloise Morrison.

Mothers of all ages were guests, with daughters and moms celebrating time together. Our lovely CWL models showed spring fashions from the store Close to You in Parksville. Sandy Herle, the store’s owner, was the coordinator and commentator for the fashion show.

The delicious tea sandwiches and desserts were prepared by our President Tina Hanlon and her very willing team of volunteers. Twelve members of the Knights of Columbus, many 4th Degree, were dressed in their tuxedos to escort the ladies to their tables, serve sandwiches and pour tea as well as escorting the models during the finale of the fashion show.

Since this is the month of our Lady we closed the show with soprano Skye Donald singing Ave Maria, which brought many in the hall to tears. “What a lovely way to pay tribute to our blessed mother and all mothers,” commented many of the guests.

We welcomed ladies from the St. Peter’s Council as well as guests from St. Mark’s Anglican Church and other special guests invited by members of the CWL.

“Proceeds from the raffle and ticket sales will assist the CWL in their charity work in the Oceanside Community,” commented Tina Hanlon, President of the Council.

According to everyone who attended, the Mother’s Day Tea was a great success. ☀️

D&P Rally for Mining Accountability

by Margie Noonan

On May 14, 2014, Canadians gathered in large numbers on Parliament Hill to call for the creation of an impartial and independent ombudsmen for responsible mining abroad by Canadian mining companies. With over 85,000 signatures collected in favour of this call, Development and Peace is hoping the government will take urgent action on this issue.

A crowd of nearly 300 people from all parts of Canada gathered on the steps of Parliament Hill. I was privileged to be there representing the BC Yukon D&P members. Many members of the CNCA (Canadian Network of Corporate Accountability) were also there supporting our rally. We are working together to ask the government to consider enhancing the Office of the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Counsellor for the Extractive Sector with an ombudsman with power to address the complaints of communities in the South negatively impacted by some Canadian mining company practices.

Several MPs joined in the noon-hour rally to address the crowd and show their support for Development and Peace’s A Voice for Justice campaign. Speakers included MPs Eve Picket (NDP – Pointe-de-l’Île), Irwin Cotler (L – Mont-Royal), Jean-François Fortin (BQ – Haute-Gaspésie-La Mitis-Matane-Matapédia) and Green Party representative Lorraine Reklams.

“We have to stay mobilized so that millions of victims in Africa, Asia and South America will no longer have to experience the violation of their rights or the pollution of their environment,” said Josiane Gauthier, Director of In-Canada Programs at Development and Peace.

Throughout the day, delegations met with MPs to present them with signed cards from their constituents. I was part of three member delegations that met with Irwin Cotler, Liberal, Vice-Chair of the Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, and Mounia Lahbabi, Parliamentary Assistant for Peter Julian, NDP, House Leader of the Official Opposition. Delegations met with over 20 MPs, and generally our de briefing session indicated the meetings were positive and encouraging.

Thank you to all for signing the Action Card supporting this D&P call for an ombudsman. We are truly a Voice for Justice for our partners in the Global South. ☀️
depth, long term assistance along with the emergency services the Society offers on a regular basis through the Social Concern Office and home visitation. While her priority is her family, Megan offers as much time as she can to the Society. The AGM was a lively gathering where business was taken care of in a timely manner, leaving space for education and socializing. Two speakers addressed the members providing inspiration and encouragement. St. Martha Smith spoke passionately about the need to balance charity with social justice and led the assembly through an exercise of connecting situations of poverty with the causes behind them. The second presenter Bernice Kamano, a member of the Kukuiwaka\’s volunteer Nation, spoke movingly about her experience of being a First Nations child raised in a foster home and drew attention to the long term problems this causes. Bernice linked this fostering practice with the residential school experience and helped members understand the ongoing identity and family crises brought about by these policies. As volunteer coordinator, I decided to experience firsthand all the work done by the Society. Recently I went on two trips into the community with participants and staff from our Frederic Ozanam Centre. This is a day centre providing a communal environment for adults with physical and cognitive disabilities. It offers a range of programs which provide opportunity for growth, independence, communal environment for adults with physical and cognitive disabilities. It offers a range of programs which provide opportunity for growth, independence, self-fulfillment and integration into the community. The program is funded by Community Living, BC. On my first day out I accompanied a group which volunteers at the Beacon Hill Park Petting Zoo. We went there on a sunny but still brisk April day and rubbed feathers with peacocks displaying for all they were worth to the uninterested peahens. Jonathon*, Keith* and Bernard* obviously loved every minute of their visit and were happy to share their impressions of their day with us. For the past two and a half years Kathleen has been a business mentor to a young professional with The Prodigy Group—a program of the Chamber of Commerce. Kathleen has two teenage sons, Jacob, aged fourteen and Jess, aged eighteen. When not spending time with her boys, she enjoys being in, on or around the water. She also loves performing on stage or in front of the camera. Kathleen can often be found singing the national anthem at various sporting events such as the Peninsula Panthers, Victoria Royals hockey clubs or Harbour Cats Baseball. She can also be found performing with various theatre groups including the Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

Please join us in welcoming Kathleen to the Mount St. Mary Hospital Foundation and the Mount St. Mary Hospital family.

ICS Public Speaking Competition

by Jamie Zwicker

What happens when you get busloads of students from different grade levels, coming from a variety of communities across the island? Why, they talk, naturally! And talk they did on a wide range of thought-provoking topics at the ICS Public Speaking Competition on May 14, 2014! For the past seven years, the ICS Public Speech Competition has been held at St. Andrew\’s Elementary. Even given the extra demands of construction and amalgamation with St. Andrew\’s, St. Joseph\’s jumped in along with the Staff of St. Andrew\’s and agreed to act as host. These 24 students had already presented their speeches in their own classrooms, then divisionally at their school, and were finally able to represent their respective school at this district-wide competition. Some speeches were humorous, some were serious, yet each was thought provoking, and delivered in a style that left a distinct mark on those gathered. The winners of this year\’s competition were: in the Grade 4 – 5 Division, Tion McLeish of St. Patrick\’s speaking about Olympic athlete Usain Bolt, The Grade 6 – 7 Division saw Bethany Price from St. Joseph\’s Victoria win, speaking on the Insanity of the English Language; Both winners received a personal keepsake trophy, and brought a larger trophy home to their school for the year. As in previous years, students were present from all of our Catholic elementary schools, including Port Alberni, Chemainus, Duncan, Greater Victoria, as well as Chang\’e Church Cathedral School in Victoria. Kudos are extended to Fr. William Hann and the administrative staff of St. Joseph the Worker parish for providing us with the venue and hospitality. Thank you!

St. Andrew\’s Rowers Strike Gold—and Silver!

by Joanie Bidlake

St. Andrew\’s Rowing Academy members won Gold and Silver at the 69th annual Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Regatta Schools held in St. Catharines, Ontario! A Silver medal for The Senior Girls Cxed Four: Emily McCart, Rayna Stuart, Cecilia Filippone, Emma Gibbs and Hannah Taft; and Gold for Patrick Keane in the Senior Boys Lightweight Single.

Congratulations to all!
Two Popes, Two Saints

by Reine Mykyte

I

n the Jubilee year, at the age of 19 and by God’s grace, I attended World Youth Day in Rome with a group of youth from my parish—there, I met my spiritual grandfather, Pope John Paul II. He told all two million of us gathered at a vigil with him to “confirm our faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God, present in the Eucharist and loves us so very much and will always do so.”

Again at World Youth Day 2002 in Toronto, I met up with my spiritual grandfather this time a much frailer pope but with the same youthful and loving spirit. Again he assembled youth from all the corners of the earth. At the vigil, it rained overnight and it continued to rain until Pope John Paul II began the Sunday Mass. In the rain, he raised his arm and motioned it across the crowd, saying, “Let your sins be washed away.” It poured on us, then the clouds moved apart, and as the sky cleared, rays of sunshine broke through. When Pope John Paul II passed away, it felt like the loss of a dear grandfather.

This year, on Divine Mercy Sunday (April 27), my family and I attended a most memorable event at the Pacific Coliseum in Vancouver—the Canonization Celebration: Two Popes, Two Saints. There was a strong sense of connection with the rest of our Catholic family, not just at a local level but an international one. We were celebrating this special day with people all around the world. It is rare to celebrate a Mass with 20,000 people in one place, with people of all ages. There were those who connected with Pope John XXIII, now Saint John XXIII and those who connected with Pope John Paul II, now Saint John Paul II.

Some highlights for me were visiting the relics on site with my family, hearing the First Nations prayer chants for the opening ceremonies, witnessing the parade of ministries from all of the churches, receiving Communion with such a large congregation, visiting with long time friends following the celebration and throughout the ferry ride back home.

PeaceQuest Victoria

by Julie Cormier, PeaceQuest Victoria Coordinator

A Project of the Social Justice Committee, Sisters of St. Ann

H

ow do we remember war? How do we do it well? Where do our reflections of peace fit in?

While war is part of the Canadian story and world story, how can we grieve the tragedy of war and remain committed to the promise of peace? How we remember and tell the stories influences how we understand ourselves and the world around us.

These are the questions being asked this year since 2014 marks the 100th Anniversary of World War I (WWI), While many heritage organizations and museums are pursuing events and activities that recreate a day in the life of a soldier or the home front experiences of war, PeaceQuest Victoria seeks to take up the theme of peace-building, a topic that is often polarized within discussions about war. A great peace movement grew during WWI which coined the term ‘The War To End All Wars’. PeaceQuest Victoria, a project led by the social justice committee of the Sisters of St. Ann, is ensuring these efforts are not forgotten, and that a commitment to building a culture of peace continues.

