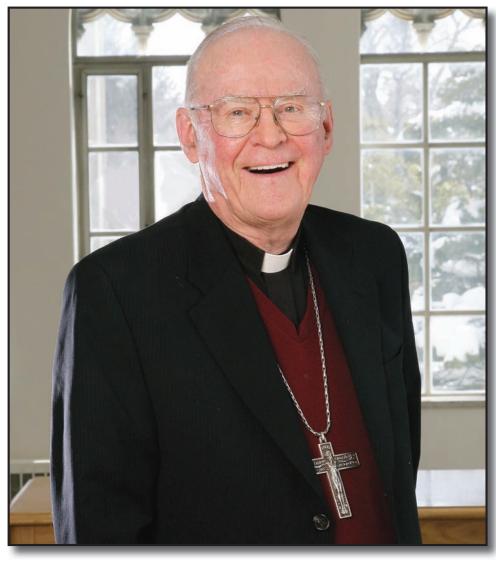


Cathedral Connections

FALL 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



In Memoriam Bishop John Michael Sherlock A Life in Service 1926 - 2019

Prior to his death Bishop John Michael Sherlock selected the Scripture readings for his Mass of Christian Burial – Isaiah 61:1-3a, 8b-9, Ephesians 1:3-14, Psalm 89 and Matthew 3:13-17. They were meaningful to him.

I am just as certain that he – being always the teacher for us – wanted us to hear them proclaimed and take from them what is needed in our own life and our individual and collective ministry.

The prophet Isaiah recalls the mission he received from God to announce to the people that God would bless their efforts. The people would come back in great numbers from exile. Those who doubt or who are discouraged must persevere because, soon, God will come to visit his people. Today we might wonder: "If Jesus brought God's salvation over two thousand years ago, why are so many people still waiting for the good news of freedom and liberation?"

The answer is not complicated. It is because the Gospel is a seed and the resurrection does not immediately bring about the transformation of the world but depends on all the baptized to carry out their mission as disciples. We definitely will be led through trials first before Jesus returns.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is one long prayer of thanks to God for having chosen us to participate in Christ's life and the hope he brings. The call to participate in the mission of Jesus is intimately part of every Christian's baptismal call. Everything begins at Baptism and our call – yours and mine – is to renew the commitment made there regularly because communion with Jesus and immersion into his mission can continuously re-orient us.

We can feel drawn into loving and being merciful the way he is. Because Jesus is immersed in us, and allows us to be immersed in him, our world can be transformed by the power of this union. We will then hear the cry of the poor, the sick, the sinner, as he does. We can become broken and given for others.

Over the years the ninth bishop of London shared that in different ways because he possessed a pastor's heart that was single-minded about serving Jesus as his disciple.

The challenge Bishop Sherlock issued at his formal installation ceremony on August 21, 1978, is still true today... "The challenge to shepherd the flock is not mine alone. It is addressed to all of you. It is hollow comfort to rejoice when we know the flock has been ravaged by the materialism and hedonism of our age and by the religious indifference which seems the inevitable consequence of urban living with its harsh impersonalism and pursuit of elusive joys. To you I entrust the commitment of the Divine Shepherd: I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. There has never been a time when your personal ministry is more needed – never a time when sharing your faith, hope and love could be more creative of renewed relationships, renewed community and rediscovered dignity and purpose in the lives of your sisters and brothers."

We are moving into a new era in the Church. How can these words inspire us today as we play our part in being disciples of Jesus?

May he rest in peace.

Father Jim Mockler



ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

533 Clarence Street London ON N6A 3NI

• Tel: 519 432 3475 • Fax: 519 432 5358 • Email: basilica@dol.ca

www.cathedral.dol.ca

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FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

On August 12, parishioners of St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica joined the faithful of our diocese in mourning the death of the Most Reverend John Michael Sherlock, ninth Bishop of London. He had a special and warm pastoral relationship with the Cathedral, not only because of his episcopal role from August 1978-April 2002 but also because in his retirement he continued this ministry of service by hearing confessions and celebrating mass almost every Monday until late 2018.

The funeral liturgy for Bishop Sherlock made a significant imprint on the collective memory of our parish and diocese. As Father Mockler has noted in his thoughtful column, Bishop Sherlock selected the scripture readings and also much of the music, including "O God, Beyond All Praising" (CBW 561), "Songs of the Angels" (CBW 10C), "Salve Regina" (CBW 469) and "How Great Thou Art" (CBW 554).

Our Rector served as Secretary to Bishop Sherlock from 1974-81, beginning with his time as Auxiliary Bishop of London (1974-78) and then as Bishop (1978-81). Father Mockler's insights are reflected in his column and the excerpt from his homily delivered at the funeral liturgy.

In this Fall issue, as we look backward on the remarkable life of Bishop Sherlock, we also look forward to the coming months in the life of the Cathedral parish. Fall is a time of transition, as nature moves from the warmth of summer to the cooler days and nights of autumn and, inevitably, to winter. But, paradoxically, this is also a time of rejuvenation and renewal as parish organizations that have been "resting" somewhat during the summer spring back into action with renewed energy. New projects are launched, traditional events are organized with new energy and fresh ideas and all our organizations and ministries are looking for new volunteers. To borrow a quote from Clarence, our resident Cathedral mouse: "We all have different skills or experience that can enrich our community."

On the following pages, in addition to regular features, you'll find profiles of some active volunteers, news of community events being organized by the Catholic Women's League and Knights of Columbus, a report on recent initiatives undertaken by the Mission Committee and a very positive interim financial report from the Finance Committee. There's also news and photos of parish events during the summer months, information on upcoming concerts and several other items that we trust will be of interest.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Cathedral Connections*. We welcome your feedback and urge you to consider how to best share your talents through involvement in one or more parish ministries.

Paul Carson

We Remember...

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

Catherine Reta Capitano August 31, 1926 – June 18, 2019

John Stanley Rumas December 14, 1920 - June 13, 2019

Ronald Grant Stillwell December 28, 1932 – June 15, 2019

Christina Ursula Wilhelmina Small June 26, 1928 – June 29, 2019

Maria Christina McHugh December 6, 1928 – July 6, 2019

Clarence Raymond Green January 19, 1945 – July 24, 2019 Mary Margaret O'Hagan

Peter Michael Forristal June 14, 1952 – August 13, 2019

May 17, 1946 – July 24, 2019

Joseph Shephard June 11, 1936 – August 21, 2019

Peter Agostino Sbrizzi April 23, 1963 – September 19, 2019

John Charles Moroney February 3, 1926 – September 19, 2019

Teddy Steve Machowski August 17, 1950 - September 26, 2019

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 be 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.

