

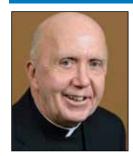
Cathedral Connections

SUMMER 2019

We are a Eucharistic faith community, inspired by the Gospel, committed to engaging each person in the joy of living in the service of Christ.

FREE COPY

USING THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



At any time in our history we constantly discover how the Holy Spirit works in our personal lives and in the life of our parish and community to strengthen and influence us.

There are times when we are stressed or afraid, and also corresponding periods when we are able to regroup our emotional balance and move forward with confidence.

In one story in the gospel we see the apostles very much afraid after learning that Jesus will leave them. They don't understand where he is he going? They haven't figured out how they will manage without him?

However, that changed for them as their fear and confusion changed into a maturity they didn't previously have. They become leaders in the Church. They even discuss very divisive issues and deal confidently with them.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit and that same Spirit is at work today.

Jesus promised that he would send the Spirit to guide the Church constantly. The early apostles received and accepted that Spirit and were changed--a group of people, with many human limitations and shortcomings, had persevered with Easter faith and as a result would make a lasting impact upon the world.

This development gives us some insight into what Jesus intends for Christian people today who are also called to share in his mission. The gifts of the Holy Spirit – the gift of Pentecost are still available in the Church. The challenge to us is to see to it that these gifts get used and not remain ignored. They must come alive

in individuals and parish communities so that the work of Jesus will continue today.

It all begins to unfold when we listen in prayer and serious reflection on the Gospel message of Jesus. If through prayer we create a reflective environment, we will be more encouraged to want to not only listen but be heard, to challenge and ask questions. We need to receive explanations of things we don't understand, things with which we don't agree.

We have a right to be constructively critical and to speak up when it is appropriate and necessary. But, we must all move forward together in a situation of respectful dialogue. It is only a climate of dialogue and openness that brings out the best in people. It is only through healthy and open discussion that people will test and deepen their own convictions and also learn from the insight of others.

As we look around, we might not recognize this Church, for today it has been exposed in all its weakness. Not unlike the community described earlier, members vigorously disagree over diverse teachings and practices. Sometimes it appears there is a possibility of being torn apart.

This isn't what was intended by Jesus. However, strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, we too can live lives of openness and compassion, of forgiveness and commitment. We can make real for others the peace that Jesus promised. In a community of love, which is the true image of the Church, no one is ever alone, and we can all see the way forward.

We are a Church in the process of becoming.

Fr. Jim Moeller

ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL 2019 CONFIRMATION CLASS



Bishop Ronald Fabbro and the 23 confirmandi who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, June 9.



533 Clarence Street London ON N6A 3NI
• Tel: 519 432 3475 • Fax: 519 432 5358 • Email: basilica@dol.ca

www.cathedral.dol.ca

INSIDE THIS ISSUEFrom the Editor's Notebook2Legacy & Mobile Giving7We Remember2St. Peter's Parish Picnic8-9Year of Prayer3Behind the Lens10-11Clarence, the Cathedral Mouse3Catholic Devotions -- Prayer Nut11Celebrating Marriage at St. Peter's4-5Knights of Columbus Report12-13Parishioner Profile -- RoseMarie Forbes5Parishioner Profile -- Michael Nolan14Catholic Women's League Report6What are you Reading?15CWL Student Bursary7Easter and Spring Events at St. Peter's16

FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

This issue of *Cathedral Connections* arrives as the Cathedral parish celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, more commonly known by its traditional Latin name, *Corpus Christi*.

With this traditional feast, we've almost reached the end of what's been a very hectic 12 weeks of celebrations: Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, Ascension, Wedding Anniversary Mass, Pentecost and Confirmations, and the annual parish picnic.

A busy time, to be sure, and numerous opportunities for our writers and photographers to capture lasting memories and share interesting stories involving members of our parish community.

This is the first issue in many years to be produced without the involvement of our longtime collaborator, Mitch Lenko. His years of service have included two stints as our parish business manager (and these after his supposed "retirement" from an active professional career) plus countless hours dedicated to the planning, writing, proofreading and other editorial tasks required to produce this paper. Most recently, he's been reporting on activities of the Knights of Columbus, plus whatever other articles we could persuade him to write.

Mitch's knowledge of the parish and its history, his instinctive "feel" for what interests our parishioners and visitors and his humourous, guiding spirit have been instrumental in the development of *Cathedral Connections* over the past two decades. We trust he will be able to rejoin us in the not-too-distant future.

So many possible stories and pictures during the past three months and, in the end, so few pages available to present them.

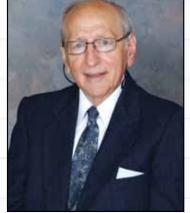
In some ways, this issue is almost a picture gallery-our photographers have been busy! And we've turned the tables, so to speak, by going "Behind the Lens" to profile two of them-Morris Lamont and Carl Vanderwouden—who have followed distinctive and different paths but share the same passion for their art.

Also, you'll find profiles of two longtime parishioners-RoseMarie Forbes and Michael Nolan; two parishioners' reflections on Pope Francis' important Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*; informative news on recent activities by two of our most visible and active parish organizations—the Catholic Women's League and Knights of Columbus; a stimulating article on Legacy Giving at St. Peter's; the usual musings from Clarence, the Cathedral Mouse; and, as promised, lots of pictures including full coverage of the successful parish picnic. And for more pictures, just visit the parish website and the St. Peter's Cathedral page on Facebook.

Now that we're in the midst of the "wedding season," those contemplating getting married at St. Peter's will appreciate the major article by Pastoral Minister, Cathryn Hall on Marriage at the Cathedral. And there's a lot more...

We hope you'll enjoy this issue and also enjoy the summer months...a welcome time for both spiritual and physical regeneration.

Paul Carson



Mitch Lenko

We Remember...

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

> **Hendrik Hubertus Borekhuyse** September 13, 1921 – April 30, 2019

Christina Vendel November 22, 1924 – May 20, 2019

Splendors of the Catholic Church London's Catholic Radio Program Hosted by Roger Khouri Mondays 94.9 FM **CHRW** from 6pm to 6:30pm

ST. PETER'S CEMETERY & HOLY ROSARY WALKWAY

CEMETERY PRE-PLANNING For the love of your family

PRE-PLANNING IS NOT ABOUT DEATH -It's a Celebration of your Life

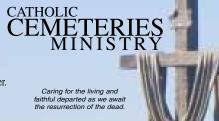
PRE-PLANNING MAKES SENSE

- Takes the burden off your loved ones.
- Gives you a voice in how you would like to he remembered
- Provides protection from rising costs.
- · Greater choice of options.
- Eliminates financial worries for your family later.
- Decisions can be well planned free of stress, grief and confusion. Enables families to make decisions together.
- St. Peter's Cemetery offers convenient monthly payment plans, interest free, on all cemetery pre-arrangements.

