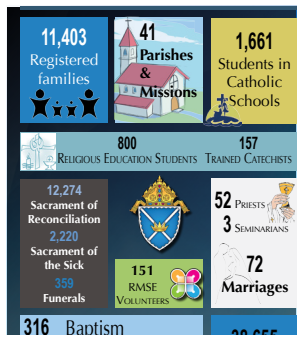




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World Youth Day



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2015 Financial Overview



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Michael Tran ordained to the Order of Deacon



The Diocesan

Messenger

A Publication of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Fall 2016



As for ME
and MY HOUSE,
WE will
serve the
LORD

~ Joshua 24:15

Serving God in family life

by Marnie Wynans

Joshua 24:15, *As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord*, was a divinely inspired theme and perfectly appropriate for the 4th Annual Marriage and Family Life Conference held this summer on the shores of Nanoose Bay, just north of Nanaimo. There were 280 people from infants to seniors prayed, played and were blessed abundantly with hot weather, amazing food, laughter, tears, and a whole lot of fun!

Sr. John Mary Sullivan FSE from the Archdiocese of Vancouver's Office of Life Marriage and Family provided practical, inspiring words to truly live the Year of Mercy, and to serve the Lord by serving the people closest to us in our own homes, the 'domestic church'.

Children were treated to marvelous faith formation activities and games by young adults while the parents attended Conference talks, and young adults were given a wonderful opportunity to attend their own challenging, inspirational talk with Sr. John Mary on Vocations.

Adding to the inspiration were special guests Bonnie Landry, and Steve and Laura Pearse, seasoned parents of our Diocese who have lived through the many stages of family life and gave raw stories and honest encouragement for all the parents there. "We've been there, you will be too one day, and you will all be okay as long as you keep loving them unconditionally and pray... a lot!"

Youth who had just returned from World Youth Day in Poland and the Pomponio and Wynans families,

who attended the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia last September, all shared experiences from their pilgrimages.

Music was provided by the talented group 'Jonah and the Whales' (Jeremy Cote, Nathaniel Wynans, Jonah Wynans, and Sam Wynans). They led the Masses and gathering sessions with a perfect mix of traditional and contemporary praise and worship music which pleased all ages.

Highlights of the weekend included a powerful Adoration and Benediction experience led by Sr. John Mary and acting Chaplain Fr. Stephen Paine, as well as the giant water fight and slip-and-slide for kids and parents alike. The beach and canoeing were enjoyed by many; songs, stories and marshmallows shared around a beach fire under the stars was a perfect end to a perfect weekend.

Many thanks go to Knights of Columbus Councils from Sacred Heart, St. Joseph the Worker, as well as Bishop Demers Assembly; and to the Sisters of Saint Ann for their generous donations to assist in keeping the costs affordable for all families; to Fr. Dean Henderson for his continued support and leadership; Reine and Ian Mykyte for their vision and dedication to the vocation of Marriage and Family in our Diocese; Alan and Angela Grohovac for their hard work, especially Angela and her amazing team in the kitchen; Kristy and Dave De Bree; and to all who promoted and worked so hard to pull off an incredible weekend.

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We will serve the Lord (continued from Page 1)

Photographs courtesy Marnie Wynans, Reine Mykyte and Deanna Beaudoin

Here are some photos from the Annual Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Conference event. Stay tuned for details about next year's Conference.



Diocesan News & Events



Catholic Schools Plan Update

by Beverly Pulyk, Superintendent

The Catholic Schools Plan (CSP) continues to move forward. The seismic upgrade at St. Patrick's School has been underway all summer, with completion planned for the end of the second week in September. To date the project is tracking on schedule and on budget.

We are now at a stage where we can spend more time and focus on future plans for St. Andrew's Regional High School. Much time has passed since the original plan was determined. The priorities, needs of the school and curriculum requirements have changed since the CSP was first developed; therefore, the goal at this time is to redevelop our plans so that the project at St. Andrew's Regional High School can proceed.

In May, the Diocese of Victoria contracted Doug Lauson, retired Superintendent of the Catholic Independent Schools of the Archdiocese of Vancouver, to seek input from focus groups from a cross-section of students and parents, and from all staff, before we engage architects for future building plans (partial rebuild and renovation). Three sessions of approximately two and half to three hours each were held. Participants had an opportunity to reflect and share on St. Andrew's Regional High School as it is today, and what should be considered for its future. It is an exciting time in education with the mandate of the new BC Curriculum in a 21st Century Learning context, and this will be taken into account as we vision the future St. Andrew's High School.

Youth ministry update

by Kelly Bourke, Coordinator, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

A new year begins for Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Ministry on the tails of some inspiring moments. Events such as World Youth Day and the Diocesan Youth Conference bring inspiration and energy to youth ministry planning in parishes and across the Diocese this Fall. New and renewed projects are in the works with a Diocesan trip to the Seattle Youth Conference and Youth Ministry Leader retreats and resources. We are gearing up for an exciting year ahead!

The importance of youth events for a small Diocese such as ours is the opportunity for youth to gather together in friendship, exchange ideas and create foundations to support each other on the faith journey. World Youth Day had young adults from across the Diocese prepare together for a pilgrimage to Poland in July. It was an opportunity to grow in their faith and to witness the vibrancy of the global church. Over 30 pilgrims have brought back with them stories of this witness and an enthusiasm for living and sharing the faith.

It was another great year for the Diocesan Youth Conference. The planning team worked all year to offer a weekend for over 120 youth and young adults from across the Diocese to celebrate and grow in their faith together. This conference gave the youth attending a chance to forge new friendships and strengthen connections. The young people came away with an enthusiasm for coming together and creating opportunities to grow in and to be leaders in the faith community. Planning will begin this month for next year's gathering on May 26 – 28, 2017.

An exciting document from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) on the importance and practice of Youth Ministry was released in June, entitled *You Give them Something to Eat*, providing support and guidance for youth ministry. An important Canadian contribution and update on the foundations of a Comprehensive Youth Ministry, it will be explored and highlighted in workshops and other opportunities in the next year. You can find a copy of the document for free to download on the CCCB website (www.CCCB.ca) or attend an introductory Diocesan workshop on September 17, 2016.

The Diocese will once again be organizing a trip to Seattle's Diocesan Youth Conference in early November. Though youth have attended from our Diocese for a number of years, this has mainly been an effort of St. Andrew's High School. Delighted to carry on this fantastic project, we will open the opportunity to youth in grades 10 – 12 who would like to participate, from all over the Diocese.

The first youth ministry leader retreat of the year will be held on September 18 in Duncan. Creating a place to connect, rejuvenate, share ideas and pray together for our youth, this event is open to all who are working and volunteering with youth within the Diocese. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up early!

Youth Ministry Leaders from our Diocese attended the Western Canadian Association of Catholic Youth Ministers' (WCACYM) Summer Seminar in Saskatoon with the help of generous support from the Catholic Foundation of Vancouver Island. The courses explore the foundations for and practices of youth ministry in our Canadian context. The week-long experience includes skill building and networking with peers and youth ministry pioneers. The next set of courses will be offered in the summer of 2017.

These events, and others, create the opportunity for us to notice youth, celebrate their gifts, welcome and involve youth and young adults more in our parish communities and beyond. For more information about any of the events, projects or resources mentioned above, please contact the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office. ✝

Mr. Lauson provided a summary report; it was reviewed by the Oversight Committee in July. There was consensus by the Committee members that the report was helpful and positive. A small task force met in late August to discuss the next step in proceeding with the renewal of St. Andrew's Regional High School based on the conceptual vision set out in the report. More information will be forthcoming once next steps are approved by the Oversight Committee. ✝



'Flores de Mayo' in Port Hardy

By Brenda Bernal, Parishioner. Photos courtesy Mary Glasswick

On May 25, 2016, St. Bonaventure parish in Port Hardy celebrated the 'Flores de Mayo (Flowers of May)' Festival.

Flores de Mayo is a traditional Filipino festival celebrated during May wherein flowers are offered as a sign of devotion to Mother Mary. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Dino Villadiego, followed with a Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, then praying the Holy Rosary, and concluded with the blessing of the statues and icons of the Blessed Virgin at the altar.

Children of the parish church, with flowers in their hands, then held a small procession towards the altar to offer the flowers to Mother Mary. The evening ended with a small dinner in the dining area at the back of the church. It was a well-attended service in honour of our Immaculate Mother. ✝



Above: Fr. Dino with the children. Below: Processing towards the altar



Calendar of events

September

11 & 18 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: Registration for Pre-Sacraments (Gr 1), Sacramental Prep Year 1 (Gr 2), Sacramental Prep Year 2 (Gr 3) and Sacraments in Action (Gr 4-6) following 10 AM Mass. Classes begin on Sunday, September 25.

15 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria: An evening of recollection for men, 6 – 8 PM, offering periods of directed prayer, silent prayer and a talk. A priest of Opus Dei is available to chat and/or for Confession. For more information visit opusdei.ca. For more information about the recollection, contact Brent Boyd at (250) 216-1915 or email subs04@shaw.ca.

16-18 Honeymoon Bay: Opus Dei silent retreat for women. There will be a number of meditations, talks by members, mass each day, confession and/or spiritual direction, the Rosary, Benediction and Stations of the Cross. The retreat starts at 10 AM on September 16 and ends at 2:30 PM on Saturday, the 18th. To register visit: <http://copperridgeconferencecentre.ca/retreats/>. For more information, contact Elizabeth Boyd at (250) 483-7459 or email elizboyd@shaw.ca

17 Victoria Horseshoe Club: Women's Breakfast with guest speaker Marnie Wynans. Topic: *When God Says No – A Story of Hope and Healing*. 8 AM, cost is \$12 per person. To register visit <http://goo.gl/forms/YZBsVBBYrz> and complete the registration form.

24 Victoria Horseshoe Club: Men's Breakfast, 8 – 10 AM with guest speaker Bishop Gary Gordon. For more information, visit www.mfaff.org or email info@mfaff.org.

30 Oct 1 St. Patrick's Victoria: Good Used Clothing Sale will be held both days from 9:30 AM – 2 PM. The Bazaar and Silent Auction will be held Saturday October 1 from 9:30 AM – 2 PM. The hall is wheelchair accessible and there is ample parking. For more information contact Lorna O'Neill: lornaoneill6@gmail.com.

October

15 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria: Fall Used Clothing and Attic Treasures Sale, 9 AM – 2 PM in the Parish Hall at 4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria. Clothing, bedding and linens, attic treasures and housewares, coffee and baked goods. Tickets will also be on sale for the November 5th Bazaar Raffle. All proceeds to charity. Everyone welcome, wheelchair accessible. For more information contact the office: (250) 479-1611 or email sacredheartchurch@shaw.ca.

22 Trinity Church, Nanaimo: Diocesan Pastoral Care Outreach Training Program. Session 1: *The Healing Ministry of Christ*. 9 AM – 2 PM in the Lounge. For continuity, we recommend that participants attend all four workshops, if possible. Please bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea will be provided. Contact Trinity Parish office to register: (250) 390-2612 or email trinitycatholic@shaw.ca.

28 St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria: RCIA Classes begin. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which interested adults are gradually introduced to the Roman Catholic faith and way of life. Those who enter the process are encouraged to begin attending Mass on a Sunday, attend a weekly RCIA session, and to become involved in parish celebrations. The Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)

Pastoral itinerary

September

1-4 **North Island Parishes:** Pastoral Ministry
 11 **Victoria:** Mass – St. Andrew's Cathedral (11 AM)
 15 **Coquitlam:** Catholic Health Alliance of BC Annual General Meeting and Conference
 17 **Victoria:** William Head Institution: Spiritual Volunteer Training Session
 18 **Victoria:** William Head Institution: Mass and pastoral visit
 20 **Nanaimo:** General Clergy Meeting, Trinity Parish
 26-29 **Cornwall, Ontario:** CCCB Annual Plenary Meetings
 29-30 **London, England:** Meetings of the International Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission (IARCCUM)

October

1-4 **Rome:** Continuation of IARCCUM meetings
 14 **Regina:** Installation of Archbishop-Elect Donald Bolan
 20 **Victoria:** Pastoral Centre Staff Retreat

are celebrated at the Easter Vigil, on Saturday evening, April 16th, 2017. Classes are held weekly on Wednesday evenings 7 – 9 PM. Classes begin on September 28th and end at Easter. For further information, contact the parish office or Doreen Keizer at 250-380-0158 or email nanapoppak@shaw.ca

November

4 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria: An evening of recollection for men, 6 – 8 PM, offering periods of directed prayer, silent prayer and a talk. A priest of Opus Dei is available to chat and/or for Confession. For more information visit opusdei.ca. For more information about the recollection, contact Brent Boyd at (250) 216-1915 or email subs04@shaw.ca.

5 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria: Fall Bazaar, 9 AM – 2 PM in the Parish Hall at 4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria. Books, CDs, DVDs, jewelry, crafts, Christmas attic treasures, ethnic food, home baking, light lunch, refreshments, Lucky 7 and raffle with over \$5000 in prizes. All proceeds to charity. For more information, contact the office: (250) 479-1611 or email sacredheartchurch@shaw.ca.

5 Sacred Heart Parish, Victoria: Opus Dei retreat for women, 10 AM – 12 PM, offering periods of directed prayer, silent prayer and a talk. A priest of Opus Dei is available to chat and/or for Confession. For more information visit opusdei.ca. For more information about the retreat, contact Elizabeth Boyd at (250) 483-7459 or email elizboyd@shaw.ca.

12 Trinity Church, Nanaimo: Diocesan Pastoral Care Outreach Training Program. Session 2: *Listening and Communication & Mental Health*. 9 AM – 2 PM. Please bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea will be provided. Contact Trinity Parish office to register: (250) 390-2612 or email trinitycatholic@shaw.ca.

Weekly events

WEDNESDAYS

St. Patrick's, Victoria: Moms and Tots (Dads are also welcome) meets from 9:30 – 11 AM in our Parish Centre. Children are kept busy while the parents gather in a separate room to talk about parenting and lots of other things in a faith-based environment. If you are interested in joining the group which starts in September, or want more information, please contact Pauline Scherr at 250-592-9424 or email at pischerr@shaw.ca

FRIDAYS

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria: Traditional Latin Mass, 9 AM.

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 Urbanson at (250) 391-6618; no registration is required.

SATURDAYS

St. Joseph the Worker Parish: 3 – 4:30 PM, Jesus Youth at SJTW Parish invites youth in high school to come out to the Jesus Youth Prayer meeting! Jesus Youth is an international Catholic youth movement with a

29 **Victoria:** Mass for the 125th Anniversary Celebration of St. Andrew's Cathedral (5 PM)

30 **Nanaimo:** Mass followed by joint ecumenical service – Trinity Parish (9 AM)

November

3 **Victoria:** Mass of Remembrance – St. Andrew's Cathedral (12 PM)

4 **Vancouver:** Meeting with BC/Yukon Bishops

5 **Campbell River:** Mass and Celebration of Fr. Charles Brandt's 50th Anniversary of Ordination as a Hermit Priest – St. Patrick's Parish (5 PM)

13 **Victoria:** Mass in celebration of Closing of Year of Mercy and Holy Doors – St. Andrew's Cathedral (11 AM)

15-17 **Victoria and Parksville:** Clergy Study Days

19 **Courtenay:** Mass, Feast of Christ the King – Christ the King Parish (5 PM)

20-23 **Montreal:** Meetings of Anglican Roman Catholic Bishops' Dialogue

23-25 **Toronto:** Annual Serra Canada Mass and Reception, and Annual General Meeting

charismatic spirituality. For more information contact: mr.georgephilip@gmail.com.

