



Bishop Mary presided at the Pride Service, Christ Church Cathedral, July 4, 2026. Photo by Janet Best.



Search Committee members. Front Row : Valerie Bennett, Valerie Taylor (secretary), Hilliard Goldfarb, Jenna Smith, Fresia Saborio. Back Row: Jessica Stilwell, Phil Castonguay, Jean-Fils Chery, James Pratt (chair).

## Search Committee for the Election of a Coadjutor Bishop Appointed

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR

In preparation for the retirement of The Rt Rev Mary Irwin-Gibson, a Search Committee for the Election of the Coadjutor Bishop has been appointed by Diocesan Council.

The Coadjutor Bishop (CB) is a bishop elected to follow the current diocesan bishop upon the incumbent's retirement. Once elected, the CB will serve jointly with Bishop Mary for several months until her retirement. Shortly after, he or she will be installed as the 13th Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal.

At the April 16th meeting of Diocesan Council, nine people were appointed as members of the Search Committee. They include three members of Synod: Hilliard Goldfarb, Valerie Taylor

and Phil Castonguay; three Clerical members of Synod: Fresia Saborio, Jean-Fils Chery and James Pratt, and three non-members of Synod: Jessica Stilwell, Jenna Smith and Valerie Bennett.

The Search Committee began meeting in June and are in the process of preparing a Diocesan Profile, from which potential candidates will gain an overall perspective of the culture and general mission of the diocese.

The committee will receive nominations for the CB from the beginning of December 2024 until the end of January 2025. They will then vet the candidates.

The formal notice for the Electoral Synod with nominations will occur in March and the Synod will take place May 3rd.

For the complete timeline, please see page 5 of this issue.

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR  
WITH BEN STUCHBERRY  
AND VALERIE TAYLOR

This year's multi-day Conference Synod opened on Thursday, June 6th at 7pm with a Eucharist led by Keynote Speaker, the Right Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown of Vermont, in Christ Church Cathedral.

The Conference began the next morning at 9am with worship by the Rt Rev Clara Plamondon, the bishop of the Territory of the People. It was a full day with three keynote speaker addresses and two Café World discussions.

### Keynote Addresses

Bishop Shannon's talks centered on the theme of racism. She gave an overview of her experience as the first Black woman bishop of Vermont; of learning about the troubled history of the church where she serves; of leading the diocese remotely while participating in a diocesan anti-racism action group during the pandemic. All of this while being the only black clergy member in a dio-

cese located in one of the least racially-diverse states in the country.

She said; "Being other has become an essential practice of my continued growth. This vantage point gives me a particular gift of discernment and understanding of inclusion of all God's people and our church's commitment to this work."

While here she said how she enjoyed the diversity in Montreal as compared to Vermont. "I don't have diversity in Vermont so I love to soak this in."

She said, "I'm excruciatingly aware of how much work it takes to process what it means to be a black woman in this world. I can only do so much. I'm committed to reconciliation of myself with myself. And I invite others to do the same."

She noted of her experience in Vermont "The church as an institution isn't immune from the inertia and resistance that comes when we attempt to do what is necessary and faithful. We've had to face head-on the resistance of institutional and systemic racism. We're coming through it as a stronger and more unified diocese."

continued on page 4



The Right Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown, bishop of Vermont, was the keynote speaker of the 165th Conference Synod, held on June 6th-8th, 2024. This year was the concluding synod specially focused around the theme of Racism (Listening Naming Reconciling). Photo by Janet Best.

## Bishop's Message, September 2024

*"After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb...."*

Revelation 7:9 NRSV

For the past four years, our Diocese has been focussed on addressing and combatting racism through workshops and Synod speakers.

Nobody wants to be called racist! And yet, we know that we sometimes harbour attitudes towards others that are not holy. The speakers we have heard have challenged us to look into our hearts, and face the ways in which we may in fact not be as open or diverse or inclusive as the Kingdom of God calls us to be.

Will we ever be able to say that we are done? Bishop Shannon MacVean Brown commented at Synod that she didn't know of a place in the world where racism is not an issue, because people are people.

*"How many things that I hold dear are actually interwoven in this systemic racism?"*

Our historic, colonial, attitudes and assumptions may not actually stand up to the light of Christ, and to our Baptismal promises. We do know that we cannot exclude others because they are different from us or speak another language. The experience of Pentecost showed that the disciples were sent by the Holy Spirit to invite people from everywhere to live in the Kingdom of God.

