



ARCHDIOCESE
of
KINGSTON

JOURNEY

COMMUNICATOR FOR THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF KINGSTON

WE ARE ALL
CALLED TO
HOLINESS

THE CHURCH,
ALIVE

MISSIONS IN THE
ARCHDIOCESE

SUPPORTING FAITH
FORMATION
IN OUR PARISHES

LIVING OUR BAPTISMAL CALL
MAY 2024

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

“It was at Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians.” (Acts 11:26)

This striking phrase from the Acts of the Apostles describes the perception of those who witnessed the group of believers in the city of Antioch who gathered in prayer to observe the resurrection of Jesus. These Christians had been founded from the Apostles at Jerusalem. After the descent of the Holy spirit at Pentecost and the persecution following the martyrdom of Deacon Stephen, the community was scattered throughout Judea and Samaria preaching in the name of Jesus. Eventually, they arrived in Antioch where a faithful community of believers gathered in prayer. Here for a full year, teachers and prophets instructed the believers and through fasting and prayer, the Holy Spirit spoke to the community to set apart Barnabas and Paul to be sent out to proclaim the name of Jesus the Christ. This was the beginning of the great missionary journeys of St. Paul. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, communities of Christians were established to the ends of the known world.

This episode from the Acts of the Apostles has formed the foundation of the Church’s missionary and apostolic work for two thousand years. This action continues today in our own communities. We often use the term “apostolates” to describe the various works of faithful disciples. Strengthened by the Eucharist and the Word of God, believers experience the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to be sent out to continue the work of the Lord.

This edition of Journey is a living testament to the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Catholic Christians in our Archdiocese. I am deeply edified by these stories and grateful to God for the generous cooperation of so many to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our parish communities. I pray that these reflections may bring forth more workers to the vineyard of the Lord. Let us pray to the Holy Spirit that our celebration of Pentecost will bring forth grace that renews the hearts of believers and bears witness in the world to the power of Christ’s resurrection.

+Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston

THE CHURCH ALIVE

Sometimes it is easy to see that the Holy Spirit is moving among us, guiding us, and encouraging us. He simply needs willing hands and open hearts to build the Kingdom of God in our midst. The lives of volunteers, neighbours, and like-hearted individuals in the Quinte region have woven together over time, wrapping around Youth Ministry, committed to advancing their own Catholic faith formation as well as formation for teens and ultimately for the future of the Church. St. Michael the Archangel parish in Belleville has supported a Youth Ministry office for many years with dedicated staff and meeting space hosting weekly activities, retreats, and liturgical celebrations. The Youth Group has always been open to young people, ages 12 and older, regardless of what parish they attend.



St. Andrew School of Evangelization, Adult and Youth Faith Formation

In addition to concern for the faith formation of youth, Fr. Richard Whalen, Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel, initiated the first English-speaking campus of St. Andrew School of Evangelization in Canada within his parish approximately fifteen years ago. The mandate of the school is to, ***“go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation”*** (Mark 16.13). Many faithful from across the region have participated in the courses available through the school. As the adults facilitating youth ministry experienced the richness of the courses offered through the school, the idea of adapting the content of the introductory programs for youth was born. Youth Ministry facilitators, Silvana Lougheed and Marilyn Woolven adapted the first course, New Life for Teens, in 2011. They ran the weekend course for youth in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and for high school graduates to help prepare them to go out into the world grounded in their faith.

With the retirement of Silvana and Marilyn and the onset of the pandemic, the New Life for Teens course was paused for several years. Melanie Rabishaw and Ruth Terry decided to offer the program once again in April of 2023, hoping that they would be able to find up to twenty participants and the necessary funds to pay for the venue, meals, and other expenses. Ruth Terry explains, “We received donations from parishes within the region, the NCC Foundation, the Knights of Columbus, and others very dedicated to engaging youth in their faith formation. We also benefited greatly from the spiritual support of several religious communities, and local Catholic Women’s League groups. The fruit of the program has been incredible. The young people loved it and now we have six former young people coming back this year to help run the program”.



Inspired by the incredible response to the New Life for Teens course, organizers felt they had to keep going, keep the fire alive, and offer these young people more opportunities to come together in faith. To meet this need, Melanie and Ruth adapted another program, Emmaus for Teens. They ran this program in the fall of 2023 quickly reaching their twenty-participant capacity. Volunteer, Patrick Bailey, became involved with the courses for teens having previously participated in the two courses through the St. Andrew's School of Evangelization. He was happy to support a faith formation program for youth commenting, "I think I got as much out of the experience as the kids did. It lifted me up as much as I hoped it did the youth involved." Following the fall course, Patrick began investigating the possibility of taking a group of teens to the Catholic High School Conference at Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio at the end of June 2024. Thirty-three teens and six adults are now registered for this life-changing experience.

The Youth Group – Come one, Come all

Young people from across the Quinte/Quinte West region participate in the Youth Group which meets every weekend at St. Michael parish. While group size varies slightly from week to week, current and past participants come from Marysville, Read, Trenton, Stirling, Belleville, and Prince Edward County to share and grow in their faith. The facilitator of the Youth Group, Sydney Hunt, works closely with the members of the group to respond to their needs, and interests and to empower their faith leadership. Sydney commented, *"They come from different schools and parishes but their common bond is their love for Jesus."*

"They really care for each other – you can see it". When asked to describe the program Sydney explained, "We alternate meetings, one week Saturday evening, the next week it is Sunday evening as this makes it easier for more to come when it works for their schedules. On Saturdays we attend the evening Mass together and then have organized activities downstairs. They interact socially and we all spend time together in prayer. Throughout April we decided to spend time each week in Eucharistic Adoration". When asked how she decided to commit to this volunteer role Sydney stated, "I participated in youth ministry when I lived in Australia for four years so when I returned home to Belleville I wanted to get involved in the parish. I had to pay attention because the first few things I tried didn't develop. Then I responded to a post in the parish bulletin looking for someone to assist with the youth ministry. I think the Holy Spirit had a plan. I've been working with the group for six months now".



Pictured: (Above) Teens serving Steubenville fundraiser lasagna dinner at St. Michael Parish Centre, April 27, 2024.
(Below) Youth Group members sharing their Lenten traditions before the beginning of Lent 2024.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

When asked to reflect on her experiences as a volunteer involved for many years in adult and teen faith formation, Ruth Terry stated, *"I feel so fulfilled and it gives me such hope for the future of the Church"*. With six youth leaders preparing to provide their own testimonies and lead activities during the next New Life for Teens course, such joyful optimism is well-founded. Gracy Joseph, co-leader of the Youth Group, is one of these inspiring teens. When asked about what motivates her leadership Gracy explained, *"Post-pandemic, the idea of community was something that I valued more. My faith has grown significantly since I started being more involved in youth ministry"*. When asked what advice she would give to other teens, she replied, ***"1 Peter 4:10 says, Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in various forms"***. *To all Catholic teens: get involved in your local youth ministries. If you don't have one, consider starting one. Everyone's journey of faith starts somewhere and yours can too!"*

When asked about the connection between the adult faith formation programs offered within the parish through the St. Andrew's School of Evangelization and the building up of the community in faith, Fr. Whalen stated, *"the courses equip you to know your faith so people feel comfortable and prepared to go out and share their faith with others. You can really see the work of the Holy Spirit eliciting all of this participation. This is the Church alive – people using the spiritual gifts given to the Body of Christ"*. To find out more about St. Andrew's School of Evangelization operating in the Belleville region or to participate in any of the courses available, go to sase.ca. To inquire about the New Life for Teens or Emmaus for Teens courses, please contact Coordinators/Directors Melanie Rabishaw or Ruth Terry through St. Michael's parish office, 613-962-4634.



