



# ANGLICAN MONTREAL



What did Tyson find in the Bell Tower? Find out on page 9!  
Photo by Marcus Fynn.

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Photo of the Rev Dr Tim Dickau by Janet Best.

## What's next for the church?

NEIL MANCOR

*The Rev Canon Dr Neil Mancor is the Congregational Development Officer for the Diocese.*

The more things change, the more they stay the same. That is to say, the more people I talk to who are practitioners in missional ministry and Church, the same message comes through repeatedly: love your neighbours. This is the pathway for the Church now in

this pandemic time we are in. As the religious landscape in Canada changes for ever and fewer people can be drawn to church by our Sunday morning offerings, there is a pathway to life and meaning for our churches which is older than the Church itself. It lies in learning to love our neighbours, the people who live all around our congregations.

We have been writing about the Environics maps we commissioned for the Diocese.

These provide a powerful glimpse into the lives and lifestyles of the people who live around our Churches. We would love to come and show this to you and think more about what it might mean for your church. This helps us move from assumptions about people to seeing the facts on the ground.

But then comes the real work with the very real people who live around us. Who are they? What do they care about? How can we love them? How do they want to be served? These are the questions we must now ask.

This is what the event sponsored by Montreal Dio was about: Congregational Ministry in a Pandemic-Shaped World. The conference, organized by Montreal Dio, was hosted by the Church of St Mark and St Peter in St Laurent. And the speaker posed a necessary question: now what?

The speaker was Pastor Tim Dickau, formerly of Grandview Church in Vancouver, who told us about his experience of re-focussing the congregational life on serving in the neighbourhood.

He took seriously the call to love of neighbour and began to shift the focus of the congregation from *going to Church* to *being the Church* in and for the neighbourhood. It is

this shift in practise that all our congregations can think about and work on now.

### Shaped by the Pandemic

There is no question that the Pandemic has had a profound impact upon churches everywhere. If nothing else, COVID-19 has, once and for all, finished off the attractional model of Church.

This trend has been in motion for many years - which is why we have been talking about the importance of mission, being missional. Now the time has arrived in which mission is what lies before us to

*He took seriously the call to love of neighbour and began to shift the focus of the congregation from going to Church to being the Church in and for the neighbourhood.*

bring new life to our Churches.

The trends in religious observance throughout Canada have not favoured us for many years. There is a growing diversity of religious and spiritual expression, and an increasing number of those who claim no religious belief.

This can seem threatening to us if we continue to try to attract people to Church on Sunday. There simply are not enough people looking for that kind of worship. Immigration trends favour other religions.

If doing the same thing is yielding fewer and fewer results for us, let's do something different now. Let us embrace that alternative that lies before us: mission. Your mission-field are the people who live and work around your Church. Try to understand them, listen to them and above all, serve them.

This is the message of Pastor Tim Dickau, formerly of Grandview Church in Vancouver who was the speaker at the event sponsored by the Montreal Diocesan Theological College on October 29th.

Tim took a dying Baptist church in the East side of Vancouver and did not turn it into mega-church. But he did bring about a new orientation towards making a difference in the Grandview neighbourhood. In doing so, over time new vitality and purpose came to this congregation and with it new life.

It sounds very simple and, in a way, it is. But it takes work

*continued on page 3*

## Get to know Fr Linus Buriani, Montreal Dio student and Rector of St Cyprian's Theological College in Tanzania

EMILY STUCHBERY

*Emily Stuchbery is the Communications Coordinator for the Montreal Diocesan Theological*

Among the new students at Montreal Dio this fall, the college welcomed Fr. Linus Buriani, a priest from Montreal's partner diocese, the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania. Fr. Linus's presence in Montreal is a sign of the long-standing connection between these two dioceses, which have both been raising funds to support his education and time in Montreal.

Fr. Linus is studying for a Bachelor of Theology degree at McGill University and participating in the general life of the college and diocese to gain knowledge and resources

that he can bring back to St. Cyprian's Theological College and Junior Seminary in Rondo, Tanzania where he works as the director.

*"I am like a seed planted in the middle of these two dioceses so that each community can benefit from the same tree," he says.*

*"Whatever resources I get here, it benefits the community of the Diocese of Masasi. I am learning the way you work, the way you develop programs, the way you engage with different cultures. And I am here to see if there is any possibility of linking together these two institutions."*

Fr. Linus grew up in a farming family in Lumesule, a remote village near the border of Mozambique. His father, grandfather, and grandmother were all Anglican priests.

However, it was not his original intention to follow in their footsteps. After secondary school he moved to Dodoma, the capital city of Tanzania, to study for a degree in Development Studies.

Throughout his time at university, the bishop encouraged him to pursue ordination, but it was not until his final year that Linus felt ordination was the right path for him. *"The bishop called me in the middle of the night and said 'if you say no, I will stop asking. But I am thinking it is a good idea for you to be a priest.' And from that day my heart was in it. I said, 'Okay bishop, give me maybe three or four days and then I'll get back to you.'*

*But it did not take three days, it only took until the morning when I*



Photo of Fr Linus Buriani by Janet Best.

*woke up. I called the bishop to say okay and he said 'Your ordination is the 15th of February' which was only a month away. This was not normal."*

Fr. Linus had expected to finish his degree then go to school for theology the following June before being ordained, but the bishop had

another plan in mind. *"He said, 'We have discussed, we have assessed you, we know you, we understand your capacity. The first and most important thing for us is to ordain you to the diaconate and other things will come'."*

He recounts the somewhat miraculous story of his *continued on page 11*

## Message from the Vicar General December 2022

### The Work of Angels

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David." (Luke 1:30-32)

We find ourselves again in the season of Advent, awaiting the great joy of Christmas. This year, we will, hopefully, be able to celebrate in a way that we have not been able to do so in the last couple of years. But as we anticipate that time where we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, we move through this season of Advent looking to receive again the Good News ourselves. We are nudged as a community to reflect and remember what is the call on our lives and what is the meaning of this time that the secular world enjoys celebrating beginning the first week of November!

Mary received the good news that she would bear a son who would change the world! We have received the good news that Jesus came into this world to reconcile us to God and to bring new life. In the Gospel of Matthew, we hear the great commission from Jesus to go and make disciples of all nations (28:19). That is what we are called to do. Advent is a time for us to receive afresh the Good News and to reflect on that call on us and to celebrate the Good News of God here among us and to go and share that good news and make disciples.

At the recent Lambeth Conference, the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, reminded the bishops gathered that in that prayer which Jesus taught us to pray, we say, "thy kingdom come, thy will be done" and that this is central in our prayer life and our motivation as Christians. If Jesus has called us as disciples to go out and make disciples, this means sharing with others the good news that we have received – which is what we call evangelism. Disciples are called to make peace, to make justice, to make the kingdoms of this world the Kingdom of our God and of his Christ. This is the work of evangelism, which can be a hard word to grasp – but hidden in the midst of that word is the word angel. As the angel Gabriel came to Mary and shared the good news so are we called to be angels and share with others the good news we have received – to be messengers!

May this time of Advent, waiting in hopeful anticipation, be a time for us all to receive the Gospel afresh and to help us to be angels sharing the Good news – to being living sign posts pointing people to the one we come to worship and whom we celebrate at Christmas and whom we worship as Lord!

Lord Jesus Christ, who is, who was, and who is to come, we pray for the virtue of hope, that amidst the trials and difficulties of this world, we may keep our hearts fixed on you, who reigns over the cosmos. May your grace enliven us, strengthen us, and defend us, as we await your coming in glory. Amen.

