



JOURNEY

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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston

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Christmas Blessings



A Christmas Message from Archbishop Brendan O'Brien

Once again, we are celebrating the feast of Christmas – the Nativity of our Lord. Each year, it becomes more evident that, in our increasingly secular and multicultural society, two important but quite distinct seasons are celebrated. The Christian Church celebrates Advent and the season of Christmastime, extending and developing the Feast of Christmas from Christmas Eve up until the Baptism of the Lord, whereas the secular Christmas season begins in late November and ends with Christmas Day, making way for Boxing Day and the New Year's celebrations.

Because we live our lives in this cultural context, we need to understand its impact. While we can appreciate some of the values that come to the fore at Christmas – charitable giving, gifts, family gatherings, holidays, and recreation – we have to keep in mind that we could easily pass through the season without serious reflection and celebration of the great mystery of our faith, the Incarnation.

As one publication mentions:

"Christians...need to continue to speak the language of the Church's understanding of the celebration of Advent, Christmas, and Christmastime, and they will need to speak the language of our society's celebration of Christmas and New Year's as well. They must understand that there are two different languages, however, and not get them mixed up." (NBL, The Christmas Season, p.135.)

One might add that it may also be appropriate to forego some of the commercialism and excesses of Christmas and New Year's.

So, how can we ensure that the Feast of Christmas will not slip by without bringing spiritual enrichment to our lives? The season of Advent is a good place to start. During Advent, we do not pretend that Christ has yet to come, but we use the prophetic texts of the Old Testament, which sustained the hopes and longings of the Jews, to express our hopes, desires, and need for Christ's presence in our lives. Also, at Christmas, when people around us may be winding up the season once December 25th has passed, we are invited to prolong our celebration of Christmastime through the feasts of the Holy Family, of Mary the Mother of God (January 1st), of the Epiphany, and of the Baptism of our Lord. Each of these celebrations helps us to grasp how the child born in Bethlehem is:

- * Christ, our Saviour: *"Today is born a Saviour, Christ the Lord."*
- * Christ, the Prince of Peace: *"Glory to God in the highest heavens, and on earth peace among those whom he favours."*
- * Christ, our Light: *"Today, a new light has dawned upon the world: God has become one with man, and man has become one again with God."*
- * Christ, the Word of God: *"Your eternal Word has taken upon himself our human weakness, giving our mortal nature immortal value."*
- * Christ, the Revelation of the Father's love: *"In him, we see our God made visible, and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see."*

May our celebration of Christmastime this year help us to grasp the full import of the great gift which the Father has given us in Jesus.

Many Blessings at Christmas,

† Brendan M. O'Brien
Archbishop of Kingston

*Cover: From a stained glass window
at St. Anthony of Padua Church
Centreville, Ontario, Canada
Photographed by Katherine Quinlan*



Preserving the history of the Archdiocese of Kingston at the Church of the Good Thief

John Gerretsen



Since the closing of the Church of the Good Thief with its last Sunday Mass on November 24, 2013, many former parishioners and other Kingstonians have wondered about the future of this beautiful limestone building, located on a hill overlooking Portsmouth Village, with its unique tower visible from a great distance.

The church was constructed from limestone, which was quarried, cut, and transported to the site by convict labour in the early 1890s, and it is named after the Good Thief, St Dismas, the patron saint of prisoners. At one time, it was the only Roman Catholic Church so named in the world. For more than a century, it was the centre of all Roman Catholic-related religious and social activities in the greater Portsmouth area. It is the second oldest Catholic Church in Kingston, with only St. Mary's Cathedral having a longer presence in the city.

A committee, under the chairmanship of Monsignor Joe Lynch, was set up in early 2015, to consider the future of Good Thief and the adjoining property. It became quite evident early in the discussions that all committee members wanted the church to be retained for Catholic purposes, if at all possible. We were also aware of the fact that a recent professional structural analysis of the church, completed in 2014, indicated that at least \$500,000 would be required to repair the stonework of the church and its unique tower. The Committee determined that the only way to make sure that the church could be preserved was to sell the property around it to raise the funds necessary for restoration and renovation.

An application was made to the City of Kingston to allow for the severance of the property into six individual parcels: namely, the church, the rectory, the church hall fronting on Baiden street, and three new residential lots along Baiden and MacDonald streets. The plan proposes to sell the lots, the rectory, and the hall as single family dwellings, in conformity with the adjacent residential neighbourhood. The net proceeds from the sale of the five individual properties will be used to finance the necessary repairs to the church itself and to transform the interior of the church into a functioning archival facility. Any remaining funds will be used to set up an endowment fund to provide for the ongoing operation of the facility.

The renovated church will be retained by the Archdiocese of Kingston as a museum/archive facility to house archival material from the various parishes of the Archdiocese, as well as from religious communities, Catholic school boards, and other Catholic lay organizations in Eastern Ontario. Other Christian denominations and organizations have shown interest in this project, and inquiries have been made to determine if their archival material could be stored there.

An informal public meeting was held at Good Thief Church in May 2016, to inform former parishioners, the Portsmouth neighbourhood, and the wider community, of plans for the church property. More than 60 individuals attended the meeting, at which the plans were presented and discussed. The project was enthusiastically endorsed by nearly everyone in attendance. Similar positive feedback was received from those who attended a formal public meeting of the Kingston Planning Committee at City Hall in January of 2017. Both the Planning Committee and Kingston City Council itself unanimously approved the application.