At the Cathedral: 4th Saturday of each month the 9:30 AM 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: Victoria Chinese Catholic Community (VCCC) regular meetings with faith sharing, prayers, potluck, Mass or special presentations by expert speakers, 3:30 PM. Please note meeting dates may not fall on first Saturdays of the month; please contact Ben for more information. Meetings will conclude with a potluck supper. For more information phone (250) 893-9938 or email Ben Chow at benchow@shaw.ca.

Catholic Underground at St. Patrick's Parish: Catholic Underground is an initiative which engages youth in both their culture and their faith, held in the basement at St. Patrick's at 7 PM on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month. Grades 10 – 12. For more information, contact Julie at: ygcatholicunderground@gmail.com

SUNDAYS

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria: Traditional Latin Mass at 12 noon with Gregorian Chant.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Victoria: Hungarian Mass at 2 PM on the first Sunday of every month.

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

Please visit www.rcdvictoria.org to view the online Calendar of Events for the most current information



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Committing to mercy

by Bishop Gary Gordon

The Jubilee Year of Mercy that began in December 2015 was ushered in with great expectation and enthusiasm for Doors of Mercy that would open around the world in Cathedrals and important shrines. There were many such Doors opened in cathedrals all over the world, creating marvellous opportunities for pilgrimage, with much grace to be found for all.

With only a few short months left of this Jubilee Year of Mercy, it is time to make or renew our personal commitment to encounter the face of mercy in Christ—who is the narrow door that is never closed but is always open with compassion and healing. In the time remaining in this Jubilee Year, it is important for all of us to think of the changes of heart and mind that we may have experienced that we would like to endure beyond the finite period of this Year.

“The Door of Mercy is not simply a place, a location. More, it is an attitude of the heart that is perceptive and attentive to all the people we encounter—knowing above all that everyone needs the encounter with Christ’s tenderness, and with his redeeming love.

Perhaps it was heartfelt sorrow or renewed relationships with estranged relatives or friends; perhaps it was simply opportunities to offer forgiveness freely for any offences we have experienced in our lives. Or maybe the Year of Mercy for us has so far been tentative and cautious; maybe we opened the door of our hearts only a crack, risking merely a peek at the merciful light of Christ while wondering *Is it true? Can it be that God never tires of offering forgiveness and peace?* I can say emphatically it is true! Christ has poured out his life to show the way and truth of his Father’s Mercy.

I have spent a good chunk of the summer in the North Island communities of Alert Bay (Our Lady of Assumption), Port McNeill (St. Mary’s), Port Hardy (St. Bonaventure’s) and Port Alice (St. Theresa’s), discovering these small, vibrant Catholic parishes and their wonderful people. Oh, and I’ve been doing some fishing. It struck me while patiently fishing one day that mercy is a lot like fishing: it requires great patience but also keen vigilance at all times, especially on the ocean, because there are many hidden dangers: logs, reefs and unseen currents lurk just below the surface. Reading the signs of sea and wind is crucial. GPS, charts and radar help, but a keen eye is the best. And a perceptive eye must always be on the fishing rod, looking for every nudge or slight bend that signals a possible fish.

It is this patience and keen vigilance that we are called to employ in the Year of Mercy. We are invited to be attentive to the movements of the Spirit in the lives of those around us. The Door of Mercy is not simply a place, a location. More, it is an attitude of the heart that is perceptive and attentive to all the people we encounter—knowing above all that everyone needs the encounter with Christ’s tenderness, and with his redeeming love.

On pilgrimage

by Mary Glasswick

Parishioners in the northern part of our Diocese recently undertook a pilgrimage to Alert Bay, in honour of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Present were members of Port Hardy, Port Alice, Port McNeill and Alert Bay parishes. Those who were able to attend enjoyed the hospitality of the Alert Bay parishioners, and all benefitted from having gone, spiritually and physically! ✠

I hope and dream of the day we can leave the doors of our churches open ‘24/7’. I think we’re a long way from that day, but I also think there are concrete actions that could bring our parish communities into the public arena. I am aware of many wonderful people in our communities who are already engaged in opportunities like refugee sponsorship, food banks, soup kitchens, and accompanying the weak and frail. I would like to suggest that each parish continue to use the keen vigilance of mercy, and continue to think of ever-new ways and opportunities to serve and encounter the world where it exists, not just where we’re comfortable, in each community.

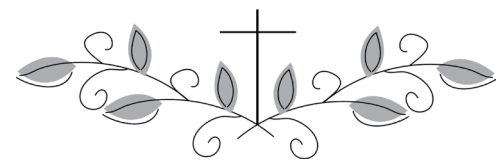
I also have some ideas as to how we can continue to honour the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy beyond this Jubilee Year.

- *Keep pilgrimage alive.* The idea of pilgrimage is a time-honoured tradition, especially during declared Jubilee years. This summer, some of our youth and priests experienced a pilgrimage to Poland for World Youth Day. All through this year, parish communities and schools organized pilgrimages to St. Andrew’s Cathedral, to enter through its Door of Mercy. So here is my suggestion: make a journey to a parish in another community, town, or city. There are 41 parishes and mission churches in the Diocese—plenty of opportunity to visit another parish. You can find a list of parishes on our website: www.rcdvictoria.org/parishes.php.

Especially consider the more remote and distant places as primary ways to touch and encounter the peripheries of our own Diocese. Perhaps you could journey as a family to attend Mass in parishes in Port Alice, Pender Island, Alert Bay, Tahsis. Maybe it’s as simple as going to a smaller parish in your own town: perhaps St. Jean Baptiste, or St. Leopold Mandic, or one of the mission churches on a neighbouring island. You could visit a different parish for a special occasion such as their Feast Day. This could be a wonderful way to explore and get to know the Church family right here in the Diocese. Who knows? It could be the beginning of some real, concrete, substantial twinning—growing our sense of mission right here at home.

- *Reach out to the sick, shut-ins and frail elderly.* A great way to keep the Year of Mercy going beyond November 2016 is for every parish to have 15% of its parishioners trained in outreach ministry to the sick, shut-ins and frail elderly by taking the training provided by the Diocesan Health Care Committee (see Calendar of Events, page 4), so that no one is alone or isolated.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy exists for a fixed time, like our own mortal time on earth, but God is patient, and God’s mercy endures forever. God waits for us with keen vigilance, anticipating our response to His mission for us: to announce to the world the Good News through our words and deeds, seizing the moment to live ever more fully the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. ✠

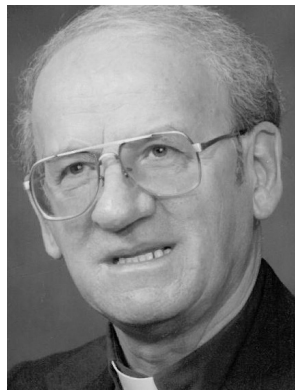


Well done, good and faithful servants . . .

Fr. André Dion

October 17, 1923 – August 1, 2016

Fr. André Dion in his own memoir entitled “Tapestry” weaves a story of his life in six letters: “W D R F U L”. These letters came to be his personalized car license plate, as well as an expression of the gentle, loving man and pastor that he was. André Dion was born in Montmagny, Quebec, on October 17, 1923, the sixth child in the family. Young André was no doubt full of wonder in his early life, particularly when it came to readiness to try all manner of occupations. He received Officer’s Training in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, from 1938 – 1944, and used skills to fill a variety of roles – teacher, accountant, photographer, writer, and tech wizard. André was drawn to the monastic life, and entered the Franciscan Novitiate in 1944, received a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences from Laval University in 1948, and continued to study Theology in Montreal and Edmonton, and was an instructor at the college level. André was ordained a Franciscan priest on June 21, 1953 in Montreal.



Fr. André’s desire to learn English led him to study in Edmonton, and then ministry to the bilingual community of Maillardville (BC) from 1958-1962. In 1962, he was transferred to Port Alberni, where he served for 2 years, until being called to leadership in his Franciscan community for 4 years. Fr. André returned to the Diocese of Victoria and became the first “worker-priest” in the North Island parishes and missions of Port Hardy, Port Alice and Port McNeill, where he was employed as an accountant and an electrician, and served as pastor until 1977. A sabbatical to review the nature of ‘charismatic renewal’ in Canada and the US for a year followed. Upon his return, Fr. Dion was incardinated in the Diocese of Victoria in 1980. He went on to serve St-Jean Baptiste parish in Victoria for 4 years, followed by St. Rose of Lima in Sooke, where he served concurrently, as the chaplain at William Head Institution until 1986. Father Dion then returned to downtown Victoria where he served at St. Andrew’s Cathedral, and chaplain to St. Ann’s Residence. He completed his pastoral ministry at Trinity parish in Nanaimo, and retired in July 1993, to Victoria, yet still in the service of the faithful when called upon. Fr. André was considered a beloved member of the Ravai family, and had many devoted friends in the Franciscan communities and diocesan parishes he served.

Sr. Irene Carey SSA

October 12, 1916 – July 25, 2016

Sr. Theresa Irene Carey (Sr. Mary Charles Anthony) Born October 12, 1916, in Cork, Alberta, died July 25, 2016 at Mount St. Mary Hospital, Victoria, BC.

Irene was the second child and eldest girl in a family of twelve children. Irene began school in Alberta and when the family moved to Lumby, BC she attended public school. After high school graduation, Irene obtained her teaching Certificate from the Provincial Normal School, Victoria. She taught for two years before entering the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Ann on August 1, 1939 and pronounced her vows on July 26, 1941 in Victoria. Sr. Irene obtained a B.Ed from the University of Victoria and studied Theology and Religious Education in Spokane WA, Newman College, Edmonton, AB and Notre Dame University, Nelson, BC. A dedicated educator who loved children, Sr. Irene taught for more than 40 years in various Catholic and Government Elementary Schools throughout British Columbia. Many years were teaching First Nations children. She spent more than 20 years in Kamloops, BC, 13 of which were teaching at St. Ann’s Academy. Before leaving Kamloops, Sr. Irene received recognition for her 40-plus years of teaching.



Upon returning to Victoria, Sister resided at Queenswood House and then at Mount St. Angela, where she extended gracious hospitality to guests. She also ministered by visiting those who were homebound. Later Irene moved to St. Ann’s Residence and then to Mount St. Mary Hospital. Sr. Irene will be remembered for her wonderful smile, her humour, her prayerful spirit and her love of the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Earlier this year, Irene celebrated her 75th anniversary of Religious Profession.

Sr. Shirley Ann Walsh SSA

December 26, 1938 – July 20, 2016

Born December 26, 1938 in Montreal, Quebec, died July 20, 2016 at Mount St. Mary Hospital in Victoria, BC.

Shirley was one of seven children born to James Walsh and Augustine (Remillard) Walsh. She entered the Sisters of St. Anne, Dorval, Quebec on August 22, 1962 and pronounced her vows August 15, 1964.

Her ministry encompassed education, Director of Pastoral Home Care for the Diocese of Montreal, Director of Programs and Spiritual Director at Galilee Retreat and Conference Centre in Arnprior, Ontario, spiritual direction, counselling and province leadership for Queen of Angels Province.

Also a missionary, Shirley served in Haiti and Africa. She prepared for her ministry by obtaining a BA from Anna Maria College, Paxton, Massachusetts; BEd and teaching certificate from University of Montreal; MA in Pastoral Studies

Fr. Joseph Lienchung Wang SJ

January 3, 1933 – July 15, 2016

Joseph Wang was born in Tianjin, China on January 3, 1933, the son of Wang Pei Yuan and Wang Su Hwa; he converted to Catholic Christianity when he was 16 years old and was baptized on April 16, 1949. Three years later, on November 11, 1952, he entered the Jesuit Novitiate in the China Region. He was sent to the Philippines to begin his Jesuit formation and taught mathematics and science during his internship prior to theological studies.

Fr. Wang was ordained a priest on May 9, 1965, in Taipei, Taiwan; later through an arrangement with his provincial and Canadian Catholic bishops, he immigrated to Canada and served as a priest in many West Coast communities: Prince George (1984); Victoria (1988); Vancouver (1990); Kamloops; Salmon Arm; Mill Bay and other Catholic communities on the West Coast. Throughout these years and postings, he approached his pastoral ministry with energy and zeal. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Fr. Wang regularly drove from to Victoria to serve the needs of the local Chinese Catholic community.

In 2011, Fr. Wang moved to Eastern Canada, living first in Pickering and then in Toronto, his first experiences in many years of living in Jesuit Community. In Toronto he provided ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Fudger House, Chinese Martyrs Parish and St. Agnes Parish. On weekends, he would do a full measure of ministry using both Cantonese and Mandarin languages. He carried out ministry every day of his life until he died.

His Jesuit brothers enjoyed and encouraged him to pray the grace before meals in Chinese; at his resident home at the downtown-Toronto Pedro Arrupe community, he was seen as gentle and wise. He loved languages, even engaging himself in learning some French every day. He would sit outdoors in all kinds of weather in the evening praying his Rosary; serving the Church as a generous priest, he was loved and appreciated.

Friar Stan Frytek OFM

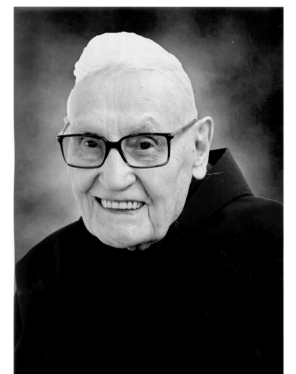
March 31, 1915 – July 20, 2016

Fr. Stan Frytek, a Catholic priest in the Religious Order of Franciscans, or Friars Minor, of Western Canada, was born in Alberta, spent his youth in British Columbia, entered the Franciscans Friars at the age of 22, and died peacefully in his sleep in the Franciscan Friary in Victoria at the age of 101.

Fr. Stan’s initial years of religious formation were spent in Quebec, but from the age of 30 up to the time of his passing on to the Lord, he ministered to the people of God throughout western Canada. He served as pastor in Lac du Bonnet and Red Lake, Manitoba for seven years; then, following a year of relief ministry in BC, he was pastor at St. Francis Parish in Edmonton, Alberta, for six years; from where he returned to St. Charles and Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, to serve as pastor for a combined term of eighteen years.

He returned to the interior of British Columbia (Trail, Rossland, and Warfield) as parish priest for three years; and then in 1982, at the age of 67, he came back to his beloved parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Maillardville-Coquitlam, where he had spent a brief time during his youth, and where he happily served the French-speaking Catholic community for another twenty-five years. The last eight years of Fr. Stan’s life were spent with his Franciscan brothers in Victoria, BC, where until his death he was keen of mind and a gracious presence to all. We thank God for the many years Fr. Stan was among us; and we are grateful that he was able to touch the lives of so many people.

Fr. Stan is survived by his sister Isabel Ferguson, and his niece Janice Ferguson, and their families; as well as by many friends, especially from Maillardville, who accompanied him and faithfully supported him during what must have been the happiest years of his life; and, of course, he is fondly remembered by his many Franciscan brothers.