HOLY ROSARY WALKWAY

St. Peter's Cemetery is pleased to announce the completion of its latest project which honours the wishes of Pope John Paul II that Catholics renew the practice of praying the

The project has also provided for the cemetery needs cremation and the many choices that this opens up to them.



Our knowledgeable staff would be pleased to meet with you at your convenience send you additional information concerning our many services For further information please contact a Family Service Counsellor.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

ST. PETER'S CEMETERY AND HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM

806 Victoria Street, London, Ontario 519-451-9120



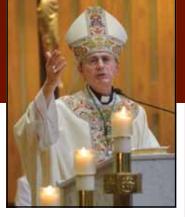
OUR KNOWLEDGEABLE FUNERAL DIRECTORS WILL ASSIST IN ALL AREAS OF BEREAVEMENT, BE IT BURIAL, CREMATION, PRE-NEED OR AT NEED SERVICES.

John and Patrick Donohue, Margaret Bloomfield, Martina McGrenere-Vanderidder, Philippe Lauriault and Roberta MacNeil MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S

362 Waterloo Street at King 519-434-2708

Year of Prayer

At our Mass of Chrism, on Monday of Holy Week, I announced that beginning on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019, and lasting until the next Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020, we will observe a special Year of Prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our diocese as we seek to be "a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus." This initiative was recommended by Equipping the Saints: The Diocesan Commission on the Families of Parishes.



During the Year of Prayer, we are inviting all parishioners, and our Catholic partners, to join in prayer that each of us, the lay and the ordained, our parishes and our entire diocese recommit ourselves to growing in and living the mission of Jesus, that is, to be "a mission-oriented Church that forms disciples of Jesus."

At Pentecost, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and their transformation into courageous witnesses of Christ. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that the disciples encountered the risen Lord. They went out and led many others to Christ. During this Year of Prayer, we pray that the Holy Spirit, whom we received at our Baptism, will renew us, transform us and help each of us to be missionary disciples of Jesus.

I ask you to support this initiative in your parishes, in your communities and in your homes. With the help of the Holy Spirit, may each of us be renewed in our relationship with the risen Jesus. May we grow in our understanding of what it means to be missionary disciples and commit ourselves to living as his faithful disciples.

The Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro, CSB

Pentecost Sunday, 2019

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and fill the hearts of your people with an ardent desire to follow Jesus, to be his missionary disciples.

Fill us with joy and a desire to know your word.

May we boldly proclaim the Good News to others; for when we help others to know that God loves them, they will know true happiness.

Fill us with a deep desire for the Eucharist.

May we recognize Jesus in the proclamation of the Scriptures and in the Breaking of the Bread; for when we are united with Jesus, joy is constantly born anew. Fill us with a true love of neighbour.

May we seek opportunities for reconciliation, and with big hearts serve those in need; for in serving them, we know we are serving your Son.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, may we commit ourselves to loving you and doing your will.

. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUMMERTIME THOUGHTS FROM CLARENCE, THE CATHEDRAL MOUSE

In the second of the second of

Summer, with its beautiful weather and outdoor activities, is a wonderful time for taking photos, easier now than ever for those who have mastered the art of cell phone photography. I don't count myself among those yet, with the size of cell phones and the size of me being somewhat incompatible.

Nevertheless, I do enjoy looking at other people's photos, especially of joyful events.

I don't think the Apostles had cameras (as far as I know, that particular piece of human technology was developed much later), but if they did, I often wonder what they would have taken photos of. Perhaps like many will at weddings this summer, they would have photographed the happy bride and groom at Cana or maybe they would have captured the joy on the face of the blind man

Thope that you will check out the great pictures when he saw his parents for the very first time.

Sometimes, I think it's a pity that the faces in those familiar Gospel stories are lost to time, but then I think that makes it easier to put ourselves in the picture.

I hope that all of you will have much to celebrate (and photograph) this summer!

Clarence, the Cathedral Mouse (with editorial assistance from STH)



Used by permission. More information on the artist's portfolio is available at jogooder@gmail.com

You Can Reach Us At... 519-432-3475

FAX: 519-432-5358

Most Rev. Ronald P. Fabbro C.S.B.

Bishop of London

PARISH STAFF..... EXT.

Fr. Jim Mockler,

Fr. Gary Ducharme,

Deacon Len Hughes....... 223 lhughes@dol.ca

Deacon Rudy Pflanzner.... 227 rpflanzner@dol.ca

Cathryn Hall,

Pastoral Minister......225 chall@dol.ca

Brian Galea,

Business Manager......226 bgalea@dol.ca

RoseMary Cleary,

Financial Secretary 222 basilica@dol.ca

Patty Aldrich,

Receptionist/Secretary ... 221 paldrich@dol.ca

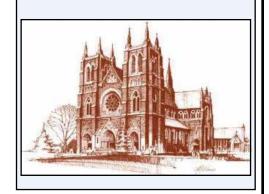
Cathedral Connections Committee

Paul Carson - Editor Cathryn Hall Susan T. Howard Morris Lamont Dawn Munday Hilary Bates Neary Ina Pakkert

Photo credits

Larry Barrett
Dora Dannecker
Tony Lambe
Morris Lamont
Dawn Munday
Teresita Oliveros
Dominic Tang
Carl Vaderwouden

Design: Pam Harrower



"AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE" -- CELEBRATING MARRIAGE AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL

"O God, who in creating the human race willed that man and wife should be one, join, we pray, in a bond of inseparable love these your servants who are to be united in the covenant of Marriage, so that, as you make their love fruitful, they may become, by your grace, witnesses to charity itself."

(Opening Collect; The Order of Celebrating Matrimony, CCCB, 2017)

As we read in the opening prayer of the Marriage Liturgy, marriage is a sacred relationship of man, woman and God --joined together in a covenant, to be witnesses to the love of God in the world today. For individuals, it is a moment of profound richness and dignity. For the community, it is an institution that serves as one of the basic bonds that holds our society together. For the Church it is an event that gives a visible sign of God's presence and graceful intervention in our lives.

The Church has a rich tradition in its teaching on marriage and covenantal union. Throughout the Old Testament the authors speak of God making a covenant with the chosen people and promising that they will never be forsaken. The authors of the New Testament speak of Jesus as the new covenant and compare the relationship of Jesus with the Church to the relationship of husband and wife.

The Church believes that the marriage of man and woman is a sacred union and acknowledges God's unconditional love and presence in their relationship. The couple is assured of God's graces as they face the joys and struggles of a lifelong journey of faith together.

Because the Catholic Church holds marriage in such high regard, marriage should never be entered into lightly. When a couple chooses to celebrate marriage in the Catholic Church, they are asking for more than a ceremony or church building. They are asking to celebrate a covenant with one another and God, witnessed by the Church's official, their family and friends, reverencing the Christian life and exemplifying what it means to follow Christ.