Peace has to be created, in order to be maintained. It is the project of Faith, Strength, Energy, Will, Sympathy, Justice, Imagination, and the triumph of principle. It will never be achieved by passivity and question.

~ Dorothy Thompson

In fact, peace is work. According to PeaceQuest, peace is an active way of living, seeking to resolve conflicts cooperatively, respecting the wellbeing of the earth and all peoples.

PeaceQuest Victoria, an affiliation to the PeaceQuest initiative in Kingston, Ontario, is working to reframe peace as a core Canadian value and to stimulate conversations amongst faith communities and Catholic schools about peace, nonviolence, and reconciliation, while collaborating with Victoria-based peace organizations and activists.

For more information or to become involved, visit www.peacequest.ca, or contact Julie Cormier at jcormier@ssabc.ca.

D & P Regional Meeting

by Nancy Stuart, Communications Coordinator, Development and Peace Victoria Diocesan Council

T

he Victoria Diocese hosted the Development and Peace BC/Yukon Regional Meeting at the University of Victoria on May 2-4, 2014. There were 27 people participating from the Dioceses of Victoria, Vancouver, Nelson, Kamloops and Prince George. We were very fortunate to have the Development and Peace Executive Director, Michael Casey, attend along with Elana Wright, the D&P Materials Coordinator at the Montreal Office.

Friday evening reports from the various dioceses illustrated that there is a lot of activity and work going on at the grassroots level. There were presentations to parish groups on our Fall Action campaign and visits to BC Members of Parliament to advocate for an ombudsman for people impacted by Canadian mining companies operating in the Global South. Share Lent activities included ThinkFast events, Stations of the Cross and showing the Haiti documentary On the Road to Food Sovereignty.

It is through Caritas Internationalis that we are able to respond so quickly to disasters when they occur anywhere in the world.

On Saturday Michael Casey spoke of the work of Caritas Internationalis. Development and Peace is a member of Caritas Internationalis and is also called Caritas Canada. It is through this Caritas partnership that we are able to respond so quickly to disasters when they occur anywhere in the world. When the Philippines typhoon struck, we at Caritas Canada were able to respond with money immediately through Caritas Philippines.

Elana Wright gave us a sneak preview of the upcoming campaigns which will continue the theme One Human Family, Food for All. This is the campaign Pope Francis launched last December with a wave of prayer, calling on the world to end world hunger.

These annual regional meetings are a wonderful opportunity for members to meet others from around the province and learn more about the work of Development and Peace. Late Saturday afternoon Fr. Dino celebrated Mass for us at Holy Cross Church, followed by a lovely social time at the home of one of the local members. Sr. Marina Smith and Sr. Joyce Harris showed us their pictures of their recent trip to Haiti. The food we enjoyed was prepared by William Goldiet, a South Sudanese parishioner of Sacred Heart parish. William told us of the heartbreaking civil war going on in his country and we signed a petition to our MPs on this issue.

Sunday morning was the business meeting, where the 11 delegates voted on various resolutions brought forward by the various dioceses. Our animator, John Gabor, and National Council representative, Dick Mynen also contributed much to the success of the meeting. Next year we will meet at Rosemary Heights in Vancouver.

Let’s Talk

by Sandi Digras

Let’s Talk was the theme for our celebration of Pope Francis’ World Day of Communication on Sunday, June 1, 2014. It was also Ascension Sunday and our Parish feast day at the Church of the Ascension in Parksville.

As Communication Chair of the Catholic Women’s League I suggested we host an Open House with all our wonderful Ministries, to communicate to our parish family what excellent work each ministry does and more importantly, how parishioners can volunteer their time and talents.

The CWL offered refreshments after each of the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses. Everyone felt it was a great opportunity to meet and greet many new members of our parish and to introduce them to our ministries: Library, Baptism team, Lectures and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Social Justice, Pro-Life, Basic Communities, Adult Faith Formation, Bible Study, RCIA, Newcomers, Flower committee, Youth and Children ministries, The Knights of Columbus, Parish Council and the Catholic Women’s League.

Our Pastor, Fr. Mel, suggested in his homily, “Jesus ascended but we can continue his work on earth by sharing our talents and time with others.” He invited everyone to come and find a way to do that by talking with all the ministries assembled. We will definitely do this again next year!
Development and Peace Garage Sale to Benefit Syrian Refugees

by Sr. Marina Smith SSA, Diocesan Chair, Development & Peace

On Saturday, May 10, 2014, Development and Peace (D&P) held a garage sale for the Syrian refugees. When we heard of the terrible conditions in which they are living, and the struggles they are having, we wanted to do something to help. St. Patrick’s parish in Victoria loaned us their hall, and we are grateful to the many people who donated items. The sale itself brought in just over $1,600, and with donations that came in afterwards, we will probably be able to send $1,800 to D&P for the refugees.

Thirteen of sixteen Councils have had sessions of Catch the Fire. There will be follow up S’mores workshops to keep the fire burning.

Provincial Legislation Chairperson Agnes Geiger; Life Member Ann Devlin; Edna Lorenzen, Past President of Whitehorse Diocese; and new President Diane Flammndon of CFB Comox were introduced and welcomed by President Cathy Weswick.

CCFA Delegates Visit Victoria

by Leah Mackenzie, CFO, The Diocese of Victoria

The Diocese of Victoria, the Diocese of Prince George and the Diocese of Nelson were pleased to welcome over 50 delegates to the Canadian Catholic Financial Administrators Annual Conference to Victoria from May 25 – 29, 2014. The Conference attracted financial professionals from Roman Catholic Dioceses and Ukrainian Eparchies stretching across Canada from Victoria to Halifax.

Catholic Financial Administrators rely on this Conference as an important event to gather together to learn and compare notes on many topics such as insurance, legal, property, investments, governance and accounting standards to better serve their respective Catholicarchidioceses. This Conference provided an opportunity for financial administrators to meet and share ideas with colleagues from across the country and to hear expert speakers on these topics.

Next year the conference will be hosted by the Archdiocese of Gatineau.

“Free to Believe” Receives 2013 Book Prize

by Fr. Dean Henderson

Mary Anne Waldron’s book, Free to Believe has just been awarded the 2013 Book Prize from the Canadian Law and Society Association! Their letter says, “Of the many exceptional publications this year, the Committee found your work to be the most outstanding contribution to the study of law and society.” Bless the Lord, and heartiest congratulations to Mary Anne!
Le plan de pastoral adopté à l’AGA de la Paroisse St-Jean-Baptiste

by Réal Roy, Co-président, Conseil de pastoral Paroisse St-Jean-Baptiste

L’année dernière, nous avons dit que la Paroisse devait établir un plan pastoral à l’AGA du 25 mai dernier. Ce plan est un outil de délibération qui guide le processus pastoral de l’année. Il est également un enregistrement des activités progicielles des dernières années.


Lors de son rapport, Réal Roy a aussi mentionné les préparatifs pour la célébration de la fête du Canada qui aura lieu le premier juillet et surtout de la fête de la St-Jean-Baptiste, le saint patron de la seule paroisse francophone de Victoria, qui se tiendra le 24 juin pour une messe et le 29 juin pour une célébration dominicale.

St. Jean Baptiste Parish Adopts its Pastoral Plan at the Annual General Meeting

by Réal Roy, Co-president, St. Jean Baptiste Parish Council

On Sunday May 25, 2014, after the Dominical Eucharistic Celebration, many parishioners met to hold the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for St. Jean Baptiste parish. Before the AGM, parishioners shared a light lunch of soup, bread, cold cuts and salads prepared by Jay Côté.

Following lunch, the AGM started with the usual adoption of the minutes of the last AGM held on May 19, 2013, and the presentation of reports from Fr. Benoît Laplante, Co-president Réal Roy, Secretary Isabelle Boutin and the parish accountant M. Douglas Smibert. The parishioners adopted belatedly—but as we say, “better late than never”—the plan of pastoral 2010-2015 which had been published in the Parish Newsletter last June and July 2013. This plan has a mission: To create an appropriate environment for all who want to live freely their Catholic faith in French at St. Jean Baptiste Church in the Diocese of Victoria in British Columbia. This mission is defined by three main objectives: 1) to live and to transmit in French the Catholic faith through Liturgy and Sacraments; 2) to participate in English in the life of the Diocese of Victoria and in the Ecumenical dialogue here in Victoria; and 3) to continue the Founders’ vision through good financial and real estate management to allow in French the fervour of the faith. Obviously the plan is more detailed and includes many objectives with measurable indicators. It will help the evaluation of the plan in the coming year.

In his report, Réal Roy mentioned the preparations of Canada Day on July 1 and especially the St. Jean Baptiste celebration on June 24 with Mass, and on June 29 for a dominical celebration and a cake. Do not hesitate to come and celebrate with us: you are welcome!
I am leaving, feeling I am the beneficiary of a relationship where many individuals have helped shape who I am.

by Joe Colistro, Superintendent of Schools

In July of 1988 Claire and I arrived in Victoria for our new adventure. With two young children, aged one and three, and with a third on the way, we made the decision to support Claire’s desire to return to school and this led us to Victoria. I had just been appointed the principal of St. Patrick’s School. I was excited and thrilled at the opportunity of this new position and I was determined to make the most of it. The next 26 years would be spent creating great memories as we made many friends, raised our children, and as they completed their formal education within the Island Catholic school system, watched them grow into fine young adults. Let me take you back. Our first experience upon arriving in Victoria was with Bruna, the Head Caretaker at St. Patrick’s School, who greeted us at our house with a large welcome basket. Bruna would play a prominent role in our lives as she went on to become a close friend teaching us many lessons in life, most importantly, unconditional love. Bruna treated everyone as family and worked tirelessly to St. Patrick’s grow and prosper. In my early days in Victoria the Sisters of St. Ann were also prominent in my life. They, like Bruna, contributed so much to who we became, the fabric that made our school such a wonderful place. The Sisters left an indelible mark on me and were a constant reminder of the sacrifices made for our Catholic Schools.