Pictured: (above) Teenagers plating lasagna at their Steubenville fundraising dinner.
(Below) Belleville Youth group nicknamed, "Benny's Group" on the deck of the St. Michael parish Centre.



SUPPORTING FAITH FORMATION IN OUR PARISHES ANSWERING OUR BAPTISMAL CALL

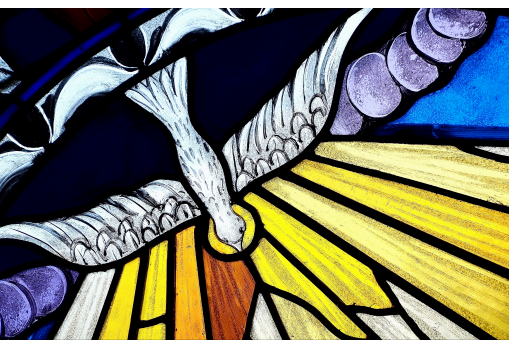
By Taylor Lynch, Director of Family Ministries and Outreach



Sometimes it comes as a surprise to Catholics that our formation in the faith does not end with our sacramental preparation classes. Indeed, we are called every day to boldly “put out into the deep,” to dive ever deeper into our personal relationship with Jesus and the promises of the Resurrection. Perhaps even more surprising is that the Church tells us that though this faith journey is personal, it is not private. By virtue of our baptismal identity, we are called to boldly proclaim the paradoxical joys of Christ crucified with those who do not yet know the Risen Lord. This is daunting, but it is an exciting demand of our faith. We are called to share our belief in the Good News, a belief that at times is imperfect and small, the size of a mustard seed. It takes prayer, regular access to the sacraments, and our church community to grow and deepen our faith to share the Gospel with a world thirsty for its message.



At the Archdiocesan level, we recognize that this journey requires support and education. Everyone is called to share their faith, but the Holy Spirit is calling some to do it in a more formal and structured way through the ministries of Catechesis and Faith Formation. In your parish, this might look like sacramental preparation for first reconciliation and communion, or it might look like Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) or confirmation classes. Some parishes may have a rich tradition of catechesis, while other parishes may just be beginning to form a sacramental preparation program. To support this evolving work, the Family and Outreach and Religious Education offices are taking steps to develop resources and networks to assist our ministers and volunteers.



On the morning of June 1st, a sacramental preparation best practices workshop will be held at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre. This is an opportunity for volunteers to share what is working well in our parishes for first reconciliation, first communion, and confirmation preparation, but also identify possible solutions to common challenges. Additionally, it is an opportunity to network with other catechesis and sacramental prep volunteers. Finally, we want to hear from parishes on how the Archdiocesan Ministry offices can best support this essential ministry. To further share resources, Archdiocesan staff are developing a landing page for sacramental preparation that can be accessed by ministry volunteers, pastors, and parish administrators. Parishes are encouraged to submit documents and templates (such as introductory letters, schedules, resource lists, retreat plans, etc.) that can be downloaded and customized by parishes for their sacramental preparation programs.



Finally, the Archdiocese is piloting a partnership with FORMED, an online resource that allows individuals to stream video, listen to audio content, and download audiobooks. Archdiocesan leadership has discussed the evangelization and catechesis benefits of having access to high-quality and authentically Catholic media across our parishes. For instance, our catechists could complete standardized training across the Archdiocese, regardless of the size of each parish, by completing FORMED faith formation programs. In the coming months, Archdiocesan staff will be working closely with parishes to learn how best to leverage FORMED for their faith formation needs.



If you are looking to share your faith in a more structured way, we encourage you to reach out to your pastor and discuss how you may be of assistance to your sacramental preparation or catechesis programs.

St. Gregory the Great Celebrates the Sacraments of Initiation With Their Young Parishioners

by Gail McDougall

Each year, the Catechist at St. Gregory the Great, Gail McDougall, works with children and their families under the direction of parish priest, Fr. George Okoye, to prepare them for the Sacraments of initiation including, Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. On May 7, 2023, ten children received their First Communion after 4 months of weekly classes. Their culminating activity was a Bread Party where they enjoyed breads from different countries and acknowledged their unity with the universal Catholic Church.

One young woman in Grade 7 was baptized and another who was previously baptized was received into the Catholic church. Both young women had been supporting the younger children preparing for First Holy Communion and attended monthly meetings in preparation for their own Confirmation.

Confirmation students attended Mass monthly during the school day, followed by a meeting and lesson from their Decision Point Workbook. On Friday, May 12, 2023, eighteen students attended their Confirmation Retreat. The retreat opened with morning prayer at school, they then attended Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayed the Rosary with parishioners. After a snack they followed the workbook for a lesson on the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of the Spirit they would receive. They then worked in teams to review their prayers; the Apostles Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be by assembling strips of text. After a pizza Lunch, they prepared their names and symbols for their Confirmation stoles, went for ice cream, played Catholic Trivia and closed with the prayer "Do It Anyway", a favourite of Mother Teresa.



Confirmation was held on Monday May 29, 2023. The young people were given their stoles by their sponsors and every candidate had a role in the liturgy. After Mass, a white dove was released while a student read this reflection:



“We will release this dove and she will find her way home in approximately ten minutes. Likewise, we will be released with a renewed Spirit to help us find our way to our heavenly home.”

This year, a greater focus on family engagement in the sacramental preparation process has influenced when the retreats are held. The first four preparation classes were held after school with parents in either the church or the school. In May of 2024, ten children will receive their First Holy Communion. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered again in 2025. Each year, an invitation from St. Gregory parish to Sacramental preparation is provided to parents, through St. Gregory Catholic school, in September. Those who show interest in response to this invitation are contacted by the parish.

When asked about her role as a Catechist, Gail commented, “You receive such a blessing watching these little people develop in their faith. They are the small ones Jesus is talking about. If you love your faith, you love children and are willing to meet people where they are, there is so much joy in doing this work”.



On Being Called

By Deacon Blaine Barclay

Are you called to be a lector, an extraordinary minister of the eucharist? Called to the sacrament of marriage, to be a mother or father? To the single life? To the vowed life of a religious sister or brother, a monk or a nun? A priest, a permanent deacon, the wife of a deacon? A lay servant of Christ in the disguise of the poor and the vulnerable? A doctor, teacher, nurse, welder, grave digger, or candle stick maker?