I want to encourage you to ask God to grow your heart into the shape that God wants it to be; to heal your heart of your racist attitudes and of the wounds that you have received; to offer to God your own efforts to be all that you are called to be for Christ.

*"We are surrounded by a great cloud of truth tellers who have shown us what it means to trust the Great Spirit. So let us lay to the side everything that weighs us down and the broken ways that so easily wrap around our legs to trip us. And let us run as if we are in a long-distance race, setting a steady pace and heading toward the goal. This means we must keep our eyes on Creator Sets Free (Jesus), the trailblazer of our spiritual ways."*

To the People of the Tribes of Wrestles with Creator (Hebrews) 12:1-2, First Nations Version

+ Mary

## Message de l'évêque, septembre 2024

*« Après cela, je vis une foule immense que personne ne pouvait compter. C'étaient des gens de tout pays, de toute tribu, de tout peuple et de toute langue. Ils se tenaient devant le trône et devant l'agneau... »*

Apocalypse 7:9 Nouvelle Français courant



The Rt Rev Clara Plamondon and the Rt Rev Dr Shannon MacVean-Brown with Bishop Mary following the Synod Opening Eucharist, June 6, 2024 in Christ Church Cathedral. Photo by Janet Best.

Au cours des quatre dernières années, notre diocèse s'est concentré sur la lutte contre le racisme par le biais d'ateliers et de conférenciers lors du Synode.

Personne ne veut être qualifié de raciste ! Et pourtant, nous savons qu'il nous arrive d'avoir à l'égard des autres des attitudes qui ne sont pas saintes. Les conférenciers que nous avons entendus nous ont mis au défi de regarder dans nos cœurs et de faire face aux manières dont nous ne sommes peut-être pas aussi ouverts, diversifiés ou inclusifs que le Royaume de Dieu nous appelle à l'être.

Pourrons-nous un jour dire que notre mission est accomplie ? L'évêque Shannon MacVean Brown a commenté lors du Synode qu'elle ne connaissait aucun d'endroit dans le monde où le

racisme n'était pas un problème, parce que les gens sont des gens.

*« Combien de choses qui me sont chères sont en fait imbriquées dans ce racisme systémique ? »*

Nos attitudes et présupposés historiques et coloniales ne résistent peut-être pas à la lumière du Christ et aux promesses de notre baptême. Nous savons que nous ne pouvons pas exclure les autres parce qu'ils sont différents de nous ou parlent une autre langue. L'expérience de la Pentecôte a montré que les disciples étaient envoyés par le Saint-Esprit pour inviter les gens à vivre dans le Royaume de Dieu.

Je veux vous encourager à demander à Dieu de modeler votre cœur pour qu'il prenne la forme qu'il souhaite ; de guérir votre cœur de vos attitudes racistes et des blessures que vous avez reçues ; d'offrir à Dieu vos propres efforts pour être tout ce que vous êtes appelés à être pour le Christ.

*"En ce qui nous concerne, nous sommes entourés de cette grande foule de témoins. Débarrassons-nous donc de tout ce qui alourdit notre marche, en particulier du péché qui s'accroche si facilement à nous, et courons résolument la course qui nous est proposée."*

Hébreux 12:1 Nouvelle Français courant

+ Mary



# PWRDF

## The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

ANN CUMYN AND ROS MAC-GREGOR, CO-CHAIRS OF THE MONTREAL UNIT OF PWRDF

As images of the Jasper wildfire fill our screens, many of us feel inspired to help. Last year PWRDF created a fund to allow you to do so easily and with confidence. Donations received through *In-Canada Emergency response Fund* make a significant impact in the lives of people in Canada affected by disasters, offering solidarity and hope for those who have lost so much.

PWRDF works with impacted dioceses to identify needs; this could include emergency accommodations, gift

cards to purchase food, water and essentials, counselling and post-trauma supports, or locally identified long-term recovery activities to help rebuild community assets and increase community resilience.

To donate to PWRDF's *In-Canada Emergency fund*, go to [pwrdf.org/give-today](http://pwrdf.org/give-today).

Or mail a cheque to PWRDF at 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2. Please indicate *In-Canada Emergency* in the memo field.

On a local note, we are looking for new people to take on leadership roles in our Montreal chapter of PWRDF. We would love for some new people to join our planning

team, to decide on the best ways forward. We would especially welcome young people to become involved, to help us with our social media efforts.