EMETERI

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

cremation and the many choices that this opens up to them.

The project has also provided for the cemetery needs of those who are more comfortable with the option of

Caring for the living and faithful departed as we awai the resurrection of the dead.

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

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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

ST. PETER'S CEMETERY AND HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM



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

In Memoriam Bishop John Michael Sherlock A Life in Service 1926 - 2019

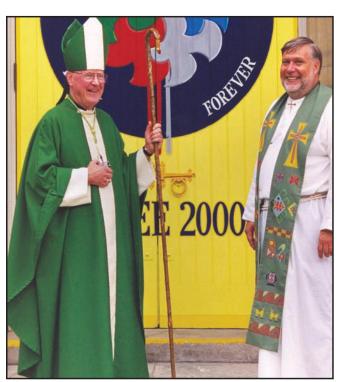
A portion of Fr. Mockler's homily at the Funeral Liturgy of Bishop John Michael Sherlock, celebrated on August 16 in St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica...

Over the years the ninth bishop of London shared the pain of those in need in different ways because he possessed a pastor's heart that was single-minded about serving Jesus as his disciple:

- -- As part of a loving and faith-filled family where mutual support and nurturing were clearly evident;
- -- Rallying and supporting the parishioners of St. Charles Garnier Parish in Hamilton from closure to vibrant mission;
- -- Facilitating Co-op housing so people would be able to live in and understand community;
- -- Addressing the laity by initiating and overseeing the formation of the Ministries of People of God process assuring them of their valued and needed voice in the Church;
- -- Pastoral visits to Peru, lovingly sensitive to the people while allowing himself to be inspired by the selfless ministry of our priests and sisters from London who were serving there;
- -- His natural pastoral ministry in retirement at Mary Immaculate Parish and recently here at the Cathedral, assuring countless people of God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation while feeding them with the Eucharist and his fairly direct application of the Scriptures to daily life.

The words of St. Augustine could easily have been spoken by Bishop Sherlock: "Whenever I am terrified by what I am for you, I am given comfort by what I am with you. For you I am a bishop but with you I am a Christian ... Please give me your help by both your prayers and your obedience, so that I may find my delight not in being in charge of you but in being of use to you."

As we have come to celebrate the Eucharist in order to be fed and in the midst of it say farewell to a dear family member, friend and colleague, we can make a prayer from the funeral ritual our own: "We believe that all the ties of friendship and affection which knit us together as one throughout our lives do not unravel with death. Confident that God remembers the good we have done and forgives our sins, we ask God to gather John Michael Sherlock to himself."



Bishop Sherlock and then-Rector, Fr. Clare Coleman, at the Holy Door of the Cathedral in Jubilee Year 2000.



For many years after his official retirement, Bishop Sherlock celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Monday noon Mass for the parishioners of the Cathedral, the faithful in downtown London and numerous visitors.

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

FAX: 519-432-5358

Most	Rev.	Ronald	P.	Fabbro	C.S.B.
	В	ishop of I	Lon	don	

PARISH STAFF..... EXT.

Fr. Jim	Mockler,
Rector	228

Fr. Gary Ducharme.

imockler@dol.ca

in dary Badrianno,	
Parochial Vicar	224
aducharma@dol.ca	

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

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

Cathryn Hall,

-		
Pastoral	Minister	225
chall@de	nl ca	

Brian Galea.

briari Galea,	
Business Manager 22	2
bgalea@dol.ca	

RoseMary Cleary,

Financial Secretary 2	22
basilica@dol.ca	

Patty Aldrich,

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

<u>Cathedral</u> <u>Connections</u> Committee

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

Photo credits

Dora Dannecker
Tony Lambe
Morris Lamont
Dawn Munday

Design: Pam Harrower



SHARING YOUR TALENTS -- CLARENCE, THE CATHEDRAL MOUSE

As a mouse, I am used to working behind the scenes. (Indeed, many of my operations are conducted underground.) And maybe because I live at the cathedral, I tend to notice the many tasks that need doing on a regular basis. Why, just the other day, while tidying around the east transept, I spotted some smudges on the rose window and rubbed them out with my tail. At Mass the next day, I'm certain the colours from that window dappled a little more brightly across the altar. I like to think that all of our contributions to parish life become magnified in the same beautiful way.

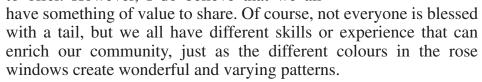


Used by permission. More information on the artist's portfolio is available at jogooder@gmail.com

I see the many parishioners who contribute their time and talents - even though they don't always see me! You may not know them by name, but you will likely have seen their faces as they pass the collection basket, offer hospitality, or assist on the altar. Some have more vocal roles, raising their voices

in one of our lovely choirs or serving as readers at Mass. Others minister to our community by serving on parish committees or participating in our social organizations. Some serve in more than one capacity, as perhaps, like me, they understand the great need for volunteers, and so they help out wherever they can.

Although I'm not particularly shy myself, I do understand when others hesitate to contribute, wondering what they might have to offer. However, I do believe that we all



So, whether you prefer to work behind the scenes or take on a more visible role, I'm sure you will find a parish organization or service ministry that can benefit from your unique voice and talents. At this time of thanksgiving, it's an especially meaningful way to give thanks for our beautiful cathedral home.

Wishing all of you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving!

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



The Cathedral Tour ministry, under the guidance of Larry Barrett, provides informative guided tours of the Cathedral and the Lady Chapel throughout the year, and especially in the summer and early fall.

This letter (and photo collage) from Pat Patterson and Diana Coates on behalf of a group of recent visitors demonstrates the effectiveness of this important Ministry:

"On behalf of all the members of the Art@Large group of the Society For Learning in Retirement, I want to thank you for welcoming us to St Peter's Basilica, by liaising with Diana Coates and arranging the details of our wonderful opening session. And it WAS wonderful! I always find beautiful houses of worship transcendent spaces, and had forgotten, having only been once to St. Peter's thirty years ago for a wedding, what an awe-inspiring place it is. When we requested the visit, our focus was on the windows, and that perfect September day, with the sun shining through, we experienced them in all of their quiet splendour. T here is something joyous about all that colour and light. And of course, the windows were only part of it. The art, architecture and the vaulting empty space throughout touched me as a visitor with a sense of joy, gratitude and peace. I especially liked the chapel. I don't know if it is called the Philip Aziz chapel but I do know he is the artist that translated the message.