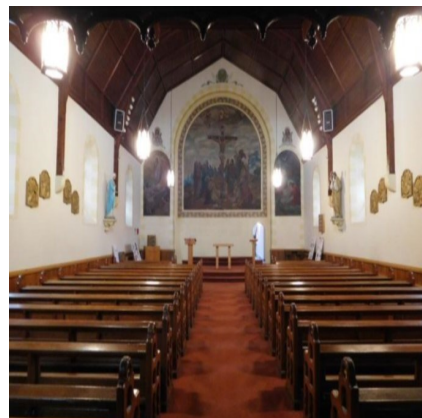
We anticipate that redevelopment of the properties will proceed in the near future. This will include severance of the individual lots, provision of public service connections to each severed property, the repair work outlined in the structural study, and the renovation of the interior of the church.

Our committee's main goal from the beginning has been to ensure that this wonderful, unique church structure, which has been so important to the Catholic community in Portsmouth and Kingston for the past 125 years, continue to be a place of Catholic and Christian activity for generations to come. Although we miss having the church as a place of worship for the Catholic community, this extensive project will ensure the preservation of The Church of the Good Thief and its legacy of Christian service.

John Gerretsen, former MPP for Kingston and the Islands and former Mayor of Kingston, is a member of the Adhoc Committee on the future of the Church of the Good Thief.

Other members of that committee include Msgr. Joseph Lynch (Chair), Sr. Lucy Kearney, SP, Rodney Carter, Ian Purcell, Michael Sayer, and Veronica Stienburg.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of Rev. Brian Price, Archivist of the Archdiocese of Kingston.



Remembering Lives of Priestly Service



Father Charles “Chuck” Hilliard Gazeley

8 October 1931 — 4 October 2017

by Alice Gazeley

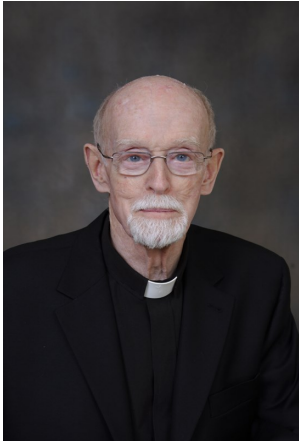
When asked by a close friend how he would like to be remembered, Father “Chuck”, after a moment of reflection, replied, “I hope they know how much I loved them” – ‘them’ meaning his family, brother priests, colleagues, parishioners, students, those he coached in sports, friends, caregivers, in short, anyone with whom he came in contact. As his family members stood in line to accept condolences at his visitation, person after person spoke lovingly of the impact he had had on their lives and that of their other family members. *They certainly knew he loved them.* In whatever capacity he served, he always invited the person(s) with whom he interacted to reach beyond the veil of his humanity to experience the love of God.

“Make me an instrument of thy peace”, was a prayer not only to be said but also to be lived, and he lived it to the fullest.

Father Charles “Chuck” Gazeley passed away at Kingston General Hospital on October 4, 2017, just four days short of his 86th birthday, and he was buried on October 11, the same day that he had been baptized 86 years before. He was born in Kingston, Ontario, on October 8, 1931, the son of Charles Gazeley and Genevieve Morris, the fifth member of a family of eight, all of whom are now deceased except two brothers, Neil and Ray. He attended St. Mary’s School and Regiopolis College, Kingston, the University of Toronto, and St. Augustine’s Seminary. Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Kingston, he served in Kingston, Brockville, and Belleville. While in Belleville, in addition to his Pastoral duties, he taught for twenty years at Nicholson Catholic College.

Born into a family where God was at the centre, Father Chuck grew up in an environment where loving relationships were fostered. He experienced firsthand the importance of family and carried that experience into his priestly ministry. As a nephew succinctly put it, *“Father Chuck has been at the centre of our existence; he baptized us, he married us, and he buried us...I have been away for a long time, but I can still hear his voice, feel his presence. Much love to a great man.”* It was a happy coincidence that his last official ministry before retiring was Holy Family Parish, Kingston. He embraced his parishioners, and they him. The added privilege of being part of the school community he thoroughly enjoyed. Naturally fun-loving and joyful, yet deeply spiritual, he possessed an acute awareness of how to respond appropriately to a spoken, or often unspoken, request for help. He knew there was a season for everything...a time to preach and a time to be silent, a time to pray and a time to dance; a time to laugh and a time to mourn; a time to skip rope and a time to comfort; a time to be born and a time to die... He clearly followed the wisdom so beautifully expressed in the scriptural passage, *Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8.*

Father Chuck had the practice of not only writing out but also taping his homilies. Some reference to the *Beatitudes* is repeatedly found throughout these homilies. Father Shawn Hughes, a former student, in his inspiring homily at Father Chuck’s funeral, quoted from the text of a homily given by Father Chuck many years ago. In it, Father Chuck speaks of the many veils which, because of our humanness, can prevent us from recognizing the person behind the veil... the veil which masks His presence in those who are hungry, thirsty, in prison, ... the veil hiding the loving forgiveness of God in the Confessional, and ...maybe the most opaque veil of all...the veil of bread and wine which conceals the Body and Blood of Christ. He exhorted his listeners to reach out and lift these veils and encounter the God who beseeches us, “to love one another as I have loved you”.



Father Paul James McAvoy

17 August 1929 — 1 October 2017

by Father Raymond de Souza

The following are excerpts from the homily given by Father Raymond de Souza at the Funeral Mass of Father Paul McAvoy on Friday, October 6, 2017, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Kingston.

In this parish, like the parishes he served beforehand, Father Paul did so much for so many. We marvel at the divine mercy in the long years of Father Paul's priestly service, that God should have sent him to St. Mark's in Prescott and to St. Michael's in Belleville as a young curate. Providence would then appoint that his priestly ministry would continue as pastor in Ballycanoe at St. James, and then in Elgin at St. Columbanus, and finally here at Our Lady of Lourdes, where I began my first parish assignment under his mentorship. He carried those places with him in his priestly heart and spoke of them often. Indeed, he is the only person I have ever met who spoke of Ballycanoe, and it was not rare that he did so. He had an inexhaustible storehouse of stories from those parishes, as well as an endless number of anecdotes from the many years he served as chaplain for the Sisters for Providence and the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph. The years together with the Sisters were a particular blessing for him, as he was thoroughly convinced that the Church depends greatly upon vibrant religious life.