The work being done through PWRDF is an inspiring and tangible manifestation of our faith. We have found being involved in it to be so rewarding; we would love others to experience it as well. There is so much opportunity and support through the national organization. We just need a few more enthusiastic souls to further the cause here at home. Interested? Contact Ann rhodesbartow@gmail.com or Ros roslyn.macgregor@gmail.com

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# Transforming Young Christians: Get to know three interns from this summer's Montreal Mission Internship

EMILY STUCHBERY

*Ms Emily Stuchbery is the Communications Coordinator at Montreal Diocesan Theological College*

*The Montreal Mission Internship is a 9-week ecumenical program of vocational discernment and social service work for 18-25-year-olds run every summer by the Montreal School of Theology. Interns work four days a week at one or two social service organisations around the city then meet at Montreal Dio on Wednesdays for a time of theological reflection with*



Photo of Estelle Ah Teck by Tim Chin.

*mentors and fellow interns.* Last April, Estelle Ah-Teck was struggling through a period of feeling lost, alone, and unsure of what the future held as she finished up her studies in His-

tory at McGill. *"It felt like all potential doors were closing right in my face and I was struggling to see God in the middle of the mess."*

When she opened up to a friend about how she was feeling, her friend suggested applying for MMI. *"Four months later, I can firmly say that this summer has been one of the most transformative and healing seasons of my life."*

She spent the summer working at Le Pont, a services and temporary housing centre for refugee claimants, accompanying the residents to appointments, organizing community events, tutoring children and much more.

*"I have witnessed residents experience a lot of highs and lows. To work amid these extreme moments of joy and sorrow has been emotionally challenging. But I believe God is calling me to hold such tensions."*

Her experiences at Le Pont and the weekly theological reflections at Dio helped her to broaden her understanding of God's plan for her. *"This internship positively challenged the narrow vision I had for my career as I learned more about myself and gained new passions."*

She leaves the program with a deeper sense of trust in God and a new awareness of God's presence in every moment. *"I would absolutely recommend MMI. If you are seeking to learn how to invite God into your everyday moments, big and small, this*



Photo of Rebecca Mallett by Tim Chin.

*is the program for you."* Before coming to Montreal for the summer, Rebecca Mallett had just finished up her first year of ministry studies at International House of Prayer University. She began MMI seeking a clearer direction for her sense of vocation.

*"I loved that MMI offered an opportunity to practice discernment while trying new types of ministries, helping me gain more clarity on what I'm called to do."*

Rebecca spent the summer working at Hadley Community, a collection of houses for people at risk of homelessness, and Ministry to Seafarers (M2S).

At M2S, she spent much of her time driving up and down Montreal's port, chatting and sharing meals with seafarers, and bringing them to the seafarer's centre to relax.

At Hadley Community, she led and participated in workshops and games, and helped practically, doing dishes and prepping rooms for new residents among other tasks.

*"God used my time at my two placements to bring up deep beliefs I had about what it means to be successful, which was really challenging in certain moments,"* she reflects. *"I grew into a deeper acceptance of who God made me to be and grew to see that ministry has a lot more to do with how you do something than what you do."*

For any future MMI interns she notes, *"MMI is a huge investment into the rest of your life. Be willing to have your sense of*



Photo of Nathan Tsang by Tim Chin.

*what you have to contribute to the world challenged."*

For the past three years, Nathan Tsang has been studying Computer Programming at Seneca College in his home city

of Toronto. Recently, however, he found himself feeling unhappy in this field of study. *"I felt disconnected from people,"* he says. *"I had a realisation that I want to work in a field where I could affect others in a positive way directly."*

MMI seemed like the perfect opportunity for him to spend time discerning how he might pivot his life in this direction.

Like Estelle, Nathan spent the summer working at Le Pont, supporting refugee claimants as they adjust to life in Quebec. He spent much of his time looking after the residents' children and worked hard on his own time to improve his French so that he could better communicate with the residents. *"I discovered that being available for the residents is a form of work in and of itself."*

One of Nathan's big takeaways from the program was discovering what a relationship with God could look like for him. *"I was born Roman Catholic and have found I have a been very narrow in my view of Christianity,"* he explains. *"I spent a lot of time talking with the other interns about their view on God and how He affects them in their lives."*

He attended several different churches throughout the summer to experience the different ways people worship. *"I can confidently say this internship has made me rediscover my relationship with God in a positive*



## New initiative to welcome kids to church

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

*Lee-Ann Matthews is the diocesan Web/Social Media Coordinator and MTL Youth Project Coordinator*

*"The noise and energy of children in church on Sunday is a sign of life and hope. God put the wiggles in children so we don't expect them to sit perfectly still"*

- All Saints by the Lake pew card

When we enter a space we all want to feel welcomed, to feel that we belong.