Please convey our thanks to Larry Barrett for his warm welcome and kind attention. Ours is a curious group and not always patient to wait for the narrative to unfold. Larry fielded all the questions expertly and with courteous good humor."



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

St. Peter's Parish CWL Annual Christmas Bazaar







Date:

Saturday, November 2, 2019

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Place:

St. Peter's Cathedral Parish Centre

533 Clarence St. (Entrance on Richmond Street)



Silent Auction (Bidding closes @ 12:30 pm)
Penny Table (Draw closes @ 1:00 pm)

Door Prize
Tea Room
Bake Table
Jewelry
Toys

Nearly New Table
Religious Table
Clothing Boutique
Christmas Table
Plants/Flowers

Christmas Hamper
Toonie Table
Quilt Raffle
White Elephant Table
Gift Card Raffle



Free Parking off Clarence Street!!

Collection of donations for the bazaar will take place on two Sundays -- October 20 and 27, each day from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. More information is available in the Sunday Bulletin. Donations of new and gently used items, Christmas decorations, clothing, etc. are gratefully appreciated.



CWL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Look for us in the
Narthex during the
weekends of October 19/20
and November 16/17.
Please come to the desk
with your membership fee,
introduce yourself to the
CWL volunteers,
verify your information
and pick up your
new membership card.



Getting an early start on Bazaar baking!



Pie baking for the Bazaar



Congratulations

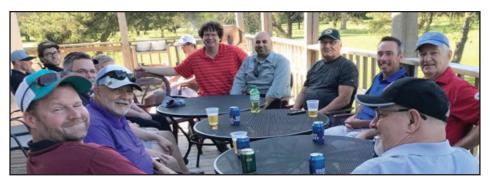
to the 2019 CWL Bursary Recipient -Lee Ann Maglacion

St. Peter's CWL President Julie Sans presents the CWL Bursary to the 2019 recipient, Lee Ann Maglacion, who is continuing her post-secondary studies at Fanshawe College.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - A BUSY SUMMER AND EVEN BUSIER FALL

I would like to begin by thanking everyone in the parish for being so supportive of our council's events and activities. The last Fraternal Year, which ended on June 30, was a huge success and we look forward to another fantastic year. In recognition of our success, we are recipients of the Columbian Award from the head office in New Haven, Connecticut. It will be presented to us in late October.

On June 22, we held our annual Ivan Shea Memorial Golf Tournament. The proceeds of \$800 were donated to My Sister's Place. This organization welcomes 100 to 150 women each day and offers a meal, laundry facilities, and group workshops to build skills and self-worth. Jennifer Martin, Program Support, said, "We are so grateful for the support of our Knights of Columbus friends. Gifts like yours make our work possible."



Relaxing at the "19th Hole" at the Ivan Shea Memorial Golf Tournament



Jennifer Martin and Bob Holmes

Also on June 22, our council collaborated with three other Knights of Columbus councils in the annual Columbian Service Day. It is a time when we as Knights come together to celebrate our core values: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. It was a day-long collection of works and events, which began with cooking and serving breakfast at St. Joe's Hospitality Centre.



Cooking for charity at Columbian Service Day (from left): Zhang Jiang, Ted Misek, Austin Osuizugbf, Colin Gould and James Vollmer.



Grand Knight Roger Khouri presents the Knight of the Year Award to Dave Houghton. Also pictured is Phil East, District Deputy for the Ontario State area, who officiated the St. Peter's Council Installation Ceremony on June 25.

On June 25, our new Executive was installed. We are all ready to serve everyone, building up our parish and community. I had the pleasure of presenting Dave Houghton, our Financial Secretary, with our Knight of the Year Award for his outstanding leadership and volunteerism in our council.

To help strengthen pro-life efforts in our community, our council donated \$800 to the London and Area Right to Life Association. As a matter of conscience, this organization could

not accept any government funds because they were tied to pro-abortion policies. Our donation helped to hire a summer student. Bonnie Pember, the office ordinator, spoke of the importance of involving the youth in pro-life work: "Our young people will be the ones who will spread the pro-life message to future generations. It is crucial to have a summer student to mentor in the office as a prospective leader in the pro-life movement."

On July 27, Dave and Shari Houghton did the official ribbon-cutting at our parish's west door. Our council donated \$4500 to



Dave and Shari Houghton



Donation For Accessible Door for Those who Use Assistive Devices

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS continued

make the door accessible for those who use assistive devices. As the downtown core continues to experience residential growth, because this door faces Richmond Street it will become more and more important as a gateway into the parish.

Earlier this month, our council assisted the Food Bank by handing out empty bags to customers at the Real Canadian Superstore, Oxford and Gammage. This is a small way in which we can help to collect food for the needy in the community.

Later in October, St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation will induct our council to their Wall of Heroes in recognition of our financial support to Veterans care at Parkwood Hospital.

Our next parish breakfast will take place on Sunday, October 27, after the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. masses. Cost is a goodwill offering and it takes place in the Parish Centre auditorium.

Coming up on the November 2-3 weekend, after all masses we will be out in full force for our annual membership drive. We are interested in growing our council, so please stop by for a chat at our table in the narthex. If you'd like to learn more about our council, please visit www.StPetersKnights.ca or leave your contact info at the parish office and we'd be pleased to get in touch with you.

Last, and certainly not least, it is the event of the year -- the annual Elimination Draw. Proceeds will go towards assisting our veterans at Parkwood Hospital. It takes place on Saturday, November 23, starting at 6:30 p.m. Great food, good music and a fun time. Your \$25 ticket qualifies you to win cash prizes. Best of all -- even if you can't attend, your ticket is still valid for the cash prizes. Hope to see you there!