Along the way, from the McAvoy family home and doctor's office on Buell Street in Brockville to the end of his days at Providence Manor, he made friends at every stop. Perhaps his greatest natural gift was his capacity for friendship, a most beautiful gift for a priest, for friendship is a sort of natural preparation for that deeper communion that we share by grace. He was a priest who delighted in his priesthood and sought to share that delight with others. He lived the lightness – and the delightfulness – of a Christian disciple who knew that Christ had won the victory.

I would often find him alone in this church, praying his breviary before the Blessed Sacrament, or in the living room reading serious books of theology or spirituality. He sought to discover where the Spirit was moving, and found much good in the new things that were stirring. I think in particular of the charismatic renewal and his many friends in Ann Arbor, Michigan, from whom he benefitted, even as they too were beneficiaries of his spiritual insight. Later in his priesthood he would find spiritual support and priestly fraternity at Madonna House and in the apostolate of Opus Dei, usually serving as host here at Lourdes.

Fr. Paul was a devoted son and opened his home to his mother, Carmel, in her old age, a home into which they hospitably welcomed me when I came to Lourdes. His life included both spiritual fatherhood and natural sonship to an unusual degree for priests. No doubt he was a good father in part because he was a good son. There was heroism in that.

He would know, in his last years, beckoning mortality, which seemed to extend its grasp from across the threshold of death to claim ever more of Fr. Paul's vitality. He knew how very perishable this life is. Fr. Paul's first funeral, shortly after his ordination, was that of his own brother Joe, who died in an accident. His first administration of the sacrament of the sick was to his sister Margaret who, though she lived a long life, never enjoyed good health.

Fr. Paul's hospitable heart and his priestly heart were not separate realities. Each was in the service of the other, and he welcomed others precisely as a priest. If it is true – and the Lord Jesus said it was – that anyone who gives even a cup of cold water to the least of the disciples will not lose his reward, well, then I dare say that heaven and earth might pass away, but Fr. Paul's reward is secure.

Spreading Christmas Cheer

St Mary's Cathedral Christmas Day Dinners by Ann Lyng

This year will mark the 5th annual Christmas Day Dinner at St. Mary's Cathedral Parish. On December 25th, a complete turkey dinner is served -- from noon until 2:00 p.m. -- to those who are alone or unable to prepare a meal for themselves at Christmas. These dinners have evolved into truly festive community celebrations, as volunteers from St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, other Kingston parishes, various area churches, and municipal organizations, work together to prepare for the event, and, on Christmas Day, serve the more than 200 guests who attend the dinner each year.

Provisions for the dinner are provided with donations from local business establishments. Joyceville Institution cooks the turkeys for us, and delicious home-baked desserts are contributed by ladies from the parish. Students in Grades 3 and 4 at St. Martha Catholic School handcraft decorations to adorn the Christmas trees at St. Mary's Parish Centre, where guests enjoy their delicious meal to the accompaniment of festive Christmas music performed by local parish musicians, the Kasaboski family.

This annual dinner is a wonderful opportunity for discipleship, giving of oneself in imitation of God's great gift of Himself, which we celebrate on Christmas Day. Martha's Table and the usual Hot Meals Programs throughout the city of Kingston are not available on Christmas Day, a fact which makes our dinner particularly necessary and appreciated. It not only gives those who are unable to prepare their own Christmas meal a chance to celebrate, but keeps many from going hungry on the day on which we celebrate Our Lord's Birth.

Individual volunteers, as well as entire families who have volunteered at our previous Christmas Day dinners, have stated that the events have given them the best Christmases they have ever experienced. This is proof positive that those who give of themselves to others receive many graces in return.

*'It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing.
It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving.
We cannot all do great things,
but we can do small things with great love'*

- St. Teresa of Calcutta



Submitted Photos

Christmas Spirit in Smiths Falls by Rev. Rod McNeil

For the past 25 years, the parish of St. Francis de Sales in Smiths Falls has put on a Christmas dinner at Hanley Hall for anyone in the area who might be alone at Christmas. This labour of love was begun by Larry and Catherine Manson, both deceased now, and continues with the support of volunteers from our parish and the wider community, who donate the food and prepare it onsite. The hall is beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the aroma of freshly roasted turkey fills the air. The festive event, attended by about 100 people each year, begins with a singsong of Christmas carols as the guests enjoy delicious appetizers. Then comes a full Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings. If there is food left over, it is sent home with the diners. There is also a take-out department, delivering meals to the homebound who cannot attend the dinner. Usually about 100-200 meals are delivered, depending on the demand in a particular year. There is no shortage of volunteers to wait on tables, help with the clean-up, and deliver meals. Families in our community find this a meaningful way to celebrate Christmas, and it is a very happy event for everyone involved.



Photo by Nicola Thomson

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Basket Program

For over 20 years, St. Joseph Parish in Kingston has been providing Christmas baskets for those in need in the parish neighbourhood. The project was coordinated by Marie Robinson until her death; her good work was continued by Cathy Cook until this year, when Mary Clancy has taken over the annual endeavour.

Each year, the local Salvation Army submits the names of 50 families and individuals who would benefit from receiving a Christmas basket. Parishioners donate both money and non-perishable food items, and the No Frills store on Division Street is generous in providing other food items at cost to fill the large baskets.