Churches in our diocese proudly offer spaces of belonging to all. We do this by providing a proper greeting at the door with a well-crafted bulletin that serves as a road-map of the service to come.

When we enter we are encouraged to take a seat, to enjoy the peaceful meditative atmosphere: the high ceilings, the music, the remnant smell of candles and incense or the pages of ancient books that have been read by generations. This can be a sensorial delight for many which may even lead

to a sense of profound awe and/or deep reverence.

*But what about children? What about families with children?*

*Some who are fussy and impatient?*

*For whom the serenity of church is not accessible?*

*Maybe it's even a little scary? Or overwhelming?*

*Or boring? What does welcome mean to them?*

*Do they feel included, noticed?*

Even at the best of times, children have different needs than adults. They are at a developmental stage where sitting still and being quiet for any length of time can be challenging.

Every child is unique and some may feel right at home straight away in a church context but for those who don't, what can we do? In the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, how can we provide a greater sense of welcome and belonging to families?

Many of our churches already provide intentional and dedicated children's corners, children's ministry programs with age appropriate activities and/or busy bags to keep children occupied and to nurture their spiritual curiosity.

We commend these efforts and encourage an even greater stewardship in this area. We would also like to further support these efforts and extend our help.

We are developing a campaign of intentional welcome for families including a parents guide, a poster, optional monthly children's ministry lesson plans and church goody bags to orient new families.

This is an offering to reinforce existing efforts to let families know that they are not only welcome but seen, and are important to the life of the Church.

*continued on page 10*

SAVE THE DATE!

**Bishop's Dinner**

Thursday,

**November 14, 2024**

St James Club,

Montreal

More info to follow...

Notables

**St. Michael & All Angels**  
15556 rue Cabot, Pierrefonds  
(Corner Jacques Bizard)

**Nearly New Sale**  
Saturday September 24, 2024  
9am - 2pm

Clothes, Toys, Electronics,  
Books and Household items.  
Home Baking and light lunch

**All Saints Church**  
248-18th Ave  
Deux-Montagnes

**Sept 7/Oct 5/Nov 2**  
Monthly "Food for Body  
and Soul" Breakfast.  
10am. Good will offering.

# The 165th Synod Conference *continued from page 1*

She commended the work that our diocese has done so far, but reminded us that it is not done. *"This is work that will outlast those who are here. Its gonna keep going and going."*

For her complete keynote addresses, go to [www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod](http://www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod).

## World Cafe Discussions

At the World Café discussions, participants worked together as they sat at round tables, which enabled easy, open – and often lively – conversations.

The subjects of the discussions were Visions and Priorities and Anti-racism and Anti-bias in the parish; results of which were captured on post-it notes that were stuck to the windows of Fulford Hall.

The notes, which were

for guidance in our anxiety about the future of the diocese; *"I firmly believe that we can trust the Holy Spirit to guide us in the next steps of our mission...I urge you to use wisdom and to call upon the Holy Spirit to guide us in our financial decisions and in the work that we support. Hold onto the title of the strategic commitments we affirmed at General Synod: A Changing Church. A Searching World. A Faithful God."*

For the complete charge go to [www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod](http://www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod). Il est également disponible en français.

## Keynote Speaker Conversation with Q&A

The Rev. Canon Dr. Neil Mancor facilitated a conversation and Q&A with Bishop Shannon. Canon Mancor opened the discussion by reviewing how Synod had dealt with issues

## Presentation of the Partnerships Committee

The Rev. Deacon Maylanne Maybee gave a presentation from the Partnerships Committee where she said that the Diocese of Montreal has built trust in partnership with the Territory of the People, with the Diocese of Masasi and with other prayer partnerships, near and far.

The Rev. Canon Andy O'Donnell, outgoing Chair of the Partnerships Committee, then elaborated on the work of the committee and about the experiences he has had as Chair over the past eight years. He thanked members of the committee for their service. Moving forward, the Rev. Tyson Rosberg will be assuming the Chair.

Father Linus Buriani, who will soon return to Tanzania,



Fr Tyson Rosberg adds a post-it note to the window during the World Café discussions at Synod, June 8, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.

The Budget for 2024 was set at a 334K operating loss; with revenues and investment income down we are now looking at an operating loss of 351K at year-end. There are expected to be some additional expenses for the Coadjutor Bishop.