Robert +

I commend to you the Bishop's Action Appeal and ask that you consider contributing to this important appeal in the life of the Diocese. As we move through a period of financial uncertainty, now more than ever, our missions count on our support to help those who are vulnerable and in need. If you are able to give to support the work of the missions, I invite you to give to this year's Bishop's Action Appeal which will help us meet our commitments to the work of Mile End Mission, Action Réfugiés Montréal and Tyndale-St. George. Thank you for your prayers and support of these missions!

Photo by Janet Best.



## Message du Vicaire général de December 2022

### Le travail des anges

L'ange lui dit : "N'aie pas peur, Marie, car tu as trouvé grâce devant Dieu. Et maintenant, tu conceveras dans ton sein et tu enfanteras un fils, et tu lui donneras le nom de Jésus. Il sera grand, sera appelé le Fils du Très-Haut, et le Seigneur Dieu lui donnera le trône de son ancêtre David." (Luc 1:30-32)

Nous nous retrouvons au temps de l'Avent, attendant la grande joie de Noël. Cette année, nous serons, espérons-le, en mesure de célébrer d'une manière que nous n'avons pas été en mesure de faire au cours des deux dernières années. Mais alors que nous anticipons ce moment où nous célébrons la naissance de Jésus, le Messie, nous traversons cette saison de l'Avent en cherchant à recevoir nous-mêmes à nouveau la Bonne Nouvelle. Nous sommes poussés, en tant que communauté, à réfléchir et à nous rappeler quel est l'appel lancé sur nos vies et quel est

le sens de cette période que le monde séculier aime célébrer à partir de la première semaine de novembre !

Marie a reçu la bonne nouvelle qu'elle enfanterait un fils qui changerait le monde ! Nous avons reçu la bonne nouvelle que Jésus est venu dans ce monde pour nous réconcilier avec Dieu et apporter une vie nouvelle. Dans l'Évangile de Matthieu, nous entendons le grand commandement de Jésus d'aller faire des disciples de toutes les nations (28,19). C'est ce que nous sommes appelés à faire. L'Avent est un temps pour nous de recevoir à nouveau la Bonne Nouvelle, de réfléchir à cet appel qui nous est lancé, de célébrer la Bonne Nouvelle de Dieu ici parmi nous, d'aller partager cette Bonne Nouvelle et faire des disciples.

Lors de la récente conférence de Lambeth, l'archevêque de York, Stephen Cottrell, a rappelé aux évêques réunis que dans cette prière que Jésus nous a enseignée, nous disons "que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite" et que cela est au cœur de notre vie de prière et de notre motivation en tant que chrétiens. Si Jésus nous a appelés, en tant que disciples, à aller faire des disciples, cela signifie partager avec d'autres la bonne nouvelle que nous avons reçue - c'est ce que nous appelons l'évangélisation. Les disciples sont appelés à faire la paix, à faire la justice, à faire des royaumes de ce monde le Royaume de notre Dieu et de son Christ. C'est le travail de l'évangélisation, qui peut être un mot difficile à saisir - mais au milieu de ce mot se cache le mot ange. Comme l'ange Gabriel est venu à Marie et a partagé la bonne nouvelle, nous sommes appelés à être des anges et à partager avec d'autres la bonne nouvelle que nous avons reçue - à être des messagers !

Puisse ce temps de l'Avent, en attendant plein d'espoir, soit un temps pour nous tous de recevoir l'Évangile à nouveau et de nous aider à être des anges partageant la Bonne Nouvelle - à être des panneaux de signalisation vivants indiquant aux gens celui que nous venons adorer, que nous célébrons à Noël et que nous adorons comme Seigneur !

Seigneur Jésus-Christ, qui est, qui était et qui vient, nous prions pour la vertu d'espérance, afin qu'au milieu des épreuves et des difficultés de ce monde, nous puissions garder nos cœurs fixés sur toi, qui règnes sur le cosmos. Que ta grâce nous anime, nous fortifie et nous défende, alors que nous attendons ta venue dans la gloire. Amen.

Robert +

Je vous recommande l'appel à l'action de l'évêque (Bishop's Action Appeal) \ et vous demande d'envisager de contribuer à cet appel important dans la vie du diocèse. Alors que nous traversons une période d'incertitude financière, maintenant plus que jamais, nos missions comptent sur notre soutien pour aider les personnes vulnérables et dans le besoin. Si vous êtes en mesure de donner pour soutenir le travail des missions, je vous invite à donner à l'appel à l'action de l'évêque de cette année qui nous aidera à respecter nos engagements envers le travail de Mile End Mission, Action Réfugiés Montréal et Tyndale-St-George. Merci pour vos prières et votre soutien à ces missions !



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## Monseigneur Ogé Beauvoir returns to a changed Diocese of Montreal

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR

We were delighted to welcome The Right Rev. Ogé Beauvoir to the Diocese of Montreal this Fall. He has been appointed as Interim Priest-in-charge at St. Paul's, Cote-des-Neiges and has also agreed to take over the duties of Archdeacon of Montreal.

Although he has moved to Montreal from Haiti, Monseigneur Ogé is not new to the city. Years ago he studied at both the Université de Montréal and the Montreal Diocesan Theological College. At the former, he obtained a Bachelor in Theology in 1988 and a Master of Arts in 1993 and at Dio he received a Diploma in Ministry in 1989.

After receiving his Diploma from Dio, Ogé was ordained deacon in Montreal and was then priested in 1990 by

Archbishop Reginald Hollis at Christ Church Cathedral.

Monseigneur Ogé has also served in Montreal parishes; starting as Curate at St. Margaret, Mascouche and then at St. Ignatius, Montreal North. Later, he was appointed Priest-in-charge at St. Ignatius until August 1991, when The Anglican Church of Canada sent him to his native land of Haiti as a Canadian missionary.

Monseigneur Ogé has an impressive and expansive ministry resume having served at the National Office of the Anglican Church of Canada as Mission Coordinator for Africa and the Middle East from 1996-1999 and also as Program Associate for the Global South and Telecommunications at Trinity Church, Wall Street, Diocese of New York from 1999 to 2004.

Following his experience

in New York, he returned to Haiti to serve as Dean of the Theological Seminary from 2005 to 2012. In 2012, he was consecrated bishop in the Diocese of Haiti where he served as Bishop-in-charge of the Northern Region until 2015.

Since that time until his retirement, he has been the executive director of Food For the Poor, a non-governmental food security agency in Haiti. He was also a member of Theological Education for the Anglican Communion (TEAC), President of the Francophone Network of the Anglican Communion, and President of Religions For Peace Haiti.

Though he spent most of his 33 years of Ordained ministry in administrative positions, Monseigneur Ogé confesses that it is indeed Parish ministry that keeps him grounded, and closer to his pastoral calling.

He is enjoying his time at St Paul's, recognizing the work of his predecessor the Ven James Bennett, whom he knew during his previous time in the Diocese. Ogé commended his "commitment to the Parish and to its people."

Monseigneur Ogé noted the Diocese of Montreal that he left 31 years ago has changed dramatically, saying "I am impressed by the diversity of ministries and ministers, the opening to the minorities and the overwhelming hospitality of the Diocesan leadership. I found a church much more inclusive than the one I left in 1991."

He and his wife Serette have been married for 39 years; they have two grown daughters (Claire 37, and Medge 34), and two grandchildren (Julien 5, and Harper Belle 3).

If you would like to contact Monseigneur Ogé, worship at his church or offer him a personal welcome, email him at [obeauvoir@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:obeauvoir@montreal.anglican.ca).