Whatever our specific vocation or call, each is an answer to the fundamental call of baptism. The sacrament of Baptism is the foundational context for all other callings. Baptism is the call to be apprenticed to Jesus, the lifelong project of discipleship. Baptism calls each of us to be a saint. The call of Baptism and the universal call to holiness are one and the same. Leon Bloy famously said, “there is one tragedy in life, not to be a saint”. Whatever our particular call or vocation, we are called to intimacy with the Lord Jesus. This is not something extrinsic to our identity as persons. Both in the order of creation and of grace, the fundamental structure of the human person is being called. Each one of us is called into existence by the Word of God. “God said, let there be...and it was so, male and female God created them...and behold it was very good”. Even after the fall, refusing the call to be the image of God in this world, trying to hide from God in our shame, God is still calling. “Adam where are you?” God is ever seeking us, longing to be in a relationship with us. God is always taking the initiative in our lives. God calls, we respond. Call and response, on the level of both nature and grace this is the very structure of our humanity. This reflects in us the reciprocity, the call and response, the communion within the eternal processions of the Trinity.





Pictured: Deacon Barclay incensing the ambo prior to reading the Gospel.

Like Mary Magdalene on that first Easter morning, who does not recognize Jesus until He calls her by name. “Mary”. Jesus calls each one of us by name, and this invitation to respond gives us the strength and courage to say, “Here I am, send me”. In addition Jesus also calls for “labourers in the vineyard”, reminding us that “the harvest is great, but the labourers are few.”

To be the ‘Church’, in N.T. Greek, ‘ecclesia’, literally the gathered, those who have been called, the assembly of the baptized. Harvested and gathered from among the nations, to work in the field of the Lord. To witness and testify to the tender mercy of God, the good news of the Kingdom. Look around at our broken world, the need for labourers is great. We are plunging into a situation of global crisis. Wars, rumours of wars, climate catastrophe, unaffordable housing, displaced people everywhere, internationally and on our streets. God wants to raise up an army of mercy warriors, to fight the good fight, for peace, justice, tenderness. Dear reader, examine your hearts, ask God to give you the courage to say yes to some specific life in the service of the good news.

Specifically, if you are a man between the ages of 35 and 59, if married, or younger if celibate, and are interested in discerning serving in God’s army as a permanent Deacon, please contact either Deacon Bob Wojcik at diaconateform@archkingston.ca, or Deacon Blaine Barclay at diaconatecurr@archkingston.ca

The call to be a missionary is a call to every baptised Christian.
*“Jesus is also saying to you: ‘Go, don’t miss a chance to bear me witness!’
My brother, my sister, the Lord expects from you a testimony
that no one can give in your place.”*

Pope Francis October 20, 2021, World Missions Sunday

The Office of Religious Education assists and supports parishes in workshops, accompaniment, evangelization, and catechesis. Another vital component of our service lies within the important work of Prison Ministry and Chaplaincy. Prison Ministry and Chaplaincy has a long and vibrant history of over one hundred and eighty-one years here in the Archdiocese of Kingston! The first Catholic Chaplain was Father Angus MacDonell who began his work in 1843 at Kingston Penitentiary. Over the years chaplains and volunteers have been present in the various institutions here in Kingston to serve and accompany those incarcerated. Here are a few stories and reflections from some of our chaplains who accompany those inside the institutions.

Deacon Greg Burliuk:

Here are two humble examples of prison ministry that illustrate how meaningful this ministry can be. In the first case I was visiting an inmate at the Regional Treatment Centre at Millhaven Institution. He was busy at a program and couldn’t see me but the message he left was please leave the book. This was the same inmate who, a month earlier, said that life was meaningless because he was a lifer and knew he was going to die in jail. Since then, I have been giving him books to read which he enjoys and provides some purpose and he now looks forward to getting them. The second example involves a prisoner I see at Joyceville Medium Institution. He desired to become a Catholic, I taught him, and he was baptized and confirmed two months ago. Now every time I see him, I bring him Holy Communion and he has true joy and purpose. He is so happy to receive our Lord. Connecting with prisoners in whatever way possible is what makes the job challenging, but also what makes it most rewarding.

Fr. Sebastian Amato:

I have been doing part time Prison Ministry at Collins Bay Institution for the last two years and some fill in ministry at the Joyceville Assessment Unit during the last few months. I never thought that I would be working in this type of ministry. Even though most of my ministry at the prison involves providing Mass and Reconciliation, I really value the opportunity to speak with the inmates one on one and to provide them a positive presence. I speak with anyone who wants to talk. Each time I am at the prison, something new happens. With various surprises, I find this to be a rewarding ministry.





Deacon Larry Judge:

When I think about it the biggest surprise to me is how many men have never known and been shown love. There is a great amount of hurt inside and unfortunately it gets expressed through anger and coped with through drugs. How can our society move forward and become better if so many have not experienced love and therefore have no idea of how to express love to others? **“EVERYONE WANTS AND NEEDS TO BE LOVED.”**

Mariola Gozdek:

I am privileged to work as one of the Site-Based Chaplains at the Collins Bay Medium and Maximum-Security Institution in Kingston. Site-based Chaplains serve spiritual needs of all offenders, no matter their religion, tradition, or culture. We lead religious services, visit inmates on ranges, offer spiritual counseling sessions and programs related to spirituality, restoration of life and relationships. Last month the Chaplains led Inmates in a 5 Km fundraiser-walk for a local charity dedicated to feeding the hungry on our streets.

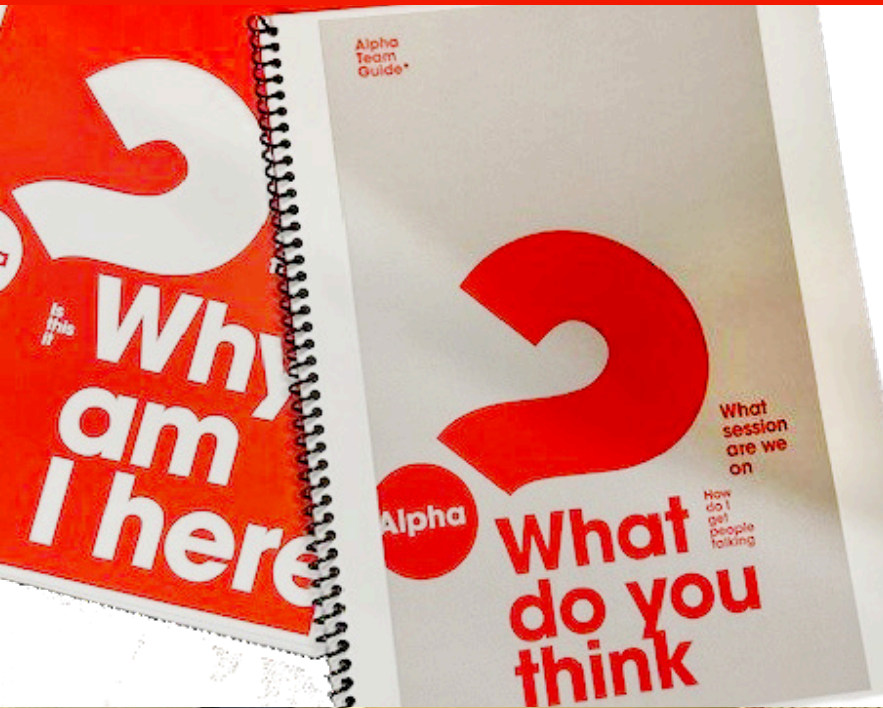
Chaplains are always looking at offenders through the eyes of God, seeing them as another human being, separating the person they are from the crime they committed, always keeping in mind victims of their crime. Chaplains’ roles flow from the Gospel principle of loving one another. Justice has been done, offenders are paying for their actions, but we can’t forget that most of them are returning to society at some point, and the Chaplaincy’s role is to assist inmates in this restorative justice process. We can’t do this alone.