Several members asked about the ethical holdings of our portfolio. It was confirmed that the portfolio is carbon neutral and does not include holdings connected with armaments, alcohol or tobacco.

When asked about the potential for investments with ties to current conflicts, Mr. Tony Layton responded that the Board of Trustees of the Fund has not broached these issues with Manu Life, and that the Board of Trustees would not divest of investments unless the diocese requested them to do so.

Canon James Pratt noted that the annual meeting of Anglican Balance Fund unit holders is taking place later this month. Parishes with investments could attend and share their concerns.

The Treasurer then presented the Budget for 2025. It is relatively the same as 2024 with no overall increases expected, with Revenues relatively the same as in the 2024 Budget.

Expenses are budgeted at 2.4 million, largely due to cost of living increases, the budgeted overall loss is 538K, and the loss from operations estimated

at 428K.

Ms Prince gave a few reflections starting by stating that there is more than a little concern as to how to offset the deficit. Changes are needed but it will not be easy. The 2025 Budget is an investment for the future, and we need to determine priorities, as well as make additional cuts and choices for the future. The support of the Diocese will be helpful.

There followed a robust conversation about the current financial challenges the diocese faces along with suggestions for remedies, and the importance for supporting new and emerging ministry. These conversations will continue at the diocesan level among the Finance Committee and Diocesan council.

Canon James Pratt thanked Ms. Prince for her service as Treasurer and for her very clear presentation, highlighting the big difficulty of drawing down assets. Parishes are all facing this type of situation and we need to keep hope. We are still coming out of the COVID slump, but the statistics indicate attendance is up at the Parish level.

The motion to Approve the 2025 Budget was voted upon and carried. Bishop Mary thanked the Treasurer as she steps down from service after the past two years and presented her with flowers.

*continued from page 5*



Dion Lewis and Danica Meredith share a laugh while participating in the World Cafe discussions at Synod, June 8, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.

later collected and collated, identified challenges including: financial concerns; broken models of clergy, property, and colonialism; lack of growth or failure to thrive; heavy workload for leadership in small congregations; navigating regional differences; and being seen as a linguistic and cultural minority by non-Anglicans and especially by francophones.

Delegates were rewarded for their hard work with a cocktail reception featuring tin-drum music, hors d'oeuvres and wine.

## Business Session

On Saturday, June 8th, delegates assembled in Fulford Hall, Cathedral Place, for the Business Synod.

## Bishop's Charge

In her charge, Bishop Mary shared examples of growth and hope in several parishes while recognizing the current diocesan-wide challenge of strained resources; one that the national church is struggling with as well.

She encouraged us to look

around racism during this triennium.

Bishop Shannon noted that there is no defined "end" to the work surrounding anti-racism. Dismantling systemic racism is a lifelong work. It is vital to remain centered in prayer and scripture through the Daily Office or finding other ways to be fed spiritually.

She reminded us that we are lucky to be in such a racially diverse city – everyday exposure to different races offers many opportunities for meaningful exchange and engagement.

Bishop Shannon commented that, by our baptismal vows, we are empowered to change the world but this requires God's help by God working in us and through us.

It is good to do practical things but that isn't the whole work, we need to be taking change to the next step. We do this anti-racism work within the framework of our faith.

Canon Mancor thanked Bishop Shannon for all she has brought to this Synod and also thanked the Anti-Racism Task Force for their work throughout this triennium.

also thanked the Partnerships Committee for their support. Bishop Mary thanked Father Linus and gave him a parting gift from the Diocese.

## Discussion of Motion for Election of a Coadjutor Bishop

The motion for Synod to begin the process of electing a Coadjutor Bishop, in line with the procedures outlined in Canon 1 was voted upon and approved. (To learn more about the process, see page 1.)

## Finance Presentation & Questions

Ms. Laura Prince, Diocesan Treasurer, gave the Financial Presentation, starting with a review of the 2023 Audited Statements. BDO Dunwoody, the auditors did not find any inconsistencies in the 2023 statements. Highlights show that investment income was down, with an overall operating loss of 422K. After a brief discussion, the motion to receive the 2023 Audited statements was voted upon and carried.



Mark Weatherley and the Rev Karla Holmes participate in the World Café discussions at Synod, June 8, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.