More than 30 members of the Catholic Women's League and other parishioners gather in the parish hall to assemble the baskets, each with a turkey or ham, milk, bread, margarine, apples, potatoes, and plenty of canned and boxed food items. The baskets – along with toys for the children from the Salvation Army – are delivered by parish volunteers just before Christmas. Any leftover items are donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society at its facility on Stephen Street.

When speaking with Mary, she mentioned that a highlight of this project has been the many calls from those who have received a Christmas basket, saying how grateful they are for the generosity of the parishioners of St. Joseph Parish.

A Decade of Christmas Cheer at St. Michael's in Belleville

About 10 years ago, Father Richard Whalen, Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Belleville, thought it would be nice to share Christmas dinner with those of his parishioners who might be alone at Christmas. He extended an invitation to the people of the parish to join him for dinner on Christmas Day at St. Michael's Parish Hall. Every year since then, a festive dinner has been held in the hall on December 25th, with the help and support of the parish community. Parishioners donate food and money and volunteer their time to decorate the hall, prepare and serve the meal, and clean up afterwards. On this special day, there is a truly festive atmosphere at St. Michael's, as close to 100 people sit down to a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings in the beautifully decorated hall. This event has become a parish tradition and is a highlight of the Christmas season for all those involved.

From the Office of Family Ministry

Sr. Lucy Kearney, SP

Advent/Christmas Preparation. Where do most people turn for information today? Google, of course!! By googling 'Preparing for Christmas 2017', one finds numerous and varied suggestions, from making a daily planner for home preparations, to best places to shop, to various activities for holiday partying. There is absolutely no mention of the true meaning of Christmas. However, googling 'Christian or Catholic Preparation for Christmas 2017' brings more positive results. Webpages such as 'Catholic Traditions for Advent and Christmas' and 'Prepare the Way of the Lord' offer sound background and practical ways of family preparation for the Advent/Christmas season.

In both the secular and the religious world, family is at the centre of Christmas. We are saddened by the omission of the true meaning of Christmas in our secular world. But, upon reflection, was it not this world that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, entered? Does Jesus not meet us where we are in today's world? If so, each time we reach out to one another in our daily situations, visit the lonely, give to the hungry and extend a sincere welcome to the stranger in the pew at Mass, we witness hope and joy. Regardless of circumstances, attentiveness to the Advent readings, participating in Advent reconciliation services and rituals -- such as the Advent wreath prayer and preparing the nativity creche -- invite us not only to a deeper awareness of the incarnated Christ, but to our responsibility in witnessing God's love in our world.

May the collaboration of parish, school, and home continue throughout the year to witness the true spirit of the Advent/Christmas season.



From the Office of Religious Education

Mary-Jo MacKinnon-Simms

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5: 14-16

We are all called to share in the mission of the Church, to engage in the world, and to bring Christ's message to every aspect of our life. In keeping with this mission and mindful of our commitment to ongoing formation, I would like to provide a brief update from the Office of Religious Education.

On September 30, we celebrated a **Day of Renewal and Reflection** for those involved in ministry. Seventy people of various ministries participated in the day's activities at the Spirituality Centre in Kingston. We explored themes on ministry, the call to ministry, spirituality and ministry, and self care. There was also a time for sharing and learning from one another. It was a valuable experience for all of us, and I look forward to taking the many great recommendations forward to future endeavours of this nature.

The Archdiocese facilitated a six-week **Prison Ministry Training Program** this Fall, with sixteen new volunteers attending every Wednesday night from 7-9 pm at the Pastoral Centre. Participants have had the opportunity to engage with various guest speakers on Call to Ministry, Restorative Justice, Communication and Boundary Skills, Self Care, and Community Connections, and are now better prepared to provide volunteer ministry at the various correctional institutions within the Archdiocese of Kingston.

Planning is well underway for pastoral care courses in several of our parishes in the new year. This office is very prepared to work with any other parishes who have specific needs in this area or other areas of concern. You can contact me by telephone at (613) 548-4461, or by e-mail at maryjo@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca.

We are continuing to update our resources in the library of the Pastoral Centre. Check out our website, www.romancatholic.kingston.on.ca, to see what is new. We continue to look for ways to support lay faith development. There is an online faith formation course offered by Newman Theological College (details can be found at www.newman.edu/CCS). Cost is \$85 per course.

As always, I look forward to your engagement in identifying the religious education needs of our Archdiocese. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

From the Liturgy Office

Mariola Gozdek

Article submitted by Father John Hibbard

One of the most difficult things about raising children or dealing with spiritual matters is that you cannot immediately, or sometimes ever, see the results of your efforts. One of the recommendations I remember from a course on preventing burnout is to do something that is concrete or tangible. In every parish in which I have served, I have tried to build something or plant something that I could see and admire. My first project was to build a deck; my latest was to build a church. As much as I admired that deck and the new church and drew satisfaction at their completion, I would personally not want to be the deck or the church. That is, I would not want to be what I created. Yet this is what we are celebrating at Christmas. God, the creator of the universe and all human beings became one of us.

Jesus, the Word that the God the Father spoke to create and redeem the universe, has become part of that universe: He is the Word-made-flesh. This is what the Prologue or first chapter of John's Gospel proclaims. We usually do not read this Gospel on Christmas Day, because people naturally want to hear the story of Christ's birth. In French, there are two terms for *word*: the more common one is *parole*, and the less common is *verbe*. The first is a noun that can be the subject or object in a sentence. The second, also a noun, looks more like the word *verb* in English, which denotes action. French translations of Saint John's Gospel use *verbe* to translate 'Jesus the Word'. In English, John's Gospel reads: "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God... The Word became flesh ... and dwelt among us.*" But the Word is not a static thing; it is an action. We could read it as "*the Word was action and became flesh ... and dwelt among us*".