## Family Christmas Party

storytime, pizza & bowling

Friday, December 9th 5-6:30pm  
7505 Sherbrooke W. (St Philips)

[mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca)

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## What's next continued from page 1

and a shift in our thinking. If they could do this, so can you. **Being the Church**

We have not been to Church we ARE the Church! We all recognise how important this is, but it is more than a form of words. It involves looking and listening to what is going on in the neighbourhoods around us. When we look at the people who live there from the point of view of attracting them to a liturgy, we can end up in the dead end of trying to tweak the Sunday morning event in a desperate attempt to make it somehow more...attractive! We can despair because people just aren't interested in Church anymore. In extreme cases we can turn in on ourselves and become hostile to the society in which we live. But none of this is helpful.

Better to think about our neighbourhoods and the many diverse people who live there and ask: what do they care about, what might their needs be?

This is the story Pastor Tim Dickau told about Grandview Church in Vancouver. Embracing the challenge of mission, it became their purpose to transition from going to Church to being the Church in and for the neighbourhood. Over time this shift in focus brought about a new direction and new vitality to the Church which both touched the neighbourhood and changed Grandview Church too.

### A Porous Church

People still will ask: yes, but when will they come to

Church? There is no clear answer to that question. But if we will embrace mission and service to give life to our Churches, then we may just find our congregations becoming more like the people who live around us. We might just become a more porous church.

I find the vision statement of Grandview Church quite telling in this regard: A community of people who receive and extend the generous welcome of God. This comes out of the lived experience of the congregation *in* and *for* the neighbourhood rather than from the denominational background of the Church. Rather than raising high doctrinal or liturgical boundaries, this opens a wide circle.

Because the missional question begins with *who is my neighbour* and then moves to *and how can we serve them* but then we need to add *and how do they want to be loved?*

This is how we move from attractional Church, into mission and service. Instead of doing things for people we learn to do things with. We move beyond what we think people might want and connect with what is happening all around us. In this way, the Church can find true relevance and make a difference in people's lives.

What is next? First you could consult the Environics maps to connect with what IS in your community. Then start prayer-walking your neighbourhood. Ask God a simple question: *Who are our neighbours and how can we serve them?* Pray and pray again. Keep your eyes and your



Look for your envelope for the **Bishop's Action Appeal**  
Thank you for your support

# Cathedral Spire Restoration: The End is in Sight

BERTRAND OLIVIER

*The Very Rev Bertrand Olivier is Dean and Rector of Christ Church Cathedral.*

**NOTE: For the French version of this article, go to [www.montreal.anglican.ca](http://www.montreal.anglican.ca)**

As Montreal's first Anglican community, Christ Church Cathedral has been lifting up the cross of Christ since its inception.

The Cathedral building, on the other hand, has not been without architectural issues, and has faced many challenges in holding up its spire cross. The original stone spire, built in the 1850s, weighed nearly 1.6 million kilograms—about as heavy as 150 school buses. By the 1920s, the Cathedral's spire leaned more than a metre to the south. To save the building from collapse, the original spire was taken down in 1927 and replaced in 1940 with a much lighter steel and aluminum version.

***We had to act fast—to save the building, and to ensure the safety of the public—so we got to work right away.***

However, a chemical reaction between the steel and aluminum tiles corroded the frame over time, and in 2016, the Cathedral's spire was at risk of collapsing into the building. We had to act fast—to save the building,



Bertrand and Sheena at the cross blessing, May 19, 2022.

and to ensure the safety of the public—so we got to work right away.

We are pleased to announce that we have finally reached the last stage of the project. On May 19th 2022, the Cathedral's cross was reinstalled atop the spire. Together with Rector's

Warden Sheena Gourlay, Dean Bertrand Olivier braved his fear of heights and climbed 70 metres to the top of the spire to rededicate and bless the cross as a symbol of Christ's abiding presence in the heart of downtown Montreal.

This event, two years

after the cross had been taken down, launched the final phase of the project: replacing the aluminum tiles on the spire's roof and taking down the scaffolding that has surrounded the building since 2017.

The project was initially projected to cost \$6 million dollars and take place largely offsite. Although the architects had originally planned to cut the spire in half and remove

***We have received generous support throughout this project, but we are still working to raise sufficient funds for the astronomical cost.***

it to be rebuilt, this was ultimately impossible.

Instead, the team of metal restoration experts and masons has restored the spire while leaving it in place. Unfortunately, this challenge, as well as unexpected tower repairs and COVID-19 disruptions have nearly doubled the project cost. The price of saving our spire has soared to approximately \$10.5 million dollars.

We have received generous support throughout this project, but we are still working to raise sufficient funds for the astronomical cost.

We have been fortunate to receive generous funding from the Conseil du Patrimoine Religieux du Québec, as well as

a grant of \$1 million from Parks Canada. We have also received support from a number of philanthropic organizations and individuals, along with contributions from members of the Cathedral congregation and the wider Anglican community.

Despite the generous support we have received, we are anticipating a shortfall of between \$1 and \$1.5 million at the end of the project. And so our fundraising efforts continue.

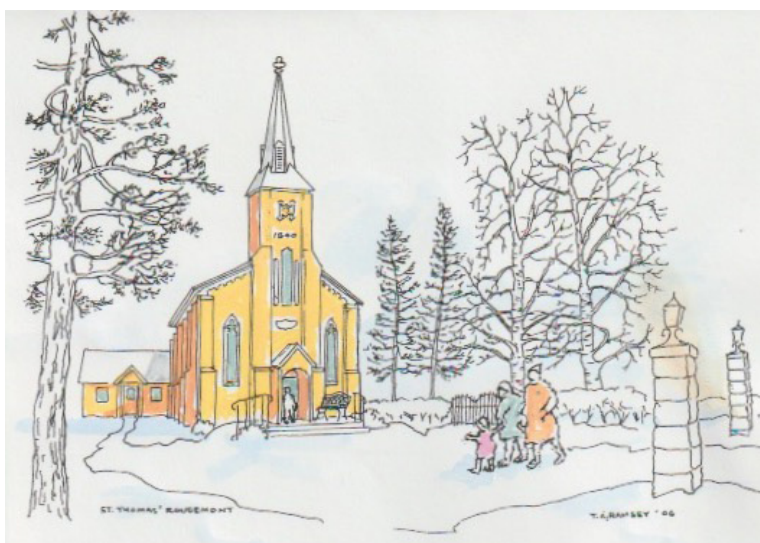
Located at the heart of the commercial life of the city, Christ Church Cathedral is a visible and vibrant Anglican presence amidst soaring buildings of glass and steel. We are open every day, providing a place of welcome and hospitality to all who live, work, or shop downtown.

Today, we are inviting you to be part of this project to ensure the ongoing witness of our tradition by contributing to 'burning the Cathedral mortgage', essentially ensuring the reduction or cancellation of any shortfall at the end of the restoration works.

Any contribution—large or small—will help us continue to stand as a symbol of God's love in the heart of Montreal.

If you are feeling inspired to donate, please visit [www.montrealcathedral.ca/finishing-the-spire](http://www.montrealcathedral.ca/finishing-the-spire) or mail a check to Christ Church Cathedral, 1444 Av. Union, H3A 2B8, with the words "spire restoration" in the memo. All donations over \$20 will receive a tax receipt.