Volunteers are very important in prison ministry. They bring the love of God inside the walls. They embody this love by spending time with prisoners, listening to their stories, laughing, and sharing a cup of coffee with them. With volunteers, the outside world comes inside to those confined and disconnected from reality. The Chaplain’s work is constantly supported by volunteers, and the need is great. Presently two volunteers are running our Grief and Loss support group, one is leading a Bible study and a Guitar class, some are assisting with services in music ministry, others are leading or helping with a variety of programs. New volunteers are always welcome.

In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 25, Jesus promises eternal life to those who visit prisoners as He identifies with them when He says, **“I was in prison, and you came to visit me.”** In a Letter to Hebrews 13:1-3 St. Paul calls to us: “Remember those in prison”. Pope Francis is teaching us the Art of Accompanying one another (EG,169) and following Jesus. He himself washes prisoners’ feet. Would you come and do the same? If you are interested in volunteering within the Prison Ministry program, please contact Mary-Jo Mackinnon-Simms at the Archdiocesan Office at 613-548-4461 for more information. Institutional screening will apply.

DIVINE RENOVATION:

ALPHA COMES TO HOLY FAMILY PARISH



by Marie Sardinha

When Friar Reto Davatz arrived from Switzerland a year and a half ago, he brought with him an idea that was new to us – Divine Renovation. This Catholic Ministry, founded by Father James Mallon is dedicated to parish renewal. ALPHA seemed to be the perfect place to start.

Thirty – two guests, including some from other parishes, joined us for a ten – week journey of faith. Each session begins with a meal, followed by a video which explores the big issues of life and faith, addressing questions like, “Who is Jesus?” “Why and how do I pray?” and “How does God guide us?” Finally, there is a group conversation where the guests have the opportunity to share thoughts and ideas on the topic of the evening and discuss in small groups.

The Alpha retreat takes place after the seventh session. It is an opportunity to learn about the power of the Holy Spirit. It is a time for prayer but also a time for sharing and connecting with new friends. Holy Family guests enjoyed this retreat at the Donald Gordon Centre and all who participated commented that the day did have them feeling more at peace and that the Holy Spirit does indeed lead us to Jesus and God the Father.

We thank all who assisted us, especially CCO Queens Missionaries, Abha Parmar and Sean Brownrigg, as well as Friar Reto.



Join us at Our Lady of Divine Fire Mission

by Mary Tudin

Do you desire a faith which is vibrant and joyful, with deep confidence that you are loved by God? Do you long to let your light shine more brightly to your family and those you encounter in the world around you? These deep longings are stirred within our hearts by Jesus, who continues to transform lives in our time! When we live that reality every day, the Holy Spirit empowers us to be a beacon of hope to others in the midst of these turbulent times.

When we are truly convinced that a relationship with Jesus matters, and that he is the solution everyone is seeking, even unknowingly, then we will have the passion and the credibility to share the Good News with those who need to hear it. Pope St. Paul VI emphasized this point: *"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses"* (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 41).

That's why Our Lady of Divine Fire Mission was formed. Our not-for-profit corporation, based in Kingston, was created in 2020 to advance the Kingdom of God by setting hearts on fire with Divine Love, burning to make Jesus known and loved. Our mission is to guide God's people into holiness, healing and freedom, and to equip them for mission.

Perhaps you share our desire to transform our culture by embracing the fullness of God's promises revealed in Scripture and Tradition, and as demonstrated especially by the early Church. If so, you might be interested in attending or helping to organize opportunities to encounter Christ.



Here are some ways you can get involved:

1. Group events, with music, worship, teaching, and corporate and individual prayer.
2. Programs related to Ignatian meditation with Scripture, and how to converse with God in personal prayer.
3. Prayer ministry led by trained/certified leaders, for inner healing, Unbound healing and deliverance, physical healing, encouragement, and spiritual direction.
4. Formation of Spirit-filled missionary disciples through the Encounter School of Ministry (ESM) – Kingston Campus. This school draws from the richness of our Catholic heritage to “teach, equip and activate disciples to demonstrate the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit in their spheres of influence.” The first students of the 2-year in person, certificate program in Kingston will graduate on May 6, 2024.

A few examples of how people have responded: *“I had no idea Jesus was still healing people today.” “I’ve been a Catholic my whole life. I never realized my faith was supposed to be about a relationship with God.” “I had never told anyone these things before. But now that I have, and I’ve been able to forgive and renounce the lies I believed, I’m finally free! I’m so grateful.”*

If you are ready to further ignite your faith, so that you will not only desire but also be equipped to share it with others, we encourage you to attend our “Summer Intensive” event. It will be held at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Parish in Kingston on the evenings of July 8–11, 2024. The “Summer Intensive” will convince you that Jesus did not leave behind a powerless Church. It will introduce you to the first four quarters of the Encounter School of Ministry curriculum: Identity and Transformation; Power and Healing; Hearing God and Prophetic Gifts; Inner Healing and Freedom. For more information, please visit <https://encounterschool.org/kingston>, or contact Miriam Wright at ourladyofdivinefire@gmail.com.

SECULAR FRANCISCANS: LIVING THE SPIRITUALITY OF ST. FRANCIS

by Silvana Loughheed OFS

"May the Lord give you peace!" St. Francis encouraged his followers to greet everyone they met with these words. Peace is what we all desire, both personally and for our world. With all his heart, Francis longed to be totally identified with Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

People worldwide, from every walk of life, have heard of St. Francis of Assisi. Isn't he the one who loves animals? Outdoor garden statues of St. Francis with birds on his arms and at his feet are popular. Be assured that St. Francis' life was so much more than about birds! He indeed loved all of God's creation and praised God for the living beauty surrounding him. "Praised be You my Lord through all Your creatures..." (Canticle of the Creatures)

We are so blessed that in our Roman Catholic Church, Saints have inspired numerous religious families. I belong to the Franciscan Family as a **Secular Franciscan**. This means that as a lay person living in the world, I am committed to living the Gospel according to the spirituality of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi.

Have you ever considered why Priests or Deacons kiss the Gospel after proclaiming it? The Gospel is the Good News and the Good News is a person - Jesus. Jesus, the Word made flesh, was the centre of St. Francis' whole life with God and people and so it is with Secular Franciscans. Going from **Gospel to life** and **life to Gospel** is the heart of Franciscan spirituality. While in prayer, Francis heard Jesus Himself asking him to ***"Go rebuild my Church, which is falling into ruins."*** Three times from the lips of the glorified Jesus on the San Damiano Cross, a young, searching Francis heard these timeless words, like the Gospel.