The concept of building community and treating everyone as family is what I hope I will be remembered for. Community is at the core of why I have always been central to how I sought to provide leadership. I recently read about the most successful barber shop in the United States. When asked why it was so successful the owners said, “When a child came in I treated him like my son, when a lady came in I treated her as my wife, and when a senior came in I treated them as my mother or father.” I have tried to live that example. When students were sent to see me in the office as principal, I treated them the same way I would have wanted my own children treated. I treated staff and parents as I would my family. I believe not always easy but the importance of relationships, caring for and valuing others, served me well through both good and difficult times.

Eleven of my last thirteen years have been as Superintendent of Schools. I have always felt privileged to be the Superintendent and done my best to move our schools forward. The first few years were a time of growth. We became a community school where we lived out the dedication and good work of those who had come before us. Enrolment was up and we opened a new school in Port Alberni that prospected today.

In the last few years we initiated the Catholic Schools Plan amalgamating St. Andrew’s Elementary with St. Joseph’s, where we are in the progress of constructing a new building and completing a seismic upgrade. This was simultaneously a sad and exciting time in our history. Catholic Education is constantly being challenged but as faithful followers, as a people of hope we remain committed to providing and fostering a Catholic faith community rooted in the joy of the Gospel.

I have been very blessed to have worked with many individuals who have a passion for Catholic Education. I extend my sincere appreciation to the current Board of Directors as well as its past members, and to Local School Councils with which I had the opportunity to be associated. I also extend my appreciation to the Central Office staff, past and present, and to the teaching and support staff in each of our schools whom I have had the privilege to serve. To those I had the opportunity to work with, a heartfelt thank you for your service, cooperation and commitment to Catholic Education.

In life we make decisions and they are not always easy. It is important that we continue to grow and challenge ourselves. As you are aware, I have accepted the position of Deputy Superintendent of Catholic Schools with Medicine Hat Catholic Schools. God guides us in mysterious ways and I feel that this is where I am meant to be. Victoria will always be home, but for now the future will bring new challenges.

I am leaving, feeling I am the beneficiary of a relationship where many individuals have helped shape who I am. I wish each of you, whether parent or parent, student or staff member, whom I have been blessed to meet over the years, you will remember the Island Catholic Schools. In particular I would like to thank the Sisters of St. Ann for their unfailing commitment to Catholic Education and for the support they provided me and my family. I leave you with a quote from the prayer A Future Not Our Own, by Archbishop Oscar Romero:

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

The future of our Catholic schools is yours.

by Char Deslippe, Director of Religious Education

I think the best definition of retirement I’ve heard is captured in the words of a friend who sent a card the first time I tried it. It went something like this: Retirement is simply getting ‘re-tired’ for the next phase of the journey! I guess that summarizes my take on retirement—this is the sixth time I’ve tried it.

It’s not about the farewell parties, cards and gifts, for sure! I guess I must have some form of dyslexia for my driver’s license says (nearly) 75 but my mind and body still think and generally feel 57! I realize that I’ve been particularly blessed with good genes and high energy and I also believe if God gives those gifts, they are meant to be used for others.

Bob and I moved to Victoria twenty years ago when I began teaching English and Religious Studies at SARS. I am finishing my working days at the Pastoral Centre having served in various capacities there since 2000. What a story of change! I have had the privilege of working with three Bishops (DeRuoo, Roussin and Gagnon); three ICS Superintendents (Hobs, Chalan and Colistro); and I’ve occupied six different offices in the building! I’ve worked with a dozen or more school principals, hundreds of teachers and catechists in parishes giving retreats, workshops and courses, and I can honestly say there haven’t been more than a handful of days when it wasn’t a positive experience.

My advice to others comes from what is happening in our own times and is modeled by Pope Francis—not to fear change, but to embrace it. We must trust that Divine Providence is at work, and recognize that results don’t depend on us, but on Him.

Looking Back

When I was invited to reflect on those years, I hardly knew where to begin. I think, looking back, it’s the people I’ve worked with I always miss. Too numerous to name, they truly inspire and motivate me by their commitment to a vision we share.

In this Diocese, I am proud of the contributions we have made to develop a strong faith formation program for children in the area of their sacramental preparation and general religious education programs. This didn’t happen overnight. In fact, it’s been a ten-year process! While I did bring experience working with the National Office (NORE), Alberta Catholic Bishops and school trustees, the BC challenges were a whole new ball game. Both of those programs are in the infancy stages and will be improved by the contributions of those catechists and teachers actually implementing them.

Opportunities to work with a variety of personalities have taught me a lot about trust. A recurring concern is often expressed—that we are missing the mark by not aiming to instill the whole deposit of the faith in minds too young to understand much more than God’s love for each of us. Respecting the developmental stages of any learner and beginning where they are—rather than where we want them to be—is the key to handing on a faith that becomes an integral part of our lives. I’ve truly come to understand and trust that God works in God’s own time.

Looking Ahead

My successor, Mr. Glen Palachicky, will bring a breath of fresh air to this work, building on the foundation we have provided. The Church is living in interesting times. Each day I reflect on the message Pope Francis shares with the world through his words and actions. Having been involved in Church work, including Catholic education for over half a century, I’ve seen lots of criticism of the Church, some healthy and other bits downright mean-spirited. What the Pope models is simplicity of spirit. We see a man who places trust in God for his life and his place on the world stage as an effecter of change. My advice to others comes from what is happening in our own times and is modeled by Pope Francis—not to fear change, but to embrace it. We must trust that Divine Providence is at work, and recognize that results don’t depend on us, but on Him.

So what’s on my ‘bucket list’? Many plan exotic vacations to celebrate the change in life, but we’ve been to most of the places on earth that I’d like to visit. That includes a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with my parish, and several visits to Rome as well as a host of other trips around the world. So I think that staying home in Victoria preparing to walk the Camino to Santiago for the fourth time next September will be my number one priority this summer! I’ve never had difficulty keeping busy, I’ve just found that won’t change.

The twenty years have passed all too quickly; I still know retirement is the right decision and I will certainly treasure happy memories of time spent with the Diocese of Victoria and Island Catholic Schools. I would be remiss if I were not to mention that the understanding and support of my husband, our two daughters and their families are a great comfort to me when I have had the privilege of knowing and working with having been a Life-giving gift.

May God continue to bless each of us as we continue the journey.

We say Farewell...
On Tuesday, May 13, 2014, St. Andrew’s Regional High School was officially inaugurated as a Wetland Center of Excellence. Over the past year-and-a-half, with the expertise of Swan Lake environmentalists, the enthusiastic support of Ducks Unlimited Canada and the financial backing of Talisman Corporation, the Science Department at St. Andrew’s has started a journey to become environmental stewards of Swan Lake.

The Grade 10 Science and Grade 11 Biology classes were the first of our students to be involved in this undertaking. The Grade 10s did research on bats and birds that use Swan Lake as a home or feeding ground. Next on the agenda was construction of nesting boxes for Violet Green Swallows, and bat boxes as summer roosting sites for some of the smaller bats. To date seven bird houses and two bat boxes have been completed.

Meanwhile, the Grade 11s began learning about invasive species in this wetland. With clippers, loppers and protective gloves, they set out to do battle with Himalayan Blackberries and English Ivy.

On May 13, the two groups of students met with officials from Swan Lake, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and Talisman to celebrate this new initiative.

Future plans involve enhancing turtle nesting sites, monitoring water quality and helping to develop a sense of awareness and appreciation of our wetlands. Many thanks go out to our sponsors in these endeavours.
Making Noise at DYC

by Olivia Pearse

Photo credits: Kelly Bourke and Mariana Gallagos Dupuis

“Have courage. Go forward. Make noise.”

These words of Pope Francis echoed throughout the gym of St. Andrew’s Regional High school at this year’s annual Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) setting teens’ hearts on fire with their joint love for Christ. For the past eleven years DYC has brought together youth from all over Vancouver Island and has given them inspiration and passion about their Catholic faith. In the words of this year’s theme, they are encouraged to make noise and go forward with Jesus Christ.

The noise was heard all over the weekend. Enlivening songs of praise and worship were always heard rising from the gym. It was heard in our Jesuit speakers from ‘Hearts on Fire’ who spoke to us about the prayer life and how we can set our hearts on fire with love for Christ. Eager cries carried down from the yearly massive soccer game on Saturday. Whispers of this noise were heard during Reconciliation and Adoration. The noise further continued to our dance on Saturday night from which laughter and singing came forth. Lastly, but certainly not least, the source of this noise came present among us as we celebrated Mass on Sunday.