Each week we receive numerous requests from couples within our parish and beyond to celebrate their Wedding Day with us. Each year we celebrate 40 to 50 weddings, ten percent of the weddings celebrated in our entire Diocese. The bride and groom are the ministers in this unique covenant. For this reason, it is their responsibility to judge their readiness in relationship and personal faith to enter into such a sacred commitment. The Church is here to assist in making a judgment concerning readiness for marriage and to provide an environment of support and love in which the couple can succeed to live the fullness of their covenant.



Marriage Mass of Vianca and Albin Kmet in March, 2016.

Frequently Asked Questions on Marriage at St. Peter's Cathedral

Who can marry at the Cathedral?

First and foremost, couples who worship regularly with us or live in our territorial boundary can celebrate marriage here. Couples from other parishes, within or outside of the city,

can also request to celebrate their marriage here, based on availability and with permission from their pastor.

Do you have to be Roman Catholic to marry at the Cathedral?

At least one of the couple must be Roman Catholic. Every Roman Catholic, by virtue of the Church's law (The Code of Canon Law) has the right to marry in the Church, if they are free to marry, and desire to fulfill the Church's teaching on marriage. Each year we celebrate many marriages where one party is Roman Catholic, and the other party is from another Christian denomination, faith tradition, or of no faith tradition.

What is the process for marriage at the Cathedral?

The usual process for any marriage inquiry is directed to Cathryn Hall, our Pastoral Minister. Through an initial inperson interview, many questions are asked of the couple about themselves, their relationship, their faith practice, their future family plans in their married life, and their readiness and maturity to enter into marriage.

From there, a date is booked, a Presider is determined, and the Church's official paperwork begins. Through several appointments, all aspects of both readiness and the practical details of preparation of the ceremony are covered with the Presider or Pastoral Minister.

How long in advance do I need to book?

We suggest at least one year in advance to begin the process. This allows sufficient time for the couple to prepare themselves personally, spiritually and practically to enter into marriage.

What is a Marriage Preparation Program?

All couples marrying at a Roman Catholic church must attend a Marriage Preparation Program. At St. Peter's, we offer two programs a year: late Fall and early Spring. The Preparation Program explores the understanding of marriage in the Catholic Church, sexuality, openness to life, responsibilities of both partners in the marriage covenant, the joy of married love, communications and finances.



Participating couples at the closing ceremony of the St. Peter's Marriage Preparation Weekend, November 2018.

The program is presented by married couples in our parish who give testimony to marriage at the different stages of life in the marriage journey. Couples marrying at other parishes are also welcome to take part in our Marriage Preparation Program.

What does the liturgy (wedding ceremony) look like?

The Roman Catholic Church has two forms for the Marriage Liturgy: Marriage with a Liturgy of the Word or Marriage within the context of the Mass. Either form celebrates the fullness of the marriage covenant. In choosing which form is celebrated, the couple along with the Presider or Pastoral Minister discuss the best option considering the couples' faith practice, whether both parties are Roman Catholic, family faith practice and the guests attending.

Though both forms have a set liturgical structure, the couple is actively engaged in the preparation of the liturgy by choosing the readings, writing the intercessions, choosing music, and by involving family and friends to take part in the celebration.

"AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE" -- CELEBRATING MARRIAGE AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL

What kind of music can we have at our wedding?

Music at the wedding must reflect the sacred nature of the celebration. The Director of Liturgical Music, along with the Cathedral organist and chosen cantor assist the couple in making appropriate liturgical music choices for the various parts of the liturgy. Our parish musicians are skilled musicians, experienced in liturgical music, and comfortable with the unique acoustical space of the Cathedral. Modelled after our Sunday liturgies, music is chosen to encourage the active participation of those gathered.

Do I need a Marriage License?

A civil marriage license issued by the Government of Ontario is required for every couple celebrating marriage. A Marriage License is valid for 90 days. The Presider at the wedding-priest or deacon--is given the Church's permission to celebrate marriage through the faculties given at his ordination. They are also given civil authority by the government through a registered marriage number.

What are the costs involved?

Currently the Diocese of London has a stipend of \$150.00 in place for any wedding taking place at a church in the Diocese, for use and upkeep of the building and parish. As of Jan. 1, 2020, the stipend will be \$250.00. No couple would be deprived of celebrating marriage due to not being able to afford the stipend. At St. Peter's, additional fees are in place for our sacristan who is present at the rehearsal and wedding and cleans the church following the ceremony, as well as for our parish musicians (organist and cantor) for the ceremony.

> If you are recently engaged and would like to discuss celebrating your marriage at St. Peter's Cathedral, please contact Cathryn Hall: chall@dol.ca.

> > Cathryn Hall



Joined by Bishop Emeritus John Michael Sherlock and former Rector, Fr. Clare Coleman, Ana Matijevic and Michael Butler celebrated their marriage at St. Peter's Cathedral in September, 2018.



Mitzie Millares and Peter Faner exchange their vows in May, 2019.

PARISHIONER PROFILE -- ROSEMARIE FORBES

Tany of us go to Mass each week and see familiar faces serving In different capacities, but we know precious little about these people who serve. They are important members of our parish community who contribute to our spiritual wellbeing. Have you ever wondered about their lives and what inspires them to service?

One such familiar face is RoseMarie Forbes. Indeed, RoseMarie is recognizable for many of us in her role as a talented Reader — a ministry in which she has served since 1985! Recently she shared some background with me.

RoseMarie is a widow, and a very proud mother of two children and grandmother to six grandchildren.

Born and raised in London with one sister and three half-brothers (two are deceased), she gave special mention concerning her brother with Downs Syndrome, saying, "He taught me SO much about unconditional love. He was love able to play an active role in the celebration of the Mass by unlimited!" Perhaps this may have something to do with how much she gives back to the church and community through her volunteer activities and her career.

RoseMarie pursued a career in nursing, graduating from St. Joseph's Hospital and obtaining degrees from Western and Central Michigan University. She is now a retired nursing administrator and educator.

She was baptized at St. Peter's ("just after it opened," she quipped) and has been a member of this parish most of her life. She noted that, "The parish has changed from being a local church for the families that lived in the downtown area east and west, to today's congregation from all parts of the city, representing all walks of society. The church building has changed significantly, too. I remember when the celebrant would preach by climbing stairs to the pulpit!"

In addition to her dedication to the role of Reader (or Lector, as the Ministry was termed until recently), RoseMarie

has served the parish in many capacities over the years, including as a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion, a member of the Finance Committee and the Celebration Campaign Committee, and as a former chair of the Parish Advisory Committee.



She believes, "My most important service has been as a Lector. I consider it an honour and a privilege to be sharing the Word. To me, this honour is my unique opportunity to praise God by sharing His life and message with my fellow congregants. Because God gave me the ability to speak clearly, I have and will continue to use the skill He gave me to praise Him through my involvement with this Ministry."