France's Medal of Honour awarded to Br. Paul Voisin

by Mike Siska

The handover of France's Medal of Honour to the Order of Friars Minor was completed on February 15th, 2016. The Medal was issued to Br. Paul Voisin, by way of the Honorable Erin O'Toole, Veterans Affairs Canada, and the President of France. When he presented the medal, Ambassador of France, Nicolas Chapuis said, "By order of the President of the Republic of France, you have been awarded the rank of Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour. Please accept my sincere congratulations in this regard. This distinction [the Legion of Honour is the highest national order of France] illustrates the profound gratitude that France would like to express to you. It is awarded in recognition of your personal involvement in the liberation of our country during World War II. Through you, France remembers the sacrifice of all of your compatriots who came to liberate French soil."

Br. Paul humbly accepts no honour for his service and sacrifice, saying it was his calling: to do God's will and not for any personal honours or gain; that his service was for the elimination of tyranny in the cause of peace; the honour is for the many who died in battle and could not be recognized in person by France and Canada for their sacrifice; and, it is to further education and awareness of the importance of military and religious service in the cause of peace.

The Medal will stay with the Franciscans for its repose, respecting the historic significance and the values espoused by Br. Paul. We note that Major General [Ret'd] Herbert C Pitts, the last Patron of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion Association, assisted in facilitating and bringing to the attention of Veteran Affairs and France, the military service of Br. Paul in Normandy France, Belgium, Holland and in Germany.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in his prophetic words stated, "There is a mysterious cycle in human events, to some generations much is given, of other generations much is expected; this generation has a rendezvous with destiny."

We would like to express appreciation to Br. Paul who has been most kind and generous to share his recollections, and we give thanks to Br. Paul, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion who was there at Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, for taking part in the liberation of France and Europe from the grips of tyranny and war.

We continue to hope and pray for a time when war, tyranny and conflict will be no more and every heart feels peace. ✠

Let's communicate

by Sandi Digras

In May, Ascension Parish celebrated the Pope's World day of Communication with an event called 'Let's Communicate'. The focus was on sharing your time, talents and mercy for those in the parish who are less able to participate. Tables were arranged so fellowship could take place over coffee; about 200 parishioners attended between the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses.

Fourteen ministries brought information about how parishioners could volunteer. Penny Cowan, who has been asked to coordinate the Senior's Home ministry, was overwhelmed with the response to her plea for volunteers at the end of Mass—14 members of the parish came forward to volunteer. Other groups, from the Flower committee to Social Justice, each had many people who showed interest. We also had a table from EWTN where a video and information about how to participate was well received. The lovely Rosaries, blessed by our Pastor Fr. Karam, and pens were popular gifts.

Fr. Karam also shared his knowledge of modern technology with a demonstration to our CWL president, Nancy Horsfield, on the use of her iPhone and other technology. The Youth and Children's ministries had pint-sized representatives, and the Knights of Columbus shared knowledge of how the men in the parish would benefit from membership.

The Kitchen Angels of the CWL offered a table laden with fresh fruits, baked goods and dips, that Fr. Karam described as "the most popular communication table in the hall." Fr. Karam was also on hand at the Refugee table, and answered many questions.

As the organizer of this event I was thrilled with the turnout and that so many ministries increased their volunteer numbers.

On the feast of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit was indeed working many graces in the hall of the Church of the Ascension. ✠



Nancy Stuart appointed to National Council

by Christine O'Leary

Chair Diocesan Council, Development & Peace, Victoria

The Diocesan Council of Development and Peace Victoria is very pleased to announce that Nancy Stuart has been elected to the National Council for Development and Peace, Caritas Canada. Nancy will begin her term this fall, taking over from Dick Mynen of Prince George. National Council members serve for a three-year term, renewable once. Nancy currently serves on the Victoria Diocesan Council as Communications Chair, a post she has held since 2011.



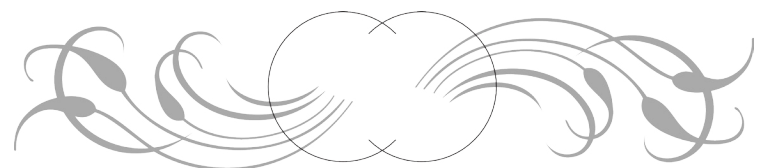
Nancy Stuart

The National Council is the primary decision-making body for Development and Peace and is ultimately responsible for the management of its affairs. It is made up of 21 elected members from across Canada, and three non-voting participants including the Past-President, unless he/she is still the national representative of his/her region; the Executive Director; and a representative of the Employees Union. In her new role, Nancy will report National Council news and decisions back to the six dioceses in the BC/Yukon region.

Nancy has been involved with Development and Peace since 1973. She has been on two solidarity trips, one to Chiapas, Mexico in 1991 and one to Bolivia in 2005. She has served as Diocesan Chairperson twice, once in 1985-1986 and again in 2007-2008. She served on the National Education Committee from June 1989 to June of 1992.

Nancy is active with the Development and Peace group at St. Patrick's parish in Victoria, where she is also a member of the Catholic Women's League. Learning of mining justice issues through a Development and Peace campaign several years ago, Nancy joined the Mining Justice Action Committee (MJAC), a local group that advocates for the people and lands adversely affected by Canadian overseas mining operations.

Please join us in extending sincere congratulations to Nancy, and wishing her well in this new role. ✠



The charism of the Holy Spirit

by Richard Dunstan

Marian Wauthy has spent many hours and many years volunteering for the Catholic Church on Vancouver Island, but she couldn't have done anything by herself. Nobody can do anything for God unless they ask Him for help, she says—and that help is there for the asking.

Marian and her husband, Roland, were founding leaders of the People of Praise charismatic prayer group at St. Andrew's Cathedral and have been active in numerous areas of Catholic life. Marian, a lifelong Catholic who has worked in catechetics and other ministries including providing prayer group leadership, told a charismatic gathering earlier this year that the Holy Spirit has been the key to unlocking the power of God.

She said she was raised Catholic, saying, "I never questioned anything. I always accepted it." She spent three years in a convent as a young woman, and it was there, during the early years of the Catholic charismatic renewal, that she heard about the infilling of the Holy Spirit. "I wanted that infilling so much. I wanted more of God in my life."

Nothing much happened when she first had prayer for Baptism in the Spirit, but soon afterward a Baptist minister came to the convent to offer to pray for the Sisters. He looked at her and said, "I think you love Jesus. Why don't you tell Him so?" He meant out loud. She wasn't comfortable with that idea, but he told her, "Sometimes we have to be a fool for Christ."

"A fool for Christ?" she thought. "I can do that."

"In no time the Holy Spirit flooded into my being and overwhelmed me with His love. I started praising Jesus at the top of my lungs. I was told I was heard at the other end of the house, with the doors closed."

That kind of power from God is what we need to do His work, she told the audience.

"Jesus wants us to live in his resurrection power," she said. "Do we want to bear fruit for God? If we choose 'yes', we cannot do it by ourselves. It must be done with Him, together."

The Wauthys were featured speakers at a Pentecost Sunday celebration at St. Patrick's Parish in Oak Bay, sponsored by the Diocesan Charismatic Service Team and attended by more than 50 people of all ages from as far away as Nanaimo. ✠



Discerning the 'yes'

by Sandi Digras, Communications Chair, Victoria Diocesan CWL

Recently I was the guest on the "At Home with Jim and Joy Show" on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN). See article, page 22. After receiving my bio, Jim Pinto suggested that the focus of the show be on stewardship. I never really thought of all my volunteering as stewardship. If I was asked to help and I felt I was able, I just said 'yes'.

At the home in which I was staying while at EWTN, I found a copy of Matthew Kelly's book, *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic* on my bedside table. In it he wrote that 7% of Catholics in a parish do 80% of the giving of their time and treasure. He further suggested that those motivated to do this are the happiest members of the parish family. As part of that 7%, I had to fully agree that giving my time to further Jesus's message and to assist where I am needed has given me much happiness and has drawn me closer to my faith community family.

Dynamic Catholics... make the connection between everything they do and their faith. This connection should motivate those with a strong faith to put God first and do what they feel will make their faith stronger... in many ways generosity is our way of knowing God has taken root in our hearts."

In Kelly's book he wrote that the four signs of a dynamic Catholic are Prayer, Study, Generosity and Evangelization. The chapter on Generosity included a heading called Stewardship & Providence. Kelly says that as Christians we are given our time, talents and treasure as a loan from God and we should be spending our earthly life giving them back to God. Wow! That hit me like a ton of bricks. Was all this volunteering and saying yes my way of returning my gifts to God? Was God the centre of why I said yes? I really had to pray about that.

In praying, I also had to think about whether my volunteering was an ego trip or a true calling by God to fulfill a need. It is very easy to say yes if you feel it will make you stand out or seem important but the true generous person takes what is entrusted to them by God and, through prayer, decides how best to give back in a meaningful way. This is a good test to show how humble we really are when we perform our tasks. As God says in Scripture, if we make sure people notice what we have done, we have already received our reward but if we do it without others noticing, our reward will be in heaven.

It was time to examine my motives for saying yes and to literally go down the checklist to determine what tasks or jobs I had accepted that were more for my glory than God's. Kelly suggests you use a 1 – 10 scale to see where your motivation is. If you can honestly say you offered your talents because it brought you closer to God then your motivation is not self-centred. If, on the other hand, you accepted the task knowing you would be admired and praised, God is no longer being put first and, like those who received praise on earth, you lose the reward in heaven.

Stewardship, then, is offering God the talents He gave you for the benefit of others.

I asked myself, "Did I start our grief group purely to assist those on the road of grief? Did I believe in my heart that it would help us all?" I could honestly answer that my motivation was to help those who were suffering grief as I was and I, too, benefited by the group's friendship. I truly did feel this was a God-directed effort. On the other hand, helping our pastor with the Refugee Committee was not something I was doing purely for those tortured souls in the Middle East. I agreed to help because I wanted to please our pastor and give him support so he would be grateful to me.

Dynamic Catholics, as Mathew Kelly writes, "make the connection between everything they do and their faith. This connection should motivate those with a strong faith to put God first and do what they feel will make their faith stronger." Kelly adds, "In many ways generosity is our way of knowing God has taken root in our hearts."

Why we say yes or no is something we need to analyze. Are we saying no because too many worldly things are absorbing our time? Do we take time to pray and discern about whether agreeing to a request for help will move us closer to God? Are we doing what God has given us the skills to do? I have absolutely no talent in the kitchen so in joining the CWL, I knew I would be of no use when it came to anything that involved the preparation of food. However, I had recently retired from a career in Communications and was able to offer those skills to the CWL. Among other things, I was able to build a website for them.

When I say yes to a request from a ministry, I say yes because it is a thank you to that ministry for being there for the people. But please don't wait to be asked. Not everyone has your hidden talents and not everyone knows what your talents are. Think about it and pray about it. Just look in the bulletin every week. There is always a ministry or an outreach program that could use your gifts and support.

Time, talent, treasure. We need to go to God for help to discern what it is we have that we can offer to the Church for God's glory and for the greater good of the community. ✠

Nurturing and sustaining staff

by Jane Murphy, President & CEO, St. Joseph's Hospital, Comox

Time off in the summer provides a wonderful opportunity to think about and identify the practices and rituals that nurture and sustain us. Work in health care is very rewarding, but also demanding. The full spectrum of the human condition from exquisite joy to terrible tragedy is all a part of working in health care. Throughout the summer, staff and physicians are encouraged to take time for themselves, their family, and friends to replenish their souls and recharge.

The rewards and demands of health care are constant. At St. Joseph's, there will be many additional changes in the coming year, given the preparations for the transition of acute care services to Island Health's new Comox Valley Hospital in the fall of 2017 and the confirmation and development of the new role for St. Joseph's. It is our vision to develop a hub of excellence and innovation with an emphasis on seniors' and hospice care and, in keeping with our values, be responsive to marginalized and special populations.

At St. Joseph's we truly value the importance of acknowledging our appreciation of our staff for all that they do, each and every day, to provide care with compassion to meet the needs of those we serve. Several recognition and appreciation events are held throughout the year. Over the recent months, the following events and activities have been held:

Canada's National Aboriginal Day is held annually on June 21 to celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding achievements of the nation's Aboriginal peoples. Annually, it is our privilege to host Aboriginal Day celebrations at St. Joseph's. This year's activities were held on June 22 in the Sisters' Café.

On June 24 we were pleased to host our 5th annual staff & volunteer appreciation gelato day in the Sisters' Café. Gelato was generously sponsored again this year by Piercy's Funeral Home and Crematorium. More than 350 servings and many more tasting samples were enjoyed by appreciative staff!

Wonderfully gifted local musicians Sue Medley, musician/vocalist; Helen Austin, songwriter/artist; and Helena Jung, cellist with the Nanaimo Symphony, volunteered their time and talents to entertain our staff, physicians and volunteers during this fun event.

At St. Joseph's we truly value the importance of acknowledging our appreciation of our staff for all that they do, each and every day, to provide care with compassion to meet the needs of those we serve.

On August 19, we enjoyed the St. Joseph's Annual Staff Appreciation BBQ plus the 3rd Annual 'DAWG Days of Summer'. The BBQ is generously sponsored by RBC Royal Bank and the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation. Fun activities of the day include the Blessing of the Dogs by Rev. Anthony Divinagracia, Rector at St. John the Divine Anglican Church, Courtenay; a Pooch Parade and Contest Judging with prizes for 'best dog costume', 'happiest dog', 'best look-alike (dog and owner)'.

To many of us, our dogs are a big part of our lives. This event is a novel and enjoyable way to celebrate our furry family members and the waning days of summer...and to come together to have some fun! ✠



RNs Lori Buchanan and Amanda Levicek enjoy Gelato Day.

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Summer camps at Our Lady of the Rosary

by Maria Campos

This year at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish we hosted a summer camp for two weeks. We had children as young as four years old and up to 16 years of age. There is no doubt that camp was an amazing time for all who participated; children and teenagers, guest speakers and all volunteers, but the most incredible things were the stories we heard have happened after attending a camp.

Catholic parents have told me about beautiful life changes in their families, such as, saying grace before having a meal; another family started praying the Rosary at home; other children have brought back their families to Mass because they learned about the importance of attending Mass on Sunday. Many other extraordinary events keep coming to my ears, but there are three particular stories I want to share with you, and the reason I have chosen these three stories is because they are from children who do not belong to a Catholic family and attend public schools, but God has brought them to be part of the parish camps.

The first story is about a seven-year-old girl who goes to public school and came to the camp because she was invited by her Catholic friend. At the end of each camp, I asked the children, "What was the thing you liked the most," and that was when a girl answered, "Because it's about God". Really, a tear came out of my eye as the words from St. Augustine came to my mind "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you."

The second story is about an eleven-year-old girl who was baptized, but her family does not attend church. When she came to the camp and saw other children receiving Communion, she received a special grace. God put in her heart a big desire to receive the Sacraments too. So she approached her grandma for help, and her grandma brought her to Mass every Sunday, and they faithfully attended the preparation course every week. This year she received her First Communion and Confirmation, and is now an altar server.

Lastly, we have some siblings who have attended various camps. They are quite attentive, participative, and happy children who went home and told their parents about the Good News, and the whole family was baptized and are now practicing Catholics.