This conference has continued to inspire teens about their faith and give them courage to live it: “I’m reminded there’s something bigger out there to know. It makes me feel a part of something. It’s a place I won’t be judged; I can be myself,” says Jordon Henneberry who has just attended her fifth DYC. Teens inevitably meet face to face with conflict in their faith lives, for often it appears so few share your Christian views and many will tease you for holding such ones; it can be easy to forget you’re not alone in this struggle. Mackendrick Hallworth, who has attended DYC for two years now, said, “In Port Alberni, there are just a few [people who share the Christian faith] and it’s discouraging. Here, there are a lot of people with the same faith.”

For teens, it is especially important to have a community where they can freely, without fear, express and learn about their faith with people who share it, and DYC, as youth have told us, offers just that and more.

When asked what DYC meant to them, teens replied: “It means that I can catch up with friends, make new ones, and it increases my faith,” and, “I’ve been able to get to know people closer through this mutual understanding and sharing of our faith.” As another simply stated: “DYC makes me happy!”

The noise made at this DYC will surely continue to echo beyond St. Andrew’s High School, as Diocesan Youth Conference is an event that teens always remember as part of their high school they get to take home but further upon their hearts. It is an event that will continue to give the
"Have courage. Go forward. Make noise."

These words of Pope Francis echoed throughout the gym of St. Andrew's Regional High School at this year's annual Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) setting teens' hearts on fire with their joint love for Christ. For the past eleven years DYC has brought together youth from all over Vancouver Island and has given them inspiration and passion about their Catholic faith. In the words of this year's theme, they are encouraged to make noise and go forward with Jesus Christ.

The noise was heard all over the weekend. Enlivening songs of praise and worship were always heard rising from the gym. It was heard in our Jesuit speakers from 'Hearts on Fire' who spoke to us about the prayer life and how we can set our hearts on fire with love for Christ. Eager cries carried down from the yearly massive soccer game on Saturday. Whispers of this noise were heard during Reconciliation and Adoration. The noise further continued to our dance on Saturday night from which laughter and singing came forth. Lastly, but certainly not least, the source of this noise came present among us as we celebrated Mass.

This conference has continued to inspire teens about their faith and give them courage to live it out: "I’m reminded there’s something bigger out there to know. It makes me feel a part of it," said Mackendrick Hallworth, who has attended her fifth DYC. Teens inevitably meet face to face with conflict in their faith lives, for often it appears so few share your Christian views and many will tease you for holding such ones; it can be easy to forget you’re not alone in this struggle. Teens were reminded: "In Port Alberni, there are just a few people who share the Christian faith and it’s discouraging. Here, there are a lot of people with the same faith.”

For teens, it is especially important to have a community where they can freely, without fear, express and learn about their faith with people who share it, and DYC, as youth have told us, make new ones, and it increases my faith,” and, “I’ve been able to get to know people closer and it just makes me happy!”

The noise made at this DYC will surely continue to echo beyond St. Andrew’s High School, as it was heard and seen in the laughter and smiles of teens as they left the conference. The memories and life-long lessons are not only imprinted upon the DYC shirts but further upon their hearts. It is an event that will continue to give them courage to go forward and make noise.

![Image of DYC participants]
Evidence of God

by Madlen Anderson

What is a mission trip? I didn’t know the answer to that question as I clung to the side of a water taxi with eight other UVic Catholic students and Fr. Dean Henderson, zooming away towards isolated Flores Island off the west coast of BC.

Cared for wonderfully by the parishioners of Tofino and Ucluelet, our team was recharged and ready to face our first destination: Ahousaht, the largest Nuu-chah-nulth Nation with over 2,000 members.

The Ahousaht portion of the mission trip was, in two words, wonderfully unorganized. Our team rose each morning with no definite plan, instead trusting that we would simply walk out and discover God’s presence in the community—and boy, did we ever.

Within steps we learnt that Ahousaht is home to a warm, welcoming, fun-loving and deeply spiritual people.

You will find them at St. Andrew’s Cathedral, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph the Worker and Our Lady of the Rosary parish in Langford.

Or you will find them at St. Andrew’s Cathedral, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph the Worker and Our Lady of the Rosary parish in Langford.

The work of IMPACT has not only been a blessing to parishes, but to the student missionaries themselves as well.

“I can already tell this is going to be the best summer of my life thus far,” said Dilawri, who is serving on the IMPACT team at St. Joseph the Worker parish.

“It is so evident that the Lord is at work in the city of Victoria and lives are being changed. Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work.

“I want others to experience the same freedom I have experienced in giving my life over to God and putting my confidence in Him and the very personal love I know He has for me. My hope is that many people will come to experience Christ the way I have in my life this summer through the IMPACT mission,” she said.

Germaine and the mission team evangelize through a variety of initiatives including Adoration nights, ‘The Cornerstone’, a weekly guest-speaker night for young adults (aged 16–35) held at 7 pm on Thursday nights at St. Joseph the Worker parish hall, and weekly faith studies held in the five different IMPACT parishes on Tuesday evenings.

“I’ve always felt a pull towards ministry and bringing others to Jesus,” said Rob Koechl, a CCO staff member working with Germaine in leading the summer mission. “I want to share the Joy of the Gospel, because Christ has asked his disciples to tell the world about Him and I want to do what He asks.”

Koechl will be one of four full-time CCO missionaries that remain in Victoria after IMPACT ends in August and the 27 student missionaries return to their home cities.

“CCO will be beginning a new campus expansion at the University of Victoria by sending 4 missionaries there to help evangelize and spread the Gospel there as well,” said Koechl, who has previously worked as a campus missionary at Queen’s University in Kingston and Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

The work of IMPACT has not only been a blessing to parishes, but to the student missionaries themselves as well.

“I can already tell this is going to be the best summer of my life thus far,” said Dilawri, who is serving on the IMPACT team at St. Joseph the Worker parish.

“It is so evident that the Lord is at work in the city of Victoria and lives are being changed. Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work,” she said.

“This is a message of hope; the Lord is pursuing His means to me that Jesus is alive and at work,” she said.

I have formed a strong desire to share my faith, said Dilawri, who came to Victoria from Ottawa, Ontario. “There was a strong desire to share my faith, and how His love is transformative, and I had this desire to grow in the faith and be a part of a growing lay movement committed to evangelization. Organized by Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), a lay movement committed to evangelization.

“Germaine and the mission team evangelize through a variety of initiatives including Adoration nights, ‘The Cornerstone’, a weekly guest-speaker night for young adults (aged 16–35) held at 7 pm on Thursday nights at St. Joseph the Worker parish hall, and weekly faith studies held in the five different IMPACT parishes on Tuesday evenings.

“I’ve always felt a pull towards ministry and bringing others to Jesus,” said Rob Koechl, a CCO staff member working with Germaine in leading the summer mission. “I want to share the Joy of the Gospel, because Christ has asked his disciples to tell the world about Him and I want to do what He asks.”

Koechl will be one of four full-time CCO missionaries that remain in Victoria after IMPACT ends in August and the 27 student missionaries return to their home cities.

“CCO will be beginning a new campus expansion at the University of Victoria by sending 4 missionaries there to help evangelize and spread the Gospel there as well,” said Koechl, who has previously worked as a campus missionary at Queen’s University in Kingston and Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

The work of IMPACT has not only been a blessing to parishes, but to the student missionaries themselves as well.

I can already tell this is going to be the best summer of my life thus far,” said Dilawri, who is serving on the IMPACT team at St. Joseph the Worker parish.

“It is so evident that the Lord is at work in the city of Victoria and lives are being changed. Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work,” she said.

“This is a message of hope; the Lord is pursuing His love and grace.”

Germaine and the mission team evangelize through a variety of initiatives including Adoration nights, ‘The Cornerstone’, a weekly guest-speaker night for young adults (aged 16–35) held at 7 pm on Thursday nights at St. Joseph the Worker parish hall, and weekly faith studies held in the five different IMPACT parishes on Tuesday evenings.

“I’ve always felt a pull towards ministry and bringing others to Jesus,” said Rob Koechl, a CCO staff member working with Germaine in leading the summer mission. “I want to share the Joy of the Gospel, because Christ has asked his disciples to tell the world about Him and I want to do what He asks.”

Koechl will be one of four full-time CCO missionaries that remain in Victoria after IMPACT ends in August and the 27 student missionaries return to their home cities.

“CCO will be beginning a new campus expansion at the University of Victoria by sending 4 missionaries there to help evangelize and spread the Gospel there as well,” said Koechl, who has previously worked as a campus missionary at Queen’s University in Kingston and Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

The work of IMPACT has not only been a blessing to parishes, but to the student missionaries themselves as well.

I can already tell this is going to be the best summer of my life thus far,” said Dilawri, who is serving on the IMPACT team at St. Joseph the Worker parish.

“It is so evident that the Lord is at work in the city of Victoria and lives are being changed. Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work,” she said.

“This is a message of hope; the Lord is pursuing His love and grace.”

For more information about Catholic Christian Outreach and the IMPACT summer mission in Victoria, visit www.ccoclbc.ca.

Young Student Missionaries Make Big IMPACT

by Greg Van Dyk

“I really felt the Lord calling me to go on a mission trip and when I was discerning which mission, he made it clear to come to Victoria,” said Andrea Dilawri, one of 27 student missionaries taking part in IMPACT—a summer mission project organized by Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), a lay movement committed to evangelization.

“There was a strong desire to share my faith,” said Dilawri, who came to Victoria from Ontario. “I’ve seen first hand the impact that God’s love has and how His love is transformative, and I had this strong desire to be a witness to that and to help others find that.”

Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work.