A busy member of the community, RoseMarie has also enjoyed sharing her talents through other volunteer activities in the city as well. She has been active in the London Public Library, the Medical Hall of Fame, St. Mark's School, the Canada Games, the Transplant Games and the World Figure Skating Championships.

RoseMarie proclaims the Word most often at the 6:00 p.m., 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. weekend masses, and also weekdays at the noon masses on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

We are all richer for her service, and I feel privileged to know her better!

Dawn Munday

99TH ANNUAL CWL DIOCESAN CONVENTION HELD IN WINDSOR

Several members of the St. Peter's Council participated in the successful 99th annual CWL Diocesan Convention, held from April 29-May 1 in Windsor.



convention focused The on Pope Francis' important encyclical Laudato Si, and "Caring for our Common president Council Home." Julie Sans headed the St. delegation, which Peter's colleagues included her McCaffrey, Arlene Helen Murphy, Teresita Oliveros, Mary-Rose Naudi, Jo Guth and Dora Dannecker. Father Jim Mockler and pastoral minister

Cathryn Hall joined the group for the Reaffirmation Mass and convention banquet.

An additional parish "connection" was Fr. Greg Bonin, formerly a Parochial Vicar at St. Peter's in the late 1990s, who is currently the Spiritual Advisor to the CWL Diocesan Executive. He celebrated the Opening Mass, held in the St. Clair Centre for the Arts.

"Our time together evolved around the mantra of Educate, Engage and Empower and concentrated on the Environment," Julie explained. "This theme is in conjunction with our National Theme of caring for our earthly home."

The convention's keynote speaker, Sister Joan Atkinson, Sisters of St. Joseph in London, provided useful information and insight on environmental issues from a Christian perspective.

In addition, a panel of environmentalists discussed issues involving climate change and its effects in the Great Lakes area, especially the Lake Erie basin. A highlight of this session was the energetic presentation by the elementary EcoSchools' representatives from Windsor and Essex County, who were passionate about their role in preserving the earth!

During the convention, the officers of the London Diocese and various committee chairpersons gave their reports on the progress made over the past year. Also, the delegates approved two important resolutions regarding Abortion and the Effects on Mental Health, and Equal Access to Permanent Resident Status--an Amendment to the Express Entry System under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act as it relates to Religious Workers.

The Reaffirmation Mass was held at Most Precious Blood Parish, Windsor. Concelebrating were Bishop Ronald



Teresita Oliveros, Arlene Murphy, Julie Sans, Jo Guth. Helen McCaffrey, Mary-Rose Naudi and Dora Dannecker.

Fabbro and Auxilliary Bishop Joseph Dabrowski, along with many priests who are Spiritual Advisors to the CWL Councils in the diocese.

The final day's session opened with a procession for the Crowning of Mary, and it became a very special celebration. This year, the Provincial Council set a goal to collect 2,019 pairs of socks.



As we are the largest diocese in the province, the London Diocesan Councils took the lead–more than 1,800 pairs of socks were brought to the convention.

Moreover, throughout the diocese, almost 19,000 pairs of socks have been donated to various agencies, shelters and people in need. "London Region alone donated roughly 25% of those socks," Julie noted. "What a wonderful expression of love to our communities and to the needs of our people!"

Fr. Bonin celebrated the Closing Mass, also held in the St. Clair Centre for the Arts, and delegates started to plan for what will be a memorable 100th Annual Convention, to be held next spring in Chatham.

CWL DONATIONS REPORT

Funds derived from our Christmas Bazaar and sale of "Treat Trays" and Lenten Lunch proceeds, have been donated as follows:

Our annual donations:

Save-a-Family Plan, St. Joseph Hospice of London, St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica Parish Picnic, National Catholic Broadcasting Council Daily Mass telecast, Sisters of the Precious Blood, Mission Services of London, St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre and Anova (Women's Community House).

In addition, we have recently contributed to:

St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica—Operations, Save-a-Family Plan (flood relief), Daily Bread Food Bank, London Food Bank, London Abused Women's Centre, London Area Right to Life Association Inc., St. Vincent de Paul bus ticket program, Boys' & Girls' Club of London Food Program, Farmtown, Catholic Missions in Canada, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and My Sister's Place.

First Communion recipients and the 2019 Confirmation class were presented with a gift, Chaplets and one decade of the rosary.

CWL SERVICE AWARDS

In anticipation of recessing for the summer, our monthly meeting was held June 1 at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. Following a meal, service pins were presented as follows:

25 Years: Pat Robbins and Lucille Vita.

10 Years: Josie Biviano, Joan Flynn, Cathryn Hall, RoseMarie Kucharek, Mary Quigley, Jan Latella and Mary Macht.

Dora Dannecker



Mary Quigley



Pat Robbins



Mary Macht

LEGACY GIVING AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL

You might ask, What is Legacy Giving?

Legacy Giving is leaving an amount to your favourite charities after you pass away. This simple act can support the charities that you love such as St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica and ensure a bright future for those charities.

What are the benefits of Legacy Giving?

- Your gift will help the Cathedral to serve the community now and in the future.
- A legacy gift will provide for the spiritual needs of future generations of the parish.
- Your contribution would support pastoral ministries such as sacramental preparation, visiting the sick and homebound, visits to long-term care facilities.
- St. Peter's Cathedral is a historic church and an icon of London that needs constant maintenance and upkeep. Past generations have given generously to ensure the Cathedral is here for us after 134 years. Now it is time for our generation to remember the church which has nourished us during our lifetime.
- Proper planning will allow you to reduce your tax liability on your estate and maximize the value of your donation.

What are the types of planned gifts that can be made?

- Securities or Shares
- Real Estate
- Life Insurance
- Annuities
- Cash

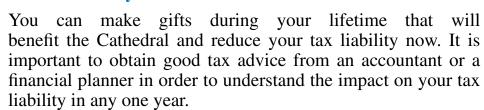
How can I ensure that my wishes are followed?

The benefits of a will are many and that specific document will allow you to distribute your estate among the people that you hold near and dear and charities that you want to benefit. A

properly constructed will ensure that your wishes are followed by your executor in their role.

It is vitally important that you revisit your will periodically and update it when necessary. Changes in income tax legislation, changing executors or a change in assets are just some of the reasons that a review of your will is needed.

What if I want to see the benefits of my charitable donation in my lifetime?



How can I get started?

Estate planning and tax planning are both difficult subjects to understand and it is vitally important to get professional advice from a trusted accountant, lawyer or financial planner. In addition, as the Business Manager of the Cathedral, I can sit down with you and outline the steps that will be needed to ensure your wishes are carried out.

St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica has been generously supported by its parishioners throughout the generations and continues to be supported by today's generation. I have no doubt in my mind that our generation will also remember the Cathedral Parish as part of our giving, now and in the future!