Those who have organized an activity like these camps know it is a lot of work. Sometimes there are problems, sometimes we are criticized, but it always brings so many blessings. If we hadn't had the courage and generosity of becoming part of it, we would never have received all those blessings. Yes, I believe that a week-long camp at which children attend Mass and learn about our faith is life-changing in every child and their families, and that is why I am still doing it, more than ten years after I started the first day camp at Sacred Heart.

If you want to volunteer and be part of this wonderful experience, be proactive and contact your parish; and if you have children and teenagers, encourage them to attend a camp in the Diocese. As a parent, some of the best advice we can give to our children is this: live your faith, live with hope and find God in your heart. I have little doubt that the camp will help you to pass on this message. ✠



Week 1 Camp (top) and Week 2 Camp (bottom)



The end of an era

by Jim Duncan. Photograph courtesy Dave Nicholls

As many of you may be aware, the St. Andrew's Elementary school building on Pandora Avenue is being demolished to make way for a new commercial/residential development. Thus will come to an end a long history of Catholic education at that location.



Prior to being renamed St. Andrew's, the building was home to a Catholic all-boys school: St. Louis College. It was this name which the building bore when constructed in 1931. Earlier that year, Bishop Gerald Murray presided over the moving of the cornerstone from a still earlier building which had housed St. Louis College until the growth in student population had made the construction of a new building necessary.

While the building may soon be gone, the spirit of community that it engendered will live on for years to come. ✠

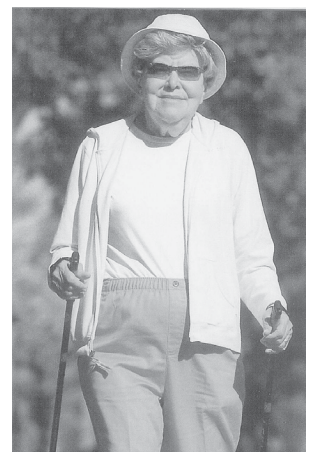


Recently, several graduates of St. Louis College gathered at the site to say goodbye to their old alma mater. Left to right they are: Jim Duncan, Tom Cuff, John Middleton, Vic Simeoni, Dave Kissinger, George Acs, Dave Nicholls, Wayne Strandlund, John Smith and Mike Rice

Helping the vulnerable

by Jane Bowers, Director of Fund Development, Mount St. Mary Hospital

Through aching muscles, burning blisters, and pounding hearts, the 'Mount St. Marythoners', a group of runners will use their participation in the GoodLife Fitness Marathon to raise funds to help those who call Mount St. Mary Hospital home. Every year, 250 of our community's most vulnerable, frail, and elderly receive exemplary complex care at Mount St. Mary Hospital where their independence, dignity, and quality of life are supported in a home-like setting.



Sr. Lucy Dumont SSA

This year will be no different but with one exception—we will be running and walking in memory of Sr. Lucy Dumont SSA. Sr. Lucy was our Team Captain since the team started in 2006. Knocking on doors paid great returns for Sr. Lucy, and Mount St. Mary Hospital residents benefitted from her dedication and determination. Sr. Lucy was always named our top fundraiser and was often the top pledge collector for the GoodLife Marathon's Charity Pledge Program.

This year, the Marythoners will honour and remember Sr. Lucy on October 9. Under the leadership of Mandy Parker, Mount St. Mary Foundation's Executive Director until 2012, we have a goal of raising \$10,000 for Mount St. Mary Hospital's Room to Care campaign to repair and update our residents' rooms. Sr. Lucy would be proud.

We need your help ... if you're a runner, we encourage you to join our team and collect pledges in support of Mount St. Mary Hospital. If don't run, but you like to walk, we would love to have you part of our group that is walking the 8K.

Every pledge you collect is valued and will make a difference.

If you can't join the team, would you consider pledging someone on our team with a gift of \$25, \$50, \$100 or whatever you can give? Your generosity and compassion will impact the lives of people who may be just like your parents, grandparents or another family member. Imagine it is your parents, grandparents or family member—you'd want them to have the best facilities possible. Can you help?

Please consider joining the Marythoners today by signing up online at runvictoriamarathon.com or visit mtstmary.victoria.bc.ca and click on the red *Donate Now* button on the top right-hand side of the page to make your gift in support of the Marythoners. ✠



Looking forward with Island Catholic Schools

by Beverly Pulyk, Superintendent

Last year at this time I shared with you the following comment. “Currency in any business or organization is essential. In education, it is critical!” The focus over the next number of years will be implementing Response to Intervention (RTI), the new BC Curriculum and the BC Education Plan; implementing our Information Technology Strategic Plan; working on phases 2 and 3 of the Catholic Schools Plan (seismic upgrades for St. Patrick’s School; renovation for St. Andrew’s Regional High School); and supporting the ICS Board of Directors with their Strategic Plan.”

So where are we now, and what will this year bring? Last year, teachers continued professional development in the areas of RTI and the new BC Curriculum. Grade and subject level discussions were held so that all teachers and support staff are working from a common language and common understanding. The focus/goal of both RTI and the new Curriculum is ‘Learning for All’. Professional Learning Community discussions at the beginning of last year centred on such questions as:

- How do we best support *all* students in the classroom?
- What elements of the traditional school model continue to be effective in meeting the needs of today’s students, as well as, How is the traditional model of education failing to meet the needs of all learners?
- What is it our students need and want to learn?
- What are the essential outcomes for a student in each grade? (spiritual, social/emotional, physical, academic, artistic, physical)
- How do you know when a student has mastered the essentials and what tools can be used to measure whether a student has acquired the essentials?
- What do we do when a student struggles to master the essentials and what will we do for those students that have already mastered them?

Later in the year, teachers received professional development specific to planning for the new Curriculum. Teachers came to understand the new Curriculum language and requirements of Core Competencies, Big Ideas, Curricular Competencies and Content, Aboriginal Perspective, and Catholic Connection/World View. The new Curriculum is mandatory in Kindergarten to Grade 9 in all schools in the province this year and in Grades 10 to 12 next year (2017 – 2018). Unfolding the new Curriculum will take a number of years as all teachers in the province continue to receive professional development in this area. It is my intent to hold parent information sessions at each of our schools to assist parents in understanding what is new and different with the new Curriculum.

Our Information Technology Strategic Plan will continue to be addressed over the next number of years. It includes achieving a high quality level of consistent infrastructure (baseline) in all of our schools as well as supporting all staff in acquiring the appropriate and essential level of technology skills required for their position.

The Board of Directors continues to work towards developing an updated strategic plan for Island Catholic Schools. More information about this topic will follow in a future edition of the *Diocesan Messenger*.

The theme for all Catholic schools in the province this school year is *Catholic Schools Care for Our Common Home*. Administrators discussed what this means at the Administrators’ Retreat held in late August and will continue discussions with staff and students as the year progresses.

As always, Catholic Education is a gift to be treasured and protected. Thank you to all the people who share their talents, time and treasures with us; you are greatly appreciated. Please continue to pray for the success of Catholic Education in our Diocese as we all *Care for Our Common Home*. ✠

A fresh look at St. Joseph’s Chemainus

by Bern Muller, Principal

Students and staff at St Joseph’s School in Chemainus are very excited about the start of the new school year.

Our Parent’s Advisory Committee (PAC) has generously added several new items to our adventure playground, providing activities that are appropriate for students of all ages. The equipment was purchased by the Parent’s Advisory Committee and parents organized a work party to help paint and freshen the outdoor play space.

Interpretive signs will soon be installed along our nature walk area behind the school. Students learned about the local environment and studied indigenous and invasive species found in the area. They observed, drew, researched and wrote about them. Now, thanks to the donation of services and signage, features of the trail will be expertly identified.

Thank you to all who helped with these improvements to our school. ✠



Celebrating the ‘three Ts’ at Queen of Angels

by Kathy Korman, Principal

The staff and students at Queen of Angels (Q of A) school in Duncan ended the year with three special events.

Time: Traditionally, every June, the graduating students participate in a ceremony called Recognition Night, which acknowledges their time at Q of A. This year, 20 grade 9 students were recognized for their contribution to our school through several awards and bursaries. Our guest speaker, learning skills specialist Terry Small, spoke about finding motivating passion in one’s life work. A special slide show with photos of each student’s time at Q of A was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The evening ended with a lovely reception in the church hall.

Talent: Fun Day is another annual event held for all students and staff. The students in grades K – 6 participate in a whirlwind of activity stations and athletic events. The middle school students help at each station and promote school spirit throughout the day. This year the musical and dance talent of the staff was especially evident with a stage show for the students as a concluding event. This year’s presentation will be remembered for many years to come.

Treasure: School Council sponsored a ‘Spring Fling’ gala event. The evening included testimonials by some students and an award-winning speech; both a silent and live auction; and dinner/dance. It was a tremendous event and Council was able to raise approximately \$20,000.

We ended our school year with much gratitude for the contribution from everyone in our school community. Our motto is *To Build in Love* and with that in mind, we look forward to the 2016 – 2017 school year as we continue to share our faith, our time, our talent, and our treasure in the Cowichan Valley. ✠





Financial Overview

Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Dear people of God,

With the publication of our annual financial results, we have an opportunity to take stock of our stewardship: where we've been, where we are, and where we're going. Overall, I believe the Church of the Diocese of Victoria is very healthy. There is an energy around missions and an increasing understanding, that the people of God and our parishes thrive when looking outward, and are on the move toward opportunities for mission outreach.

Our Diocese is blessed with extremely good priests and pastors, and most communities in the Diocese have access to the Sacraments and to the Word of God on a regular basis. There are also exceptionally capable lay people, who are willing to be engaged in and help foster the vision of mission and outreach. We have highly committed and skilled lay staff members, at our Pastoral Centre, in our Island Catholic Schools, and in our parishes. The Diocese has excellent adult Faith Formation programs which we are intentionally increasing; and we're in the midst of a four-year Diaconate Formation Program to develop permanent deacons. Priests, pastors and lay staff have a steadfast love of the Lord, and a genuine love of the Church and Her teachings. While there are challenges, we are moving in the right direction.

My vision for the future encompasses greater efforts in missions and outreach. I have invited our pastors, and I invite you, to maintain a keen vigilance for opportunities and new ways to reach out to the peripheries with a ministry of accompaniment to the those in need. Every encounter is an evangelizing



opportunity to bring the Good News. People are struggling and searching, and we must be there how and when they need us.

We must be bold and creative missionary disciples on a common journey with our clergy, our parishes, and our families, carrying the love and mercy of the risen Christ to those in need. We must seek Christ in the poor and the vulnerable, in the frail elderly, and in all those in need. We must accompany our brothers and sisters—where they are, not just where we're comfortable—and most of all, we must proclaim the love of God, and the mercy of our Lord, and the hope of the Holy Spirit. We must spread the good news of the Gospel with our voices and actions to a world that hungers for compassion. In particular, following

Pope Francis's exhortation on the Family, I invite our parish communities to new forms and pastoral initiatives to accompany and support families in the pilgrimage of love that is their particular calling.

This is our mission, entrusted to us by God, and this mission is our very great privilege. I am so very grateful for each and every one of this family of God in the Diocese of Victoria.

May God continue to bless you, your families and loved ones, as we move ever forward on His mission.

In Communion,

Most Reverend Gary Gordon
Bishop of Victoria

Financial Overview

Year ended December 31, 2015

by Leah MacKenzie CGA, CPA, Chief Financial Officer

The Financial Overview provides a summary of the activities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria, Pastoral Centre for the year ended December 31, 2015.

The Financial Statements of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre are audited annually by the external firm of KPMG. The Audited Financial Statements are reviewed by the Diocesan Audit Committee and the Diocesan Finance Committee and are available for review upon request.

While most people may have an idea about how their parish operates, not many people know exactly what the Diocese does or what types of programs and services are offered.

Below is a list of services that the Diocese of Victoria, through the Pastoral Centre, provides.

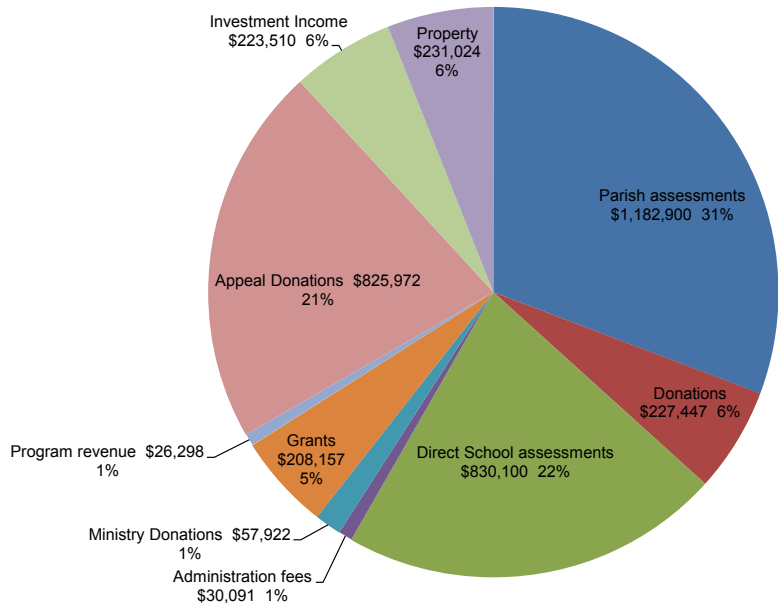
- Hospital Chaplaincy to Victoria General, Royal Jubilee and six long-term care homes
- University Chaplaincy – pastoral and spiritual care for young people attending the University of Victoria and Camosun College
- Management of communications, public and media relations, including the Bishop's Blog, the *Diocesan Messenger*, Twitter, Website and other various media
- Assist parishes in planning, construction, building, renovation and restoration projects
- Assist parishes with the sale of properties, including severance, acquisitions and rezoning
- Assist parishes with their youth ministry programs and coordinate Diocesan-wide initiatives, such as the Diocesan Youth Conference
- Assist parishes and schools with their Religious Educations programs and provide Catechist training
- Management of the Bishop's administrative needs; calendar, schedule, correspondence, meetings, travel, circulars
- Through our Marriage Tribunal, provide assistance to those seeking an annulment
- Assist parishes in properly identifying, preserving and archiving historically significant records
- Strategic planning for parishes, schools and Diocesan long-term plans
- Planned Giving and Family Records Management support and workshops
- Assist parishes in preparing and implementing parish pastoral plans
- Assist parishes with Social Justice initiatives and Refugee sponsorship and liaison for other aid agencies; locally, nationally and internationally
- Training and workshops for pastoral councils and parish finance committees
- Diocesan-wide insurance program, risk management and best practices
- Process bequests and donation of shares for parishes and schools
- Management of the Teachers' and Employees' Pension and benefit plans
- Management of the Priest Pension Plan, Disability Fund and benefit plans
- Management of Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment policy for volunteer and employee screening; workshops, presentations, support line and intervention
- Assist parishes with all Canon Law questions and issues
- Management and financial services for all six Catholic Schools, the Diocese, the Catholic Foundation of Vancouver Island, and St. Clare's Villa
- Management of the *Journey of Hearts & Hands* Annual Appeal
- Management of investments for Diocesan, parish and school endowment and trust funds
- Management of the parish deposits and loans from the Mutual Investment Credit Fund (MIC Fund)
- Assist parishes with bookkeeping, tax receipting, budgeting, financial reporting and Canada Revenue Agency compliance
- Provide parishes and schools assistance when handling legal issues
- Provide payroll services for all employees within the Diocese, parishes and schools