The IMPACT missionaries are serving on teams of five or six in five different parishes around Victoria. You will find them at St. Andrew’s Cathedral, Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, St. Joseph the Worker and Our Lady of the Rosary parish in Langford.

“The purpose of IMPACT is to invite the people of Victoria to encounter Jesus as a person, as ‘the Way, the Truth and the Life’ in their lives,” said Nicole Germaine, a CCO staff member leading the summer mission.

“I want others to experience the same freedom I have experienced in giving my life over to God and putting my confidence in Him and the very personal love I know He has for me. My hope is that many people will come to experience Christ the way I have in my life this summer through the IMPACT mission,” she said.

Germaine and the mission team evangelize through a variety of initiatives including Adoration nights, ‘The Cornerstone’, a weekly guest-speaker night for young adults (aged 16–35) held at 7 pm on Thursday nights at St. Joseph the Worker parish hall, and weekly faith studies held in the five different IMPACT parishes on Tuesday evenings.

“I’ve always felt a pull towards ministry and bringing others to Jesus,” said Rob Koechl, a CCO staff member working with Germaine in leading the summer mission. “I want to share the Joy of the Gospel, because Christ has asked his disciples to tell the world about Him and I want to do what He asks.”

Koechl will be one of four full-time CCO missionaries that remain in Victoria after IMPACT ends in August and the 27 student missionaries return to their home cities.

“CCO will be beginning a new campus expansion at the University of Victoria by sending 4 missionaries there to help evangelize and spread the Gospel there as well,” said Koechl, who has previously worked as a campus missionary at Queen’s University in Kingston and Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

The work of IMPACT has not only been a blessing to parishes, but to the student missionaries themselves as well.

“I can already tell this is going to be the best summer of my life thus far,” said Dilawri, who is serving on the IMPACT team at St. Joseph the Worker parish.

“It is so evident that the Lord is at work in the city of Victoria and lives are being changed.”

“Seeing 27 students from across Canada give their ‘Yes’ to the Lord to be here in Victoria this summer, all feeling the same call and desiring the same thing, means to me that Jesus is alive and at work,” she said.

“This is a message of hope; the Lord is pursuing His love and grace.”

For more information about Catholic Christian Outreach and the IMPACT summer mission in Victoria, visit www.ccoclbc.ca.
The Campus Mission

by Fr. Dean Henderson

The ordinarily abrupt transition from the frenetic final term to the more serene spring scene on campus did not happen this year. Our year-end banquet and dance, a great annual celebration in which we honour our grads, paved the way for the departure of nine students and me for the West Coast and a week-long third annual mission trip (beautifully described in another article by Madlen Anderson on page 14 of this paper). Upon return from encouraging the faithful and reaching the lost, it was straight into the pastoral work that supplements some of my campus mission for the summer: weekend Masses at Our Lady of Fatima as they transition between pastors (and where processions and extra liturgical rituals are enthusiastically celebrated), marriage preparation course oversight, and the commencement of wedding nuptials. That same weekend of mission return coincided with the advent of the Catholic Christian Outreach student missionary arrival. Twenty-seven enthused Catholic students and staff have flown and ferried onto our fair shores to share ‘The Joy of the Gospel’ with five parishes and the wider city of Victoria. Add to the mix the abundance of life in our domestic Church (the home), and I have more than enough evidence of what Pope Francis says is a fruit of missionary discipleship in Jesus, a life that is “wonderfully complicated!”

Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel, will provide the theme and marching orders for the mission trip for the next several years. In the multitude of exhortations the Holy Father recommends in our Church’s transition to being in a ‘permanent state of missionary readiness’ is the reminder that the Gospel is essentially and irrevocably relational. He says, “the Church will have to initiate everyone, priests, religious, and the laity into the art of accompaniment … which heals, liberates and encourages Christian growth.” He recently provided evidence of this friendship-based ‘accompaniment’ in his visit to the Holy Land with two Argentinian companions—one a rabbi and the other a Muslim scholar. Powerful witness of peaceful dialogue if ever there was one! Dr. Daniel Sulmasy, a Franciscan physician philosopher, said once, “When one arrives at the particle level, a fundamental rule emerges that is true about everything … all is a set of dynamic relationships. Whatever a thing is a quark, a virus, a patient, or a galaxy: being is relationship. The past comes to us in memories, some good and some not-so-good. For me, I have been reading a series by the author, Katherine Roberts. Each book is set in a permanent state of missionary readiness. It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to our newest Connections contributor. Thirteen-year-old Amber is a Grade 7 student at John Paul II School, Port Alberni. She recently participated in the ICS Speaking Competition, which is where we met her. Please join me in welcoming Amber to The Diocesan Messenger. — Editor

The Past, the Present, and the Future

Travelling and being among the Seven Wonders of the World (whether they be of ancient or modern times)—have you ever been there yourself? To stand in awe in the presence of the Taj Mahal or at the base of the Great Pyramid. Have you ever imagined what the 8th Wonder of the World would be? Today I come here to share with you my thoughts of what some people believe about the concept of time: the past, the present and the future.

I have been reading a series by the author, Katherine Roberts. Each book is set in one of the ancient wonders of the world. For example, the pyramids appeared in The Great Pyramid Robbery and the hanger gardens of Babylonia were in The Babylone Game. At the end of the last book, Ms. Roberts had a contest challenging the reader to answer the question “What do you think the 8th Wonder of the World is?”

The winner of the contest, Aysya Radiai, answered: the 8th Wonder of the World is The Future. She wrote it would be perfect as the final Wonder because it is something secretive and unknown; the Future is faceless.

This started me thinking about time. In what terms do you label time? Is it the past, the present, and the future; the before, the now and the yet to come; or yesterday, today and tomorrow? The present is a gift. Take care of today and let tomorrow worry about itself. If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good. In this sense, several sayings of Saint Paul will not surprise us: “The love of Christ urges us on, “ (2 Cor 5:14); “Woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel.” (1 Cor 9:16).

Evangelii Gaudium, 9

Connections

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to our newest Connections contributor. Thirteen-year-old Amber is a Grade 7 student at John Paul II School, Port Alberni. She recently participated in the ICS Speaking Competition, which is where we met her. Please join me in welcoming Amber to The Diocesan Messenger. — Editor

by Amber Santarelli, John Paul II School, Port Alberni

Goodness always tends to spread. Every authentic experience of truth and goodness seeks by its very nature to grow within us, and anyone who has experienced a profound liberation becomes more sensitive to the needs of others. As it expands, goodness takes root and develops. If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good. In this sense, several sayings of Saint Paul will not surprise us: “The love of Christ urges us on, “ (2 Cor 5:14); “Woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel.” (1 Cor 9:16).

In what terms do you label time? Is it the past, the present, and the future; the before, the now and the yet to come; or yesterday, today and tomorrow? The present is a gift. Take care of today and let tomorrow worry about itself. Isn’t that what the Bible tells us to do? Leave the unknown in God’s hands. I believe that God’s plans are probably better and much more satisfying than what we can imagine. Let us enjoy each moment as it comes. Try not to be the person so busy looking through the lens of the camera that you miss the bigger picture. Be happy and content with where you are. Be present in the present.

Hm, the future, now there is a big question. Do we approach it in fear, uncertainty, or in preparation? Or do we open our arms and greet it with acceptance and wonder? C.S. Lewis is quoted as saying “the future is something everyone reaches at the rate of 60 minutes an hour whatever he does, or whoever he is.” It doesn’t need to be something we fear or rush. It is not the destination as much as the journey that is important. Enjoy and marvel at it. In those moments of fear remember that God is always with us and we don’t need to be in the driver’s seat. Let us go on the adventures of which we cannot see the ending, on unknown paths and trails, praying for faith and courage to follow God with wonder.

I leave you with what I think is a wise thought spoken by Gandalf the Grey in The Lord of the Rings: “All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us.”

An interesting and thought provoking quote is from Alice in Wonderland as it speaks to the past. “I can’t go back to yesterday because I was a different person then.” This is it, isn’t it? We become different as we travel through life.
When Pope Francis called on the world’s priests to bring the healing power of God’s grace to everyone in need and to stay close to the marginalized and to be ‘shepherds living with the smell of the sheep…’ I was moved to tears. Why? For ten years I have walked with the faithful on all their journeys and the invitation to bless, comfort and console is ever ancient and ever new. Only yesterday I was engaging way by way in getting in touch with Her missionary spirit and live the Gospel in relationship and with joy. The joy of the Gospel resonates deeply with my pastoral persona and as I look back at my ten years of priesthood I am still in awe of this invitation and will strive to embrace the ‘smell of the sheep’ entrusted to my care.

Jesus said, ‘without me, you can do nothing.’ … Will you be His missionary disciple? Will we together be His light? In this article, I would like to point out how Pope Francis is inviting all of us to reflect on what it means to be a ‘priesthood of all believers’. In doing so, I would like to refer to the missionary spirit found in Acts 8:3-8, 14-17. In this reading, Peter uses an image to describe the reality we are as Church. We are a house of living stones. The foundation of the community is Jesus, the living stone. He is the foundation, the very center of our faith; he is the cornerstone of us as Church. Peter summons us to keep coming day after day to Christ, the living stone, so that we ourselves may become living stones and share the life of Jesus. He invites us, in turn, to continue in joyful hope the ministry of Jesus for humankind. In the words of Pope Francis: “By your works, desires and prayers we are disciples striving to become better human beings to serve the Church and world.”