Brian Galea



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

\$1,000 Student Bursary

Eligibility Requirements

- Attending St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica
- Registered for post-secondary education
- Provide proof of registration and acceptance
- Participation in one or more activities involving school, community or parish

Application forms available at Welcome Desk or Parish Office

Submission Deadline August 15, 2019

Please direct all inquiries to: cwlbursary@gmail.com

St. Peter's Cathedral Mobile Giving Now Available 1. Place your device in camera mode or open the QR Code Reader 2. Hold your device over the full QR Code. 3. Your camera will scan the QR Code. 4. Follow the prompts to donate.

7

Parish Picnio





"Under the B number 14!"



"Bingo!"



These chips are awesome!



Picnic coordinator, Marian Strom. and her volunteer "posse"



Blowing bubbles!



Full of beans (toss)...

X/asn't that a party!!

The "gate" totalled just over 260 people! – a terrific turnout, given the change in the location from London Life Park to East Park Golf Gardens.

When I assumed the role of 2019 Co-ordinator in March, much of the planning, including location and food, had been determined. The change to East Park was due, in part, to the increasing number of parishioners who attend the picnic every year – essentially we've "out-grown" the usual location. The choice to use East Park's food service provided a welcome break for the legion of dedicated volunteers from the herculean effort and synchronization to cook and serve the food as in previous years.

East Park itself offers many activities from miniature golf and water slides, to go-carts, to rock wall climbing, not to mention the beautiful grounds and idyllic location beside the River Thames. Gordon/Gordette the Groundhog made their appearance to inspect the garbage for an early-evening nosh.

There has been positive feedback from the attendees on how lovely the picnic area is, and how much room there was for the youngsters to safely tear around with their bubble wands. Arranging the picnic tables together brought a sense of communal participation – I daresay two-thirds of the tables were covered with Bingo Cards.

There are so many people and groups to thank, including the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League for their continued and generous financial and volunteer support. We were also blessed with financial donations from anonymous parishioners.

And the Volunteer Contingent – or "Posse": so many to thank – from their help with the sign-up after Masses, to setting and clearing up afterwards, to organizing the snacks and drinks, to welcoming the attendees, to setting up and organizing the games, and the "Fifth of Jazz" for their wonderful music. And finally, and really most important: everyone who attended.

All the planning in the world, great weather conditions and lovely location is for naught if no one shows up!!

Hmmmm, what will next year bring? Stayed tuned!! The 2020 Parish Picnic promises to be more of the same.

Marian Strom -- 2019 Picnic Co-ordinator





Friendly Smiles at the Welcoming Table



Listen up, people!











Hot Diggity Dog!



















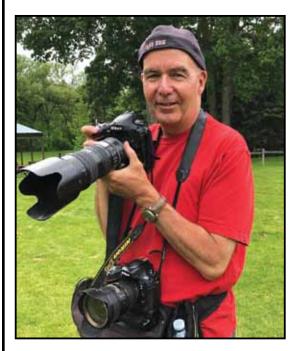
And the winner is... First Place!

BEHIND THE LENS -- PROFILING OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cathedral Connections is blessed to have helpful volunteers: Creative writers, proofreaders, editorial help and photographers. If a picture is indeed worth the proverbial "thousand words," we are truly fortunate to have two photographers with unique gifts. You need only to look at the pictures in each issue chronicling the parish events and activities and the Cathedral restoration to see the story of the parish and its church unfolding.

Our two main photographers—Morris Lamont and Carl Vanderwouden--came to the paper through a plea in the parish Bulletin for photography help. I recently spoke to these talented men to learn about their lives and what brings them to their *Cathedral Connections* mission.

Morris Lamont - A Career in Photography



One of four children, Morris grew up in Newmarket, and enrolled in the journalism program at Ryerson University in Toronto; his education was set aside when a summer job on the *Aurora Banner* blossomed into full-time employment.

Morris has been a parishioner at St Peter's for 38 years since coming to London in June 1981 to work in the London Free Press photography depart-

ment. When asked what drew him to St. Peter's, he said, "I chose St Peter's from the list of London Catholic Churches because I love the spiritual experience at a large church like the Cathedral—the large congregation at Mass, the bishop speaking, the choir, the High Mass. The full monty, I guess."

Morris took early retirement at the Free Press in March of 2018 and the following Sunday saw a note in the parish Bulletin asking for help from anyone with photographic experience. "I joked with my family that it must have been a sign from God. It's the type of volunteer involvement that you can't do when you are working for a daily newspaper because you can't commit to be available when your work schedule could change at a moment's notice."



A Morris photo - the Easter Candle

When asked about his Free Press career, Morris replied, "The great attraction of working for a daily paper is that you get an opportunity to photograph everything from food and fashion to breaking hard news. Most of us loved the variety.

"One of the highlights of my career at the Free Press was the 1984 Canadian tour by Pope John Paul II in which I spent 16 days following the Pope from coast to coast. I will always remember the first open air Mass in Quebec with the huge crowd singing as the Popemobile made its way into the stadium; the

hundreds of people standing in the rain at the rail crossings in rural Quebec to see the Pope train pass through; and the thousands of teens weeping in the stands during a youth rally in the Olympic stadium.

"My only regret on that tour was when I found out that the Pope had boarded the media plane to greet the journalists. We had already left to come home, so I missed my brush with greatness."

Morris plans to develop an ongoing pictorial archive of our parish for generations to come. He said, "Newspaper reporters like to think of ourselves as writing the first draft of history. Photographs are fun to look at in real time. But the true value comes in the years that follow. The more time that passes, the more value a photo has as an historical document.

"When I photograph a mass, I try to take a variety of shots--wide views, close ups of clergy and worshippers, medium shots that combine both. This can be done at a new level because the current camera technology allows you to shoot in very low light with spectacular results.

"Who wouldn't want to see a selection of candid photographs like that from mass in the early years of the cathedral? Years from now, people will be looking at these images to learn who we were."

Morris described his enjoyment of this ministry in this way: "The great thing about being a newspaper photographer is it gives you license to walk up to people you don't know and say, "What's your story?" The really fun part for me so far is getting to meet and know people I've seen at church for years but never knew who they were.

"I am also looking forward to using our social media platforms to get more images out to more people."

To see more of Morris' photographic archive, check out the St. Peter's website.

Carl Vanderwouden – A love of photography and architecture

Carl was born in Strathroy and then adopted by Dutch immigrants in London when only three months old. He grew up on the family farm in Bayfield, and attended Saint Joseph's Church in Clinton.

His love of photography began at an early age, when he picked up his first little film camera at a penny sale in Bayfield, and began photographing nature, birds in particular, as he was an avid birdwatcher in his youth.