When we pray the Stations of the Cross, we begin with a prayer adapted from St. Francis, which he prayed whenever entering a Roman Catholic Church: ***"We adore you, O Lord Jesus Christ, in this church and all the churches of the world, and we bless you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world."*** He had such a great love for the Eucharist and was in awe that Jesus would be so humble as to hide himself under a small morsel of bread. He would say to his Brothers, ***"look at the humility of God and pour out your hearts before Him!"***

Did you know that the Nativity Scenes and pageant plays we have every Christmas, began with a live outdoor nativity scene in Greccio Italy? St. Francis' heart was moved to organize an outdoor reenactment of the birth of our Lord in humble surroundings.

St. Francis was the first human known to have received the wounds of Christ, the stigmata. In Matthew 11:29 Jesus says, ***"learn from me for I am meek and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls."*** St. Francis and St. Clare learned from Jesus and in humility and simplicity, they found true peace and joy in living the Gospel.

Looking for more? **Is God calling you?** Come and experience an evening with our **Holy Rosary Fraternity**, comprised of members from Belleville and Kingston parishes! We begin with Mass at 5:30pm at Holy Rosary Church, 169 North Park Street, followed by our meeting on the first Thursday, every month. We look forward to meeting you!

For more information, please contact Mary Olsen, 613-969-6606, or Silvana Loughheed, 613-968-7309 Belleville.



We Are All Called to Holiness

Answering the baptismal call to mission for Christians means imitating Jesus Christ. In the apostolic exhortation on “the call to holiness in the contemporary world”, **Gaudete et Excultate**, Pope Francis reminds us that every state of life leads to holiness through practical ways of loving others, and that we may look for holiness next door in our neighbours. Holiness is a gift from God offered to all. We are all called to be saints within our own states of life by accepting this gift of Grace and living a life of witness to our Lord whose words run counter to the ways of our world (Langr, C. April 9, 2018). Pope Francis reminds us not to be intimidated by the examples of holiness documented in the lives of the Saints, particularly those who are consecrated religious within the Church. Over the past fifty years, more people have been canonized as Saints than in the previous history of the Church (CBS, Oct 19, 2003). The Church teaches that all who enter heaven are saints but only those who are determined to be Saints through the evidence-based process of Canonization are officially recognized within the Church. Two families within the Archdiocese of Kingston have relatives who have been investigated for the cause of Canonization; the Vella family of St. Paul parish, Kingston, and the Formosa-Topping family of St. John the Evangelist parish, Flinton.

St. George Preca, the great-uncle of the late Tony (Anthony) Vella, was canonized as a Saint by Pope Benedict XVI on June 3, 2007. St. George was born in 1880 in Malta where he became a parish priest. He initiated the Society of Christian Doctrine which received ecclesiastical recognition in 1932.



In 1957, he composted the Mysteries of Light as an addition to the Rosary, based on inspiration from John 8:12 (catholic.org). He died in 1962 and was recognized with beatification in 2001 by Pope John Paul II who referred to him affectionately as, “Malta’s second father in faith”(Catholic.org). A small shrine dedicated to St. George may be found in St. Paul the Apostle Church in Kingston.

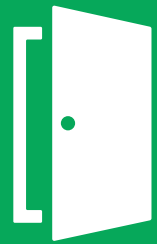


Blessed Mother Margherita of the Sacred Heart, the great-great-aunt of Maude Formosa-Topping was declared Venerable on January 27, 2014. Born in 1862 and named Virginia De Brincat, she began religious formation in Gozo, Malta, in 1881. She completed her final Religious Profession, becoming Sister Margherita of the Heart of Jesus in 1887. She experienced a supernatural call to join a small congregation of Franciscan Sisters who, due to financial issues, were at risk of having their community dissolved. She became the Mother Superior of the order which expanded and grew to over 450 religious Sisters in several countries over her 27 years of stewardship of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus (fcjmalta.com). Blessed Mother Margherita professed great love for Eucharistic Adoration inviting and encouraging all Sisters to “seek everything from the Tabernacle” (fcjmalta.com). Her many letters continue to be sources of inspiration for the Congregation. All the faithful are encouraged to seek her intercession for their intentions and share any Graces received with the Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus at info@mmargherita.com.

As we grow in holiness, living out our baptismal call to mission in imitation of Jesus Christ, we hope to one day stand among the Saints in the halls of heaven. There we will recognize neighbours and those who have encouraged us in our earthly pilgrimage, helping us to accept the Grace freely offered to us for our unique journeys toward salvation.

OPENING HEARTS – CHANGING LIVES DOORS REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

by Mimi Merrill, DOORS Refugee Sponsorship Coordinator



Nearly a decade... Next year will mark the 10-year anniversary of young Alan Kurdi's tragic story. While refugee work has always existed, it gained global attention in 2015 when the heart wrenching photograph of Kurdi went viral. The response to that photo was historic, as churches, community groups and individuals jumped to action, and we began to see waves of Syrian refugees arrive into our communities. Many of those refugees are well established today and can imagine no other home than Kingston and the surrounding area. We also began to see attention turn to the global refugee crisis and soon people from the DRC, Eritrea, Iraq, Myanmar, Pakistan, Uganda, Sudan, Burundi and Afghanistan began arriving through private sponsorship. While refugee work is a constant part of our lives at DOORS, we realize that many who were involved with the Syrian wave of refugee arrivals may no longer be as connected to the work and may not know what it looks like today.

What does sponsorship look like today?

In a recent conversation with one of our sponsors, she explained the horrors that she witnessed on her trip to the Goma region of the Democratic Republic of Congo. *"Everyday Goma is burying the dead, victims of this chaos. I am an eye witness,"* says Mimi Kashira, *"Few people can make it out to countries like Uganda or Kenya and even then, they continue to suffer tremendously."* Families of refugees share similar stories of the difficulties their loved ones continue to face. Several of our sponsors of Afghan origin have failed to get their family members to safety as governments around the world shut the door on any possibility of rescue. New crises are born daily, and old ones tend to worsen. Yet despite this, we continue to see families hope and fight for their loved ones. While we do not see the same momentum from churches as we did in 2015, we cannot forget the lifelong impact church involvement has had on newcomers who came through the DOORS program. Throughout the Diocese we have seen newcomers become transportation drivers, business owners, law clerks, financial advisors, settlement workers and participate in many other professions. Newcomers have also become Canadians, bought homes and sent their children to college and university. We have also seen newcomers overcome major challenges like divorce and death. One of the most significant outcomes we have seen from the program is the friendships formed between sponsors and newcomers that have lasted well past the sponsorship years. Even with the decrease in church involvement we still see many community members and families in particular take on the work to bring refugees to our area.



We need you...