The Eucharist contains many words, but it also meant to be action: the action of God the Father, who, with unconditional and self-giving love, sent his Son into the world; the action of Christ, who, in his self-giving love, died upon the cross, rose from the dead, and is 'incarnated' or 'made flesh' upon the altar for us; the action of the Holy Spirit, who changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, in order that we may be changed into the Body of Christ and transformed more into the image of Christ.

Our Christmas can also be words changed into action. The first action is to wonder at the mystery of Christ among us. The second is to marvel that the God who took our human nature now shares with us his divine nature. Thus, the Collect Prayer for Christmas Day proclaims:

*O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature
and still more wonderfully restored it,
grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.*

May this be the mystery at the heart of our Christmas celebrations, and may we allow Christ to transform us by the reception of his Body and Blood. This is the gift God wishes to bestow upon us. If we accept this gift, then we can be Christ for others.

Upcoming Liturgical Events

- ◇ Rite of Election, 18 February 2018, at St. Mary's Cathedral
- ◇ Workshop for Parish Music Directors, Cantors, and Accompanists
24 February 2018, at the Pastoral Centre
- ◇ Chrism Mass, 27 March 2018, at St. Mary's Cathedral

From the Justice and Peace Commission

Bridget Doherty

The Justice and Peace Commission of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston and the Anglican Diocese of Ontario thank all the parishes who completed the Justice and Peace Activities Survey. Your responses offer us an opportunity to support parishes as we dedicate ourselves throughout the year to the principles taught by Jesus Christ:

To Love and Serve One Another.

During this Christmas season, we open our hearts to receive once again a witness that Christ was born as Saviour of our world. He lives, and, because of him, we will live again.

Merry Christmas

Report from the Youth Office

Nadia Gundert

WITNESS FAITH DAYS

From October 17-20, the Archdiocese of Kingston Youth Office, in collaboration with the Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board and the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario, hosted a WITNESS Faith Day in each of our four deaneries, with over 1300 Grade 6 students participating. The days were filled with praise and worship music, led by the Josh Blakesley Band, and included a keynote presentation on being a witness; and breakout sessions on Faith in Action (secondary school mission trips), Praying with Music (Praise & Worship), and Men in Black (vocation stories and Q&A with priests). We also celebrated the Eucharist together every day. On Friday evening, October 20th, the Youth Office hosted an XLT evening for all ages at St. Mary's Cathedral – an intense experience of prayer, adoration, and worship with the Josh Blakesley Band. It was a beautiful time of reflection, song, and praise.

Pictures from Witness Faith Days throughout the Archdiocese



*top left: Western Deanery-Josh Blakesley Band; middle: Central Deanery; top right: Eastern Deanery
middle left: XLT—Josh Blakesley Band; middle right: XLT adoration
bottom left: Eastern Deanery; bottom right: Northern Deanery (photos submitted by Nadia Gundert and Sharon Buffett)*

Steubenville Toronto Youth Conference

Calling all teens currently in Grades 8-12. If you would like to join the Archdiocesan group attending Steubenville Toronto this summer (July 13-15), please contact Nadia at youth@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca. For more information about the conference, visit www.steubenvilletoronto.com. This is an amazing experience and lots of fun!

TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CAMP 2018

Our first year of Totus Tuus Summer Camp in the Archdiocese was a great success, and we are excited to announce that we will be offering our one-week camp again next summer! Our day camp runs Monday to Friday and is for children in grades 1-6; our evening camp runs Sunday – Thursday for youth in grades 7-12.

Online Registration opens on January 15, 2018, at

www.kingstonvocations.com/totus-tuus

2018 Totus Tuus Camp Dates:

Week of July 8 – Kingston
Week of July 22 – Perth

Week of July 15 – Kingston
Week of July 29 – Belleville



Deacon Candidates take next step towards Ordination

Deacon Bill Gervais



Earlier this year, at a special installation Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, four men of the Archdiocese of Kingston were officially received by Archbishop Brendan O'Brien as candidates for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. The photo to the left shows the Archbishop with these four men and their wives. *From left to right:* Paul and Nimi Bowman (Kingston), Nick and Jocelyn Whalen (Sharbot Lake), Peter Kelly and Christian Colby-Kelly (Perth) and Allan and Bernice Hogan (Brockville).

The installation to candidacy, which marked the completion of three years of study, was followed by installation to the Ministry of Lector on September 17, 2017. Just like ordination to the diaconate, installation as a lector is permanent. These four men, with the continuing support and active participation of their wives, continue their discernment as they prepare to be instituted as Acolytes, the last formal step before ordination. In January of 2018, these diaconal candidates will be assigned to a parish for a six-month pastoral practicum. We ask that you keep these men and their families in your prayers as they continue to discern their call to serve the Church as Permanent Deacons.

If you are interested in the sacred vocation of the Permanent Diaconate, please call Deacon Bill Gervais, Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, at 613-548-4461, ex. 116, or email him at deacon@romancatholic.kingston.on.ca.

Rose window restored at St. John's in Gananoque

Nancy Hibbert

St. John the Evangelist Parish in Gananoque is delighted with the restoration of the church's beautiful Rose Window. If you supported St. John's yard sale or fundraising trip to the hockey game in Toronto, you helped to pay for this restoration. St. John's would like to especially thank those who made a financial donation to sponsor the petals and centre of the Rose.