Roger Khouri, Grand Knight

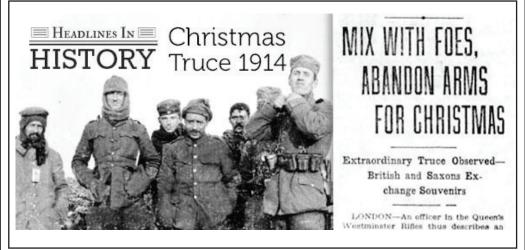


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Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs present:

IN REMEMBRANCE~

The Christmas Truce of 1914



Sunday, November 10, 2019 3:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica

196 Dufferin at Richmond

Adults \$15, Seniors/Students \$10
Veterans, CAF personnel & children under 10 Free
Tickets at the Door or from Amabile Choirs of London

An opportunity to reflect, through song and story, upon the freedom we enjoy in Canada and the brave souls who protect those freedoms.

St. Peter's Knights of Columbus Council

is pleased to present the

Elimination Draw

and Evening of Entertainment



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

6:30 PM TO MIDNIGHT IN ST. PETER'S PARISH CENTRE

For \$25 per ticket

you will enjoy

- Buffet Dinner Cash Bar
- Live Music and Dancing

Prizes

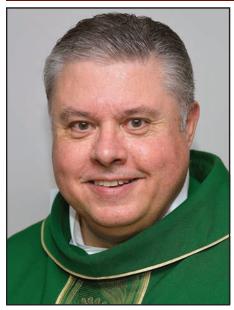
Last Ticket Drawn \$1000, 2nd last \$500, 3rd Last \$100, PLUS 9 additional prizes of \$50 All of These Drawn at Dinner!

A portion of the proceeds raised will support Parkwood Institute's "Veterans Tree of Caring" and St. Peter's Cathedral

For further details or tickets, please contact

Dave Houghton - houghtonde@gmail.com 519-851-7766 or Roger Khouri 519-280-1643 or stop by the Parish Office during business hours Mon - Fri, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

OCTOBER IS "EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH"

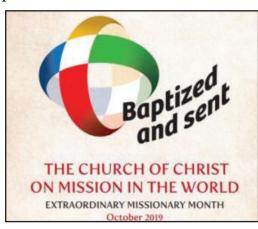


Fr. Gary Ducharme

X Jorld Mission Sunday will take place this year on Sunday, October 20. Pope Francis has called for the celebration of an Extraordinary Missionary Month this year to highlight the centennial of a document by Pope Benedict XV in 1919 on the missionary work of the Church.

The theme for this Extraordinary Missionary Month has been entitled Baptized and Sent: the Church of Christ on mission in the world. I quote the Canadian Society for the Propagation of the Faith, who has sent us resources explaining

the importance of this worldwide event: "Go! Make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28:19) These words—the imperative mission of Christ—call each baptized Catholic to action. The Church has a lasting mission to perform in this world, a mission that is ever more apparent, and the need for it is ever more urgent. In fact, mission isn't something the Church does. It is what the Church is! This is a worldwide collection for the missionary Church that offers emergency aid when disaster strikes, cares for refugees in war-torn countries, provides rural health clinics and transportation for priests, catechists, religious and lay pastoral workers. It offers financial support for the daily needs



of all missionaries. Please pray for the missions and be generous on World Mission Sunday."

Here are three brief articles with information on recent initiatives by the St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica Mission Committee.

Your Donations at Work Through CHALICE

Poverty in the third world is being addressed through Chalice, a Catholic organization that promotes sustainable development in 15 poor countries worldwide. This is done by promoting education; literacy and job training are top priorities.

The Mission Committee has recently donated \$2,000 to assist in this work. These funds have gone towards a variety of projects in Kenya and Tanzania. For example, the St. Francis Boarding school in Kamuwongo, Kenya, is designed to provide education for students from grades four to eight who could not otherwise afford to go to school. Chalice is involved in providing nutritious food for these children from nearby farms; Dioceses of Vancouver, Victoria, Nelson, Kamloops, Prince for example, over 100 mango trees have been made productive



Simple farming techniques training for parents in Mikinduri, Kenya, that they later practise at home.



Delivery of Irish potato seeds to Gilgil Township Primary School. These will be grown for the school's lunch program.

so they can have a source of needed vitamins.

This project is but one of many in Chalice's effort to improve the lives of the poor of our world. At the Muthaiga primary school in Kenya, virgin land has been prepared to start planting so that 1,200 students in a local primary school can be fed. Fruit trees planted in the Mbinga region of Tanzania will feed about 7,200 students; these students will also learn how to plant and tend trees as part of their education. Simple farming techniques are being taught to parents of students in Mikinduri, Kenya, so they can produce food for the school's lunch program.

The net result of all these efforts is that in 2018, some 16,000 students in Kenya and Tanzania were able to have at least one hot meal in 31 schools. It is hoped that these students will go on to have an improved standard of living that can be sustained. More information about Chalice can be found at their web site: https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/chalice/

Gerry McKeown

Supporting Our Missionary Partner: The Diocese of Whitehorse

Whitehorse became a Diocese in July 1967. Missionaries were there more than 100 years prior to this date. The Diocese includes the Yukon and the northern quarter of British Columbia. The total population of the Diocese is 40,000 with approximately 7,500 being Catholics. It covers more than 723,000 sq.km. The Diocese of Whitehorse is supported by the George and London.



Priests of Whitehorse fly into mission territories in Whitehorse for Mass and Sacraments.

OCTOBER IS "EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH"



Cathechism Program of the Good Shepherd in Whitehorse

The Mission Committee has received a letter from Bishop Vila of the Diocese of Whitehorse on behalf of the faithful of Whitehorse, thanking our parish for our prayers and generous donations totalling \$10,000 in support of their many pastoral ministry programs.

The Bishop also provided a description of how our parish donations were being used, specifically, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program which opened its doors in September 2017. This program came to fruition after lots of hard work, preparation, training and prayer. There are four volunteer catechists and the programs are held weekly from September to May. There are 18 children in the program (level 1 and 2), some as young as age three. One family brings their child every week from 177 km away. This program is ongoing and expanding and materials are still being purchased for level 2, new catechists are being trained and hopefully level 3 will be offered.

Another important way our donations support Whitehorse is through providing priests in their parishes and missions. There are 23 missions and parishes and only five priests in the Diocese. Priests, often accompanied by a seminarian, may travel 400 km (one-way) to offer mass and to administer the sacraments as well as to assist during Easter and Christmas. The parishioners are grateful for their presence.