In 1997, Carl moved to Toronto, and began to apply his photography skills to art and architecture, churches especially, both in Toronto and in the surrounding area. In 2015, he settled in London, married and is now the proud father of a young son.



Carl and his family

BEHIND THE LENS -- PROFILING OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS



At age 38, Carl was diagnosed with young-onset Parkinson's Disease. Although this condition has been a constant challenge, he has been able to adapt as the symptoms worsen, and continues to improve his photography.

When asked what he enjoys or finds fulfilling about photography, Carl stated, "I have always had a strong desire to explain or show to people the things that I find beautiful and am passionate about, and photography became my primary means of doing that. I always find it interesting when someone who sees a building every day looks at my photos of that building and asks, 'Where is that in there?' That indicates to me that I have done my job right."

Carl is the "author" of the "Treasure Hunt" series that appears frequently in *Cathedral Connections*.

Since moving to London, Carl has been very impressed with the variety and beauty of the art and architecture in this city. "I have photographed many churches here, but my definite favourite is St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica. The Basilica's architect, Joseph Connolly, was arguably the finest architect of ecclesiastical buildings that Canada has ever seen.

"The beauty, detail and symmetry of the art and architecture in the Cathedral ensure that I never get tired of photographing it. One of the most interesting features of the Cathedral for me is the stained glass windows, the creation of which spans a period of about 80 years. The glass is of the highest quality, produced both in Europe and Canada, and there is an interesting variety of styles."

Like Morris, Carl's connection with *Cathedral Connections* began in response to our ad in the parish Bulletin and he has enjoyed the experience. "The Cathedral is a real treasure for me, and I want to be able to reflect some light from that treasure to others in whatever way I can; it is truly my

CATHEDRAL

July 27 & 28 Join your fellow
Parishioners for a quick
snack, some refreshments and
great conversation in the
Narthex after all Masses.



pleasure to give of my talents to help whenever possible."

His favourite assignment to date? "Photographing the bells was such a unique and touching experience for me that it is also one of my most memorable photo shoots."

Our *Cathedral Connections* team thanks our talented photographers for their amazing contribution to St. Peter's. If you see them with camera in hand, take a moment to say "hello."

Dawn Munday

CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS OVER THE YEARS

THE PRAYER NUT

What do you use to engage in quiet prayerful concentration?

In days past, wealthy members of the faithful often used a Prayer Nut or "paternoster" for private devotion.

Originating in the Netherlands, it was a small orb intricately carved out of boxwood. About the size of a walnut, it opened into two halves, revealing incredibly detailed religious scenes.

Highly praised as works of art, today they can be found in several of the world's leading museums, including the celebrated Thomson Collection in the Art Gallery of Ontario.



With this submission from parishioner Joyce Hilton, a former contributor to the paper in its early years, Cathedral Connections launches a series explaining Catholic devotions, current and traditional. Readers are invited to submit articles for consideration; please send an email to basilica@dol.ca







A BUSY YEAR FOR OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Our 15th anniversary year is quickly winding down as the Fraternal Year comes to a close at the end of June. It has been a totally awesome year of events and supports that our Council has accomplished for our parish and community; we truly appreciate everyone's involvement, however big or small, that has made our year so successful!

On Saturday April 20, our parish welcomed four new people into the Catholic Faith at the Easter Vigil. It was a truly moving Mass and it is so humbling to see our Lord at work by calling people forward to the faith. In support of the Sacramental Life of our parish, our Council gave a gift of a Bible to each of the RCIA graduates. We inscribed their name on the inside cover and we included the following Biblical quote: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). These new Catholics will help to spur on a new zeal for our faith community.

Deacon Guy Alden, a longtime St. Peter's parishioner, looks after the spiritual needs of Catholic inmates at the Elgin Middlesex Detention Centre. He regularly receives request from inmates for a Bible. To support this effort, our Council donated \$250 to assist in getting a Bible into the hands of everyone who requests one.

To assist with people on fixed incomes in the east end of our city, the Community of Christ Church hosts community breakfasts and dinners. Our Council donated \$250 to assist with defraying the costs of hosting these types of outreaches.

At the end of April, everyone was Italian for the night! Chefs Pat Hogan and Sam Circelli cooked up the best spaghetti

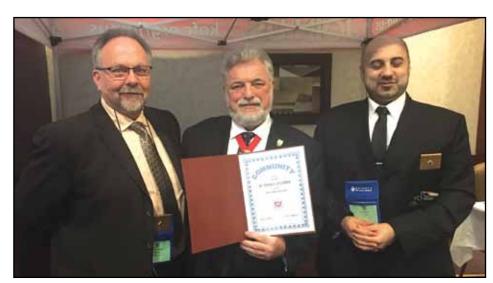


Recipe for an enjoyable family outing -- Spaghetti and Music at the Knights of Columbus Italian Night on April 27

and sauce. It's a centuries-old recipe for the sauce that has been passed down for generations in the Hogan family. Before they start to prepare it, professionals do a bug sweep to ensure that eavesdropping devices and secret cameras haven't been planted into the parish kitchen. The recipe must be protected at all costs;



the only way to sample it is to attend our annual Italian Night each spring. Coupled with delicious food and drink, this night helps to build a sense of community at our parish.



Dave Houghton (Financial Secretary) and Roger Khouri (Grand Knight) flank Dan Heffernan (State Deputy) after accepting the Community Service Award.

Also in late April, Dave Houghton (Financial Secretary) and myself attended a day-long series of meetings at the annual Knights of Columbus state convention in Niagara Falls. We rolled up our sleeves to learn more about the Knights of Columbus as an organization and how we can be more effective to build up our parish and our city.

On behalf of our Council, we received a first-place Community Award for the Winter Welcome Lunch. Held on January 26, the needy of our area received winterwear and a free meal, all in a warm and welcoming setting in our parish centre. This event was a successful collaborative effort among the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Women's League, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the St. Peter's Outreach Committee. Way to go, team!

This award compliments 33 awards that our Council has received over the last 15 years. Among them have been 10 Membership Awards, 4 Pro-Life Recognitions, 3 Awards for



The Council presented commemorative Bibles to the newly-received Catholics following the Easter Vigil Mass.

Pictured (from left): Ryan Burns, Julie Priest, Grand Knight Roger Khouri, Bishop Fabbro, Naghmeh Alizadeh and Nirvana Singh.

A BUSY YEAR FOR OUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Food for Families programs, and in 2011, the Church Service Award was given to our Council for the outstanding work in raising funds to replace the kneelers in the parish at a cost of \$26,000.



Country music singing star "Patsy Cline," in the person of Megan Schroder, delighted an audience of more than 250 fans on May 24 in Wolf Performance Hall. "Patsy" is pictured here with the new Knights Council banner.

On Mother's Day (May 12), our Knights distributed lapel roses at all Masses. Thanks to everyone's support, we raised \$665 that will be donated to Fresh Start, a pro-life organization which assists pregnant or parenting mothers.