# Synod *continued from page 4*

## Hispanic Ministry Presentation

Bishop Mary invited the Rev. Fresia Saborio to give a presentation on the newly formed pilot project for Latino Ministry. The Services take place on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30am at Christ Church Cathedral. The Rev. Deborah Noonan, the Rev. Jean-Fils Chery and the Rev. Emmanuel St. Hilaire are involved in planning.

People are able to hear the word of God in their own language and to hear what God is calling them to do within an Hispanic context.

## Presentation by the Stewardship of the Environment Committee

Mr. Mark Gibson, Chair of the Stewardship of the Environment Committee (SEC), presented a summary of the progress made since Synod 2023 when the Motion was passed calling for almost zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Mr. Gibson shared the SEC's initiatives, such as the inventory of church buildings identifying high polluters and churches that could save money by moving to more efficient systems. The committee has met with congregations and done an analysis of geothermal installations. Grants from Hydro Québec are available allowing for payback costs to be recouped in five years.

The SEC has built a relationship with the geothermal system provider Marmott Energies. Parishes should contact the SEC to arrange for a quote. A Certificate for zero emissions for buildings has also been created.

The full report, in the Convening Circular, gives further information.

A number of clergy shared

their positive experiences changing to electric or geothermal heating.

## Discussion of Motion "G"- Repairs to Bishop's Court

Mr. Mark Gibson, seconder, spoke to the motion, which calls Synod to authorise up to 250K for major repairs to Bishop's Court.

The most critical issue is the urgent need for radon gas remediation, secondly for the replacement of 40 year old leaking windows and doors, and thirdly for the installation of a geothermal heating system. These improvements will increase the value of the house, whether it is occupied by the next Bishop, or sold by the Diocese.

After a discussion that brought up possible cost-saving measures, the merits of having a home that allows extensive hospitality and the future value of the diocesan property, the motion was voted on and carried.

## Election Results

### Diocesan Council

The Rev. Deborah Noonan, The Rev. Canon Dr. Chris Barrigar, The Rev. Rodney Clark Ms. Kim Briand, Ms. Danica Meredith, Mr. Brock Hanly

### General Synod

Mr. Dion Lewis, Ms. Penny Rankin, Ms. Danica Meredith. Youth: Ms. Victoria Amato The Ven. Victor David Mbuyi Bipungu, The Ven. Robert Camara, The Rev. Grace Burson

The Bishop thanked those who helped in facilitating this Conference Synod. The Electoral Synod will take place on May 3rd 2025 and the Diocesan Synod on October 4th 2025.

# CALENDRIER DE L'ÉLECTION DE L'ÉVÊQUE COADJUTEUR DE MONTRÉAL

## TIME LINE

FOR ELECTION OF COADJUTOR BISHOP OF MONTREAL & INSTALLATION OF 13TH BISHOP OF MONTREAL



<p><b>1</b> <b>juin 2024-octobre 2024</b> Le Comité de recherche (CR) prépare le profil diocésain <i>Search committee prepares Diocesan profile</i></p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>le 12 novembre 2024</b> Le Conseil Diocésain approuve le profil diocésain <i>Diocesan council approves Diocesan profile</i></p>
<p><b>2</b> <b>le 8 octobre 2024</b> Le comité de recherche présente le profil au conseil diocésain <i>Search committee presents Diocesan council with profile</i></p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>le 1er décembre 2024</b> Le Comité de Recherche commence à recevoir les candidatures <i>Search committee begins to receive nominations</i></p>
	<p><b>5</b> <b>le 14 janvier 2025</b> Rapport provisoire du CR au Conseil diocésain <i>Search committee provides interim report Diocesan Council</i></p>
<p><b>7</b> <b>février 2025</b> Le CR examine toutes les candidatures <i>Search committee vets all nominations</i></p>	
<p><b>8</b> <b>le 3 mars 2025</b> Avis de convocation du Synode électoral avec les candidatures <i>Notice given for Electoral Synod with nominations</i></p>	<p><b>6</b> <b>le 31 janvier 2025</b> Le CR cesse de recevoir des candidatures <i>Search committee ceases receiving nominations</i></p>
<p><b>9</b> <b>le 20 avril 2025</b> Pâques <i>Easter</i></p>	<p><b>11</b> <b>juillet-octobre 2025</b> Période de transition <i>Period of Transition</i></p>
<p><b>10</b> <b>le 3 mai 2025</b> Synode électoral (Férie de Pâques) <i>Electoral Synod occurs (Easter Feria)</i></p>	<p><b>12</b> <b>le 3 octobre 2025</b> Consécration de l'évêque coadjuteur <i>Consecration of Coadjutor Bishop</i></p>
<p><b>13</b> <b>le 4 octobre 2025</b> Synode diocésain (d'affaires) <i>Diocesan Business Synod</i></p>	
<p><b>14</b> <b>le 31 octobre 2025</b> L'évêque Mary prend sa retraite <i>Bishop Mary retires</i></p>	<p><b>15</b> <b>le 1er novembre 2025</b> Installation du 13e évêque de Montréal - Toussaint <i>Installation of 13th Bishop of Montreal</i></p>