Judy Howard

Answering an Appeal from Uganda

On a beautiful summer evening in July, the Mission Committee



Sisters of Mary Mother of God in Lira, Uganda, offer medical care for those who come to their clinic.

was honored by the presence of a very special guest, Sister Noeline Nakakeeto of the Missionary Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Church from Lira, in Northern Uganda. Sr. Noeline visited us to present a plea for funding for a new initiative by their community.

Currently there are 297 nuns specializing in health care and education of elementary and secondary school children. They work with youth, the elderly and the disabled throughout Uganda, the South Sudan, Kenya and Tanzania. The Sisters have travelled widely from their headquarters, which is a modest set of buildings located in Uganda.

Sr. Noeline was here in Canada to raise money for a new project. There is a desperate need to help ostracized teenage moms and their babies. Girls, abandoned by their families, are found wandering villages and the rural areas looking for food, shelter and midwifery care.

With joy and boundless faith, Sr. Noeline was asking if we could offer some help to begin this specialized program. Our Mission Committee was enthusiastic about the plans for these young unwed moms and we sent \$500 to initiate the program, promising that more money might become available in the future. Accountability would require ongoing communication with Sr. Noeline about the status of the project. In addition to our donation for their proposed ministry to these unwed mothers, we have sent an additional \$1,500 to assist them in the health care and educational work they also offer the poor.

Marilyn Conklin

Choir Concerts at St. Peter's

At the Heart of Stillness Friday, October 18, 7:30 p.m.

Les Choristes and St. Cecilia Singers

In our troubled world where the innocent suffer, we offer a plea for an attitude of non-violence while remembering those who gave their lives for peace.

Carols and Choirs Friday, November 29, 7:30 p.m.

All choirs join to celebrate the holiday season.

CONDUCTORS

Chorale: Patrick Murray

Les Choristes: Kathleen Allan, Patrick Murray

St. Cecilia Singers: Gloria Gassi

Western University Singers: Kathleen Allan, Patrick Murray

\$10 in advance \$15 at the door, cash only



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

This report is designed to give all parishioners a view of St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica's financial position through the end of August with four months to go until year-end on December 31.

Operating Revenue

Your Offertory Donations were \$425,716 through the first eight months of the year against a budget of \$429,370. Thank you to all parishioners for your generosity thus far in 2019 -- our targeted budget number is still within reach.

Other Donations totalled \$88,014 actual vs. \$48,700 budgeted so far in 2019. The large difference is due to a very large bequest that was part of a parishioner's legacy gift to the Cathedral. The rest of the difference is due to an increase in smaller donations directed to the general needs of the Cathedral parish.

Our total operating revenue from all sources of income amounted to \$872,888 vs. \$847,840 that had been budgeted. Our donations, especially the one-time bequest, drove this difference. As parishioners, our focus needs to be on our giving -- whether through offertory, donations or legacy gifts -- so that our parish can continue with its ministry well into the future.

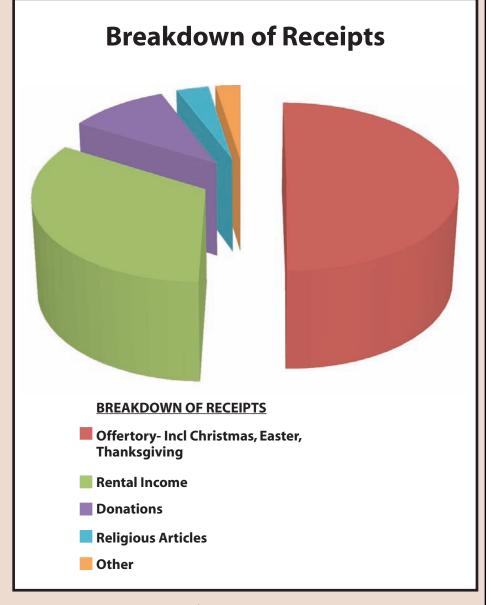
Operating Expenditures

Parish expenses were \$26,952 less than budgeted through August. The savings came from two prime areas. Our land expenses were considerably less due to a better contracted price for snow plowing and snow removal, and we benefitted from having less snowfall this year vs. last. In addition, our utilities cost has fallen dramatically due to our hydro-saving initiatives. Converting to LED lighting in the Cathedral has reduced our costs significantly.

Our actual total operating expenditures were down by \$14,715 in the operating budget through August. As parishioners, we are keenly aware of our personal monthly expenses and it is not that different in the operation of the Cathedral. Good stewardship depends not just on growing revenue but also on a determination to keep expenses under control.

Operating Surplus

The Cathedral is in a surplus position of \$7,136 as contrasted



to a budgeted deficit of \$32,627. Again, the generosity of our parishioners cannot be overstated. In addition, good control of our expenses has resulted in this positive result through August. Maintaining or increasing this positive variance through the end of the year is our new target!

Thank you once again for your continued support of our parish programs and the wonderful facility we have at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica.

Your Finance Committee

Operating Revenues	Actual Results YTD August 2019	Budget YTD 2019
Offertory	\$425,716	\$429,370
Stipends and Parish Social Activities	\$17,103	\$17,100
Donations	\$88,014	\$48,700
Ministry Revenue	\$3,000	\$4,880
Rental Income	\$282,589	\$280,200
Other	\$29,973	\$31,440
Special Collections Received	\$26,493	\$36,150
Total Operating Revenues	\$872,888	\$847,840
Operating Expenditures		
Facilities	\$314,728	\$341,680
Liturgy	\$32,210	\$24,750
Compensation	\$375,120	\$369,480
Education and Ministry	\$18,822	\$21,870
Other	\$2,261	\$1,470
Stipends Paid	\$6,045	\$5,600
Special Collection Paid & Fundraising Expense	\$15,245	\$25,300
Diocesan Assessment	\$68,554	\$68,552
Donations Paid	\$32,767	\$21,765
Total Operating Expenditures	\$865,752	\$880,467
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$7,136	(\$32,627)

PARISHIONER PROFILE: DONNA SOUSA

St. Peter's is a large and vibrant parish, full of people in various stages of faith formation. In learning more about each other, we can discover ways of deepening our own faith. This series serves to explore how someone in a pew near you may be developing a richer understanding of God and our Church, and may be willing to share that knowledge with you.

Donna Sousa is involved in many aspects of parish life: you may have heard her proclaim Scripture from the ambo at mass, or encountered her as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion or been in a faith-sharing group with her.