What does it mean to become ‘living stones’? It means that we do not become isolated, petrified, and dead. Rather, we are made alive, built into a house, which is enlivened by the Spirit. And it is as such that we are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation. God’s own people, Pope Francis wants us to rediscover the freshness of the original Gospel. He writes, “There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realize of course that joy is not expected to be felt all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.”

Peter seems to get that and what he suggests is that, to the extent that we cling to Jesus and go his path, we are in the process of becoming the true human race made in the image of God. Ultimately, it is Jesus Christ who is the measure of our being the Church. We let our lives be permeated by him living in us. It is only in him that we will be built into a house of living stones. It is only in him that we can become the humanity that God intends us to be: “We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart; we are living stones making a spiritual house built on the living and precious cornerstone Jesus Christ.”

The Gospel still needs to be preached with greater enthusiasm, with greater relevance and with greater integrity. As in Jesus’ day, the masses are calling out to be fed and we, the friends and companions of Jesus, have been called to continue to bring the Bread of Life to the world. Jesus said, “Without me you can do nothing.” It is important for us to realize that the opposite is also largely true: without us without us, it is harder for his work to be accomplished.

Will you be his missionary disciple? Will we together be his light to the world? I look forward to being that missionary disciple together with you as we bring forth the Kingdom.
When reading the book of Colossians, I’m frequently moved by Saint Paul’s loving call to action—be speaks to me as much as to them. Here is just one example of his power of persuasiveness, his great evangelical heart and his ability to relate to people:

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. I ponder what Saint Paul means by ‘clothe yourselves’. I’m guessing he doesn’t mean ‘be compassionate, kind, humble, meek and patient when it is convenient or strictly to people who don’t share the same home with you’. I’m thinking he means something more along the lines of ‘clothe yourselves’ in a sort of, well, clothed way. All over, as in ‘cover yourself with these things. Have this thing I’m talking about be your outer bearing.

Even when you don’t feel like it.

There’s nothing particularly theological or metaphorical going down here. When I say to my kids (and I do about thirty times a day), “clothe yourselves with kindness to your siblings,” I actually mean it. When I say “clothe yourselves with kindness to your siblings,” in those exact words, not even yelling nor even gritting my teeth, what I mean is:

It doesn’t really matter how you feel: speak and act with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Even if you don’t feel that way, act that way and it will make you feel more compassionated, kind, humble, meek and patient.

It would be fair to say, here, it isn’t always effective. Sometimes my children don’t clothe themselves in this manner as St. Paul and I suggest. But on close scrutiny, I noticed that St. Paul actually prefaces his comment ‘to yourselves’ with this line: ‘As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved.’ Paul is a master of relationships. See what he is doing here, folks! He is priming the relationship. Prime the relationship, establish the connection, build the other up in love. Let the other know how you feel about them, then lay out clearly what must be done. This is an effective relationship tool. For our children, spouses, coworkers, parents. And it’s just good practice. Let others know of our love and respect, call them to a higher standard simply by letting them know they are chosen ones, holy and beloved.

You say me once again, St. Paul. And he doesn’t stop there. What he says next is, ‘Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.‘

The thing I like about Paul is that he writes in sentence fragments. Like me. And he’s a great saint. So there’s hope. For me.

I write in sentence fragments to make a point. Not because I’m lazy. Truth to tell, it is actually more difficult to write in sentence fragments because you have to punctuate and capitalize more frequently. But I digress. Note Paul’s well placed sentence fragment: And be thankful.

It’s very important. I can tell, because it is a fragment, and Paul is actually employing a clever grammatical misuse of language as a literary device for the purpose of catching our attention.

And be thankful. You Colossians. You moms and dads. You working people, you students, you children. You have food on your table. You, Bonnie, who needs to know that everything is a gift from God.

To paraphrase, Paul says, “If people are bothering you, just man up. You are a Christian and you are supposed to see Christ in others. So get to it. And be thankful. Be thankful that you have a God who is so merciful. And be thankful that you can’t bear everything other people are thinking about you. Be a Christian on the outside. And oh, guess what. Be one on the inside, too.”

Remember that “peace of Christ rule in your heart” thing? Yeah. I want some of that.

Catholic Diocese of Victoria
Jawl & Bundon, Barristers & Solicitors Bursary

The Diocese of Victoria is pleased to announce the Jawl & Bundon $2,500 Bursary for a graduating Catholic student in the Diocese of Victoria.

Criteria:
• A grade 12 Catholic student from the Diocese of Victoria
• Acceptance in a post-secondary institution
• Demonstration of good citizenship
• Preference will be given to students who live outside Greater Victoria & Nanaimo
• Preference will be given to First Nations students

Items to Complete & Submit:
• Jawl & Bundon, Barristers & Solicitors, Bursary Application form
• Recommendation from your parish priest
• Certification of post-secondary acceptance or registration
• An application letter explaining how you meet the criteria, including:
  o your community involvement and service activities
  o your accomplishments, awards and relevant activities
  o your post-secondary plans
  o a brief explanation of your (or your family’s) financial needs

Please submit the above by July 15th, 2014 to:
Diocese of Victoria
1 – 4044 Nelthorpe Street
Victoria, BC V8X 2A1

Application forms and information on the Bursary are available on our website www.cdvictoria.org or by contacting the Diocese of Victoria at (250) 479-1331.

Koinonia Christian Books

Come browse our large selection of Bibles, books, jewelry and giftware.

Special Orders Welcome!

Open Monday to Saturday 10 to 5
1119 Blanshard St.
Between View and Fort
1-Hr Free Parking in City Parkade

Tel: 250-382-5814

SILVER TOURS 2014 PILGRIMAGES

Holy Land Pilgrimage

It’s the trip of a lifetime!
November 20 – December 2, 2014 (13 days)

See ... Israel: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Shepherd’s Field, the Milk Grotto, Temple Mount, Mount Zion, The Mount of Olives, Ein Kerem, Bethany, Massada, a swim in the Dead Sea, Tiberias, Nazareth, Cana, Hafia, Mount Carmel,Muhraka, Mount Tabor, Capernaum, Tabgha, Jericho, Mount Beatitudes, Cesarea, and a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.

Tour Price: CA$5,999 per person, sharing a twin room. Includes airfare from Vancouver with Fuel Surcharges, hotel accommodation with private facilities, meals, sight-seeing tours, tips to guides and drivers, service of a Spiritual Director (Fr. Mel Bayron) and much more!

An Edmonton departure date of November 06 – 18, 2014 is also available
Our Faith Journey

Following lunch, Kathy Fadum, one of the key developers of much interest and was particularly helpful for those who had not been able to the Year One programme to their particular parish situation. This generated experience—a very practical and prayerful approach to introducing and adapting the ministry.

The workshop afforded the opportunity for catechists to gather and become familiar in the Fall of 2015. This programme was piloted by several parishes and officially launched in 2013. Experienced local catechists then submitted recommendations from Liturgical Cycle C/A which have been incorporated in the 2014–2015 curriculum for the Liturgical Cycle B/A. The third Liturgical Cycle, B/A, will follow in the Fall of 2015.

The workshop afforded the opportunity for catechists to gather and become familiar with the new programme binders. After beginning the day with Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Mel Bayron, participants joined right in with feedback: concerns, questions, and suggestions. Their sharing emphasized the great level of support which parishes are willing to offer each other. Char Deslippe, Director of the Office of Religious Education, then outlined the main features of the programme that were a review for those familiar with the Guides, and enlightening for those new to the ministry.

Suzette Gibson and Peter Orme of St. Peter’s Parish, Nanaimo, then shared their experience—a very practical and prayerful approach to introducing and adapting the Year One programme to their particular parish situation.

This generated much interest and was particularly helpful for those who had not been able to introduce the programme to date. A hearty lunch prepared by Laura Gaetz and her Ascension Parish Team followed. Following lunch, Kathy Fadum, one of the key developers of Our Faith Journey, introduced a ritual focusing on Baptism. Ritual is a significant element in the movement of Year Two; and Baptism, of course, is the ‘door’ to all the Sacraments.

Our Faith Journey was developed using the Rite of Christian Initiation model which fully engages families in their child’s faith formation. Catechists have noted the benefit of introducing the liturgical and catechetical elements to children with their parents. Adult family members appreciate reviewing essentials of the faith in simple terms, as it further develops their own understanding and provides an open forum for asking questions.

Beginning with the child’s experience, the programme starts with what the child already knows (’where they are’), builds on that experience through inquiry and dialogue, introduces and connects new faith concepts, and through reflection and practice, establishes an understanding that is practiced (’lived out’). This approach, formally known as the “Shared Christian Praxis model” focuses on all aspects of the person’s understanding and relationships; it involves life experience, familiarity with the Christian Story and Vision, critical reflection/prayer, and integration through intentional response. It is the fundamental educational principle underlying such documents as Rome’s General Directory for Catechesis as well as the aforementioned CCCB’s Criteria for Catechesis, and the CCCB’s adult catechetical document On Good Soil: Pastoral Planning for Evangelization and Catechesis with Adults.

Having families experience this natural process of learning the faith together strengthens and broadens individual understanding as well as providing some basic tools for mutual support and growth. The two-year journey also contributes to developing close bonds with other families and the community as a whole. As a result, Mass and the parish community become a natural, integral part of family life.

We would like to thank Fr. Mel, Laura Gaetz, Jackie Shaddock and Rosemary Blank, along with others behind the scenes for their particularly gracious hospitality in Parksville. As well, we applaud all those who presented so passionately and all those in attendance who contributed to sharing Our Faith Journey.