## Thomas Ramsey Cards - a lovely tribute to Anglican churches



ALISON RAMSEY

A year or two after Reverend Thomas Ramsey and his wife Margaret retired to a house in Chambly, more than a decade after leaving the parish to serve in the district of Hochelaga, Montreal, he decided to draw a holiday card of St. Stephen's that evoked its Christmas eve service. At that time, my parents' list of card recipients ran close to 200 names.

Dad made a large-scale drawing in black ink, which was photocopied to the size of a small greeting card. Then the real work began: he hand-painted each one. For days, the living room looked like flights of paper birds had landed, as he applied watercolours to successive stacks of cards then left them to dry.

Many people commented on the card, which spurred him to make others, including local scenes but also other churches where he had a personal history; Dad worked for years after being officially retired, travelling to fill in at nearby parishes.

When the current rector of Chambly, Reverend Andy O'Donnell, asked me to prepare something

for the December issue of *The Anglican*, he suggested reprinting one of the cards featuring a local church, asking parishioners if they had others. Instead, I dug up all that I have: six local churches plus one from Cap à l'Aigle, where dad preached for several years for a month in the summertime.

I would love to learn if parishioners have any that I am missing. I know that he made one of St. James, Farnham, that I do not have. And I would

love to see a coloured version of St. Mark, Longueuil, as mine is simply black and white.

**Cards pictured here are:**

**Upper left:** St. Stephen's Church, Chambly, 1994

**Lower left:** St. Thomas', Rougemont, 2006

**Below:** Grace Church, L'Aadie, 2009

If you happen to have the missing card, contact Nicki Hronjak at [editor@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:editor@montreal.anglican.ca).



# Missions update



refugee resettlement, and the experiences of newcomers. He is currently a PhD candidate at McGill and has a MA from the University of Toronto and BA(Hons) from Crandall University.

Ian has been involved in refugee sponsorship initiatives in Ontario and Québec and is currently on the board of Citizens for Public Justice, an Ottawa-based Christian public policy advocacy organization.

After a transition period with the Interim Executive Director, Paul Clarke, during October, Ian began full-time leadership on November 8, 2022. He is delighted to join the ARM team as it works to seek justice for asylum seekers and persons who have experienced displacement. He looks forward to meeting with faith groups and community organizations who support or are interested in this work.

Action Réfugiés Montréal (ARM) was founded in 1994 with support from The Presbyterian Church in Canada and the Anglican Diocese of Montreal. Since that time, the core funding received from these two denominations has been essential to sustaining ARM's work.

ARM is currently the only organization that regularly provides support to individuals who are detained in the Immigration Holding Centre in Laval and a long-term sponsor of refugees officially recognized by the Government of Quebec in the community sponsorship program. ARM also offers innovative programming that matches newcomers to longer-term residents of the Montreal

*continued on page 11*



## Help Mile End Mission spread holiday joy

The Mile End Community Mission is calling upon your generosity again this year to help us make the holiday season and year ahead a more joyous time for our members.

With your help, the Mission can:

- Include special treats, personal/ homecare items and grocery store gift cards in the 150 **Christmas baskets** that we will be distributing.
- Provide **gifts from Santa** for 80+ children.
- Prepare 50 special Christmas stockings for our most vulnerable & homeless members that include warm winter clothing, coffee & sandwich gift cards, etc.
- Provide a traditional take-out **Christmas dinner** for over 100 individuals and families.
- Continue serving 150+ free hot & healthy take-out meals each week.
- Distribute over 200 **bags of groceries** at our free weekly Food Bank.
- Continue to help our members with any needed Covid-19 follow-up.

Please know that your kindness goes a long way in helping to Nourish our community, especially during these challenging times

**To Donate:** [www.mileendmission.org/donate/#form](http://www.mileendmission.org/donate/#form)  
or: 99 Bernard Ouest, Montréal, QC H2T 2J9

## New Executive Director of Action Réfugiés Montréal, Ian Van Haren

ARTICLE SUPPLIED

The Board of Directors of Action Réfugiés Montréal is pleased to announce the appointment of Ian Van Haren as Executive Director.

Ian is a former diplomat who has completed graduate studies on migration policy and social inclusion and is passionate about the role of civil society in welcoming newcomers to our country. He joins ARM after an extensive search process to identify a new Executive Director.

Before moving to Montreal in 2017, Ian worked as a diplomat for the Canadian government in migration policy and operations. This included postings in England, Lebanon, and South Africa. In the latter two countries, he led

teams responsible for refugee resettlement programming and closely collaborated with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) as well as local governments to facilitate resettlement of individuals to Canada.

After finishing his assignment in South Africa, Ian relocated to Montreal to undertake graduate studies with a focus on studying the experiences of newcomers of diverse backgrounds as they adjust to life in Canada and on the role of civil society in welcoming newcomers. He has presented his research at national and international conferences and published policy briefs, research reports, and peer-reviewed articles on migration policy,

## Parents' Workshop on Fostering Self-Esteem at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre

TINA NAIM

Ms Tina Naim is the Communications Coordinator for Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.

On October 20th, the Early Childhood and Families Department at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre offered a workshop to parents on Fostering Self-Esteem in Young Children. The Workshop led by Rebecca J. Allsopp, Early Childhood Instructor from Vanier College, focused on how self-esteem is fostered in children from age 6 months to 6 years of age. To support children as they grow, adults must understand how young children see the world. Family members play an important role in the fostering of self-esteem in young children. Meaningful relationships and social interactions are key factors in school success. Parents also discovered how to encourage active learning, emotional intelligence and interpersonal



# Around the Diocese



La Nativite, August 21, 2022: Front: William Patrick Siméus; Kerby Chery; Oceane Janice Camille; Mychaël Vladimir Camille; Mirline Point du Jour; Raphaël Siméus; Rose Maëlla Sainvil and James Lloyd Camille. Back: Rev Deacon Jhon Steeker Saint Clair; Bishop Mary, Rev Victor-David Mbuyi. Photo by Janet Best.



Bishop Mary with Jocelyne Jean-Baptiste following the confirmation service at La Nativite. Photo by Janet Best.



Angela Belmeus lights the candles at the confirmation service, La Nativite. Photo by Janet Best.



September 24, 2022: The Rev Deacon Randy Gates offers communion at his ordination to the diaconate. Photo by Janet Best.



September 24, 2022: The Rev Tyson Rosberg, the Rev Deacon Judy Ball, Bishop Mary, The Rev Deacon Randy Gates and the Ven Tim Smart at Randy's ordination to the diaconate. Photo by Janet Best.



September 24, 2022: Lay readers led by Yvonne Wakefield and Glen Marcotte at the ordination of Randy Gates. Photo by Tim Smart.

# Around the Diocese



New organist at St Paul's GFP, Pu Fang Liang, at the service for Trevor Potter. Photo by Janet Best.



September 4, 2022: Bishop Mary received the Rev Trevor Potter from the Anglican Network in Canada and recognized his ordination. He serves as interim priest at St Paul's, Greenfield Park. Photo by Janet Best.



Kelly Smith and Janis Bobb at the service for Trevor Potter, September 4th. Photo by Janet Best.



September 11, 2022, St John the Evangelist: Tyue Zhang and Qiuqeng Cui following their confirmation. Photo by Janet Best.



Mark Diaczun with Sheila Garner following the confirmation at St John the Evangelist, September 11th. Photo by Janet Best.



"A gathering of All the Saints from the Regional Ministry of the Eastern Townships on Sunday, October 30th, at Trinity Church in Cowansville. After Eucharist, we all enjoyed a pot-luck meal together in the parish hall. The more we get together, the happier we'll be!" Photo by Tim Smart.