Donna was born and raised in Strathroy; her family were members of All Saints parish there, and she grew up deeply involved in lay ministry and youth groups. Her fascination with how society and groups interact, and her desire to know how to help ameliorate social problems led her to King's University College where she studied Social Work, graduating in 1999.

Donna's career as a Social Worker kept her in the London area, working with several agencies and in a variety of settings, undertaking both clinical and group work, as well as community development, specifically at a women's shelter where she collaborated with a variety of area churches on several projects.

As the extent and damage of domestic violence became better known and understood by the greater society, Donna actively worked on developing policies and protocols to be used by the police, the legal profession and social agencies. This effort involved collaboration with many groups and satisfied her desire to be working toward solving societal problems.

Throughout, Donna was aware of how much her own faith influenced her approach to dealing with both social issues and the people affected by them. Eventually she reached a time in her professional life where, she explains, "I wanted something deeper -- a ministry that took me beyond the skills and knowledge of a social scientist to reach the inner spirituality in people."

This calling led her to enroll in the Master of Divinity program at St. Peter's Seminary. She has been able to pursue this degree by working part-time, while following a curriculum that includes Philosophy, History of the Catholic Church, Liturgical Studies and Field Education. The field work has led her to placements in parishes and to outreach opportunities with children and youth groups.

Now in her third year of the M.Div. Program, Donna is still working three days a week, and balancing the demands of her career and academic life by practising "self-care strategies" that enable her to deal with stress and challenges as they arrive. She seeks to grow both in self-awareness and with the need to find God in all the people and situations she meets. In every encounter, difficult or not, ugly or beautiful, Donna is sure that God is trying to lead us toward greater wisdom.

This understanding is especially important when she works with youth, as in a recent field placement at Catholic Central High School. There she led discussions surrounding issues posed by birth control and giving consent in the context of human sexuality. Using a case-study approach, Donna found that many students already had answers to the questions posed, yet others were looking for deeper answers. She helped them to ask: "What would God do here?" and to find the kernel of grace in such questions. Sometimes, to be Roman Catholic, she explains, "we must be counter-cultural, be aware of both our essential being and of how we can continue to shape the person that God wants us to be."

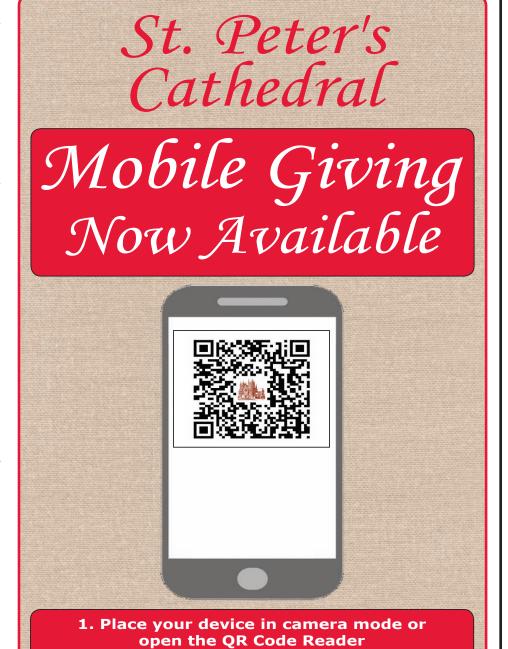
Donna is very aware of being a spiritual work in progress. She likens this to preparing soil for planting, enriching it with water and compost before adding seeds that will produce new growth. These deliberate steps, accompanied by self-awareness, prayer and reflection, are what will prepare us for a restructured Church that requires the active participation of greater numbers of the laity in ministry. Donna is shaping herself to that goal.

How are you preparing yourself for that future Church?

Hilary Bates Neary







2. Hold your device over the full QR Code.

3. Your camera will scan the QR Code.

4. Follow the prompts to donate.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

This column covers books, articles, videos and websites that parishioners are consulting to expand their spiritual knowledge. If you have something to recommend, please contact Hilary Neary at nearyh@gmail.com. Cathedral Connections welcomes this review by a pair of devoted parishioners who contribute to this column faithfully and wish to remain anonymous.

JESUS, A PILGRIMAGE, by James Martin, SJ

This book is not a biography of Jesus, nor is it an autobiography of the author. It is not a study of scripture, a book on theology or a travelogue. Rather, it is a very engaging mix of all of these.

Fr. Martin begins by examining the question Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do people say I am?" He attempts to give his own personal answer by recounting his experiences on a two-week pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He was joined on this journey by an old friend, George, a fellow Jesuit who is chaplain at the notorious San Quentin penitentiary in California.

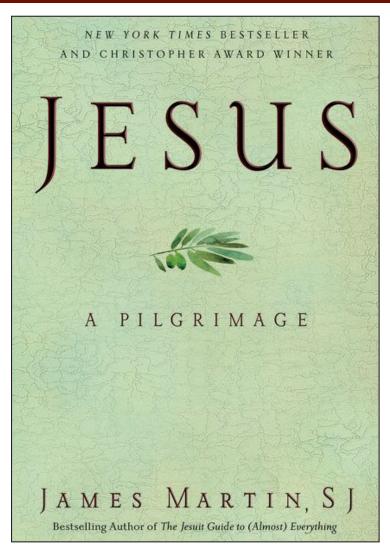
Their itinerary roughly followed the places Jesus himself visited, beginning at Bethlehem and ending at Jerusalem. This book can serve as a useful guide to both the well-known and obscure places of pilgrimage in Israel. There are lively descriptions of such prominent destinations as the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem that marks the birthplace of Jesus, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre located in Jerusalem, where Jesus was buried and rose from the dead.

Among the lesser known sites, we read of the Bay of Parables where Jesus preached from a boat on the Sea of Galilee to crowds on the surrounding hills, the meadows of Tabgha where the miracle of the loaves and fishes occurred, the tomb of Lazarus in Bethany, and the "upper room" which was the scene of both the Last Supper and Pentecost.

In recounting each of these visits, the author makes numerous fascinating digressions. He tells about the people he and George met and the events that happened each day. Father Martin considers the history, legends and archaeological finds associated with each site while extensively reviewing the sections of the New Testament that pertain to them. This involves considering different possible interpretations of the parables and an analysis of much of what Christ said, such as "My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?" while on the cross. Quite often he discusses how words in the original Greek do not have exact translations into English.