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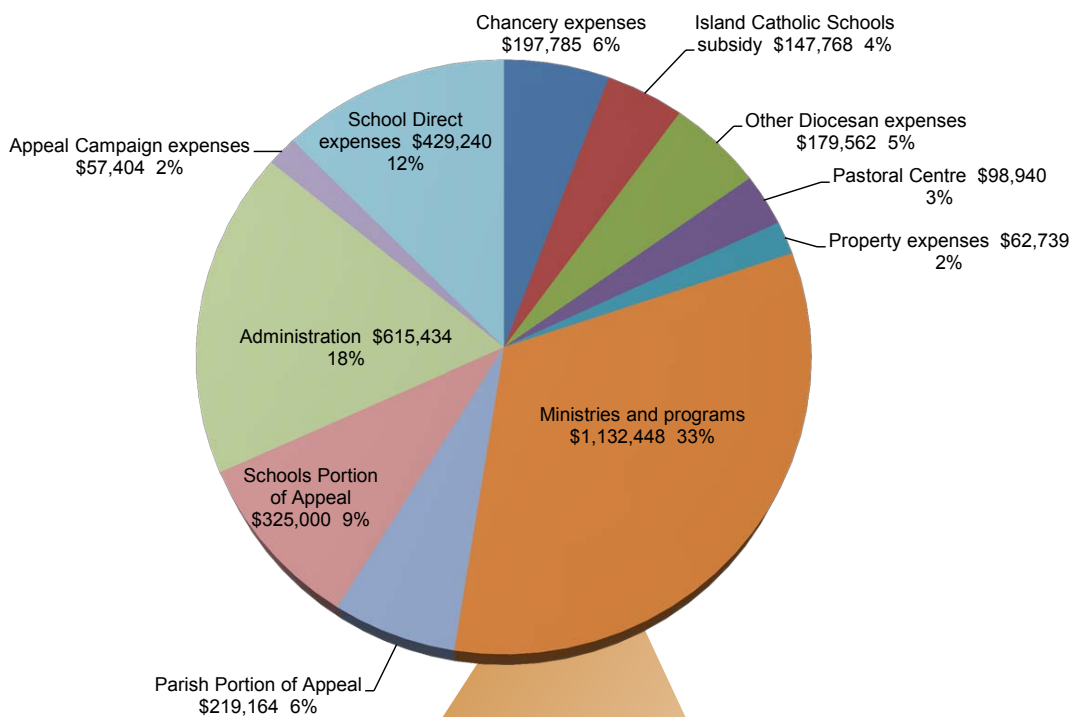


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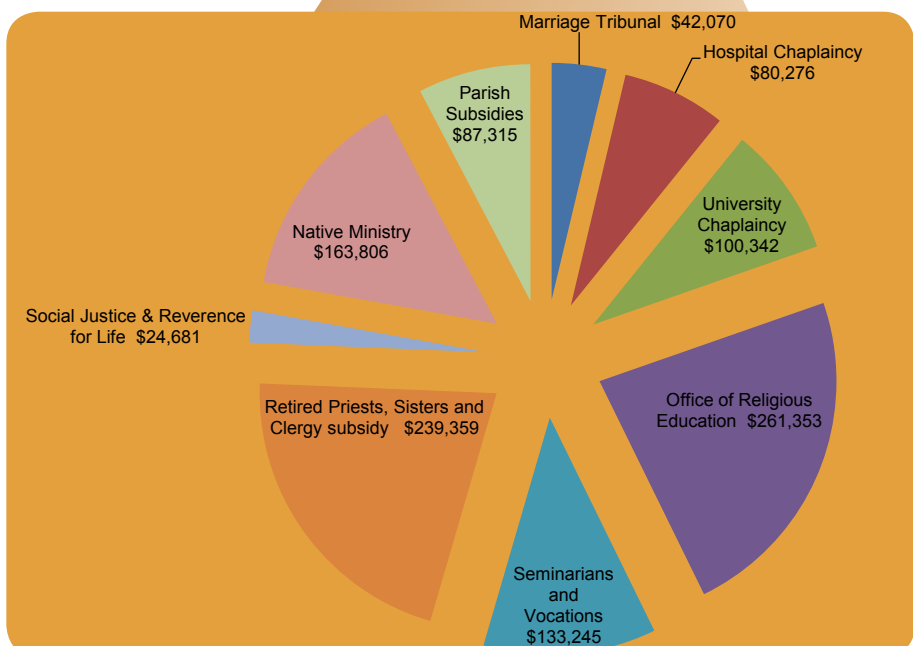
Diocesan Pastoral Centre Operating Revenue 2015



Diocesan Pastoral Centre Operating Expenses 2015



Ministry and Programs 2015



Financial Overview – Year Ended December 31, 2015

... continued from page 11

- Development, communication and implementation of personnel policies and procedures, objectives, legal standards and needs of employees
- Provide assistance and direction for schools, Diocesan offices and parish computer networks and software and security issues
- Management of internal parish audits
- Foster human and spiritual support for our priests through retreats, workshops and conferences
- Provide training and education program for diaconate formation candidates

**Diocesan Pastoral Centre of the Bishop of Victoria, Corporation Sole
Statement of Operations
Year ended December 31, 2015, with comparatives for 2014**

	2015	2014
Revenue		
Parish Assessments	\$ 1,182,900	\$ 1,104,686
Donations (Note 1)	227,447	907,936
Schools Assessments (Note 2)	830,100	413,292
Administration Fees	30,091	31,799
Ministries and programs		
Donations	57,922	44,655
Grants	208,157	213,653
Program Revenue	26,298	27,017
Donations Appeal	852,972	765,114
Investment Income	223,510	365,747
Property	231,024	222,983
	3,843,421	4,096,882
Expenses		
Chancery Expenses	\$ 197,785	\$ 165,128
Island Catholic Schools Subsidy	147,768	147,768
Other Diocesan Expenses	179,562	208,875
Pastoral Centre	98,940	83,709
Property Expenses	62,739	45,864
Ministries and Programs (see pie chart, page 14)		
Marriage Tribunal	42,070	35,784
Hospital Chaplaincy	80,276	56,873
University Chaplaincy	100,342	98,406
Office of Religious Education	261,353	214,817
Seminarians and Vocations	133,245	140,516
Retired Priests, Sisters and Clergy Subsidy	239,359	229,408
Social Justice & Reverence for Life	24,681	9,343
First Nations Ministry	163,806	154,593
Parish Subsidies	87,315	84,444
Parish Portion of Appeal	219,164	180,671
Schools Portion of Appeal	325,000	330,000
Administration	615,434	496,564
Appeal Campaign Expenses	57,404	51,494
School Direct Expenses (Note 2)	429,240	211,573
	\$ 3,465,484	\$ 2,945,829
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Operations	\$ 377,937	\$ 1,151,053



Overview

Diocese of Victoria

2015

cedures that are consistent with Diocesan

works, phone systems, websites, hardware

ngoing education

- Support for seminarian students, retired priests and religious sisters
- Support for remote parishes and missions to assist with basic services
- Support for First Nation Ministry; Cowichan Valley, West Coast, North Island and Clayoquot Sound

Through these varied and many programs, the staff at the Pastoral Centre exist to serve people; in our parishes, schools, others in the community and we strive to live the mission of service each and every day.

On behalf of Bishop Gary Gordon and members of the Diocesan Finance Committee, thank you for your continued support; through your weekly parish collections, *Journey of Hearts & Hands* Appeal, direct donations for local and international charities and for your prayers for the many pastoral and administrative works of the Diocese. ✠

Diocesan Pastoral Centre of the Bishop of Victoria, Corporation Sole Statement of Financial Position Year ended December 31, 2015, with comparatives for 2014

	2015	2014
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ —	\$ 1,386,065
Accounts Receivable	332,413	389,505
Prepaid Expenses	12,556	92,822
	344,969	1,868,392
Loans and Investments	3,802,383	4,162,627
Capital Assets	9,516,378	7,105,572
	\$ 13,663,730	\$ 13,136,591
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Bank Indebtedness	210,443	—
Accounts Payable	145,232	236,778
Demand Bank Loans	8,682	20,682
	364,357	257,460
Deferred Revenue and Contributions	2,590,161	2,613,044
Total Liabilities	2,954,518	2,870,504
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets	8,100,511	5,656,906
Restricted for Endowment Purposes	480,283	415,095
Internally Restricted	659,568	569,944
Unrestricted	1,468,850	3,624,142
	10,709,212	10,266,087
	\$ 13,663,730	\$ 13,136,591

Note 1

2014 donations includes large three Planned Gifts; \$265,000 as a bequest, \$256,000 gift of shares, and \$220,000 life insurance benefit.

Note 2

School Assessments—Effective July 1, 2014, the Pastoral Centre and the Catholic Schools' Central Office underwent a reorganization which resulted in the Pastoral Centre recording the administrative and central services to the six Catholic schools on Vancouver Island. As a result the Pastoral Centre records revenue received from the schools and the associated expenses for these services. Due to different fiscal year ends, 2014 recorded 6 months of the revenue and expenses, whereas 2015 recorded 12 months.

Members of the Diocesan Finance Committee

- Bishop Gary Gordon
- John Anderson, Chair
- Fr. John Laszczyk, Vicar General
- Cynthia Bouchard, Chancellor
- Leah MacKenzie, CGA, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- Fr. Marinaldo Batista
- Felicity Hanington, Member at Large
- Mike Mills, Member at Large
- Art Paulo, Member at Large
- Dion Pomponio, CGA, CPA
- Diane Savard, Member at Large
- Una Guile, Member at Large

National Collections

	2015	2014
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops		
Needs of the Church in Canada	\$ 18,349	\$ 16,621
Pope's Pastoral Works	16,198	17,886
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace		
Share Lent	97,670	104,906
Disaster Relief – Nepal	8,820	
Syrian Refugee Crisis		
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace	77,704	7,859
Catholic Near East Welfare Association, Canada (CNEWA)	27,385	
Aid to the Church in Need, Canada	10,427	
Needs of the Church in the Holy Land (Good Friday)	40,540	41,633
Evangelization of Nations	17,112	17,601
Catholic Missions in Canada	14,886	18,614
Total National Collections	\$ 329,092	\$ 225,120

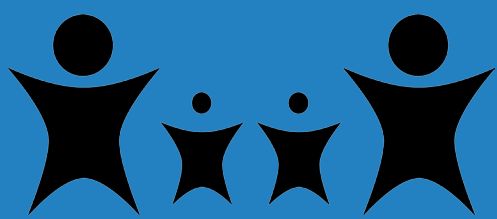
Thank you for your support of these important charitable works and especially for the generous response to international humanitarian crises. In 2015, the total amount raised for relief agencies for the Syrian Refugee Crisis through parishes was \$115,516.

Throughout the year second collections for designated Catholic charities are held in parishes to support national and international causes and to respond to emergency crisis or natural disasters. Please note that the totals reflect funds donated through the parishes and the Diocese and do not include donations sent directly to the charities by individual parishioners.

2015 in our Diocese

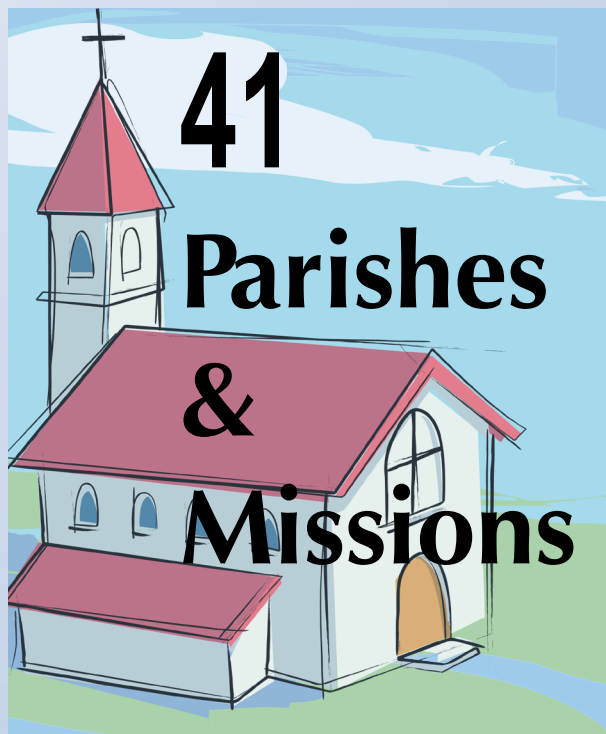
11,403

Registered families



41

Parishes & Missions



1,661

Students in Catholic Schools



800

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS

157

TRAINED CATECHISTS

12,274

Sacrament of Reconciliation

2,220

Sacrament of the Sick

359

Funerals



151

RMSE VOLUNTEERS



52 PRIESTS

3 SEMINARIANS



72 Marriages



316 Baptism

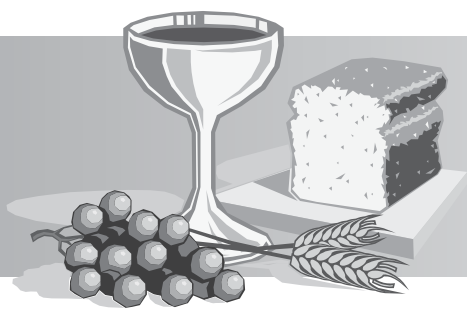
302 Confirmation

252 First Communion

38,655

KM TRAVELLED TO REMOTE LOCATIONS

Vocations



by Greg Van Dyk

It's been more than fifty years, and sometimes it feels as though we still haven't got it quite right.

The Second Vatican Council came to a close in 1965 and had a strong and clear vision of the lay vocation, but when it comes to implementing this vision we've missed the mark. The Council's plan for the laity (non-clergy folk) was rooted in the universal call to holiness and mission—however, in the decades that followed, the well-intentioned train went down the wrong track. Fortunately, 50 years later, we're slowly remapping our journey.

The popular understanding of vocations in the Church today often buys into a false distinction. Many ordinary pew-sitters believe (consciously or not) that there are two sorts of vocational callings: the religious type (as a priest, friar, or nun) and the not-really-that-religious type (lay people). If you're not called to life as clergy, or a religious brother or sister, you're left to the seemingly secular vocations of marriage or single life. This view of the lay vocation is widespread, among all generations in the Church.

When teaching high school Religion, I use the 'Relationships Diagram'—a central tool of the missionary movement Catholic Christian Outreach. The diagram shows three distinct stages, each representing a different level of relationship someone might have with God. One: is He outside of your life? Two: a part of your life—one of many elements? Or, three: is He the centre of your life—you are totally committed to following Him and relying on Him daily?

When I ask students which stage best represents their relationship with God, most choose the second stage. God is one of many elements in their lives. Sports, friends, school, and dating tend to stand on the playing field competing with God for their attention. I then ask, "What do you think the third relationship looks like? One where someone has put Jesus at the centre of their life?"

One student pipes up. "The Pope!" he exclaims from the back of the classroom. Others chime in and agree. "I don't want to have the third relationship because I don't want to be a priest," another says. More nods and murmurs of agreement.