Hello, kitty. Photo by Lori Davison.



Rev Maki blesses Jeff. Photo by Lori Davison.



Fifi the hedgehog. Photo by Lori Davison.

## Blessing of the animals at St. George's Church, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue

LORI DAVISON

Ms Lori Davison is the Parish Communicator for St George's Church, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue.

To celebrate St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of all animals and the environment, St. George's Church, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Priest-in-Charge Reverend Steven Maki shared St. Francis's love of all of God's creatures on

Saturday October 1.

He blessed all pets brought to the church's outdoor service from local residents and parishioners. We enjoyed the company of dogs, cats, chickens, hedgehogs, and more.

In addition to prayers, each owner received a Blessing Certificate and a photo of their pet.

"I wanted them to be blessed to be protected," said Rev. Maki "I know God protects them already, but this is a little extra. They are such a part of the family."

Though it was Rev. Maki's first time blessing the animals in Ste-Anne's, it's not his first time at the rodeo. Experience from Newfoundland and his love of animals has taught him well.

For those involved in blessing the animals for years, even the less common pets brought to blessings — snakes, gerbils, birds, chickens, goats and even stuffed animals toted in by children — serve as a reminder of God's gifts to the earth. With that, many are reminded of how everything on earth is physically and spiritually interconnected.

When people learn about how connected animals are to the other parts of nature, it improves their spiritual lives and holistic health. The blessing provides a new access point to spiritually reach those who may not typically go to church.

As this service becomes an annual event in Ste-Anne's, we hope to bless more animals and



Karen Luyendyk looks on as Audrey Lawrence explains that the map reveals only about 10% of the indigenous tribes present when Europeans "discovered" Canada.

## Mapping the ground we stand on

BARBARA WHYTE

Ms Barbara Whyte is a lay reader at St James Church, Ormstown.

On Saturday October 29th, 16 people came together to participate in an educational workshop, including; St. James and St. John's Anglican church members, the Village Church of the Nazarene members, one citizen, 2 PWRDF facilitators, and one Mohawk young man from Kahnawake.

In the workshop, entitled "Mapping the Ground We Stand On" we learned, shared and reflected on historical facts that were new to us, such as the Doctrine of Discovery which the Europeans used to justify claiming land in North America. We learned that there were nearly 800 different tribes in Canada when Europeans

first arrived. The Land was definitely not empty. It was a hard but enlightening afternoon.

I would like to thank Pastor Randy Barrington, Ali Boyle, and Roberto Rubio from the Village Church of the Nazarene for their collaboration as well as PWRDF facilitators Karen Luyendyk and Audrey Lawrence, for their help in planning the event and Ohontsakehte Montour who opened, participated in and closed the workshop.

And I would like to thank all the other participants who were willing to take a risk, be vulnerable, see the past differently, form new relationships and who now plan to share this knowledge with others. In this way we begin the journey of healing



## St James Ormstown now accessible to everyone

After one hundred and ninety-one years, St James in Ormstown now has handicap/wheelchair access. Parishioners and some community members with the design and guidance of the building chairman, Sidney Daniel built the ramp over the summer. The finishing touches such as the railings are in the process of being completed.

## A Blue Christmas Worship Service

Join us on The Longest Night: A Eucharistic Service of Comfort and Hope.

When: December 21, 2022

Time: 7 pm

Where: Christ Church Beaurepaire, 455 Church Street (at Fieldfare), Beaconsfield H9W 3S6

Contact: 514-697-2204 E mail: christchurch@qc.aibn.com

The Christmas season can be difficult for those struggling with grief, uncertainty or other challenging circumstances. As we come together in worship, we can acknowledge our hurts and brokenness, and as we share the Eucharist, give thanks for God's gifts of grace, love and hope.

All are welcome.

The service will also be broadcast live on the Christ Church Beaurepaire Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CCBeaconsfield>



# An Unexpected Connection: My Adventure up a Bell Tower

TYSON ROSBERG

*Fr Tyson Rosberg is the Associate Priest of the Eastern Townships Regional Ministry.*

This story begins with the death of her late majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Although it is not a story about the queen. At the time of her death, parishes were encouraged to toll their bells 96 times for the 96 long years of her life upon this earth — quite a feat when manually pulling on a rope for over an hour.

While tolling the bell here at St. James the Apostle in Stanbridge East - one of the eleven churches in the fledgling Eastern Townships Regional Ministry - it quickly became apparent that the rope which pulls the bell's funeral hammer (resulting in a single tolling of the bell, as opposed to the joyful CLANG CLANG CLANG of a Sunday morning) was dislodged somewhere up in the tower. On the next sunny day, the local village stonemason and I went up to investigate.

It should be noted that

while I am utterly terrified of heights, I am a firm believer that one needs to grapple with one's fears if one is ever to overcome them — besides that, the stonemason's riotous shouts upon reaching the top of the tower made me reluctant to miss this unique opportunity. "Father Tyson," he shouted in his northern England accent, "you've got to come up and see this! The view is amazing!"

So, I strapped myself into a safety harness and began my ascent up the outside of the tower, muttering the Hail Mary and various other less-than-Christian prayers under my breath.

Indeed, the bird's eye view of the village from high above the trees was stunning. But, even more amazing was the interior of the bell tower walls, which were carved with the names of the many brave (and foolish?) men and women from the area who had climbed the tower over the decades.

The earliest name we found was from 1905. There were the names of several people whom I knew from around the village, and others whom

I had recently buried. Then, I found a familiar name carved in neat capital letters by one of the windows: "FR. PETER HANNEN, 14TH RECTOR OF THIS CHURCH, 1966."

Archdeacon Hannen had led my diaconal pre-ordination retreat in this very church back in 2019, and had been rector of the parish and, back in the 60's, lived in the very rectory that I now call home. I found a nail and carved my own name underneath his: "FR. TYSON ROSBERG, ASSOCIATE PRIEST, 2022."

I felt a surprising connection with this region that God has called me into — a sort of holy communion with the past faithful of this place, infused not upon the bread and wine of the altar, but carved into the walls of the tower.

Much has changed in the life of our rural churches since the 1960's. Yet, much remains the same. We continue to gather in faithful discipleship and prayer, growing together, in communion with that "great a cloud of witnesses" who have gone before us (Hebrews 12:1)!



"I found a nail and carved my own name underneath his." Photo by Marcus Flynn.



The Rev. Joel Amis and Pastor Hans Becklin. Photo by John Huang.

## Ecumenical Service in Esperanto at Christ Church Cathedral

In August the World Esperanto Congress was held for the first time ever in Montreal. Since the 1st World Esperanto Congress in 1905, there's always been an ecumenical Christian service held alongside this event. This year's Ecumenical Service (conducted entirely in the Esperanto language) was held on August 7 in our Cathedral and included a joint Anglican-Lutheran Eucharist, with Diocesan Ecumenical Officer (and Incumbent of Christ Church Beaufort) the Rev. Joel Amis presiding, and Pastor Hans Becklin of the Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Letter to the Editor

Madam -

*With regard to Fr Tyson Rosberg's tower-climbing expedition at St James the Apostle, Stanbridge East; the date of my recorded ascent (1966) is quite late, because often in my years there (1961-67) the youth of the community took it into their heads to climbing the tower at night, fix a long rope to the bell, extend it over the roof of the nave and over the cemetery and into the neighbouring cornfield and ring the bell at 2:30am--truly frightening close by in the rectory.*

*The only way to stop the clamour was to go into the church and lash the bell into place with one of its ringing ropes, and then climb the tower next day to retrieve their rope. As it was expensive plastic surf-board rope, there was some satisfaction in selling it (to them?) at the next church sale. 1966 was by no means the only time this happened.*

Peter Hannen (Rector of Stanbridge East, 1961-1967)

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Ven Peter Hannen saw a copy of Fr Tyson's

## Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in Saint-Lambert celebrates the season

MATTHIEU LATREILLE AND FRANCINE NGUYEN-SAVARIA

*Mr Matthieu Latreille and Ms Francine Nguyen-Savaria are Music Directors for the Anglican Church of Saint Barnabas.*

The Saint Barnabas Choir—along with guest choristers—will present a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at the Anglican Church of Saint Barnabas (95 Lorne Avenue) on Friday, December 23 at 7:30pm.