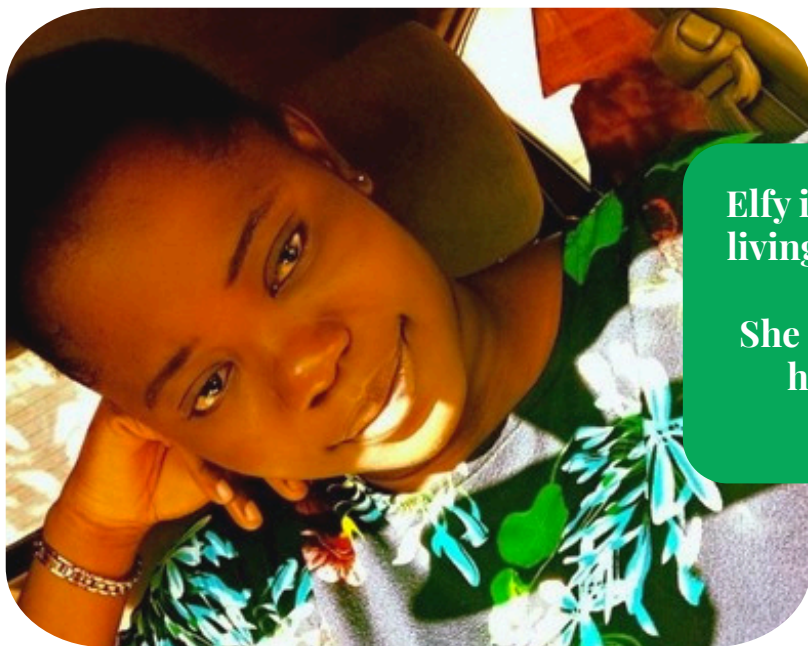
According to the UNHCR, there are 110 million people who have been forcibly displaced. 36.4 million are refugees, 5.3 million need international protection*. In Canada, the government's immigration levels plan aims to resettle an average of 73 871 refugees per year for the next 3 years. The average 28 083 (yearly average) will be privately sponsored refugees**. DOORS will sponsor an average of 55 refugees per year. We cannot save the world but for those 55 people their lives will be changed forever. Churches are pulled in every direction when it comes to community support and charitable missions. There is also the necessary focus on church operations, building maintenance and staff management. We recognize this at DOORS which is why we have mindfully identified ways the churches can continue to be involved with refugee work.

- We need co-sponsors to assist families of refugees. Many families that approach us can provide full financial support or settlement report but not both. Co-sponsor can help share the responsibilities.
- We also need: English practice buddies (people to practice English with refugees outside of the classroom). DOORS volunteer Danny Lalonde said the following about his experience: "Last summer, I had the wonderful opportunity of meeting weekly with the Basha family. We met at our local library and spent about an hour together each week. We talked about our families, our experiences, life in their home country, life in Canada, all with the goal of improving their English. In the end, I think I benefitted perhaps more than they did. I came away with a greater understanding of the circumstances and needs of new Canadians".
- Youth connections (young people to spend social time with newcomers aged 18-30). Young people struggle to make connections with their peer group and it is essential that they form relationships with people who can share their interest and struggles.



Mulham, DOORS Volunteer

Contact DOORS if you can help or if you'd like more information about the program: doorsref@gmail.com
Thank you to Mimi Kashira and Danny Lalonde for lending their voice to this article.



Elfy is a young Catholic woman from the DRC living in Zambia. Elfy had to flee her situation and abandon her medical degree. She has family in the Kingston area who are hoping to find help in sponsoring her.
(Photo Provided by Elfy)

*source: <https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/Mid-year-trends-2023.pdf>

**source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/notices/supplementary-immigration-levels-2024-2026.html>

Calling All Catholic Women

By: Lyne Tuepah

The Catholic Women's League of Canada is a national organization with core values of Faith, Service, and Social Justice. Our mission statement reads: "The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service." Our national theme is: 'Here I am Lord, send me'.

We are all about answering the Baptism call to witness to God's love – especially for the outcast and vulnerable at home and abroad.

In the Kingston Archdiocese, our dedicated 2100 members continue to focus on Service by giving back. Our provincial president asked us all to 'Go Make a Difference' and we answered that call. In 2023, our councils gave to 74 different organizations, both locally and internationally, by volunteering our time and donating a total of \$62,600.

Being part of a National Organization provides the added benefit of a strong Catholic voice working towards change. A voice powerful because of the 63,000 members, a voice politicians have listened to regarding our concerns. Over its history CWL members across Canada have proposed hundreds of resolutions to all levels of government; some become laws, others serve as seeds for change – all serve to educate members.

It means you are not alone; you are part of a sisterhood of like-minded women who pray for each other daily. You have access to resources for workshops and prayer services. You are provided training and retreats. You are offered support from your sisters at all levels.

Already a CWL member?

Thank you for answering the call.

Not a member?

Do you want to grow your faith, serve your community, act on social justice issues, and be supported by a sisterhood that embraces these core values?

If that answer is yes: WELCOME to the Catholic Women's League...you belong with us!

Join us today by contacting your local parish CWL council or by reaching out to kingstondiocesancwl@gmail.com





What are the Knights of Columbus?



By: William Coppens

From time to time, people ask me that question, and having been a member of the Knights of Columbus for forty years, I am happy to explain to them who the Knights are and why I am a member.

The Knights of Columbus was started in 1882 by a young parish Catholic priest Father Michael J. McGivney. He formed an organization of Catholic men to help the needy in his parish and community, especially the widows and orphans of families who lost the breadwinner of their families. Since that humble beginning, it has grown to over two million members worldwide spanning the USA, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Ukraine, and other countries. In Ontario, there are over five hundred councils. Simply put, the Knights of Columbus are a fraternal charity organization of Catholic men.

The Knights of Columbus are open to men joining who are eighteen years or older and are practicing Catholics. We are dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Most councils are parish-based councils meeting monthly and fulfilling charitable work in support of their pastor, parish and broader community. Some Knights - for example, Fourth Degree Knights - gather in assemblies with members from six or more other councils to serve as "patriot knights" in religious, civil and funeral honour-guard ceremonies.



Why would a man wish to join the Knights? Perhaps, I can tell you why I joined the Knights of Columbus forty years ago. I joined the Knights as a young married man. I was the father of two children and was quite busy at work and home. I attended church and we socialized with some friends about our age. A man at our parish asked me if I might consider joining the Knights of Columbus. I thought about it and said yes! I thought, why not give it a try? In the early months joining my council, I got to be friends with several men, and enjoyed helping on charity fundraising events. For some events, my wife would join me, and we expanded our circle of friends. Interestingly, I grew to value the opportunity to pray and be friends with these brother Knights. At work, I was not able to easily discuss matters of faith with co-workers nor with many other friends. In the Knights, I had a group of men, brother Knights, who I could talk to, and share my Catholic faith. The Knights of Columbus have given me true friends and good support in my faith life as a Catholic man. Being a Knight has also allowed me to busy myself doing works of charity locally.