Trying to reframe things, I explain that while the Pope and our priests certainly should have Christ-centred relationships, this is not limited to the ordained. "I have Jesus at the centre of my life!" I tell my students, with as much evangelical enthusiasm as I can muster. "We can have this third type of relationship!"

"Yes, but you're the Religion teacher," a student responds, unconvinced. He has not yet comprehended the lesson that holiness is the vocation for everyone—not limited to clergy and professional Catholics. This misconception centres around an age-old nagging nuisance in the life of the Church: clericalism.

Clericalism might be best defined as the idea that only the ordained and professed religious (and professional Catholics, apparently like high school Religion teachers) are fully Catholic, while members of the general lay population are essentially second-class citizens.

In the wake of the Second Vatican Council many indeed took up the call of 'lay empowerment', but unfortunately carried it right back into the arms of clericalism. Rather than fully living out the lay vocation as a call to holiness and mission in their everyday lives, many saw it as a call to take on clerical duties—again affirming that these tasks have the real value.

Pope Francis has spoken of this problem many times. "We priests tend to clericalize the laity," the pontiff said. "We do not realize it, but it is as if we infect them with our own disease. And the laity—not all, but many—ask us on their knees to clericalize them, because it is more comfortable to be an altar server than the protagonist of a lay path. We cannot fall into that trap—it is a sinful complicity."

The protagonist of the lay path is the Second Vatican Council's call to personal holiness and an enthusiastic participation in the Church's mission of evangelization. *Lumen Gentium* (the Constitution on the Catholic Church, and one of the principal documents of the Second Vatican Council) states that "all the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity." St. John Paul II wrote in *Redemptoris Missio* that the "universal call to holiness is closely linked to the universal call to mission. Every member of the faithful is called to holiness and to mission."

This is the fullness of the lay vocation—to foster a personal relationship with Jesus and share this Good News with the world through witness and proclamation.

In the next fifty years, this will continue to be the task of the faithful—to remap the journey, get the train back on track, and embrace fully the joy of the true lay vocation. ✠

Ordained a Deacon, with great joy

by Bishop Gary Gordon. Photos courtesy Ly Son Le, and Barry Beardon

On Friday, July 8, 2016, it was my great privilege to ordain Michael Tran to the Diaconate at Christ the King parish in Courtenay. The joy of this day for Michael and his family was clearly evident by the beaming smiles all around.

I gave Michael a 'Diocesan Apron', telling him he would not likely get entry into people's homes or places of work wearing the *dalmatic* (the liturgical vestment of a deacon) but would certainly be welcomed with outstretched arms, wearing an apron, with his sleeves rolled up, ready to serve. May God continue to bless you, Michael, on your journey to the priesthood. ✠





Connections



by Amber Santarelli

Amber Santarelli is a young author from Queen of Angels School, Duncan. We welcome her contribution to our Connections column in this edition.

I dreamed: that Jesus was taking my hand.

When we are sad, when despair envelops us, when we hurt or feel the pain of loss. Whether we have broken someone's trust or deeply regret an action we have taken, look around and see what I see. I see Jesus with an outstretched hand saying, "Take my hand, and walk with me."

When anxiety washes over us; when we compare ourselves to others, causing self-doubt; when our self-worth is in question—then we are to listen and learn that we are not to compare ourselves to anyone but to let ourselves be loved as we are, loved by God. We are to remember the gift of love when Jesus says to us, "Come, walk with me; I will help you find your way."

When our hearts are bursting with joy; when we close our eyes and breathe in the cool morning air; when we hear the chirp of a robin; when the perfume of the fragrant sweet peas come to us; when we are in deepest gratitude and peace—then we see Jesus with his hand held out to us in glory saying, "Come, walk with me."

When the world seems to be crashing down around us; when we are in the depths of profound hurt and loss; when those we have loved and needed are no longer here for us; when those who inspired, hugged, and laughed with us have gone—then we see the Holy Spirit, with a quiet reassuring voice say, "Come, take my hand; I will hold you up".

When we are touched by the love of a pet; when we are held, nurtured, and can bury ourselves in our mother's arms; when we are raised up on our father's shoulders; when we experience the first feelings of puppy love; when we find the person we want to spend our lives with. When Grandma and Granddad take me to the Dairy Queen to either celebrate or commiserate over a report card; when my church family stands in support of me—these feelings of love are intensified when in warmth we hear Jesus say, "God loves you, come take my hand and walk with me".

When there are trials in our lives; when we falter and are unsure; when we tire; when all we can see is our troubles; when we allow insecurities to take over us; when we lose our connection to positive things in our lives—what can we do?

Then we can remember that we have been told, "I will never abandon you . . . I am here as close as your breath, take my hand and walk with me."

When we look at others and imagine we see a perfect, trouble-free life; when we let jealousy and envy seep into our being; when our hearts become dark because of something we think; when we are consumed with unrest and anger that someone has more than we and that we think we deserve more—we have forgotten what has been given to us. Then we hear Jesus say "Come, walk with me in humility."

When we have hurt or offended others; when we have felt harm. In order to forgive others we need to forgive ourselves; we need to practice forgiveness by forgiving—we need to remember that God tells us of His forgiveness, of Christ's forgiveness given on the cross when he asked God to forgive those who harmed him because they did not know what they did. Then we see Jesus offer his hand to us and say, "Walk with me, as a forgiven people."

When we have hope and laughter; when we feel the sun shining on our faces; when we are with peaceful hearts; when we are in the presence of others who walk with Jesus; when we share in the joyous sound of friends in song; when we are blessed by teachers who motivate encourage and help us—then we remember God's promise to us through His Son, who calls us to take his hand and "Walk in hope with me."

When we see hurt and need; when we can reach out to lift someone up; when at times it just requires a smile or an acknowledgement to make a difference. When we see harm being done—do we have the courage to speak out, to act? Will we stand as Jesus did for the woman being stoned? Will we reach out to her? Then we see Jesus reaching out to us, inviting us: "Walk with me and show compassion."

When change comes; when death is near; when our time here draws to a close—will we look around? What will we see? Will we ask for Jesus' hand? Will we reach out for it? Will we do this with confidence and joy?

In life as in death, it is a matter of choice. For me it will be, "Jesus, my Saviour: take my hand and let me walk with you." ✠



Out of the Archives

by Theresa Vogel

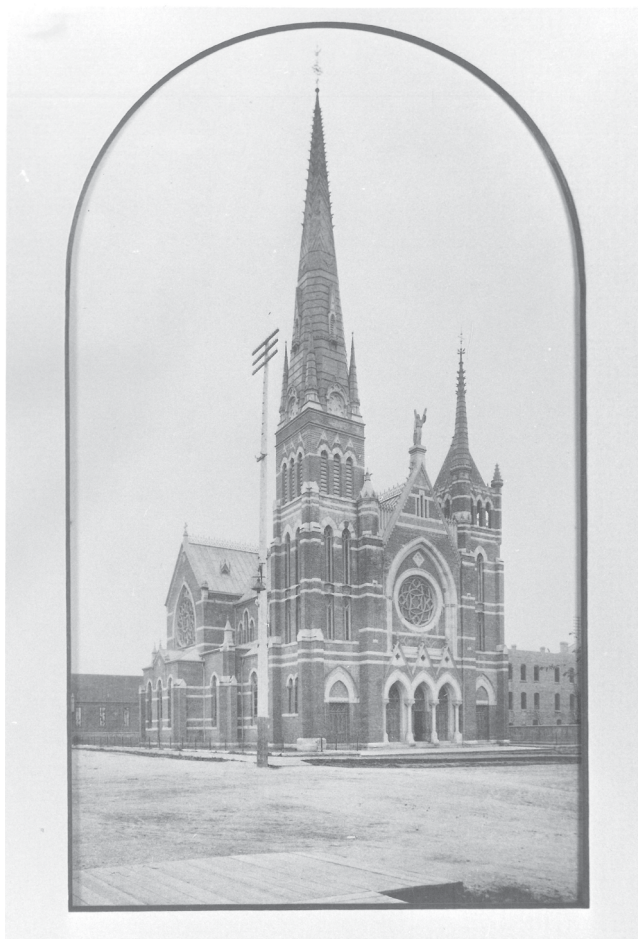
Something Old

In 2017, St. Andrew's Cathedral will reach the venerable age of 125 years. This 1905 picture, kept at the Diocesan Archives, shows a view of the cathedral church that will make many appearances in 2017. It will be depicted in calendars and publications, and the volunteers in the 'Vestment Re-Purposing Project' are preparing a one-of-a-kind banner as a gift to the cathedral community.

The purpose of including this picture is to re-engage readers in dialogue with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria Archives ('Diocesan Archives'). So the question is: *What is wrong with this picture?* I'd love to hear from you about the differences between the photo and today's look. Yes, you can include the power pole, but that's taking the easy way out!

Something New

For the past several years, a group of dedicated volunteers has been working on a Policy and Protocol document that will guide access to the Diocesan Archives. In the interests of outreach and education, the policy is founded in the belief that, as Canada evolved as a Catholic, Christian country, there is much history to be found in Church archives. Of course, the Diocesan Archives strictly adheres to Canon and civic laws in closing or restricting access to select materials, as does any institution which collects and holds information.



As the collection in the Diocesan Archives is registered and arranged, the purposes are clear and steadfast, as follows:

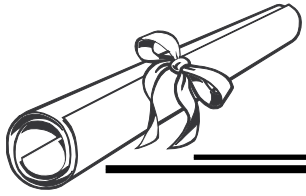
The principal function of the Diocesan Archives is that of centralizing, organizing, arranging, preserving and controlling access to all materials in its care. The designated authorities (Bishop and Chancellor) of the Diocese have unconditional right of access to records and materials.

The Diocesan Archives, being the chief repository of the history of the faith in the Diocese of Victoria, undertakes a number of secondary functions as follows:

- To employ resources of the Archives as a tool for evangelization and education;
- To assist all authorized persons to establish details of status, age, and other government identifications as required;
- To support research for academic purposes and scholarly writing; and,
- To assist qualified individuals to undertake research within the scope of this policy and such other guidelines as may be determined.

Come discover the Archives, all ye visitors and volunteers! ✠





The Campus Mission

by Fr. Dean Henderson. Photos courtesy Fr. Dean Henderson, Fr. Marinaldo Batista and Nadia Cornejo

Misericordiae

Misericordiae was the name given to the location of the World Youth Day (WYD) Papal Mass on Sunday, July 31, 2016. It's hard to believe, but the planning and preparation for World Youth Day that began in January 2015 with Fr. Paul Szczur has come to its completion with our return from Poland on August 2, 2016. I'm thinking of getting a t-shirt made: *I've survived 3 World Youth Days*—but I won't. It would convey something of the challenge and hardships endured on pilgrimage by this 55-year-old chaplain, but fail to communicate the exceeding joy of celebrating the Mercy of Jesus with such a vibrant, youthful throng.

Christ is truly present with the Pope in unimaginable ways. God's grace and love extends from the Pope like that current running through the crowd, giving life to all it encounters.

It's difficult to comprehend and communicate the contrasts that our Diocesan band of 34 pilgrims were exposed to: exhausting walks (as evidenced by raw blisters), yet resting in the candlelit presence of Jesus at Adoration in the midst of over a million pilgrims and our Holy Father, Pope Francis; the boisterous and diverse national chants and flag waving of young people from 197 countries and the supernatural unity of prayer to our One God through the leadership of His one supreme servant; the frustration of failing to comprehend much of the Polish language and yet the gratification of learning to master and communicate in their language with our host country 'good morning' and 'thank you'; Sr. Christina, the Voice of Italy winner, rocking the Wroclaw stadium with thousands dancing in praise, while Fr. Paul sleeps exhausted on the field of the arena; the massive presence of army, police and security forces while millions celebrated our faith in complete peace!

Our large experiences of WYD in Krakow also contrasted with the intimate relationships we developed with our gracious host families and the sponsoring Salvatorian community in Trzebnica. It was there that I met a local poor family

while celebrating on the streets. Through our shared glass of Polish beer and the assistance of a daughter's Google Translate app, I was able to understand their gratitude for healing mercies through Our Lady of Czestochowa of her father's throat cancer and then accept their invitation to come to their humble home and celebrate a house blessing. Jesus' merciful love was so present.

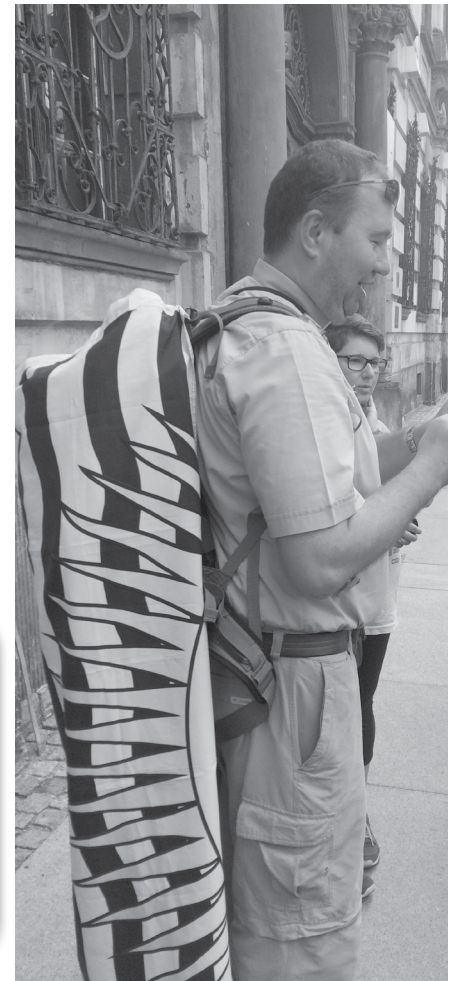
All our pilgrims have stories of encounter with God's incarnational presence; one recounted by Olivia Pearse.

Cecilia and I, while we were exploring downtown Krakow, unexpectedly came across a massive group of people. They appeared to be waiting for something—or someone. We guessed, given the circumstances, it must be the Pope. So we pushed and shoved our way in to the mass of bodies. One could feel excitement and suspense running in and among the bodies like electricity.

Now, you must understand, I had no expectations coming to World Youth Day. I did not expect to receive any great wave of emotion or inspiration. My goal was to come with an open mind and heart. Especially, I could not grasp why seeing the Pope could be such an experience, no more than seeing my parish priest. (Note she does not say 'campus chaplain' DH)

I was wrong. The Pope came around the corner and suddenly the mass of bodies jumped, screamed, and strained to get a better view. The current of electricity stirring before now gave explosions of life. We were so close to him. Merely three to four lines were in front of us. When I saw his head, for a brief moment in time, I was surprised by the tears that welled up in my eyes and the joy that overflowed in my heart. Christ is truly present with the Pope in unimaginable ways. God's grace and love extends from the Pope like that current running through the crowd, giving life to all it encounters.

The next World Youth Day will be held in Panama, and there's already talk about organizing another Diocesan pilgrimage. I'm not sure if my t-shirt will say *I've survived 4 World Youth Days*, but I will certainly do my best to ensure our Diocesan young people get the opportunity of a lifetime! ✂



Faith Matters



White space, 'Shibui' and faith

by Jean Allen

Imagine two different full-page newspaper ads. The first ad is crammed with enticements, products, prices and colourful in-your-face graphics. The second ad is empty except for a short, pithy sentence in the middle of the page. For many, the ad that will immediately attract your attention, pique your curiosity and draw you to read what's on the page is the one with the all the empty space. Unless you are definitely in the market for whatever the busy and chaotic page is advertising, you are very likely to pass it over while your eyes will almost always be pulled to read the short sentence surrounded by clean white space, even though there may be no hint as to whether what is being promoted is of interest to you at all.