The service will be presented in the traditional style of King's College, Cambridge. The choir, conducted and accompanied by music directors Matthieu Latreille and Francine Nguyen-

Savaria, will present Christmas carols and motets. The congregation is also invited to join in singing some all-time favourites.

For more than a decade, the Lessons and Carols were combined with a Sunday morning service during the Advent season at Saint Barnabas. After the breaks of 2020 and 2021 imposed by the pandemic, the music directors—who began their duties in March 2022—are taking this new start as an opportunity to offer the Festival of Lessons and Carols in its original form.

The service includes carols and Bible readings. The

opening carol is always "Once in Royal David's City," and the first verse is traditionally sung by a soloist.

Events like this not only celebrate the spirit of the season, but allow us to take part in a beautiful tradition. It is also how some younger choristers become familiar with traditional carols that they have not heard before. "The idea of Christmas magic and enchantment is somewhat clichéd and overrated. And yet, the magic happens during the Festival of Lessons and Carols. Whether we believe in God or not, the Nativity story, and the music it inspired are always moving. In California, this service made us forget that

there were flowers and palm trees outside!" says music director Matthieu Latreille.

This Festival of Lessons and Carols holds a special place in the music directors' hearts. They confess that this service is what first attracted them to the Anglican Church, and something they have been dreaming of doing ever since they have discovered it. They have successfully presented several editions of this event at Saint Ambrose Episcopal Church in Claremont, California, and Saint Thomas' Anglican Church in Belleville, Ontario.

They are delighted to offer this service in their home

province of Quebec. They hope for a revival of this unique Anglican tradition on the South Shore of Montreal. "For the first time in our careers, we are offering a fully bilingual version of the Lessons and Carols," explains Francine Nguyen-Savaria. "We worked to find a French translation of the Bible that matched the King James version in style and language, in addition to ensuring that the carols would be meaningful in a universal way. We are quite pleased with the outcome. It is beautiful to be able to make this Anglican tradition live in our multicultural metropolitan area."

For many, Christmas isn't really Christmas without the



## Event-based ministry

Excerpt from *Event Planning for Ministry: A Guide for Leaders* by Lee-Ann Matthews:

Have you ever wanted to host a community event but didn't know where or how to begin? Maybe you have hosted but are now considering trying something new? As church leaders, it feels as if we are experiencing a collective desire to meaningfully encounter our neighbours. Perhaps this is due to the long drought of interrupted gatherings and events during the Covid19 pandemic, but I think that there is also some fear around the statistical decline that threatens us as the institutional church. As such, we aspire more than ever, not only to build new relationships, but to fortify existing ones.

An event-based model is an effective way of making connections, deepening relationships and strengthening the fabric of ministry. As our culture continues to change, we must respond and adapt.

An expression of hospitality is not only a creative and meaningful way to connect, express love and deepen bonds; it is also a crucial tenet of our faith. Hospitality is a transformational Christian practice and extends all the way back to the book of Genesis. Hosting events in a spirit of hospitality gives us tangible opportunities to express our mission, share our faith and extend the borders of Christian community.

Through this model, we are afforded the privilege of building relationships and connections, not only with our neighbours, but to strangers and those who are marginalized and vulnerable. This act of service is, in fact, fundamental to our call. But, it demands a lot of us as we must sometimes go outside of our comfort zone, perhaps finding hidden skills and talents. This also means bumping up against the tension of trying new things, making mistakes and managing the disappointment and even shame of rejection or failure.

An event-based model is not transactional: there are

no expectations of attendees such as fund raising, conversion or membership. We aren't recruiting Anglicans, volunteers, disciples or members of Sunday School. All of these things may be an outcome of course, but they are not the primary objective. When we host events in ministry, let's view this through the lens of sheer generosity: we are giving a gift, and there are no strings attached.

**Here are some of the things you will need:**

**Time:** carve out a generous window of opportunity, likely forfeiting or delaying some aspects of your existing ministry, perhaps put book club, bake sale, or altar guild meetings etc. on hold. This may seem impossible or even daunting but your community will understand and be grateful if you articulate your vision with clarity and purpose. "I am planning an event this fall that will benefit our parish and I will need to withdraw from a few commitments in order to make this happen."

**Energy:** Visualize the project and gather up the gumption to execute. You will need stamina and focus. Surround yourself with supporters and stay attuned to their energy. Like an athlete training for their sport, you will need to find ways of building up your reserves and being ready to give it all you've got. Whatever gives you vitality, do that!

**Passion:** Your emotional connection to this event is the spark that will propel you to the finish line. Tap into and listen to that voice, follow and express it creatively through writing, blogs and sermons, with doodles and however and whenever you can. Your Passion is contagious and will attract supporters to the project and will influence the outcome.

**Grit:** Prepare yourself for a season of hard work, courage and resilience. There will inevitably be pitfalls,

*continued on page 12*

## Rapha Québec Research Project

EMILY SIMUNIC

*Ms Emily Simunic is the Coordinator and Researcher of the Rapha Research Project.*

When the first COVID-19 lockdowns began in Quebec, many domestic violence advocates voiced their concern that these measures would lead to increased incidents of domestic violence throughout the province.

In response to these concerns, Christian Direction launched a new initiative against domestic violence - the Christian Québécois Initiative Against Domestic Violence (CQIADA)/l'initiative québécoise chrétienne contre l'abus domestique (IQCCAD).

Rather than dive into a ministry project, The Christian Direction team, following the advice of the director of a Montréal women's shelter, sought to first determine a baseline understanding of the issue, particularly how it intersects with the church in Québec. Consequently, the initiative determined to launch a research project which would explore the research question: "What are the experiences of domestic abuse of survivors in the church, and what are the attitudes of laypeople, and leaders in Christian faith communities in Quebec towards this issue?"

The objective of the project is to produce a report that will suggest actionable ways to change the narrative for Christian survivors of domestic violence in Québec, and lead to the development of ministry response(s).

The Rapha Project is a study on experiences of domestic abuse among Christians and the response of the church in Quebec. The project is named "Rapha," which means healing in Hebrew. The goal of this project is to reveal the ways that domestic violence has impacted Christians in Québec



Initiative Québécoise Chrétienne  
Contre la Violence Conjugale

and to reveal the experiences of survivors in particular. We are convinced that to reveal is to begin to heal, and we know that our God is Jehovah-Rapha, the God who heals.

"... for I am the Lord who heals you" - Exodus 15:26

### Project Values

In developing this research project, our team has been committed to several core values: expertise, academic rigour, ethical oversight, as well as trauma-informed and survivor-centered approaches.

In developing this research project, it was essential that we build a team of local experts to inform the work and assist in creating the research. Our project lead, Jenna Smith, has years of experience in community engagement and network development, and used these skills to create an advisory committee of local experts to inform the project.