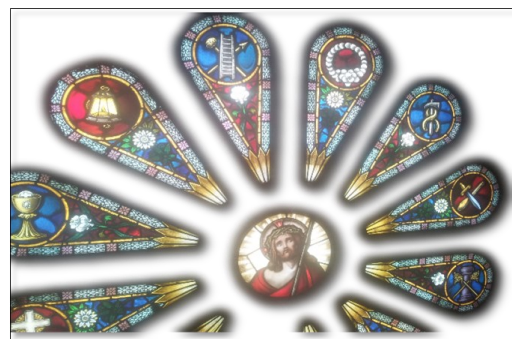
Did you know that St. John's on Stone Street is actually Gananoque's 'new' Catholic Church? Construction of the church began in 1889, to replace a smaller church on King Street, and the Rose Window was part of that original structure, the design of which was copied from a church in Ireland. In the centre of the Rose, Jesus is surrounded by petals that contain symbolic images representing The Passion of Christ. These images are a beautiful way to explain our faith.

The window was covered with Plexiglas for many years in order to protect it when repairs were being done to the church. As time passed, the Plexiglas lost its clarity, and the Rose and its images were hidden. It was decided to remove the Plexiglas and return the Rose Window to its former glory, and so began St. John's Rose Window restoration fundraising project.

Mark Thompson, owner of Traditional Glassworks in Westport, who had done an excellent job in 1996 of repairing and adding tempered glass to the other stained glass windows in the church, agreed to take on this delicate project. He and his partner, Meredith Toivanen, were amazed at the beautiful condition of the Rose Window. Together, they gave new life to the window by repairing the stained glass and replacing the Plexiglas with tempered glass.

After all the hard work, St. John the Evangelist Parish is delighted to announce that the project is complete and is anxious for everyone to see the results. It has been quite an accomplishment to reveal this 120-year-old window, which had been hidden beneath opaque glass for more than a decade. The window brings to life that old saying that 'looking at stained glass church windows is like reading the Bible in pictures'.

St. John the Evangelist extends a warm invitation to all who are interested in, or curious about, the history and beauty of this heritage building to come and view our beautiful restored Rose Window. It is a gem for our Church and our community. We are grateful to all those who made this possible through their generous support of our fundraising efforts.



CWL Picton holds Vigil for Indigenous Women

Trish Purdon-Irwin

Before our October meeting, the members of the CWL Council at St. Gregory the Great Parish, Picton, gathered for a 'Sisters in the Spirit' Vigil, which began with a procession of candles and small red hearts with the names of 30 murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG). Participants tied red-ribboned hearts to red dogwood branches and set the candles at the base of the 'tree', while each name was read aloud. The Indigenous peoples of the Quinte area include members of the Iroquois Confederacy and the Algonquin/Ojibway Nation.

We began the Vigil with the prayer for MMIWG from the Native Women's Association of Canada, followed by the hymn **'They'll Know We Are Christians'(by our love, by our love..)**. The following lyrics are particularly poignant:



*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, ...
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, ...
We will work with each other; we will work side by side, ...
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.*

Participants wore buttons with the Grandmother Moon logo, and the Grandmother Moon prayer was recited at the end of the service. Indigenous women have a special connection to their grandmothers even after they have passed on. It is believed that they continue to teach them about their sacred role as life-givers and the importance of being the heart of the family.



Madoc CWL honours 75-year member

Carol Paranuik



Pictured is Rose Lajoie of Sacred Heart of Mary Parish, Madoc, who was honoured with a special presentation at the annual CWL fall bazaar on October 21. Rose was presented with a lovely bouquet of red roses and a pin recognizing no less than 75 years as a member of the League. The ninety-five year old said the biggest accomplishment she saw during all those years was the building of the parish hall, dedicated to Monsignor Frank O'Neill, the former parish priest, who is the hall's namesake. She said that all of the parishioners pitched in to help and that they celebrated the hall's completion with a lively dance.

Quietly into the Sunset...

For the past seven years, when you have called or visited the Pastoral Centre, you have probably been greeted by our gracious receptionist, **Nancy Kelsey**. With her warm smile, and welcoming voice, she has been called 'the heart of the Archdiocese'; and 'Nancy with the laughing face'. She will be greatly missed by all of us when she retires at the end of this year.

As Nancy put it, she would like to go 'quietly into the sunset'. But we cannot let that happen without expressing how much we will miss her laughter, her kindness, and her cheerful presence here in our office.

Our Archdiocesan family would like to express heartfelt gratitude to Nancy for seven years of devoted service. We extend to her and to her husband, Mitch, our very best wishes for a happy retirement.



Do Not Worry! Women's Fall Retreat 2017

Beverly Illauq, Co-Chair, Women's Fall Retreat Team

All worriers were welcome at the Women's Fall Retreat, which was held on the weekend of September 15-17 in Gananoque. Almost 90 women of all ages, from as far away as Texas, gathered at Glen House Resort to talk, sing, listen, and wrestle worry and anxiety to the ground.

Entitled, "Do Not Worry", this year's retreat was designed to instruct and inspire participants about how to deal with the stresses and strains of life in the light of the Gospel. Anne Walsh, a Redemptorist Associate Missionary from St. John's Newfoundland, gave four keynote sessions on the 'worry text' found in St. Paul's letter to the Philippians (*Phil. 4:6-7*). Anne opened the retreat on Friday night with a talk about God's love and care for us as women. On Saturday morning, her talks focussed on how Mother Mary and St. Peter dealt with the anguish and stress in their lives. In Sunday morning's talk, she related some of her personal experiences with grief and trauma and traced the grace of God's healing mercy in her own life.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday afternoon was followed by a session on "Managing Anxiety Through Transitions", given by Jill Neely, a counsellor from the Sudbury area. Saturday evening featured a banquet dinner with entertainment by Marleen Fawcett, a 'root artist' musician from Mountain, Ontario. The culmination of the weekend was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Sunday morning, with Fr. Jack Grainger as presider.

This was the 8th annual Women's Retreat. First held in September 2010, the Women's Fall Retreat has become a highlight and a place of refreshment and inspiration for many women. The theme for WFR 2018, which is scheduled for September 23-25 at Glen House Resort, is "Be joyful in Hope", with Dr. Josephine Lombardi as guest speaker. See www.womensfallretreat.com for more information and registration details.