On May 24, Megan Schroder entertained a nearly sold-out audience in Wolf Performance Hall with the music of Patsy Cline. Megan is a parishioner and the daughter of Ron, who himself is a Knight. Making its debut at the concert was an eye-catching Council banner designed and donated by Knight Doug Purssglove for use at all our functions. We are happy to report that \$2,500 was raised for our charitable projects.

It's not all about simply raising funds, hosting events, or volunteering as Knights—we also seek to serve the

spiritual needs of our brothers. On June 15, Deacon Rudy Pflanzner led us in prayer and discussion about Catholic social teaching. At this retreat, he tied the discussion into Pope Francis' example and to our work as Knights. As Catholic men, it is our faith which emboldens us to serve one another, the parish and the community.

Each year, we host an annual golf tournament, dedicated to the late Ivan Shea, one of our founding charter members who was instrumental in inviting many of us to join the Knights. The funds raised go towards helping My Sister's Place, a local



Father Jim Mockler accepts \$4,500 donation for the west transept accessibility door from Grand Knight Roger Khouri.

organization that operates a shelter and offers programs for women.

Our members were busy on June 22: the golf tournament and also Columbian Service Day, as we joined with other Councils in activities which help us to live out our core organizational principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. The day included preparing and serving meals to the needy, a prayer service at the cemetery, wreath-laying ceremony remembering our military veterans, Mass, and a social. The funds raised are being donated to the First Canadian Army Veterans Motorcycle Group, Ortona Chapter.

Last, but certainly not least, we made a \$4,500 donation to the parish to make the west transept doors accessible. Work is about to begin on this project. As the residential growth of the core continues to expand, this entrance leading to Richmond Street will have more usage. We wish to support our parish as a friendly and welcoming place for all and to make strides towards providing greater physical accessibility to the Cathedral.

For more info about the Knights, please find our info on the parish website. We are looking for men to join our ranks!

Roger Khouri, Grand Knight

ST. PETER'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #13404 ON CHARTER NIGHT IN OCTOBER 2003



Kneeling (L-R): Pat Hogan, Rudy Pflanzner, Joe Tornabuono and Fr. Stephen Savel
Standing (L-R); Lawrence Jardine, Dominic Tang, Doug Purssglove, Mel Imbroll, Paul Krauskopf, Roger Khouri, Harry Lamb, Paul Bundgard,
Mike Lewis, Andrew Jardine, Bob Latella, Martin Healy, Robert Holmes, Mike Curtis, Francois Khouri, Jack Downes and Ivan Shea.

PARISHIONER PROFILE - MICHAEL NOLAN

Longtime parishioner Michael Nolan has spent almost three decades in the pews at St. Peter's—perhaps the only quiet times in a busy life that has encompassed journalism, broadcasting, university teaching and publishing.

Nolan is the author of five books, with a sixth on the way-- Joe Clark: The Emerging Leader (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1978); Foundations: Alan Plaunt and The Early Days of CBC Radio (CBC Enterprises, 1986); Walter J. Blackburn: A Man for All Media (Macmillan of Canada, 1989); CTV: The Network That Means Business (University of Alberta Press, 2001); and Swifty: His Life & Times (London, 2007)--a private family history of the late Donald Swift, a noted London entrepreneur in the automobile and call centre business.

In the spirit of modern technology, this profile was prepared mainly by exchanging emails: I posed some questions and, as expected, he provided answers written far more effectively than I could hope to cobble together on my own...

What brought you to London and Western?

I came to CFPL Radio in London in June 1970, because radio editor Hugh Bremner was a friend and fine mentor. I was working for the CTV network in the press gallery in Ottawa and was thinking of doing more graduate work at university.

The timing was good, because CFPL was expanding its news operation. I was able to do regular commentaries, join the news department and combine it with graduate work in history at Western.

How did you come to join St. Peter's? Has the parish changed?

I originally attended St. Patrick's Church when the Redemptorist priests were there. However, as I have lived right downtown for almost 50 years, I eventually decided to come to St. Peter's in the early 1990s.

I don't think there has been a major change in the parish from when I first joined and now. The spirit is good at the parish. I notice the listening to hymns and homilies is most attentive.

Why have you stayed at St. Peter's?

The church is centrally located and I enjoy the sermons. I should add that I am probably too quick to criticize priests in the pulpit who have to prepare sermons regularly. It is not easy to come up with something original. Besides, at my age of 79, I have heard many sermons. The problem is that familiarity can breed a certain indifference. I am not a joiner and so I have been involved in no parish organizations.

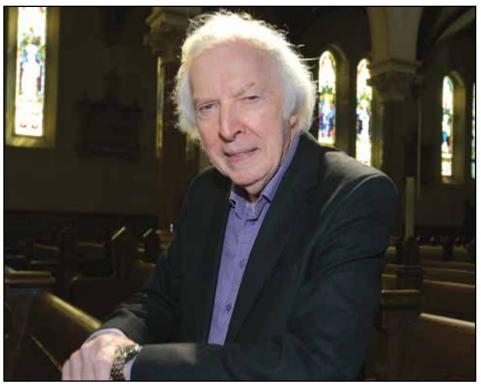
What do you foresee as the future direction for the parish?

I do hope that St. Peter's remains the dominant parish in London. Whatever the future holds, I still think it will be the central parish given its history and location, even if it has to connect more closely with another parish or two.

What was stimulating about teaching at Western after being in media?

The main thing about teaching at Western after working in media was that I got to do what I wanted. I taught a lot of media and politics after doing my doctorate in history. The fine historians at Western encouraged me to pursue history as an extension of my work experience, so I was able to combine both to a large extent.

When you teach students about the role of media in election campaigns, it helps greatly to have covered federal campaigns and watch the interaction between politicians and the journalists who were trying to cover the campaign. This is not to play down the research and scholarship in the field. But I think it is difficult to explain the structure and style of Canadian media to students if you have not had a close-up look at the media field.



What's the difference being a "participant" and "observer"?

The most satisfying aspect to becoming an "observer" is that you can stand back and see the media's failings. Not necessarily to always criticize but to be able to take a detached, balanced look at the field. As to the process, you always have to remember that the media work under great time constraints and limitations related to the economics of the media. You can be critical but I think someone who has worked in media is well aware of the media's constraints. Someone who has not worked in the field hardly has the advantage of knowing the problems the media face.

How have mainstream and social media changed in recent years?

I think the greatest change is in the level of competition and how news has had to clash with entertainment. The economics of news media and the intense race for audience ratings are now the key factors. This is important for newscasts and journalists. Even on major TV networks, the news department has to show favorable audience ratings and that can affect the content of the news. Is an item put on a newscast as a major news item? Or is another item put on because of its entertainment value that can draw higher audience numbers?