Pictured: William and Lucienne Coppens

St. Barnaby's Church Celebrates 150th Anniversary

By: a parishioner of St. Barnaby's parish

St. Barnaby's Church of the Archdiocese of Kingston, will commemorate the 150th anniversary of its consecration with a special Mass on Sunday, June 9th at 2:00 pm. Our faith community is honoured to have Most Rev. Michael Mulhall, Archbishop of Kingston, celebrate the Mass. This historic anniversary calls us to look to the past with gratitude to God and the faithful who came before us. Archival documents reveal a log church was built during the year 1827 and as our faith community grew, work commenced in 1873 on the building of St. Barnaby's Church as we know it today. The exact date of the placement of the cornerstone of our historic stone church remains unknown, but the spiritual cornerstone which our predecessors laid down is a testament to their unwavering faith in the mission of Christ.

The earliest parishioners of St. Barnaby's were Irish Catholic immigrants who gave their time, money and labour to establish Catholicism in this district. In addition to their pious Christian duties, they would undertake the tasks of washing the altar linens, cleaning of the church, stoking fires and shovelling snow. They would tend to the cemetery and mend whatever needed fixing, but most especially, they would raise many sons and daughters who would give themselves to the priesthood and religious life. Our predecessors, attained much for the Glory of God and St. Barnaby's Church.

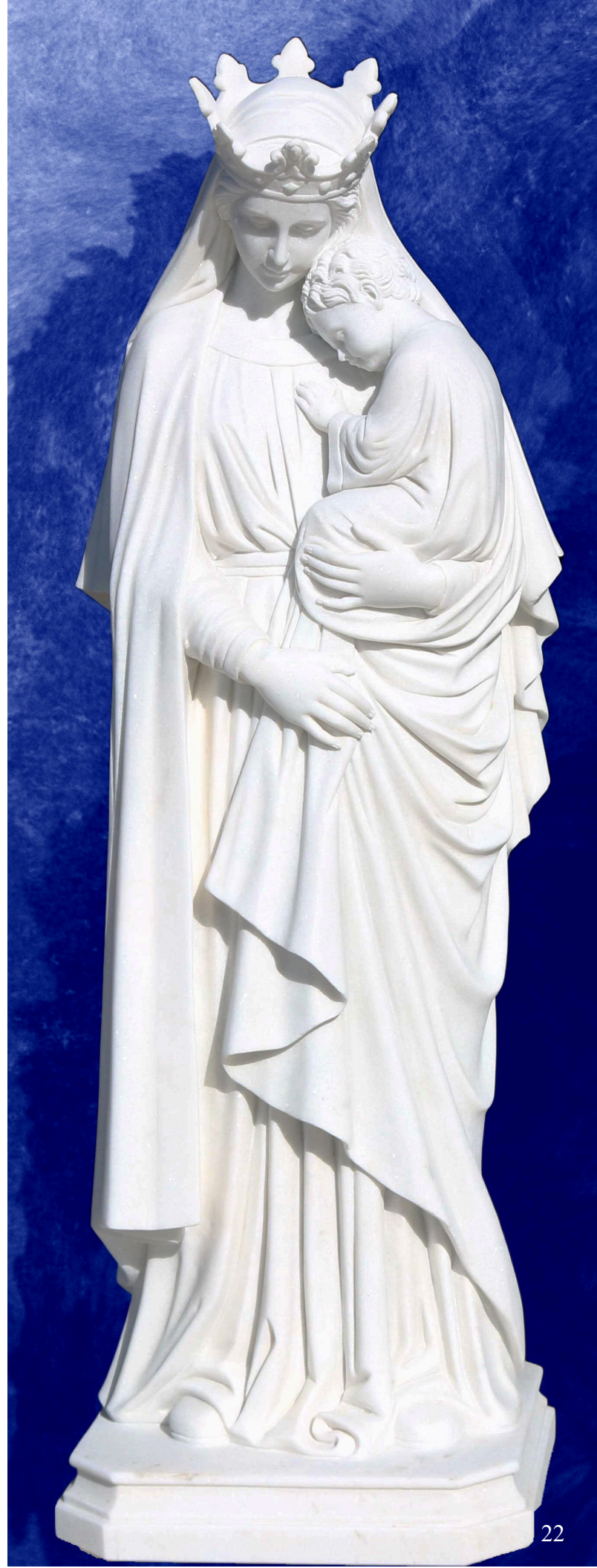


RUDY DOYLE

The historic stone church of St. Barnaby's and cemetery at Brewers Mills are unique landmarks within the Kingston area. Many headstones date back before the building of St. Barnaby's Church. The number of extended families of Irish settlers are evident and tells something of the perils of the early days. One of the earliest graves that remains legible is that of Anne Brewer, buried in 1847. She was the wife of Charles Keys, and died at the age of 28. She was interred with her young son and daughter. Many families who attend St. Barnaby's Church can trace their ancestry back to the 6th and 7th generation simply by walking among the headstones within the grounds of the cemetery.

In 2023, members of our parish community began the commissioning a sculpture of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Infant Jesus. This statue will be placed within the grounds of St. Barnaby's cemetery. Weather permitting, the innovation and blessing of the statue under the title, Our Lady of Consolation, will take place directly after Mass on June 9th. Devotion to the title Consolatrix Afflictorum dates back to the 2nd Century of Christianity and reflects the attitude of early Christians towards Mary as a loving mother to whom they would turn to in times of difficulty, tribulation and persecution. As this ancient devotion was born out of an experience of sorrow and loss, let us be consoled in our present difficulty and sorrow with an unwavering faith in Mary's loving intercession on our behalf.

We are a strong parish of people who love their Catholic faith and we are a congregation that has transformed from its Irish beginnings to a variety of cultures celebrating Mass together. We are called to carry the torch of faith forward to inspire future generations and to ensure that the legacy of our parish endures as we follow the way of Christ. All are welcome to join us, Sunday, June 9th, 2024, at 2:00 pm. Following the Mass, we will continue our celebration with a meal served at a nominal charge. Our gathering in fellowship is a great opportunity to mingle and renew old acquaintances. In addition, we will have historical exhibits and commemorative items on display.





Upcoming Events

Transitional Diaconate Ordination of Mr. Jude Thusiar; Saturday, May 18, 2024; 10:30 am
St. Michael the Archangel Parish (296 Church Street, Belleville)

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston will gather in joy and thanksgiving for the Ordination of Mr. Jude Thusiar to the Transitional Diaconate by The Most Rev. Michael Mulhall, Archbishop of Kingston. All are welcome to join the celebration. Please keep Mr. Thusiar and his family in your prayers.

Fr. Richard Whalen 50th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration; Sunday, May 12 3:00 pm
St. Michael the Archangel Parish (296 Church Street, Belleville)

The celebration begins in St. Michael's Church with Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer). A social hour and dinner will follow immediately, starting at 3:45 pm at the Museum, 220 RCAF Road, Astra, at Trenton Air Base. We look forward to a wonderful night featuring stories from those who know Father Richard best and some musical entertainment from his friends. This will be a formal event and we look forward to welcoming many of Father Whalen's fellow priests. Tickets for the event are \$50 per person (\$400) per table. There will be 200 tickets available for this event. To purchase tickets please email or call Bryn McDonnell at bryn.mcdonnell@torontomu.ca; 613-970-2953. He will make sure to confirm the amount of tickets and assist you with payment.