There are also numerous anecdotes from Fr. Martin's own life, telling how Christ's message shaped his character and attitudes. He became a Jesuit after studying business at the Wharton School and working in New York for General Electric. A documentary on Thomas Merton prompted his interest in becoming a Jesuit. After joining the order, he was involved in such missions as helping the chronically ill in Boston, working with refugees in Kenya, being a parish priest in New York and leading retreats, all while writing extensively. Such events as the death of his father, the birth of his nephews, and dealing with chronic pain have helped shape his spiritual outlook.

The tone of the book is almost conversational. It is evident that, while on the pilgrimage, the two priests had intensely spiritual experiences; however, they also enjoyed themselves immensely. Each reader is made to feel that he is part of this pilgrimage and is invited to encounter Jesus in his or her own way.



Father James Martin will be speaking at King's University College in the Veritas Series for Faith and Culture, on October 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joanne & Peter Kenny Theatre, located in the Darryl J. King Student Life Centre. His subject will be "Showing Respect and Welcome to LGBT People in the Church"



CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS - THE ROSARY

A mere 35 years after my Catholic conversion, I suppose I should be a little chagrined to admit that it is only in the last few months of Lent and Easter that I finally got the hang of how to operate the Rosary and am finding it a very powerful devotional instrument in the way that it commands and directs and focuses my prayer. What took me so long?

Well, a lot of converts – perhaps male converts in particular – have been known to take their sweet time in twigging to the pivotal importance of Our Lady in the grand salvific scheme of things as well. And as the Rosary was the Holy Mother's unique gift to the Church in the second millennium (and, of course, is built around the recitation of a set number of Hail Mary's) it really is quite inextricably linked to her. In the same way as you can't truly appreciate a gift if you don't acknowledge its giver, you won't "get" the Rosary if you don't "get" Mary.

A book that has greatly assisted me in making the Rosary a part of my daily regimen is *Champions of the Rosary: The History and Heroes of a Spiritual Weapon* (2016) by Fr. Donald H. Calloway of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. No, it is not an elegantly written tome but as the title vividly suggests, Fr. Calloway's exhaustive study emphasizes the inspiration that the Rosary has provided in the lives of men over the last eight centuries – from its founding in 1208 by St. Dominic, to the Battle of Lepanto in 1571, to the miraculous rescue of 33 Chilean miners trapped underground for 69 days in 2010.

In addition to Fr. Calloway's book, this last Christmas I also received a Combat Rosary which is a larger, heavier and impressively sturdy replica of the metal Rosary which the American military used to issue to their Catholic recruits.

Yes, there's something almost comical about such macho boosterism being applied to an instrument of prayer and reflection. But like most good jokes, it also underscores a valid point. The contemporary Catholic Church really could use a fresh infusion of such masculine ideals as vigilance and



discernment. And for this man, at least, one key to a deeper participation in the faith has been to take up the Rosary and pray it every day whether I happen to feel like it or not. Like honouring the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, it may not have as much immediate appeal as hitting that snooze button for another hour or two of warm and cushioned oblivion, but I never regret it on the walk back home.

Herman Goodden

Herman Goodden, a longtime parishioner at St. Peter's, is the author of a weekly blog, www.hermangoodden.ca. This article is excerpted with permission from his longer posting on June 10 and a version of his reflection also appeared in the May 26 edition of The Catholic Register.

"Catholic Devotions" is an ongoing series explaining and commenting on Roman Catholic devotions, current and traditional. Readers are invited to submit articles for consideration: please send an email to basilica@dol.ca









Summer and Early Fall Eucharistic Devotions on First Fridays At St. Peters



Fr. Gary Durcharme elevates the Monstrance, with incensing from server Terry Holcombe, as the new format for First Friday Eucharistic Devotions was inaugurated on October 4. On First Fridays -- such as November 1 and December 6 -exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin immediately after the 12:05 p.m. Mass, followed by song, prayer and silent reflection, and closing with Benediction at about 1:25 p.m.

Liturgical Ministers Workshop







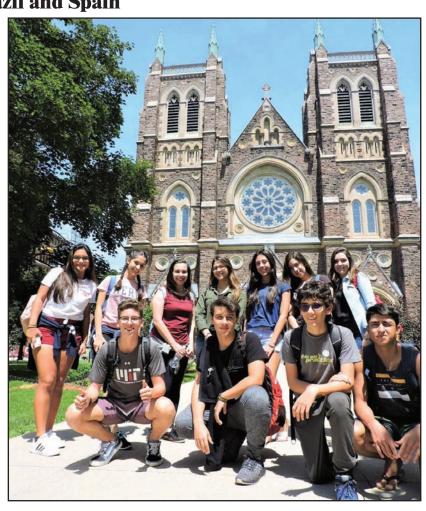
More than 100 parish liturgical ministers -- lectors, servers, choir members, Communion ministers and ushers -- gathered September 14 for an informative Liturgical Workshop. They reflected on both the spiritual and practical aspects of their various ministries, and the participants declared the discussions and reflections to be stimulating, enriching and successful.

Summer Visitors from Brazil and Spain



In July, a group of students from Brazil and Spain attended Sunday Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral. Marli Caporali, one of the organizers, sent the following message to Fr. Gary Ducharme: "For many families around the world, attending weekly worship services is a priority. This month, students from Brazil and Spain, who are attending an English as a Second Language program at London Language Institute, have been starting their Sundays at St. Peter's Cathedral. They know there is something special about worshiping together with other Christians, no matter the language. Love is an international language. 'I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me.' (Proverbs 8:17). Thank you very much for the opportunity to let us be among St. Peter's Cathedral community. We all enjoyed the service very much and

hope to attend worship services with new students next July."



TERENCE YIU - LISTENING TO THE SPIRIT

As a regular attendee at the 12:30 mass on Sunday, I had noticed Terence Yiu and his quiet presence in the Sanctuary as an altar server in the St. Stephen's Guild. We chatted briefly at the summer parish picnic, and it was clear that Terence had a unique path to the ministry that was worthy of a story.

When I asked what brought him to St. Peter's, he responded, "I became a regular at St. Peter's about five years ago. I love the architecture of the cathedral: the old pews, stained glass windows of the saints, dimly lit chandeliers, holy statues and paintings. They create an air of peace and sacredness. The masses are well put together, from the ushers, readers, choir to the liturgy itself. The parishioners here are super-friendly and welcoming to newcomers."