Seminarian Appreciation in Trenton

Cerelina Berry

The Knights of Columbus in Trenton (Rev. Dan MacDonald Assembly) hosted the annual Seminarian Mass and Dinner on Sunday, August 13, 2017. Our four seminarians, Fraser McLaren, Michel Quenneville, Brian Russell, and Evann Yakabuski, along with their families, were guests of honour at the event, which was well attended by Knights of Columbus and parishioners throughout the Archdiocese.

The Mass at St-Peter-in-Chains Parish was celebrated by Archbishop O'Brien and concelebrated by the priests of the Archdiocese, including our Pastor, Father Tim Harrison, and our Associate Pastor, Father Francis Zambon. The evening banquet was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Trenton. The delicious meal was followed by messages of encouragement from the Archbishop, Father Harrison, and Father Jan Kusyk, the Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese. The guest speaker was Seminarian Michel Quenneville, who gave an inspiring talk on his journey to the priesthood. At the conclusion of the dinner, the Knights of Columbus and the Columbian Squires presented cheques and gifts to the Seminarians.

We are encouraged to pray for our seminarians:

- † Evann Yakabuski: Evann grew up in Kemptville, and is a parishioner of Holy Cross Parish. He has a degree in Civil Engineering, and operated a landscaping business before entering the seminary.
- † Fraser McLaren: Fraser is from Kingston and is a parishioner of St. Joseph Parish. He worked both as a teacher and as an accountant before his call to the priesthood.
- † Michel Quenneville: Michel is a parishioner of Paroisse St-Francois d'Assise in Kingston. He was born in Kingston and raised in the country near Gananoque. Michel has a degree in chemical engineering and worked in the oil industry before entering the seminary.
- † Brian Russell: Brian is from Brockville, and is a parishioner of St. Francis Xavier Parish. Born and raised in British Columbia, he has a degree in history and spent five years working for the public service before becoming a seminarian. He was ordained to the transitional diaconate in Brockville on June 24, 2017.



left to right—Michel Quenneville; Evann Yakabuski; Rev. Jan Kusyk; Archbishop Brendan O'Brien; Deacon Brian Russell; Fraser McLaren

Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	New Year's eve	New Year's Day
St. Mary's Cathedral	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, Midnight	8:00 am, 10:30 am	5:00 pm	8:00 am, 10:30 am
St. John the Apostle Parish	4:30 pm, 8:00 pm	9:30 am	4:30 pm	8:30 am, 10:30 am
St. Joseph Parish, Kingston	5:15 pm, 8:00 pm	9:00 am, 11:00 am	5:15 pm	9:00 am, 11:00 am
St. Francois-d'Assise (French)	5:00 pm, 10:00 pm	11:00 am	5:00 pm	11:00 am
Holy Family Parish	5:15 pm, 8:00 pm	10:00 am	7:00 pm	10:00 am
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish	5:15 pm	10:30 am	5:15 pm	10:30 am
Our Lady of Fatima (Portuguese)	<i>For Mass times please contact the parish.</i>			
St. Paul the Apostle Parish	4:30 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Amherstview—Blessed Sacrament	5:00 pm, 9:00 pm	10:00 am		10:00 am
Ardoch – St. Kilian	5:00 pm	11:00 am	5:00 pm	11:00 am
Athens—St. Denis the Areopagite	5:00 pm		5:00 pm	
Batawa—Sacred Heart of Jesus		10:30 am		
Bath—St. Linus	7:00 pm			
Bedford—Sacred Heart Parish	4:30 pm	10:00 am	4:30 pm	
Belleville—St. Michael the Archangel	5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, Midnight	11:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am, Noon
Belleville—Holy Rosary Parish	5:30 pm, 8:30 pm	10:00 am	4:30 pm	10:00 am
Belleville—St. Joseph Parish	4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm	10:30 am	5:00 pm	10:30 am
Brewers Mills—St. Barnaby Parish	7:30 pm	9:00 am	7:30 pm	9:00 am
Brockville—St. Francis Xavier Parish	5:15 pm , Midnight	10:00 am	5:15 pm	9:00 am, 11:00 am
Brockville—St. John Bosco Parish	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Cardinal—Sacred Heart of Jesus	7:00 pm			
Carleton Place—St. Mary Parish	5:00 pm, 7:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Centreville—St. Anthony of Padua	6:30 pm		5:15 pm	
Chesterville—St. Mary Parish	5:00 pm, 9:00 pm	10:30 am	5:00 pm	10:30 am
Deseronto—St. Vincent de Paul	5:00 pm		5:00 pm	
Elgin—St. Columbanus Parish	7:30 pm	10:45 am	7:30 pm	10:45 am
Enterprise—Annunciation Parish	8:30 pm			8:30 am
Erinsville—Assumption Parish	4:30 pm	10:30 am		10:30 am
Flinton—St. John the Evangelist	7:30 pm	9:00 am	7:30 pm	9:00 am
Frankford—St. Francis Assisi Parish	10:00 pm		4:30 pm	