Questions about the two-year programme for children’s completion of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) as well as children’s preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation may be addressed to Jim O’Reilly at (250) 479-1351, ext. 226 or joreilly@rcvcdiocese.org.

Moving Right Along...

by James E. O’Reilly, Office of Religious Education

May 3, 2014, saw an enthusiastic gathering of 25 Pastors, Coordinators and Catechists from Campbell River to Victoria gather at the Church of the Ascension in Parksville for a workshop introducing the second of three cycles of the Sacramental Preparation Programme for Children in the Diocese of Victoria.

A repeat workshop opportunity for catechists was held May 21 in Victoria. At both sessions the parish catechetical teams received complimentary copies of the 291-page Year One and the 359-page Year Two binders which will soon be available on the Diocesan website.

Our Faith Journey was over six years in the making. It is a marriage of the Sunday Lectionary, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (CCCB) national curriculum, Criteria for Catechesis from Infancy to Age Eighteen. This programme was piloted by several parishes and officially launched in 2013. Experienced local catechists then submitted recommendations from Liturgical Cycle C/A which have been incorporated in the 2014–2015 curriculum for the Liturgical Cycle B/A.

The workshop afforded the opportunity for catechists to gather and become familiar with the new programme binders. After beginning the day with Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Mel Bayron, participants joined right in with feedback: concerns, questions, and suggestions. Their sharing emphasized the great level of support which parishes are willing to offer each other. Char Deslippe, Director of the Office of Religious Education, then outlined the main features of the programme that were a review for those familiar with the Guides, and enlightening for those new to the ministry.

Suzette Gibson and Peter Orme of St. Peter’s Parish, Nanaimo, then shared their experience—a very practical and prayerful approach to introducing and adapting the Year One programme to their particular parish situation. This generated much interest and was particularly helpful for those who had not been able to introduce the programme to date. A hearty lunch prepared by Laura Gaetz and her Ascension Parish Team followed. Following lunch, Kathy Fadum, one of the key developers of Our Faith Journey, introduced a ritual focusing on Baptism. Ritual is a significant element in the movement of Year Two; and Baptism, of course, is the ‘door’ to all the Sacraments.

Our Faith Journey was developed using the Rite of Christian Initiation model which fully engages families in their child’s faith formation. Catechists have noted the benefit of introducing the liturgical and catechetical elements to children with their parents. Adult family members appreciate reviewing essentials of the faith in simple terms, as it further develops their own understanding and provides an open forum for asking questions.

Beginning with the child’s experience, the programme starts with what the child already knows (’where they are’), builds on that experience through inquiry and dialogue, introduces and connects new faith concepts, and through reflection and practice, establishes an understanding that is practiced (’lived out’). This approach, formally known as the “Shared Christian Praxis model” focuses on all aspects of the person’s understanding and relationships; it involves life experience, familiarity with the Christian Story and Vision, critical reflection/prayer, and integration through intentional response. It is the fundamental educational principle underlying such documents as Rome’s General Directory for Catechesis as well as the aforementioned CCCB’s Criteria for Catechesis, and the CCCB’s adult catechetical document On Good Soil: Pastoral Planning for Evangelization and Catechesis with Adults.

Having families experience this natural process of learning the faith together strengthens and broadens individual understanding as well as providing some basic tools for mutual support and growth. The two-year journey also contributes to developing close bonds with other families and the community as a whole. As a result, Mass and the parish community become a natural, integral part of family life.

We would like to thank Fr. Mel, Laura Gaetz, Jackie Shaddock and Rosemary Blank, along with others behind the scenes for their particularly gracious hospitality in Parksville. As well, we applaud all those who presented so passionately and all those in attendance who contributed to sharing Our Faith Journey.

Questions about the two-year programme for children’s completion of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) as well as children’s preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation may be addressed to Jim O’Reilly at (250) 479-1351, ext. 226 or joreilly@rcvcdiocese.org.

Moving Right Along...

by Jean Allen

R
tirements, sabbaticals, classes winding down, new jobs starting up, a Diocese still waiting for a bishop … it’s a season of change and transition, a time of preparations to leave something behind and wonderment about what’s to come.

All this made me think about the disciples of Jesus listening to him speak about the new kingdom order. To us, his words are utterly familiar. We’re so accustomed to phrases like, ‘love your neighbor’, ‘forgive as you have been forgiven’ and ‘blessed are the poor’ that we almost have to struggle to pay attention. But to Christ’s disciples, his words were just too radical. “Will you also go away?” he asked the twelve. “Lord, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.” I wonder if these were the words of eternal life that Peter had in mind when he told his brothers, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” I wonder if this was the hope and confidence, the security and stability that he spoke of when he said “I will build my church and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.” Is it possible that the disciples needed the reassurance of having a hope that could never be plucked from their hands? Is it possible that our hope for the church today is to be a people of God, broken, humbled, changed, and sustained, yet strong in God’s love and care?

A season of change often brings with it an inability to pray and God can seem confusingly distant, as if He’s just out of sight and reach. This often happens right before our eyes, when we think that we have experienced a transition of sorts, only to realize that we have not. We think we’ve moved forward, but we’re only moving backward. We think the old is gone, but it’s lingering in the present. We think we’ve arrived, but we’re really just standing still. We think we’re moving forward, but we’re actually moving backward. We think we’re ready, but we’re really just unprepared. We think we’re growing, but we’re actually maturing. We think we’re moving forward, but we’re really just standing still.

Transition from the known to the unknown can be exciting but it can also be difficult. There’s no easy way through transition because transition often brings with it an inability to pray and God can seem confusingly distant, as if He’s just out of sight and reach. This often happens right before our eyes, when we think that we have experienced a transition of sorts, only to realize that we have not. We think we’ve moved forward, but we’re only moving backward. We think the old is gone, but it’s lingering in the present. We think we’ve arrived, but we’re really just standing still. We think we’re growing, but we’re actually maturing. We think we’re moving forward, but we’re really just standing still.

Being willing to move forward is not rejecting the past; it is recognizing the maturing process.

Being willing to move forward is not rejecting the past; it is recognizing the maturing process.
Coming Soon To A Parish Near You: The Pastoral Care Outreach Sessions

By Jean Allen

Recognizing the need to create a training program for people who felt called to minister to the hospitalized, homebound, and those in long-term care facilities, then-Bishop Richard Gagnon established the Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee in 2007. After a few years of consultation with Diocesan parishioners to determine priorities, this training program was included as an initiative featured in the Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Plan (2010 – 2015), and with prayerful planning and pilot presentations, the Pastoral Care Training kits were provided to parishes in November 2013.

Immediately, Fr. Alfredo and parishioners of St. Edward’s in Duncan began holding the first two sessions of four before the end of 2013. (See article from St. Edward’s below.) Then Victoria’s St. Joseph the Worker and Sacred Heart parishes jointly offered the training from February to June 2014.

Other parishes throughout the Diocesan regions are also moving ahead with the training program. Gerry Herkel, a Pastoral Council member from the Church of Ascension in Parksville, who also serves on the Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee, reported that on May 15, 2014, he met with an excellent group of Pastoral Care volunteers from Trinity and St. Peter’s Parishes in Nanaimo. They agreed that they would hold their four sessions this fall beginning in September to also include the Church of the Ascension in Parksville and Notre Dame/Holy Family Parish in Port Alberni. Said Herkel, “Given our aging population, and the need for support as we age with our chronic and terminal diseases, there is going to be a greater assistance for parish communities to provide support for these people, many of whom have no family reinforcement nearby. To fulfill this Ministry, and to respond to God’s love, volunteers need to be properly trained.”

Marian Thibault reported that St. Patrick’s Church, Campbell River, has established a Parish Pastoral Plan team in consultation with Fr. Jan Grotkowski SDS and PPC members. She confirmed that, while still to be approved, the Pastoral Care Outreach Training Program is a priority for their Parish Pastoral Plan for 2014 – 2015. They hope to be able to run the four sessions in 2015.

Fr. Marek Paczka, SDS, Pastor of Christ the King Parish in Courtenay said, “Our parish has a long history of both parish and hospital pastoral care visiting. We enthusiastically endorse and are pleased to provide the Pastoral Care Outreach Training developed by the Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee. Sessions will begin in the fall and are open to all parishioners and those interested in Pastoral Care.”

Pastoral care communicates Christ’s healing love and compassion to all, especially those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Can your parish become part of the answer to the great need that is out there?

As Fr. William Hann, Pastor of St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Victoria and a member of the Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee has commented, “Priests can’t do it all. Now we need the support and skills of people trained in Pastoral Care Outreach. By virtue of your baptism we need you to help us in the ministry of healing as we visit those in need of God’s presence.”

For any questions, or assistance with planning these sessions, please contact Moira King, Chair of the Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee: moiraking@shaw.ca.

Building Communities of Care

By Fr. Alfredo Monacelli, Pastor of St. Edwards Parish, and Parish Members Marilyn Klizs and Ro deBree, Duncan, BC

Our community started the Pastoral Care Outreach training program last November, meeting at St. Edward’s Church in Duncan. Other parishes represented were St. Joseph’s, Chemainus; St. Mary’s, Ladysmith; St. Louis de Montfort, Lake Cowichan; St. Anne’s, Duncan; and St. Francis Xavier, Mill Bay. Fr. Joe from St. Anne’s and Fr. Alfredo from St. Edward’s both participated in three of the four sessions. Each session began with Mass in the church and then moved downstairs to the hall for the rest of the day. We brought our own lunches, with coffee, tea and cookies provided.