Becoming an altar server was never something he would choose himself, says Terence, because of the fear and anxiety that he would make mistakes. However, he was led to the ministry through a series of seemingly unrelated events which conspired to "choose him" for the role.

It all began one night after mass when Terence accidentally came upon a small poster in the narthex for the Christian Meditation Group. As he gazed at the poster, he felt a deep sense of peace and so decided to give it a try. He says, "I was amazed by how this age-old Christian daily discipline of centering prayer could open me up to the divine presence of the Spirit in the depth of the silence within us.

"One night, a couple of weeks before Lent in 2015, after my regular session of meditation, I felt a profound burden that I needed to do something for Jesus despite not being in good shape physically and going through some major challenges in life. I prayed to Jesus that if there was anything he would want me to do and believed I could manage, I would be willing to do it. I had no idea what I ought to do and I did not think about it much afterward."

That year, following the Ash Wednesday noon mass at St. Peter's, Terence was drawn along with the congregation to the CWL Lenten Luncheon, a practice he did not normally do. A CWL member led him to a table where he met "Susan," who was there to meet up with Terry Holcolme, one of her fellow Wednesday Why Catholic group members. Terry is a long-time server at St. Peter's and when he arrived, he immediately suggested to Terence, "Do you want to be an altar server?" Terence remembered his prayer and with some hesitation agreed to accept the invitation.

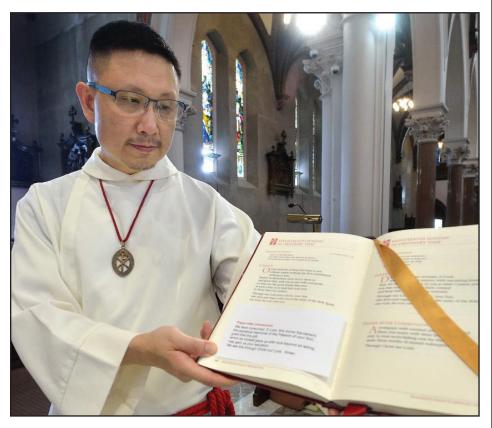
He states, "My encounter with Susan was brief but pivotal in connecting with Terry and joining this ministry. Initially it seemed just coincidental, but a few months later I shared this story in my own Thursday Why Catholic group. My group leader, Luisa Moro, had met Susan through some volunteering efforts. I was awestruck to learn that Susan was from another parish, and that she was only at that luncheon because Luisa had invited her to participate in Why Catholic because Susan's parish did not offer such a program."

"When I considered the synchronicity of events -- how Susan came to be at that Lenten Luncheon in a parish other than her own, how I came to be there, how I met Terry Holcolme, and the connection with my own Why Catholic group, clearly this was the answer to the prayer that I made."

Asked to share some thoughts on his ministry, Terence replied, "The mass is central to the spiritual life of many Catholics. It contains everything we do to worship God: thanksgiving, praise, supplication and repentance. It's powerful; it's beautiful.

"Attending mass in the Sanctuary is a marvelous experience that I never had before in the pew. It is truly a privilege as a layman to participate so intimately in such richness of rituals and its graceful unfolding with great devotion and dignity. There is nothing more satisfying than having served a particular liturgical celebration accurately and solemnly, leading to a more active and conscious participation by the faithful."

The most challenging thing at the moment, says Terence,



is a lack of servers, which at times makes serving a mass as prescribed difficult. "If you attend a mass when only the Cross is used in the procession without the candles, then you know that this mass could use your help."

Terence has recently been training some new "recruits." I asked him about his own struggle with anxiety in serving and how he helps others with theirs since there seem to be many steps to serving properly.

He advised that there are Directives that describe step by step what a server needs to do in a mass for each of the different roles. New servers can review these at home and then practise to build their confidence. Servers normally start as a candle-bearer (which is somewhat easier) and move up to other roles at their own pace. Experienced servers at all masses are more than happy to guide new servers through each step of the way.

Terence explained that, for special liturgies such as the Easter Triduum, altar servers receive instructions ahead of time and rehearsals are held with everyone involved. The system works really well and no one is assigned a role outside of their comfort zone. "We all make mistakes, even the priests," he added. "Partners keep an eye on the new servers to provide help or assist when needed."

When I asked Terence to share a moment that moved him as a server in the Sanctuary, he responded, "It was just after communion at the Christmas midnight mass in 2017. As the congregation sat quietly in their pews, the choir began to sing 'O Holy Night.' I sat on one of the stools in the Sanctuary, having a sacred moment myself. In an atmosphere of tranquility came a hymn from heaven filling the church from the rafters and down – the Sanctuary does have the best seats in the house in terms of acoustics. The lyrics, the angelic voices reverberated with this sacred moment so beautifully together. It was impressive and memorable."

As you read this, Terence is preparing to return to Hong Kong for few weeks to visit family and friends. Please keep him in your prayers during this tumultuous time.

THANK YOU, TERENCE, FOR HEARING AND ANSWERING THE CALL.

Dawn Munday



Diocese of London Year of Prayer

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.



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

October 19 & 20 and November 23 & 24



Looking for a way to get involved at St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica?

At the Cathedral, we have many opportunities to share our gifts to be of service to others, to journey through faith and liturgy, and to assist and support the growth and development of our Cathedral parish community. Opportunities and invitations for involvement occur throughout the year. Please prayerfully consider where you can share your gifts and talents with your parish family.

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Guild
Altar Servers (St. Stephen's Guild)
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Music Ministry
Lectors
Hospitality-Ushers & Welcome Desk

Operational Committees

Cathedral Connections
Communications Committee
Finance Committee
Offertory Collection Counters
Parish Office Assistant
Parish Pastoral Council
Property & Maintenance

Outreach Ministries

Community Outreach Missions Committee Parish Visitation Prayer Shawl Ministry

Other Parish Groups & Organizations

Cathedral Tours
Christian Meditation
Parish Engagement
Small Christian Communities
Catholic Women's League
Knights of Columbus
Legion of Mary
Secular Order of Franciscans
St. Vincent de Paul

For full descriptions of all of these ministries, committees and organizationsplease check out our website – www.cathedral.dol.ca

Contact our parish office to get involved.