Anyone who is involved with page layout knows that white space is as important as text and graphics when it comes to luring people to linger on a page. White space is the area where there is nothing and it's valuable because it gives the eye a place to rest and offers the brain some breathing space so it can absorb the contents of the rest of the page.

Summer is over, parish and Diocesan programs are starting up again, and many people are facing a busy and productive year ahead. When you are planning your day, your week or your year, it is worthwhile to consider whether you have White Space in your layout. Will your page be full of endless chaotic activity and crowded text or will your page have white spaces and places where the inner eyes of those reading you are able to find a place of rest and a moment to breathe deeply? Will your inner message be easily apparent to those who are scanning you, searching for content that will feed them?

Have you ever been to a Japanese garden? Did you find yourself immediately settling down, breathing more freely and feeling like you had found a place of tranquility and healing? The Japanese have a word for this simple, subtle and quiet aesthetic: *Shibui*. It would be worthwhile for each of us in our busy North American Christian culture to stop for a while and ask ourselves if our pages or our inner gardens display *Shibui*, or 'the Peace of Christ'.

The Japanese definitely utilize the principle of empty space to emphasize the extraordinary beauty of an ordinary object. In the same way, the silence and white space of Christ in our lives will do much to emphasize the extraordinary beauty of our ordinary selves. We are flawed vessels but, you know, the Japanese deliberately use flawed vessels in their compositions and arrangements, and I have no doubt in my mind that the Holy Spirit is the deep and everlasting inspiration behind the concept of *Shibui*.

If you never stop to breathe and to steep yourself in silence, how will people be able to read you and read the message you want to share? What will entice them to stay a while in your presence to rest and find peace for their weary hearts if you have not found peace and silence for your own weary heart? You don't need to head off to a monastery to find White Space and enter into Christ's *Shibui*. Take, for example, Bishop Gary. Now there's a busy man! But I'll bet that his times of fishing alone in a boat in the wide ocean is his personal White Space; it is his time to breathe and to absorb the *Shibui* of God in the wind and the waves. Bishop Gary has a life page that is easily read and it invites one to ponder the beauty of his relationship with God. Most people have these spaces and places, yet have not intentionally offered them to the Spirit for his quiet and subtle arrangement. Do you fish, run, bike, garden, paint or do woodworking? Do you love to sit on a beach at dawn or sunset? Do you ski? Anything you do where you can shut down conversation and stop the incessant flow of words and thoughts for a time and just revel in the knowledge that Christ's silence, his White Space, is what sustains everything in this world, is a precious opportunity. It is a place where you can ask the Spirit to create *Shibui* in your life.

Pray to be the uncluttered page that is easily read and the simple garden that offers respite for the weary.

Then whatever else you do will be breath-giving. ✂



Employment with Island Catholic Schools

Are you a university student and would like part-time work (3 hours/day)? Do you like working with children? Island Catholic Schools is looking for responsible adults to be After School Care Workers (3 – 6 PM Monday – Friday).

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www.carecourses.com/PublicPages/Bundle_British_Columbia.aspx

Other employment opportunities with Island Catholic Schools

- Relief Educational Assistants – all schools
- Relief Daycare/Pre-school workers

Preference will be given to candidates with the following qualifications:

- Identification with and participation in the life of a Catholic parish
- Commitment to Catholic Education
- Valid training and/or certificate relative to the position
- Successful school experience
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with others.

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<http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>



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Face the Day



by Bonnie Landry

Recently, the Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Conference was held in Nanoose Bay. The setting of the camp was beautiful and by the time I arrived late Saturday afternoon for a talk, everyone was already glowing. Families looked relaxed, happy, nourished—all the things we want for a family conference, right?

Right!

I was grateful to be invited to be part of this event, and I'd like to share a little portion of my talk here—the part that feedback indicated was most helpful to parents. Here's a little context. This talk was entitled *Raising Holy Children: What Does That Even Mean?* To raise holy children is the goal of all Christian parents, because it would be ludicrous to desire unholy children.

Raising holy children is about us. It's about parents. It's about what we do. It's about raising. Doing. Loving. It's not about the children, or even about the outcome. What it is about is this: we must be Christ-like, in the home, at church, on the streets. We must be faithful to the call to our own sanctity, and through that, we raise holy children.

It's really hard to do. It's hard because our children misbehave sometimes, and we feel like that reflects badly on us, and it's just super-annoying. We are inclined, in moments of crisis, to desire the undesirable behaviour to stop. We are motivated to make it stop. We will sometimes go to great lengths to make it stop.

But here's the thing. We live in an earthquake zone, here on the coast. Most of us maintain some level of preparedness for the Big One, even if it's only an awareness of where we should be, or how to react when and if the Big One hits. *In the middle of an earthquake* is not the time or place to start instructing our people on what to do in the middle of an earthquake.

When we feel a tremor begin, we steel ourselves. We pray, we ride it out, we hold each other. When it's over and we've calmed down, we have a moment to take stock. What if it was the Big One? What might I have done differently? What might you have done differently? What tools might we need if a crisis of magnitude hit?

We take a moment of gratitude, for what we have been given. We count our blessings.

When a child is in the middle of a meltdown, a crisis, an emotional earthquake, it's not the time to instruct them on what they are doing wrong, or how to avoid it in the future, or to tell them how super-annoying they are being. And, truthfully, we can't just make them stop. We can try. We can keep upping the ante of consequences to make them comply. It might work, it might not, depending on the strength of will of any particular child.

How should we respond when the emotional tremors start? The same way we do when we think it might be the Big One. Pray, ride it out. Hold each other. Keep our eyes on heaven. Trying to instruct or discipline in the middle of an earthquake is seldom fruitful. An upset person can't focus on a skill, in this case, self-control.

We can choose to wait. We can wait until the storm has passed before responding to misbehaviour. We can choose to soothe and love them through the upset. Then we can decide how to proceed. We can reflect on what happens. We can provide some tools for next time. A few things happen when we operate this way.

Our discipline, our teaching, our formation of our children is fruitful. We can provide it calmly, they can receive it because their emotions are under control.

We cause no harm. When they are all heated up, and we are too, it's easy to lose our cool. We can say things we don't mean, we can be angry and unkind. If we wait until things have settled down, we are more likely act virtuously.

We take appropriate action. Our reaction is not disproportionate to the behaviour. When we're not motivated by frustration, we will probably discipline more fairly.

We grow. When we are trying to grow in holiness (and we always should be), practice is essential. When we stay calm and collected, loving and tender in times of crisis, big or small, it's a spiritual success. We cannot help but grow closer to God and closer to the ones we love.

Our Family Conference, where we are treated tenderly with mercy and guidance, provides us with nourishment to face what lies ahead. In all our 'misbehaviours' as adults, we are loved and held by the Church through events that nurture, like this Conference, and it is well ordered.


Our families should be the same: a reflection of this love, tenderness and mercy in guidance. We are nourished, and we must bring it home. ✠



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- Holy Trinity Council 9990 serving Nanaimo
- Alberni Valley Council 3435 serving the Alberni Valley
- Fr. Leonard Assembly 2785 serving Mill Bay to Ladysmith
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 Words of Pope John Paul II - 'Catechesis Tradendae'



Pope sends message to 67th National Liturgical Week in Italy

Pope Francis has sent a message, signed by Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, to the Bishop of Castellaneta, Claudio Maniago on the occasion of the 67th National Liturgical Week in Italy which takes place in Gubbio.

www.news.va/en/news/pope-sends-message-of-67th-national-liturgical-week

Pope prays Rosary for earthquake victims

In the wake of the powerful earthquake that struck central Italy on Wednesday, Pope Francis at the General Audience postponed his prepared catechesis, and led the faithful gathered in St Peter's Square in the recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary.

<http://www.news.va/en/news/at-audience-pope-prays-rosary-for-earthquake-victims>

Pope at Audience: mercy as the instrument of communion

At his General Audience on August 17, 2016, which was held in the Paul VI Hall at the Vatican, Pope Francis spoke about mercy as the instrument of communion.

Reflecting on the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, taken from the Gospel of St Matthew, the Holy Father focused on Jesus' compassion for the people who follow after Him. "His compassion is not a vague sentiment," the Pope said. Jesus "loves us so much, and wants to be close to us."

www.news.va/en/news/pope-at-audience-mercy-as-the-instrument-of-communion

Mother Teresa knew what being unloved felt like, priest says

ROME (CNS) -- In the chapel of the first house Blessed Teresa of Kolkata established in Rome, Father Brian Kolodiejchuk of the Missionaries of Charity (and a native of Canada), talks about her life, mixing the concrete and even mundane with the spiritual and even mystical.

"She was very human -- she loved chocolate, she loved ice cream," the priest said. At the same time, her letters to her spiritual directors make it clear "she's among the great mystics of the Church," having experienced the sweetness of hearing Jesus' voice and, later, the desolation of feeling he had abandoned her.

www.catholicnews.com/services/englishnews/2016/mother-teresa-knew-what-being-unloved-felt-like-priest-says.cfm

Ordination and Installation of Most Reverend Joseph Phuong Nguyen, Bishop of Kamloops

On Thursday, August 25, 2016, Bishop-Elect Joseph Nguyen was ordained and installed as the sixth bishop of Kamloops.

Bishop Nguyen's life is an extraordinary story of courage in adversity. Archbishop J. Michael Miller CSB, in his homily at the farewell Mass in Vancouver, shared this about the new Bishop:

Upon his appointment Father Joseph expressed some bewilderment about why the Holy Father had chosen him for the episcopacy. But for those of us who know him, it was no surprise at all that he should pick him for this new mission in the Church. He was formed in a profoundly Catholic family—two priests and two Religious sisters among the children—and in the crucible of suffering in his tortuous escape on a boat from Vietnam, in his life a refugee camp in the Philippines, and his days as a painter struggling to learn English in Vancouver. As parochial vicar at St. Jude's Parish, Immaculate Conception Parish, Delta, and Corpus Christi Parish; and then pastor at Our Lady of Mercy Parish and St. Andrew's Parish: Pastor, 2001-2010, before becoming Director of Vocations and later Vicar General, he showed himself to be a true servant leader who inspires and leads by his humble yet determined witness of life.

Bishop-elect Joseph is known for his fatherly and compassionate approach in dealing with others. No doubt this zeal and welcoming attitude is one of the reasons why he has been able to attract so many lay



people to assume their responsibility for carrying out the Church's mission. Father Joseph is a good team leader; he understands and lives what St. Paul writes in today's Second Reading: "there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian [and] Scythian, slave and free: Christ is all and in all" (Col 3:11). Over the years this has meant that for the projects which he undertakes, he can carry them out because of his ability to inspire others to want to work with him.

Congratulations and many blessings, Bishop Nguyen, from the Diocese of Victoria! ✠

Pope Francis thanks Church in Poland for World Youth Day

Press Release

(Vatican Radio) The Bishops Conference of Poland has released the text of a letter sent by Pope Francis to thank the country for the reception he received last month during World Youth Day.

In the letter, Pope Francis told the Church in Poland he was "deeply moved by your strong faith and the unwavering hope that you have kept in spite of difficulties and tragedies, and by your fervent love, which animates your human and Christian pilgrimage." ✠

The full text of the letter follows:

Having returned from the Apostolic Journey to Poland, I want to renew the expression of my lively gratitude to you, Bishops, priests, consecrated persons and lay faithful, for your warm welcome and for the zeal with which my visit was prepared. I am deeply moved by your strong faith and the unwavering hope that you have kept in spite of difficulties and tragedies, and by your fervent love, which animates your human and Christian pilgrimage.

The memory of the moving Eucharistic celebration at the Shrine of Czestochowa, for the 1050th anniversary of Poland's Baptism, and the moment of prayer in the concentration camp at Auschwitz is especially dear to me. I find great joy in remembering the encounter with the young people who came from different nations.

I assure you of my prayers so that the Church in Poland may continue advancing on its path with perseverance and courage, showing the Lord's merciful love to all. Please, also pray for me. I heartily bless you all.

Live coverage of canonization Mass of Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata

Press Releases

On September 4, 2016, Blessed Mother Teresa Bojaxiu, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, will be canonized in Rome. Salt + Light TV and EWTN will both have live coverage of the event.

You can access the Salt + Light live feed on our website: www.rcdvictoria.org. Information about EWTN's coverage may be found on their website at <http://ewtn.com/multimedia/weekly-schedules.asp#>.

Salt + Light Schedule

Live broadcast of canonization Mass will be on Sunday, September 4, 2016, at 1:30 AM. The Mass will also be played at 5:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:30 PM and 9:30 PM on Sunday; and at 5:30 PM and 9:30 PM on Wednesday, September 7, 2016.

EWTN Schedule

Live broadcast of the canonization Mass will begin at 1:00 AM on Sunday, September 4, 2016. EWTN will rebroadcast the Mass throughout the day on Sunday, September 4. Check their website for more information. ✠



Clarifying the Church's teaching on assisted suicide and euthanasia

Text of a letter from Most Reverend J. Michael Miller CSB, Archbishop of Vancouver

As shepherd of over 400,000 Catholics in Greater Vancouver and the Lower Mainland, and in view of the Supreme Court of Canada decision of February 6, 2015, and the recent legislation enacted by Parliament concerning euthanasia and assisted suicide, now termed MAiD, I am writing to offer some clarity concerning the Catholic Church's teaching in this matter.

1. We maintain as a fundamental principle that any action or omission which of itself or by intention causes or hastens death is a grave violation of the Commandment: "You shall not kill."
2. Consequently, no one may be pressured or coerced to accept any such action or omission; nor may any health care practitioner be pressured or coerced to cooperate in such an action or omission.
3. We hold equally firmly that, while every person has a fundamental right to normal care and treatment, he or she has also the right to refuse procedures or treatments considered "extraordinary" or "disproportionate"; that is, overly burdensome, painful, or of dubious effectiveness in restoring health. Likewise, the individual has the right to discontinue treatment under the same conditions. Occasionally there is the false impression that the Catholic Church teaches that one must sustain and prolong life under all circumstances and at any cost. Just as respect for the human person demands the utmost care of the sick, so the same respect urges avoiding the imposition of treatments that are overly burdensome, unnecessary or futile. As a general principle, if a person's condition was such that it was legitimate to not administer a particular treatment, it would be equally legitimate

to discontinue the treatment when it is judged to be futile, even when it is foreseen that death will follow.

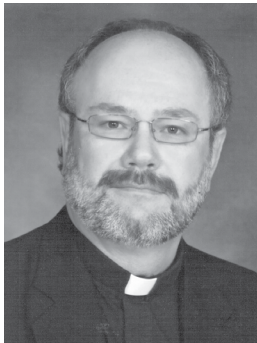
4. Nutrition and hydration are to be considered "ordinary" treatment; they can be discontinued only when the body is no longer able to receive or process food and water. To allow a person to die of starvation or dehydration, rather than of his/her illness, would be a form of euthanasia.
5. For those in the final stages of a terminal illness the Church is a strong advocate for palliative care. We applaud the progress that has been made in the field of pain alleviation and management. While acknowledging the human and redemptive value of suffering, we also recognize our common human responsibility to bring relief to suffering wherever possible. Thus, in palliative care it is always legitimate to administer medication in doses adequate to control the pain, even if it is foreseen that death will be hastened, so long as the intent is to alleviate the pain, and not to hasten death.
6. The conscience of caregivers, physicians, nurses and support staff must always be respected. No one may be subjected to discrimination because of conscientious objection either to MAiD or to effective direct referral.