We studied a spectrum of Pastoral Care Outreach, learning that it can be much more than bringing Holy Communion to the sick and the shut-ins. As Fr. Alfre told us during one of his opening remarks, “The reality always presents itself as needs right in front of us!”


Attendance was good and, as the sessions progressed, we all got comfortable with each other. We learned listening skills, building trust and community as we went along so that people felt safe about sharing their own experiences. The sharing of experience was also an essential teaching tool.

At the end of the last session we were asked to consider the question: “Where do we go from here?” Some participants will join the group that visits and brings Communion to hospitals, care homes and private homes. Others will work towards developing outreach ministry around bereavement support, telephone ministry, respite to caregivers and communication.

Participants representing six parishes in the Cowichan Region at the Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Care Outreach Training Session 4 – Who Am I as a Pastoral Care Outreach Visitor? held at St. Edward’s Parish, Duncan on Saturday, May 24, 2014.
**Go Forth in the Power of The Name**

By Flo Reid, CCRS Chair of BC

**Go Forth in the Power of The Name** will be the theme of the sixth annual Our Lady of Pentecost Summer Institute in Kelowna. Featured speakers will be Franciscan priest Fr. Pierre Ducharme of Edmonton and seminarian Sylvester Ikeboe, originally from Nigeria but now studying in Edmonton.

This year the Institute will be held at St. Charles Garnier Parish from August 10 – 15. It is sponsored by the Nelson Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service Committee, and is endorsed by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of BC.

**Sylvester Ikeboe**

Since 2012, Sylvester has been receiving his intellectual, pastoral, human and spiritual formation at St. Joseph Seminary in Alberta. His future plans include a leadership leadership in the Catholic Church.

**Fr. Pierre Ducharme, OFM**

Fr. Pierre is a Franciscan priest with the Franciscans of Western Canada and the 800-year-old Order of Friars Minor. A Vancouver native, Fr. Pierre has degrees from the University of British Columbia and Newman Theological College.

Fr. Pierre is the Guardian of St. Francis Friary in Edmonton, the Post-Novitiate Director for the Franciscans of Western Canada, and a part-time Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Fr. Pierre will present: *Baptismal Dignity: A Universal Call to Holiness; Called by Name: A Minor Friar's Fortunate Journey; The Footprints of St. Francis: Being of the Word; The Theory of the Treaty; How Jesus 'flipped the tortilla' so to speak; The Truths of St. Francis: Being of the Word; The Christian Commission to 'Go' to the Peripheries; and The Joy of the Gospel.*

The Institute begins with Mass at Seton House at 5:30 pm on Sunday August 10, 2014. Costs for this year are $450, including meals and accommodation (double occupancy) at Seton and participation in all sessions. Clergy and religious may attend without charge but registration is required.Visiting clergy will be hosted in local rectories. A brochure detailing all costs and daily schedules is available by contacting Richard Dunstan at richard@thedunstans.com.
Christian Joy Is Based in Hope, Pope Francis Reflects

Vatican City, May 30, 2014 / 06:53 am (CNA/EWTN News)

Christian Joy is Based in Hope, Pope Francis Reflects

Pope Francis reflected on the Christian joy which is born of hope and not of wealth or comfort, during his homily this morning, the first since his return from the Holy Land.

"There is a Christian joy that is based in hope, a joy which is a joy in hope," he said.

The Holy Father began with a reflection on Paul’s words in the first reading taken from the Epistle to the Philippians, where St. Paul says, "I know that I will go to the place where he is." The Pope pointed out that this verse expresses the opposite of what we often feel in the midst of our sufferings, thinking that death will be the end of the suffering.

"The Lord tells St Paul not to be afraid of preaching to the people of Corinth, the Pope continued, adding that "Do not be afraid!" No, you cannot say this! We have to help them feel what Jesus made us feel. "No, you cannot say this! We have to help them feel what Jesus made us feel."

"It is the joy that remains" he observed, noting that although "hidden in some moments of life, we do not feel it in bad times, it comes later: a joy in hope.

"The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus." ~ Evangelii Gaudium, 1

The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.

Because you give...
The Good News of Our Lord is shared with our brothers and sisters in remote and isolated missions across our vast land.

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths." Psalm 25:4

Photo: A young boy's prayer; St. Theresa of Avila mission church in Tulita, N.W.T. Photo by Michael Swan.

Yes, I want to help our Canadian missions!

Here is my gift of: $[ ] 10 $[ ] 25 $[ ] 50 $[ ] 100 [ ]

I authorize the cheque, made payable to Catholic Missions in Canada

I authorize the [ ] MasterCard [ ] AMEX

Credit Card No. [ ] Exp.[ ]

Name [ ] Signature [ ]

Address [ ]

City [ ] Provinc. [ ] Postal Code [ ]

Telephone [ ] Email [ ]

Please give generously to support the ministries of Catholic Missions In Canada.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN CANADA

201-1155 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4T 1W2

www.cmic.info | 1-866-YES-CMIC (937-2642)

BC & Yukon Catholic
Women’s League
Convention

by Evelyn Rigy, Past Communications Chair, BC & Yukon Provincial Council of the Catholic Women’s League of Canada

Over 200 BC and Yukon women, on fire for their Catholic faith, gathered in Kamloops June 5-7. In company with Bishop David Monroe (Kamloops Diocese), Bishop Stephen Jensen (Prince George Diocese), Msgr. Jerry Desmond of Kamloops, priests and spiritual advisors, they were spiritually enriched with daily liturgies, inspired by presentations, and encouraged in reports to continue their sterling work for God and Canada.

Keynote speaker Sr. Eva Solomon explained how relationships can be strengthened between CWL and First Nations groups. Fr. Dale Normandeau gave important pointers for discovering God’s will in our lives. Members also were educated about the life’s work of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys. Executive members joined composer Carol Vandehyld in the well-received premiere of her song celebrating the gifts of the League.

In her first daily homily since returning from the Holy Land Pope Francis reflected on the Christian joy which is born of hope and not of wealth or comfort, during his homily this morning, the first since his return from the Holy Land.

In his first daily homily since returning from the Holy Land Pope Francis centered on the theme of Christian joy, explaining that it comes not from our immediate circumstances, but what Jesus promised.

"Be courageous in suffering and remember that after the Lord will come; after you will come, after the dark comes the sun" the Pope encouraged in his May 30 daily Mass, “May the Lord give us all this joy in hope.”

Basing his homily on the first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles in which the Lord tells St Paul not to be afraid of preaching to the people of Corinth, the pontiff explained to those in the Vatican’s Saint Martha guesthouse that the apostle “was very brave, because he had strength in the Lord.”

But despite this confidence even Paul was afraid at times and needed reassurance from God, the Pope observed, stating that “It happens to all of us in life, to have some fear.”

If you have peace, you have the seed of joy that will come later. May the Lord help us understand these things.”

However, Paul didn’t let the fact that “neither the Jews nor the Gentiles” liked what he was saying stop him from proclaiming the Gospel, he continued, adding that even Jesus in Gethsemane was afraid.

“Do not be afraid of preaching to the people of Corinth," he said, “Do not be afraid!”

Yet he asked, “If you have peace, you have the seed of joy that will come later. May the Lord help us understand these things.”

"If you have peace, you have the seed of joy that will come later. May the Lord help us understand these things.”

At the closing banquet Christi Dionne, a CWL President from Barriere, was presented with the Molly Boucher Bursary. Nicholas Hunter M. Tarver, Star of the Sea Parish, White Rock, was the winner of the $500 Life Member Art & Culture Award. The first place winner in the Life Member Art & Culture award competition was Ann Crooks, a member of the St. Marguerite Bourgeoys League, North Vancouver.

Three resolutions were passed, two of which will be forwarded for consideration at this August’s national convention. The first seeks to redress the lack of consistent regulations across Canada for assisted human reproductive technologies. The second requests a ban on the addition of Monosodium Glutamate to processed foods. The third, intended for the BC Government, asks for fully subsidized basic dental care for low income citizens.

A letter was sent to the Benchers of the Law Society of BC applauding their April decision to approve Trinity Western University’s application for a law faculty. The letter was sent to the Benchers of the Law Society of BC applauding their April decision to approve Trinity Western University’s application for a law faculty.

Next year’s venue for BC & Yukon’s convention is Prince George.
Joy is the invariable sign of the presence of God.

— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin
WE'RE APPROACHING 50,000 CHILDREN SPONSORED

Chalice

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Sponsoring a child in need ensures they have access to nutritious food, clothing and education, and hope for a better tomorrow.

Please call 1-800-776-6855 or visit chalice.ca today!

MoneySense Magazine has rated Chalice a Top Charity in International Aid & Development for the past four years.
Join the Mount St. Marythoners in the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon
October 12, 2014

Mary is asking you to run or walk for those who can’t and make YOUR next challenge count.

Make every stride count!
Achieve your personal best and sign up today.
Register as a Mount St. Marythoner in the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon and become part of a team that makes a difference.

When YOU join the Marythoners you receive:
• Optional sign up of an 8k run/walk clinic with access to Victoria Athletics Club on clinic night ($40.00 cost to you - $244.00 value)
• Personal fundraising page and fundraising support
• Technical Shirt
• Mystery prizes

For information contact: Paula Greene pgreene@msmfoundation.ca/ 250.480.3140 or register as a Marythoner at runvictoriamarathon.com