Emily Simunic was hired as the coordinator and researcher of the project to ensure that the study is academically rigorous and able to meet the standards expected by university researchers and peer-reviewed publications.

An essential component of academic rigour is acquiring ethical approval and oversight from an ethics board. The first

stage of the Rapha project — a survey for churchgoers in Québec — has received ethics approval from the Community Research Ethics Office (CREO), a non-profit which provides ethics oversight for community organizations creating research. For the second phase of the project we will be looking at university ethics boards for approval.

When projects involve vulnerable populations, such as domestic violence survivors, it is vital that all work be trauma-informed and survivor-centered. A trauma-informed approach seeks to minimize harm and reduce the risk of re-traumatization of survivors and victims of domestic abuse who participate in our research.

Christian Direction has a long history in community development and community-led processes and projects. We are very mindful of the importance of agency and voice amongst people who are in situations of vulnerability. It is for this reason that we strive towards a survivor-informed practice, which means that survivors are multi-faceted partners in Rapha Quebec. This includes meaningful input from a diverse community of survivors at all stages of a program or project, including development, implementation, and evaluation.

*continued on page 11*

## Advent Activities 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 <b>HOPE</b> Pray; be always on the watch	28 <b>Read</b> Luke 21: 25-36	29 Watch a film version of the Gospels this Advent	30 Encourage someone with kind words	1 Invite someone to discover part of God's beautiful Earth with you	2 Set aside a time and place to listen to the Holy Spirit	3 Listen to God's voice in music today
4 <b>LOVE</b> How can I prepare the way?	5 <b>Read</b> Luke 3: 1-6	6 Bring lunch to someone who doesn't get out much	7 Use a centreing prayer to hear God's voice	8 Reconcile with someone you're estranged from	9 Study the life of Jesus written by scholars	10 Give a small gift to someone
11 <b>JOY</b> Share the good news of the Messiah's coming	12 <b>Read</b> Luke 3:7-18	13 Invite someone to share coffee and conversation	14 Fight for a cause that Jesus would support	15 Re-read and study the Gospels this month	16 Bake muffins or cookies for co-workers or neighbours	17 Tape some money on a vending machine
18 <b>PEACE</b> Take heart! The Lord will fulfill his promises	19 <b>Read</b> Luke 1:39-45	20 Listen to someone's story	21 Pray for every neighbour on your street	22 Tell someone you love them	23 Do errands for a shut-in	24 Drop off a veggie tray to hospital nurses
25 Share your Christmas feast with others						

*continued on page 12*

# Welcoming Fr Linus Buriani to the Diocese of Montreal

GRACE BURSON

*The Rev Grace Pritchard Burson is the Incumbent of All Saints by the Lake, Dorval.*

As many of you know, the Diocesan Partnerships Committee worked hard to make arrangements for Fr. Linus (pronounced LEE-nus) to come to Montreal from our partner Diocese of Masasi. After a full year of delays, Fr. Linus finally arrived at the end of August. This was thanks to not only the work of the committee, but to the generosity of many people who donated to last year's Bishop's Action Appeal.

Fr Linus will now spend the next two years earning his Bachelor of Theology degree at Montreal Diocesan Theological College, to be better equipped for his work of teaching

candidates for ordination.

Fr. Linus has attended some events in the Diocese of Montreal, including Randy Gates' ordination in Sutton in September. He and the Partnerships Committee are eager to have him visit as many parishes of the Diocese, in as many different regions and contexts, as possible, during his time here.

My own congregation, All Saints by the Lake in Dorval, plans to host Fr. Linus for our patronal festival on All Saints' Sunday, November 6th.

If you would like Fr. Linus to visit, please contact the Rev'd Michael Robson at 438-969-1312 or mjrmtl@gmail.com to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Thank you for helping to welcome our guest from Masasi and strengthen the relationship between our two

# Getting to know Fr Linus continued from page 1

ordination weekend. The date of his ordination conflicted with his final examinations for university, and it was past the deadline to request a different exam time. Linus had to decide: "Miss the ordination or go to the ordination and be disqualified from my program." So, he called a friend for advice. "He said 'Go to the ordination, if God calls you for that purpose, he knows how things will be.' So, I went to the ordination and while traveling back to University my friend called me to say the timetable for the exams has been changed - instead of starting Monday, I would start on Wednesday... I will never forget that."

Fr. Linus is approaching the tenth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. For the last several years, he has been the director of St. Cyprian's where he is in charge of training and overseeing the programming for ordinands, and teaching teenage students

in the Junior Seminary.

He is passionate about ensuring the work of the college has a positive impact on the wider community as well as on those who are studying. Since 2015 he has been working on a tree-planting initiative to address deforestation in the Rondo area. "In 2015 we planted about 10,000 trees in Rondo and in 2022 we planted about 30,000 trees of various varieties. The main plan has been implemented by students from the Junior Seminary. We are focused on encouraging them to be champions for environmental protection and conservation as advocated by the Sustainable Millennium Goals."

Linus is adapting more each day to life in Montreal. Though he misses his family back in Tanzania, he already feels at home in the community at Dio. "I am meeting new people, but we are living as if we have been together for five or ten years. We come from different cultures,

but we all respect each other. The college adopts and accommodates everyone in this place."

He speaks with gratitude of the beauty of Montreal and of the support he feels from the faculty and staff at Dio. "Montreal is one of the most beautiful cities I have ever seen. As for Dio, the college has extraordinary staff who can help you get anywhere. They invite people from different cultures. English is my third language, which can be very challenging, but the staff ... give me instructions on how I can adapt, and I see myself improving day after day."

The Partnerships Committee is committed to supporting Fr. Linus for the two years of his Bachelor of Theology degree at McGill University. During this time, it is hoped Fr. Linus can be introduced to many aspects of life in the Diocese of Montreal.

If you would like to contribute to Linus's education,

# Saving money while helping the environment? Yes, it's possible!

MARK GIBSON

*Mr Mark Gibson is the Chair of the Diocesan Stewardship of the Environment Committee.*

You and your congregations care about the environment, and many of you are worried about costs, especially since oil and gas prices went up significantly this past year. When I visit congregations with the Bishop, I often meet people who might not currently be in leadership, but are willing to help take on a project to address both of these issues.

The good news is that it is possible to help the environment, while saving money. And there is some financial support available. Churches across Canada are taking responsibility for their own buildings. They can also show their members how to

get involved and how to share the environmental good news with their neighbours.

What is the path? Switch over to electricity but use heat pumps (air-source or geothermal) instead of baseboard heaters or electric furnaces in order to use 3-5 times less electricity. If your church (or home) uses fuel oil, there are significant grants available, because this eliminates large amounts of greenhouse gases (GHGs).

The combination of heat pump efficiency, low electricity prices and high, unpredictable oil and gas prices offsets the price of equipment. Loans are often available from the diocese (apply through the vicar general).

Congregations in Ste-Agathe, Greenfield Park, St Jax and the Cathedral have moved to heat pumps, and Dorval installed

geothermal heating years ago. Sutton and Rawdon are currently exploring this option.

Electrifying is harder to do for churches with hot water heating; register your church with us as we do case studies and identify options for reducing your GHGs.

Once a congregation changes its furnace (and now benefits from summer air conditioning!), they can expand their impact by helping their members to do the same with their own heating systems. (Even tenants can successfully encourage their landlords to change systems and save money). Then those members have one more reason to interact with their neighbours, as they share good news for the environment and how God's Good News motivates them to care for God's creation.

Visit [www.netzerochurches.ca](http://www.netzerochurches.ca).