I hope that this letter may serve to clarify matters whenever questions arise from either health care professionals or patients about what the Catholic Church teaches regarding euthanasia and assisted suicide. ✠

New President for Catholic Missions in Canada

Press Release

Fr. David Reilander, a priest from Hamilton diocese and recently from Whitehorse diocese, has been appointed president of Catholic Missions In Canada (CMIC), an organization serving the Canadian home missions, effective September 1, 2016.



Fr. David Reilander

Fr. Reilander succeeds Father Philip Kennedy, who has visited many of the missions in Canada during his decade-long presidency, and served previously in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto and in ministries of the Diocese of Thunder Bay. After a year's sabbatical, Fr. Kennedy will serve as pastor at a parish in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Fr. Reilander joins the organization after spending the past few years as rector at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Whitehorse, Yukon, as well as serving in several missions in the Diocese of Whitehorse—the same ones supported by Catholic Missions In Canada.

Born in Hamilton, Ontario, Fr. Reilander completed his bachelor's degree (summa cum laude) from McMaster University before pursuing formation studies at St. Augustine's Seminary in 1982, where he graduated with a master's degree in divinity.

As well as completing a postgraduate degree in theology from Saint Paul University, Fr. Reilander also holds a master's degree in theology (magna cum laude) from Regis College. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1986. Since then, Fr. Reilander has been pastor in parishes in and around Owen Sound and the Hamilton area, including St. Mary of the Assumption (Brantford, Ontario), and St. Mary and the Missions (Owen Sound, Ontario). At St. Mary and the Missions, he ministered to seven mission churches covering the Bruce Peninsula as well as trained future pastors.

As a priest in the Diocese of Hamilton, Fr. Reilander served as founding board member of the Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce in Owen Sound and as the Bishop's Representative to the St. Joseph's Hospital Reproductive Issues Committee and various ethics committees in the Hamilton health care system. He has also served as vicar general and chancellor in the Diocese of Whitehorse.

Using his experience and firsthand knowledge of the circumstances in the missions, Father Reilander hopes to extend the work Father Kennedy and the Catholic Missions staff had started.

He writes: "I've enjoyed my time in the subarctic and the people who make the missions so special and welcoming. However, I've come to realize how missions depend on the work of the CMIC staff. Without the financial and spiritual support, many congregations and their church buildings would not exist and the Catholic banner would not fly. It's all about the proclamation of the Gospel to the person in an isolated and, usually, poor place."

To learn more about Catholic Missions In Canada and Fr. Reilander, please pick up the Fall 2016 issue of Catholic Missions In Canada, found online through their website (www.cmic.info), or by calling their office for a copy or subscription at 1-866-937-2642. ✠

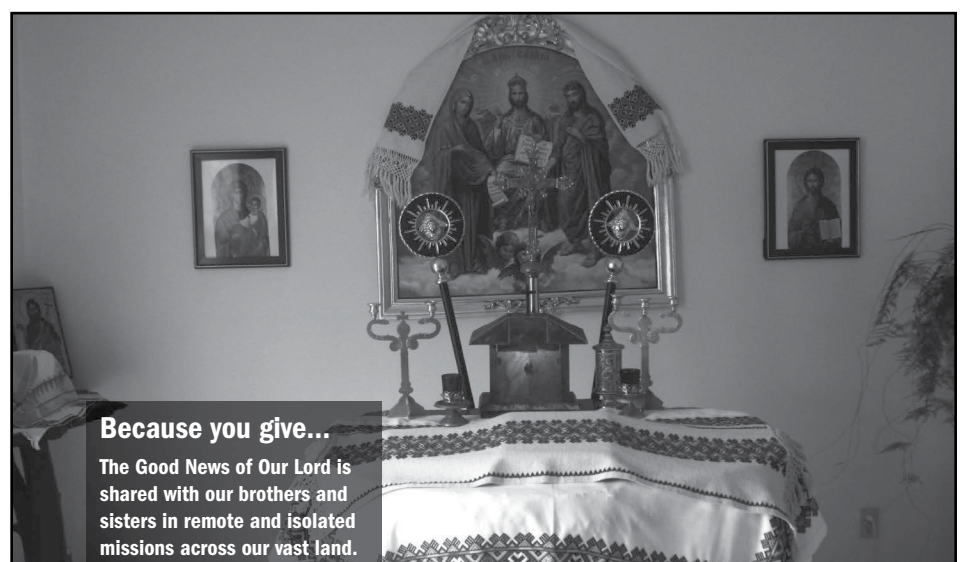
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South Island Counselling Centre

by Caroline Donelle, Director of Development

South Island Centre for Counselling and Training is a non-profit, registered charity whose mission is providing professional, income-based counselling services to those in need. The Centre has been operational in the Capital Region District since 1975.

South Island Centre offers professional counselling services to those unable to afford market rates. No client is turned away for lack of ability to pay, and we work hard to ensure waitlists are as short as possible. Referrals come from a variety of sources.

What makes us stand apart is that all of our contract counsellors are Registered Clinical Counsellors with many years of expertise, and all but one hold Master's degrees.

In addition to counselling services, South Island Centre also offers targeted training to professionals and lay people on topics such as Grief and Loss, Caring for the Very Elderly, Preventing Burnout in the Caregiver, among other relevant 21st Century issues.

In an effort to support mental health services for children and adolescents, we created a new program funded by the Victoria Foundation entitled 'Providing Affordable Counselling for Children and Youth: Bridging the Gap'. Canada's Mental Health Commission estimates that only one in four children receive support and treatment when they need it. We launched this program in January and just halfway through 2016, we have helped 16 children and youth (and their families) and piloted an eight-week anxiety support group for a group of adolescents. We know the need exists and are offering this support group again this fall.

This year we also celebrate 41 years in service to the community. We're holding our 2nd annual fundraising gala at the Hotel Grand Pacific on November 5, 2016 with dinner, music, entertainment and silent auction. We're hoping to raise \$10,000 with the proceeds going directly to support our children and youth program.

South Island Centre is funded in part by the Province of BC, United Way, the Victoria Foundation and the Catholic Foundation of Vancouver Island. Each year our Centre sees an average of 350 clients and those numbers continue to rise. The Centre experienced a 26% increase in demand for services in the last year alone.

South Island Centre has a long history of doing important work providing much-needed services in the Capital Region District. We believe everyone should have access to mental health support when the need arises. Mental health is an important societal issue, and research shows that early intervention goes a long way to ensuring healthier future outcomes.

For more information, or instructions about how to access our services, call us directly at 250-472-2851 or consult our website at www.southislandcentre.ca. ✂

At home with Jim and Joy

by Sandi Digras

After becoming a Media Missionary for Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), I began to learn how much Mother Angelica's vision of a Catholic Media organization, which brought God to those of us in the pews, was about to become real to me. I was invited to Irondale, Alabama to appear on *At home with Jim and Joy*.

To say I was surprised would be an understatement, but I was so happy to finally see where all their great programming originated. From the time of my arrival at the airport, everyone was so warm and friendly I felt like I was joining a big loving family. I stayed in a lovely house with some very interesting guests, including acclaimed author Sr. Anne Shields.

My first morning started with Mass in the Chapel which is the site of the daily Mass broadcast at 7 AM on EWTN. It has been years since I have spoken Latin at Mass (all services are in Latin and English). At dinner in their lovely dining room, I met Fr. Mitch Pacwa, who invited me to come and watch his evening show and participate with a question.

Thursday was the big day, and after Mass in the Chapel I met Jim and Joy Pinto who immediately made me feel at home. We decided the focus of my interview was to be Stewardship and giving back to your parish with your time and talents. The range of topics went from my personal commitment to God, to our Refugee Sponsorship program, the Catholic Women's League (CWL), and what I do on my CWL Council. It was a lot to cover in a half an hour, but conversation flowed easily.

What I was not prepared for was the number of emails from listeners as far away as England to Africa, giving me wonderful feedback and asking for support and advice! Jim said this would happen, but it was still so moving to send back connections with a young boy of 15 who wanted to return to the faith, to a group of women in Kenya who wanted prayers and support and a woman who shared how hard it is to say "no" when asked to serve.

My final day was very special. I was given a personal tour by Carlos Garcia (who manages Marketing for the Media Missionaries) of the Temple of the Divine Child and Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament—home to the Sisters of our Lady of the Angels Monastery.

The whole experience was frankly overwhelming! Mother Angelica provided a beautiful place for her Sisters to live and worship. We attended noon Mass in the chapel below the main church, which also includes the tomb of Mother Angelica. Every detail is beautiful, from the 14 foot monstrance above the main altar, which is all in gold and inlaid marble flooring, to the Holy Door which carries the Seal of the Vatican.

There is an impressive building devoted to Saint John Paul II, the John Paul II Eucharistic Centre. The purpose is to educate us in the evolution from the old Testament to the New Testament from Manna in the desert to the Passover. The interactive display is really educational and enlightening and a wonderful tool for all that want to learn more about the Mass and Consecration.

The grounds and special retreat house for priests are dedicated to quiet contemplation and they do convey that feeling. Eternal Word Television Network and the beautiful Shrine are in every way an embodiment of Mother's vision. ✂

To view Sandi's EWTN interview, visit www.ewtn.com/tv/live/athomewithjimandjoy.asp and scroll to the show from July 21, 2016. If you would like to become a Media Missionary and spread the word about EWTN in your parish, contact Sarah Escobar: sescobar@ewtn.com.



Sandi Digras (C) with Jim (L) and Joy Pinto (R) on the set at Eternal Word Television Network

"The welfare of the family is decisive for the future of the world and that of the Church."

~ Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*

BURSARY



The Sisters of St. Ann are offering a Bursary named in honour of their foundress, Blessed Marie Anne Blondin. This bursary offers assistance to women seeking education in theological and ministry studies that promote justice, peace, integrity of creation, healing, holistic living and a healthy life style.

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Russ Hay's The Bicycle Store
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LIVE TO RIDE TO LIVE

Russ Hay's knows bikes ... from high-end mountain and racing bikes to commuting, touring and cruising bikes—or your child's first bike, the Russ Hay's staff can find the right fit for you.

Our experienced mechanics are known for custom wheel building, and have knowledge and skill in every aspect of bicycles past and current. Whether it's time for a tune-up or you're looking for your special Next Bike ... you can trust your cycling to us.

Interested in riding with a group? Join us: Tuesdays (intermediate) and Thursdays (advanced) at 6 pm, or Saturday mornings (novice, intermediate and training) at 10 am, all leaving from the Victoria location.

Russ Hay's: we've got a ride for you!



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MAKING A PIECE OF TOAST, READING A BOOK, OR MOVING FROM ONE ROOM TO ANOTHER— YOU PROBABLY TAKE THESE THINGS FOR GRANTED.

The residents who live at Mount St. Mary Hospital take little for granted. They live with disabling conditions including multiple sclerosis, dementia, Alzheimer's disease and traumatic brain injury.

Requiring complex care services, the residents are our parents, our grandparents, and other family members and friends. In some cases, they are our adult children. At times, up to 25% of our residents are under the age of 70. Currently, the youngest resident is only 44 years old.

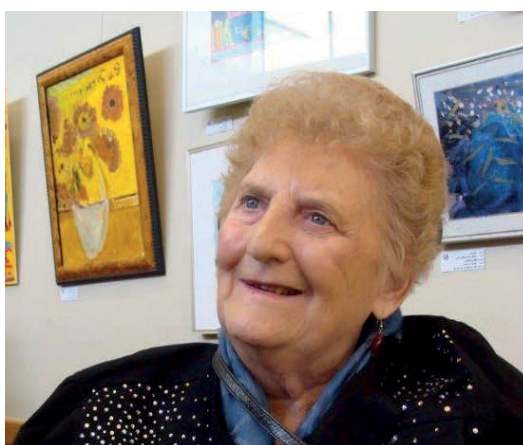
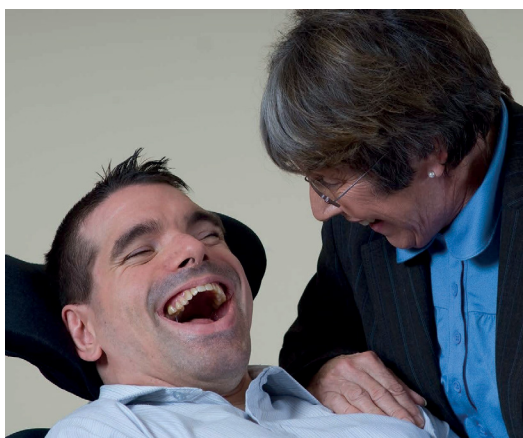
ODDS ARE YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN NO LONGER CARE FOR THEMSELVES OR BE CARED FOR IN THEIR HOME.

Take a moment to imagine giving up the many things you may take for granted, including your home and your ability to do things for yourself.

Now imagine that someone helped you—just like you can help someone today.

Our residents' accommodations, meals, and most medical supplies are covered. Your donation does the rest—bringing purpose, social contact, support and comfort to those who require complex care.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY KNOWING THAT YOUR GIFT, WHATEVER ITS SIZE, IS CRITICAL TO THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.



Your donation provides comfort to the vulnerable, frail and elderly living in our community.

You may wish to support:

ROOM TO CARE—providing residents with a safe, comfortable room that is in good repair.

HEALING THROUGH HOPE—offering emotional and spiritual support as residents face pain, anxiety and losses and celebrate their triumphs and victories.

CARING HEARTS—giving low-income residents a chance to enjoy life-affirming activities and outings and providing for some of their basic needs including clothing, glasses, or a visit to the dentist.

HELPING HANDS—purchasing specialized equipment to improve the care and comfort of our residents and supporting ongoing training for staff and volunteers so residents receive exemplary care.

SISTERS OF ST. ANN LEGACY FUND—upholding the mission of the Sisters, your gift becomes part of an endowed fund with the interest funding pastoral care and music therapy programs.

Yes, I want to help someone vulnerable today.

Please accept my single donation of:

\$35 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other \$ _____

I would like to make a monthly donation of:

\$15/mo \$25/mo \$50/mo \$100/mo Other: \$ _____/mo | Deducted on the 1st 15th of the month.

Please direct my gift to:

Area of Greatest Need Room to Care Healing through Hope Caring Hearts Helping Hands Sisters of St. Ann Legacy Fund

Payment type:

Cheque VISA MasterCard
 A void cheque is enclosed for monthly bank withdrawals.

Name _____ I would like to be anonymous.

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____ Postal code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Credit card number _____ Expiry _____ CVV _____

Signature _____

Please send me information about including Mount St. Mary Hospital in my Will.

I have already included Mount St. Mary Hospital in my Will.

THANK YOU!

Please cut out and mail completed donation form to:
Jane Bowers, CFRE
Director of Fund Development
Mount St. Mary Hospital
861 Fairfield Road
Victoria BC V8V 5A9
Charitable Registration #11904 8205 RR0001

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