Trinitas Concert; Saturday, May 25; 3:00 pm
CFB Kingston Spiritual Fitness Centre (33 Lundy's Lane, Kingston)

The Trinitas Singers and Trinitas Youth Singers present "Regina Cæli", a concert celebrating Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Most Holy Trinity, and Corpus Christi. Sacred choral music by Aichinger, Pergolesi, Praetorius, Kathryn Rose, Stanford, Tchaikovsky, Victoria, and more. Free-will offering. A festive reception will follow. Contact Jeffrey Moellman, Artistic Director, for additional information. 613.985.2224 | Trinitas.Singers@gmail.com | YouTube: @TrinitasSingers | Facebook: TrinitasSingers

Sacramental Preparation Best Practices Workshop; Saturday June 1; 9:30 am- 1:00 pm
Pastoral Centre (390 Palace Road, Kingston)

Archdiocesan staff will be hosting a sacramental preparation best practices workshop. Current sacramental prep volunteers, as well as representatives from parishes looking to develop new programs, are invited to attend. A light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Gorett DaSilva by May 27 by emailing pastoralservices@archkingston.ca or phone (613) 548-4461 ext. 112.

Fr. Hibbard's 50th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination; Sunday, June 2; 3:30 pm
St. Paul the Apostle Parish (1111 Taylor Kidd Blvd, Kingston)

For his 50th anniversary, Fr. John Hibbard wishes to have a parish-based celebration open to all. The festivities will therefore be held at St. Paul the Apostle Parish on Sunday, June 2nd - the Solemnity of Corpus Christi! You are all invited to join us for the celebrations which will begin at 3:30 pm with Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers, an outdoor Eucharistic Procession, and Benediction. The celebration will continue afterward with our Annual Parish Cultural Foods Potluck in the parish hall and outdoors on the grounds. We would appreciate an RSVP to ensure we have enough food for all. You can RSVP directly to fr.michel.quenneville@gmail.com



Upcoming Events (Continued)

St. Mary's Cathedral Corpus Christi Procession; Sunday, June 2, following 10:30 am Mass

St. Mary's Cathedral (279 Johnson Street, Kingston)

On Sunday, June 2, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), we will process the Blessed Sacrament on the sidewalks surrounding the cathedral and then have a few minutes of Adoration on the steps of the cathedral and then process back into the cathedral for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please plan on coming to the 10:30 am Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and joining the procession after. Corpus Christi processions are a centuries-old tradition of the Catholic faith to process in public the Blessed Sacrament, the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist, to proclaim to all our belief in that the Blessed Sacrament is the Real Presence of the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. All are most welcome.

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ; Sunday, June 2; 11:00 am

St. Francis of Assisi Church (288 Riverside Parkway, Frankford)

On Sunday, June 2, a sung Mass will be celebrated at St. Francis of Assisi Church (incense will be used throughout), followed by exposition, procession, prayers for the deceased, litany of reparation to the Most Blessed Sacrament, and benediction.

Over these many years, belief in and reverence towards the Most Blessed Sacrament has diminished. I am inviting you to join me and my Parish today to give witness to our Lord and to the community at large that we still believe and adore Him in His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity present in the Blessed Sacrament.

St. Barnaby's 150th Anniversary Celebration; Sunday, June 9; 1:00 pm

St. Barnaby Parish (5307 Hwy #15, Brewer's Mills)

St. Barnaby Parish will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary on June 9, 2024. At 1:00 pm there will be fiddlers playing Celtic music. Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 pm by His Grace, Archbishop Mulhall. Following Mass - Roast beef and Pork Dinner with all the fixings. Advanced tickets for the meal are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5 to 11 yrs., and free for children under 5. Tickets will be limited and can be purchased after Sunday Mass or on our website StBarnabys.ca. Remaining tickets will be \$15 at the door. There will also be a children's activity area, and a tent with tables and chairs.

Fr. Francis Zambon 10th Anniversary of Ordination Potluck Lunch; Sunday, June 9; after 10:30 am Mass

St. Charles Borromeo Parish (494 Enright Road, Read)

All are invited to join in celebrating Fr. Francis' 10th anniversary of priestly ordination with a potluck lunch following morning Mass.

St. Joseph's Church 60th Anniversary Picnic; Sunday, June 23, following 11:00 am Mass

St. Joseph Parish (392 Palace Road, Kingston)

Plan to join friends and family at St. Joseph's Parish to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the dedication of our Church on Palace Road with a pot luck picnic. Bring a dish to share plus your own drinks, and chair or blanket. Coffee, tea and cake will be provided, as well as games and activities for the kids.

Rideau Canal Men's Retreat 2024



Tuesday, August 6-8, 2024

This is an invitation to Catholic men 18 years and older (including fathers and sons) to share and deepen their faith while enjoying male camaraderie - in the context of an outdoor adventure by canoe. The group will leave Seeley's Bay Tuesday, August 6, 8 am, paddling 16 km along historic Rideau Canal through locks at Jones Falls, with overnight tenting at Davis Locks. On Wednesday, the 18 km route passes through Chaffey's and Newboro Locks into the Upper Rideau Lake, with overnight tenting along McNally's Bay. The retreat ends Thursday at 2 pm. Canoes and paddles supplied, along with main meals. Cost: \$95. Daily Mass, prayer, opportunities for Confession, talks by priests and laymen, socializing and invigorating exercise make this annual Catholic men's retreat a popular one. Information and registration: hart.daniel64@gmail.com (613-899-9514); or rrmiron2019@gmail.com (613-218-6497).



15TH ANNUAL

Women's FALL RETREAT

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 26TH, 2024

On Saturday, October 21, 2023, the 14th annual Women's Fall Retreat was held at Holy Cross Church in Kemptville, Ontario. The day began with Holy Mass, celebrated by Father Brian McNally. The theme of the retreat was taken from scripture, "**Arise my Beloved, Come!**" (Song of Songs 2:10) The guest speaker, Miriam Wright challenged us with the question: "*What keeps us from arising, and responding more fully to the Father's call to love as we are loved?*" Miriam encouraged us to realize that each woman is the sum of God's love and as a bride of Christ is destined for glory and reminded us that the Lord speaks to us always and everywhere. She noted the importance of daily prayer with the Scriptures and receiving the sacraments regularly, asking us to reflect on our weaknesses and to accept that we are God's beloved, just as we are. The day included discussion groups, individual prayer time and fellowship. The team was encouraged by the high turnout of seventy women who left many positive comments about the day. Miriam Wright's talks can be found at www.womensfallretreat.com **Watch the website for information on our next retreat on Saturday, October 26, 2024. We hope you will join us!**



Novena to the Holy Spirit

May 10-18, 2024

Please visit www.romancatholic.kingston.on.ca/holyspiritnovena for the full novena, as well as a printable brochure



The Easter season culminates on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th, 2024. Christians have prepared for Pentecost for over 2000 years by joining together for 9 days of prayer. This first Novena was instituted when Jesus instructed the Apostles, "And I myself will send upon you what my Father has promised. But you must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you" (Luke 23: 49). As we prepare for the Solemnity of Pentecost, we invite you to pray this novena for the intentions of the Archdiocese.