**MAPPING**  
THE GROUND WE STAND ON

AN EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR RECONCILIATION TO EXPLORE INDIGENOUS PRESENCE ON THE MAP OF TURTLE ISLAND/CANADA

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024**  
1:00PM-3:00PM

4955 MONTEE ST HUBERT, ST HUBERT (ST MARGRET OF ANTIOCH CHURCH)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER  
WWW.PHOENIXPROGRAMS.CA  
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Funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program

# Around the Diocese



Elise Carré and daughter Elizabeth Pelltier at the last service in Trinity Church, St Bruno on June 23, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Carol Hutton with Bishop Mary at the reception following the last service in Trinity Church, St Bruno, June 23, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



The Ven Tim Smart with the Rev Linus Buriani on Sunday, June 30, at St. James the Apostle in Stanbridge East. Photo by Bishop Mary.



The Chœur Gai de Montréal performs on the Cathedral forecourt, welcoming people into the Pride celebration, July 4, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Members of St Martha's Chapel (Sarah, Matthew, Alex, Sydney, Marion and Celeste) attend Emily Stuchberry's fringe play, *Potion Ethics* at St John the Evangelist, June 12, 2024. Photo submitted.



The Rev Heather Liddell and Mr Christopher Lee Hill at their wedding reception, St George's, Place du Canada, June 29th. Photo by Bishop Mary.

# Around the Diocese



Susan Duciaume at the St Thomas BBQ, July 20, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Carlos Dyer at the St Thomas BBQ, July 20, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Eamonn and Anderson Letourneau at the annual ice cream social at St. James the Apostle in Stanbridge East. Photo by Brenna Haydock.



Flo Thomas at the St Thomas BBQ, July 20, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Le révérend Jean-Claudel Wagnac participates in the World Café discussions at Synod, June 8, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Ms Sandra Holmes asks a question during the business session at Synod, June 9, 2024. Photo by Janet Best.



Tom Edmonds and François Morin at the regional ministry at St. James the Apostle, Stanbridge East, June 30, 2024. Photo by Tim Smart.



Audrey Blinn received the St. James the Apostle Parish Award, June 30, 2024. Photo by Tim Smart.



William Shonfield received the St. James the Apostle Parish Award, June 30, 2024. Photo by Tim Smart.



Kayla Colissimo and daughter Paisley Bock bringing up the elements for Communion at the regional ministry at St. James the Apostle, Stanbridge East, June 30, 2024. Photo by Tim Smart.

## Regional Ministry joint service draws over 100 people

Our most recent Regional Ministry joint services was held at St. James the Apostle Church in Stanbridge East on Sunday, June 30th. It was great to have Bishop Mary with us.

One of the hardest things about rural ministry across such a vast geography is building a feeling of unity between the many rural points.

As such, we designate fifth Sundays as special times of worshipping together from across our entire region. There are no other services scheduled in the region on those Sundays. These are important opportunities for fostering community, fellowship, and teamwork as our Regional Ministry continues to develop.

Regional services are always followed by a potluck lunch.

For small, rural congregations that normally get less than a dozen people on a Sunday morning, these regional services have explosive energy and provide a tremendous sense of hope for the future.

God is not done with rural ministry!



A record Sunday attendance in the nearly 200 years of the parish of St. James the Apostle: 105 people present! Photo by Tim Smart.



# Christ Church Rawdon – a growing parish community

FR CLARK AND THE CORPORATION OF CHRIST CHURCH, RAWDON

Christ Church has been sharing the Gospel in Rawdon for more than 200 years. Strong in tradition, stalwart in keeping the faith; yet, like most parishes in Canada, it had been in gradual decline for many years.

Decline was seen in decreased participation at worship, and in decreased giving; and in the lack of weddings, baptism, and confirmations. Christ Church had maintained the appearance that things were OK even as some repairs were delayed and as they went from a full time to a half-time cleric.