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	New Year's Eve	New Year's Day
Gananoque—St. John the Evangelist	5:00 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Howe Island—St. Philomena	7:30 pm		7:30 pm	
Iroquois—St. Cecilia	7:30 pm			9:00 am
Kemptville—Holy Cross Parish	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm , Midnight	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Kingston Mills—Holy Name of Jesus	5:00 pm, Midnight	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Lanark—Sacred Heart of Jesus	5:00 pm		5:00 pm	9:00 am
Lansdowne—St. Patrick Parish	5:00 pm		5:00 pm	
Lombardy—Blessed Sacrament	7:00 pm			9:00 am
Madoc—Sacred Heart of Mary	7:00 pm	9:00 am		9:00 am
Marmora—Sacred Heart of Jesus	5:00 pm, 9:00 pm	10:30 am		10:30 am
Marysville—Holy Name of Mary		10:00 am		8:45 am
Merrickville—St. Ann Parish	7:00 pm	11:00 am	5:15 pm	11:00 am
Morrisburg—St. Mary Parish	5:00 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	7:30 pm	11:00 am
Napanee—St. Patrick Parish	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
North Augusta—St. Theresa	5:30 pm			7:30 am
Odessa—St. Mary	7:00 pm		4:30 pm	
Perth—St. John the Baptist Parish	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Picton—St. Gregory the Great	5:00 pm, 8:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Prescott—St. Mark the Evangelist	5:00 pm, Midnight	11:00 am	4:30 pm	11:00 am
Railton—St. Patrick Parish	5:00 pm	10:00 am		10:00 am
Read—St. Charles Borromeo	8:00 pm			10:30 am
Rockport—St. Brendan	7:00 pm			11:00 am
Sharbot Lake—St. James Major	7:00 pm		7:30 pm	10:00 am
Smiths Falls—St. Francis de Sales	5:00 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	11:00 am
South Mountain—St. Daniel	7:00 pm	8:30 am		8:30 am
Spencerville—St. Laurence O'Toole	4:00 pm	9:00 am		9:00 am
Stanleyville—St. Bridget	7:30 pm			11:00 am
Stirling—St. James Minor	4:30 pm			9:15 am
Stoco—St. Edmund Parish	7:30 pm		5:00 pm	
Toledo—St. Philip Neri Parish	7:00 pm	10:00 am		10:00 am
Trenton—St. Peter-in-Chains	5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:00 pm	10:00 am	5:00 pm	10:00 am
Tweed—St. Carthagh Parish	5:00 pm	10:00 am		10:00 am
Westport—St. Edward the Confessor	5:30 pm	9:00 am	5:30 pm	9:00 am
Wolfe Island—Sacred Heart of Mary	For Mass times please contact the parish.			

Celebrating the spirit of service

Susan Lett

When a married couple celebrate a significant wedding anniversary, whether it be 25 years, 50 years, or 60 years, we often see their picture in the newspaper, along with a congratulatory message. Very rarely do any of our priests or Religious Sisters have pictures or articles in the newspaper when they mark a special anniversary, even though these anniversaries are just as significant for them, for the Church, and for the community.

This summer, the Pastoral Centre staff gathered together to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Religious Life of our very own Sister Lucy Kearney. As we sat around the table, Sister Lucy reminisced with us about the day she had entered the convent and how hard it had been to leave her family and her home. She told us a little about the life she had given up but more about what she had gained in her new life as a Sister of Providence. As she spoke about her many experiences over the years, the many schools in which she had taught, the many communities in which she had lived, you could hear in her voice that she loved being a religious Sister. We learned a lot that day about the calling to religious life as we celebrated Sister Lucy's gift of service to the Church.

2017 was also a year of celebration for several of our priests, four of whom celebrated 60 years – and two others who marked 50 years – of Priestly Ordination. Years ago, when I worked at St. Mary's Cathedral, Father Rowell would often talk about that May day in 1957 when six priests were ordained on one day at the Kingston Memorial Centre during the annual Holy Name Rally. What a day that must have been for the Archdiocese! Father Edward Keyes and Father Peter Murphy were among the priests ordained that day. Father Rowell told us that the bleachers at the Memorial Centre were full of parishioners who had travelled from parishes across the Archdiocese for the celebration – it was the event of the year!

Ten years later, on June 4, 1967, the two priests celebrating 50th anniversaries this year were ordained by Archbishop Wilhelm in a happy, but much smaller ceremony, at St. Mary's Cathedral: Father Don Cummings for the Archdiocese of Kingston and Father William Steacy for the Redemptorist Order of priests.

I wish I could talk at length about each one of these fine priests, but this is a small publication, and space is limited. All of them served their parishes well and are fondly remembered by their parishioners. As I was researching our files to write this article, I came across a letter written by one of the priests to the Archbishop some 10 years ago asking for permission to retire. At the time, this priest was 77 years old and had been ordained for 50 years. His words were sincere and heartfelt. He wrote, *"I guess it is time to 'hang up the cleats' and let some of the younger priests take over."* He continued, *"I love the priesthood and the people in this parish."* This was a phrase this particular priest had used in each of the acceptance letters he had written for new appointments: *"I love being a priest."* The final sentence in his retirement letter to the Archbishop was an offer to help the pastor in the town to which he was moving – in its nursing homes, schools, hospitals – wherever he was needed. Ten years later, this priest continues to serve the people of that community and parishes across the Archdiocese, providing much-needed assistance to his brother priests.

That spirit of service is what we are celebrating when we mark a significant anniversary for a priest or a religious Sister. When they entered the priesthood or religious life, they dedicated themselves to serving God and His Church for the rest of their lives. Just as a married couple celebrate at the time of their anniversary their continued devotion to each other, priests and sisters celebrate their continued devotion to the service of God's people. We celebrate with them and thank God for the blessing of their dedication and service.

From the Editor

Our goal for Journey is to bring our parishes closer together, as we share news and events from our parishes and our Archdiocese. We would like to invite those who are able to access the online edition of Journey at www.romancatholic.kingston.on.ca. Our online version includes additional articles and pictures not published in the print version due to limited space or missed deadlines.

Spring Edition 2018—March 30-April 1 weekend; deadline March 2

Fall Edition 2018—September 8-9 weekend; deadline August 3

Winter Edition 2018—December 8-9 weekend; deadline November 2