Outside portions of the air-source heat pumps used at Trinity Church, Ste-Agathe. A heat exchanger inside the basement furnace heats the church's forced-air system. Photo by John Richard.

# Research Project

## The Research

The Rapha study is a mixed-methodology project with three stages: a survey of churchgoers, interviews with survivors, and focus groups with church leaders. We are currently in the first stage of our research, which is a survey for churchgoing adults in Québec. The survey is open to all practicing (or formerly practicing) Christians in Québec who are over 18 years old, regardless of their experience with domestic violence.

## Survey Objectives

1. Identify the beliefs and attitudes of Québec Christians and churches with regard to domestic abuse.
2. Determine whether domestic violence is a problem currently being experienced

*continued from page 10*

within Christian communities and churches in Québec.

3. Understand why victims do or do not disclose their experiences of domestic abuse to other churchgoers or church leaders, and to reveal how the church has responded to such disclosures of domestic abuse.

We invite you to answer the survey online via [www.direction.ca/rapha](http://www.direction.ca/rapha) or to email [rapha@direction.ca](mailto:rapha@direction.ca) to request a paper copy of the survey.

## Supporting the Project

There are many other ways to support the Rapha project: share the story of how domestic violence has touched your life, become a project ambassador & encourage your community to respond to the survey, or support us in prayer or financially.

## Diocese of Montreal

## PWRDF Project 2022-2023

in support of PWRDF's

## Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund

Indigenous-led communities determining their needs and priorities in:



Climate Action



Community Health



Empowering Youth



Safe Water

You can support this program by making a gift through your church or directly to PWRDF by mailing your cheque (marked Indigenous Grant) to: PWRDF, 80 Hayden St, 3rd floor, Toronto, M4Y 3G2

# Action Réfugiés

*continued from page 5*

area through its twinning program and runs a men's group.

At present, ARM employs seven staff who are complemented by interns, volunteers, partner agencies, and community members. As the organization has grown, it receives funding from individual donors, charitable foundations, local churches, and other religious groups and communities.

For more information on Action Réfugiés Montréal,

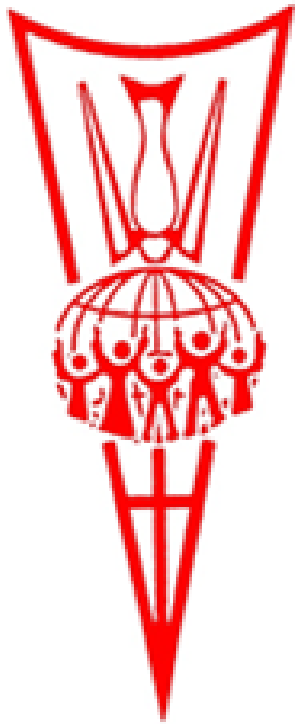
**Action Réfugiés is supported with help from the Bishop's Action Appeal. Look for your envelope in this month's issue!**

## A Prayer from the Diocesan Representatives The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer - Canada

Loving God, as we enter the season of Advent, we pause to thank you for giving us this wonderful opportunity to worship you and praise your Holy name. Emmanuel, Emmanuel be with us as we wait with anticipation for your presence in our lives, in the life of the church and in the lives of those around us.

Hope fills the Advent season. As we begin the church's New Year, we look forward to revitalizing our intentions to build up your Kingdom. We thank you for the various programs in our Diocese that are awakening us to new ways of being made fishers of people. We pray that you will help us, dear Lord, to find meaningful approaches to reach out to others in our community, especially young people, and encourage them to join us in creating the Christian community of the future.

Peace fills the streets of Bethlehem as your nativity



draws near. Gracious God, we call your beloved Son, the Prince of Peace, yet reconciliation in our world is fleeting. We pray that you will support the peacemakers as they turn the flames of war into flames of warmth and hope.

Joy fills the music and the beauty of this Holy

Season. God of harmony and elation assist us in making this Advent an opportunity to invite others to our worship services and festive events. Most of all, help us to use these avenues to show our guests the true meaning of Christmas thus inspiring them to make the decision to follow Jesus.

Love fills our hearts as we journey to Christmas and Jesus's precious birth. Eternal God, we want to be true to you and tell others around us, who do not yet know you, how great you are. Support us as we work to receive the love of Christ in our hearts. Through this gesture we will be true examples of keeping Christ in Christmas and showing others the power of your Spirit.

To you, O Lord, will be the honour the glory and the praise.  
Amen

God bless,

For more information on AFP-C, contact Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale at [valstacey@bell-net](mailto:valstacey@bell-net)

## Event based ministry *continued from page 10*

naysayers and unexpected demands. You will make mistakes, face challenges and hardships. Don't let this deter you. Get up and try again. You haven't gotten this far in your ministry without overcoming obstacles. Successful events don't happen by luck or circumstances but are a direct result of perseverance and determination.

**Faith:** Each of us is called to our roles in ministry for a different reason. Pray on and trust your guiding principle. You don't need me to tell you but it bears mentioning now that your faith in God is your highest force and from where your ultimate strength and conviction is derived.

**Wonder & Curiosity:**  
Approaching event planning

with wonder and curiosity implies we are open and available. From here, we aren't preoccupied with winning or losing. We are in the moment, with an open mindset and a desire to learn and expand. Growth is a guaranteed outcome and there is no "losing" from this perspective. Assuming an experimental posture means that there is something to gain regardless of the perceived success of your event.

Do you have what it takes? Of course you do! You have already been honing these skills in your leadership. A call to preach, lead, teach, and serve in Christian leadership requires all of these qualities and more. The better question is, are you inspired to cultivate new ways of approaching



## Crosstalk Day Camps 2023

Is your community looking for a summer outreach ministry that goes beyond the average boxed VBS? Well Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps is ready to meet your needs!

Our Program is great for communities who are looking for a low cost, pre-planned and all-inclusive package that provides churches and communities with an affordable outreach opportunity for families from all income levels. Day Camps are a great way to generate more community involvement and are adaptable to a wide variety of contexts.

For summer 2023 we are offering "Something to Celebrate!" exploring Parables from the Gospel of Luke. Campers will hear Jesus' stories of *The Two Houses*, *The Two Neighbours*, *The One Lost Sheep*, *The One Lost Son* and *The One Found Son*. Each day our program unpacks one of these parables through songs and games, small groups, crafts and liturgical dance all geared to campers of 4-12 years.

CTM offers two different models to meet your needs:

- The Backyard Package is designed for purchase by a church to then be shared via a secure link with registered families. This program includes

five 2 ½ hour-long sessions and can be presented at times and days suited to each family from the security of their own homes and backyards.

- The Super Day Camp comprises five units each of which includes 5 hours of activities. Purchase of this package provides you with a detailed Planner taking you through the process of recruiting volunteers, collecting supplies and encouraging the whole church family to be involved, plus access to a "mentor" who will be matched with you and join your set-up and daily debrief meetings via an online platform as well as offering support via text message throughout your Day Camp week.

Both packages include digital copies of all promotional and program materials with the Super Day Camp package also including a comprehensive training video for volunteers.

Whatever your community's situation, one of these programs can help ensure that the children of your church family and wider community have "Something to Celebrate!" for summer 2023.

Visit the CTM website - [www.crosstalkministries.ca](http://www.crosstalkministries.ca) to



# JOIN US FOR MOVIE NIGHT



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16  
Movie starts at 7 p.m.

Come meet new friends and enjoy some snacks!

St Paul's Church  
321 Empire  
Greenfield Park