As for social media, its impact is great. Viewers can get news all day long. They don't have to wait for an 11 o'clock newscast. This has really affected the economics of the industry and audience numbers.

What will be the role of media in the forthcoming federal election?

The news media--print, radio and television--will likely focus on the party leaders as always and cover individual ridings where there are close contests. Given the importance of attack ads and negative advertising which has already started, I would look for a more thorough job by the media of assessing the attack ads and whether their content is truthful. Some of this has been done in earlier campaigns, but this time that kind of reporting and analysis might get more attention.

In federal election campaigns, the political party strategists have learned to manage the media so well that it makes it difficult for media members to do a credible job covering the politicians. Party strategists have learned to control the election campaign environment.

What's the theme of your next book?

The book looks at the campaign organizations and communications practices of the political parties in the 43 Canadian federal elections in Canada. I have yet to do the 2019 election slated for October 21. Books, as you probably know, have a tendency to take on a life of their own.

Paul Carson

This column covers books, articles, videos and websites that parishioners are consulting to expand their spiritual knowledge and growth. If you have something to recommend, please contact Hilary Neary through the church office.

In this issue, *Cathedral Connections* presents the reaction of two parishioners who were invited to read Pope Francis' exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, and to reflect on its impact. Rachael Krestick will be attending her first year of university this fall, and Donna Sousa is a social worker with an interest in youth ministry who is pursuing part-time studies at St. Peter's Seminary.

Christus Vivit is easily accessible by internet: http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazioneap_20190325_christus-vivit.html



Rachael Krestick and Donna Sousa

RACHAEL'S VIEWPOINT

As a graduating high school student, I would have never considered reading *Christus Vivit*. I'm always studying and doing mandatory reading, so an addition on my plate is usually not welcome. Honestly, I would have looked at its 299 paragraphs and immediately given up. But God works in some very mysterious ways and a friend of mine convinced me it was worth a read.

The whole time I was reading *Christus Vivit*, I was struck by how much Pope Francis was pleading for the people of the church to see us youth in the same way God does: as strong, motivated and joyful people. His understanding of how hard it is to be a Catholic teenager in a morally skewed society was touching, and empowering.

Pope Francis emphasizes to do with finding our true selve our lives flourish and bear fruit and discipleship in the Church.

After reading the letter in its entirety, I felt motivated to go out and live my life as I am now and not to strive as much to "grow up." It made me reflect on how important my years as a young person are. It also brought to light a very important message that some young people can forget in our Church today: We are valuable to the Church's mission. This thought is important, as it reflects how youth feel in the Church today – unimportant. We want to do more. We want to, as Pope Francis said: "be treated 'as brothers", or we feel like we need to leave because we don't matter. With this renewed importance to the mission we want the whole Catholic Church to do more for us so that we can do more for the Church. We want to be a key part of the community and spread the word of God, but we need to be enabled by the wise and elders of our church community.

To put it bluntly: everyone should read this letter. Next time you have an hour to spare, open your laptop, get your phone out or boot up the PC, and read *Christus Vivit*. It's not just for the young people of the Church but for anyone who wishes to see the potential of their actions. It is also for the person who wants to know how they can help the young understand their faith and thrive.

It is a call to action for every Catholic to help to bring youth back to the Church.

Rachael Krestick

DONNA'S VIEWPOINT

On April 2, 2019, Pope Francis released his most recent Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, a document addressed to youth and to the entire people of God. Pope Francis stated that he allowed himself "to be inspired by the wealth of reflections and conversations that emerged from last year's Synod" (*Christus Vivit*, no.4). In previous exhortations, Pope Francis used the theme of joy; however, in this recent exhortation he gives a reason for this joy: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!

Pope Francis highlights his desire to have a Christocentric focus as he addresses young people. Throughout this exhortation, he invites youth to enter into a friendship with Jesus, when he states: "No matter how much you live the experiences of these years of your youth, you will never know their deepest and fullest meaning unless you encounter each day your best friend, the friend who is Jesus" (*Christus Vivit*, no 150).

Pope Francis provides a model of encountering Jesus through the reading of sacred scripture, both Old and New Testaments, along with the lives and witness of many Catholic saints. Also, he states that the key to maintaining this friendship is through daily prayer.

In Chapter 4 of *Christus Vivit*, Pope Francis recognizes the challenges young people face in today's society and he proclaims the great truths of our Catholic faith. These truths are: 1) God loves you, 2) Christ is our Savior, 3) Christ is alive and continues to remain an active presence in the lives of young people, and 4) the Spirit gives life to the young person who opens themself up to the Holy Spirit who fulfills the hope of salvation.

This encounter and friendship with the Risen Christ can become a sustaining influence of our faith and the starting point to evangelization.

In his conclusion, Pope Francis urges young people to discern their vocation by responding to God's plan in their life. To respond, young people are to keep an open heart in order to bear the seeds of divine life.

Pope Francis emphasizes this truth when he says this "has to do with finding our true selves in the light of God and letting our lives flourish and bear fruit" (*Christus Vivit*, no. 257). This message becomes the key to a young person's call to holiness and discipleship in the Church.

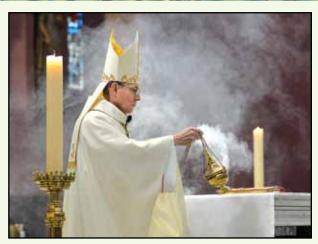
Donna Sousa



TER and SPRING Events



Congregation listens to the Easter homily.



Bishop Fabbro incenses the altar on Easter Sunday



Fr. Jim greets parishioners after an Easter mass.



Bishop Fabbro baptizes Nirvana Singh.



Bishop Fabbro exchanges Easter greetings.



The Choir from the Canadian Renaissance Music Summer School, under the direction of Greg Skidmore enthralled a Cathedral audience at their concert "Musica Transalpina" on May 25



More than 135 couples and their families, representing 5,407 years of marriage, attended the Wedding Anniversary Mass on June 2.



Kelly Franklin, author of "Courage for Freedom" and advocate against human trafficking, spoke June 4 at St. Peter's on this critical issue; her presentation was sponsored by our CWL Council. On July 30, from 9:20 a.m. until 10:30 p.m. at a nearby ONroute location on Highway 401 or 402, groups will gather to make the public aware of these dangers. In Canada over 60% of human trafficking takes place on the 400 Series of Highways.



Bundle Sunday -- May 25 and 26



Bishop Fabbro greets a couple and their young children at the Wedding Anniversary Mass.



St. Vincent de Paul Society staff loading their truck with donations. SSVP President Mike Zadorsky thanked the St. Peter's parishioners for their generosity, noting that the donated items filled more than one-third of the truck. "We sincerely appreciate the support from the people of St. Peter's."



Parishioner Aurelia Hernandez makes a donation at the St. Vincent de Paul bundle weekend on May 25-26