Bishop Mary, after discussion and concurrence with the wardens of Christ Church, licenced the Rev. Rodney Clark in the fall of 2021 as part-time priest in charge of Rawdon.

It had been more than 15 years since Fr. Clark had served in a parish; and though he is a priest with more than 30 year's experience, he had not previously lived in a rectory, nor served a single-point charge.

When Fr. Clark was ordained in 1993 his first parish was in the Appalachian highlands of Quebec where he served as half-time incumbent responsible for six congregations. The other half of his job was as a community animator funded by a Quebec City non-profit corporation, where he worked for five years, expanding minority language community and social service delivery.

*The most important activity has been time spent BEING VISIBLE in the community as a whole: knocking on doors to say 'Hi', marching as a parish in parades, inviting people to share in lawn games at the Rectory, working with local non-profits to strengthen ties and relationships, etc.*

While there, he learned how to identify a mission field; how to geolocate people for ease of community engagement across a large territory, how to participate in on-the-ground social service animation, how to discern and reinforce the threads of a worn-thin social fabric.

From this work came the Megantic Community Development Corporation and with it a template which was picked up by the Network Programme Initiative of the QCGN. The QCGN NPI assisted with the creation and funding of social service agencies across much of Quebec - agencies such as ECOL in the Lanaudière where Fr. Clark now serves.

The work to encourage



Bishop Mary licenced the Rev. Rodney Clark in the fall of 2021 as part-time priest in charge of Rawdon. Photo by Lee-Ann Matthews.

growth at Christ Church Rawdon started in 2021 with the identification of the mission field and the work to discern paths to growth. In the last two years, Christ Church has increased the parish from a roll of 70 to a roll of 270 households.

This has been due to the hard work of wardens, ACW members and its 168 volunteers [Rawdon knows the actual number of its volunteers as they are named and their hours are tracked for inclusion in the annual report], and many others.

Meetings were held with neighbours and family. Much time has been spent speaking with and listening to ACW members and aged parishioners. Phones were used – a lot. Data bases built. A parish-needs assessments completed.

The most important activity has been time spent BEING VISIBLE in the community as a whole: knocking on doors to say 'Hi', marching as a parish in parades, inviting up to 90 people to share in lawn games at the Rectory in the summer months, working with local non-profits to strengthen ties and relationships; becoming known by municipal councillors, the firemen and local SQ, and diving into community activities.

Fr. Clark and members of the parish are seen at AA, NA, & CA meetings; at the Legion, the Quilt Guild, the Multi-Ethnic Center, the ACW, at Friday Friends, and at ECOL events; and at almost all community concerts and meals and fundraisers in Greater Rawdon.

With an identified mission field, coupled with intentional listening to learn why people stepped back, and a focus on making the parish central to the life of the community once again; average attendance at worship on Sunday Mornings has more than doubled from what it had been pre-covid.

On Saturday July 13th Christ Church Rawdon had its annual Auction and FunFair. The day started before 7am and

ended after 9pm – and then 45 were in Church @ 10:30 the next morning!

Christ Church had had no confirmations for a decade. The Bishop confirmed six in Rawdon in 2024 and will confirm another six in 2025.

Christ Church has youth and young families worshipping with them because the congregation is listening, hearing and responding to their needs and program and animation requests.

Music has become an opportunity for growth, and people gather as a community to sing 60-strong twice a month. Christ Church has 40 voices in the choir singing at special events [there had not been a choir for several years, and no one dreamed of a 40-voice choir].

Christ Church has built in partnership with the municipality a concert series [15 concerts have been booked for 2024-25] to open the doors of our church to newcomers, so

they SEE who we are – and we have a dressed altar and lit tabernacle lamp to telegraph our theology to those coming for concerts; and a few moments are spent at each concert telling people what an Anglican Church / what the Anglican tradition is.

Attendance is up. The numbers on the parish roll are up. Average worshipper age is down. The average parishioners age is down. Christ Church has found vectors for growth.

This fall Christ Church will host two 1-day workshops called the Rawdon Youth Initiative in an effort to respond to the needs which we have learned of through our 18-month SWOT analysis process [SWOT = Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat: it is a business tool which charities and non-profits use to aid them to see themselves more clearly and to discern paths for growth and renewal].

There is MUCH work to

do to see Rawdon become a long-term sustainable parish; but the greatest impediment to growth was overcoming the inertia of being a shrinking parish. Christ Church Rawdon has overcome that inertia.

The journey from here to sustainable and self-supporting ministry needs love and work and continued consultation and a willingness to listen.

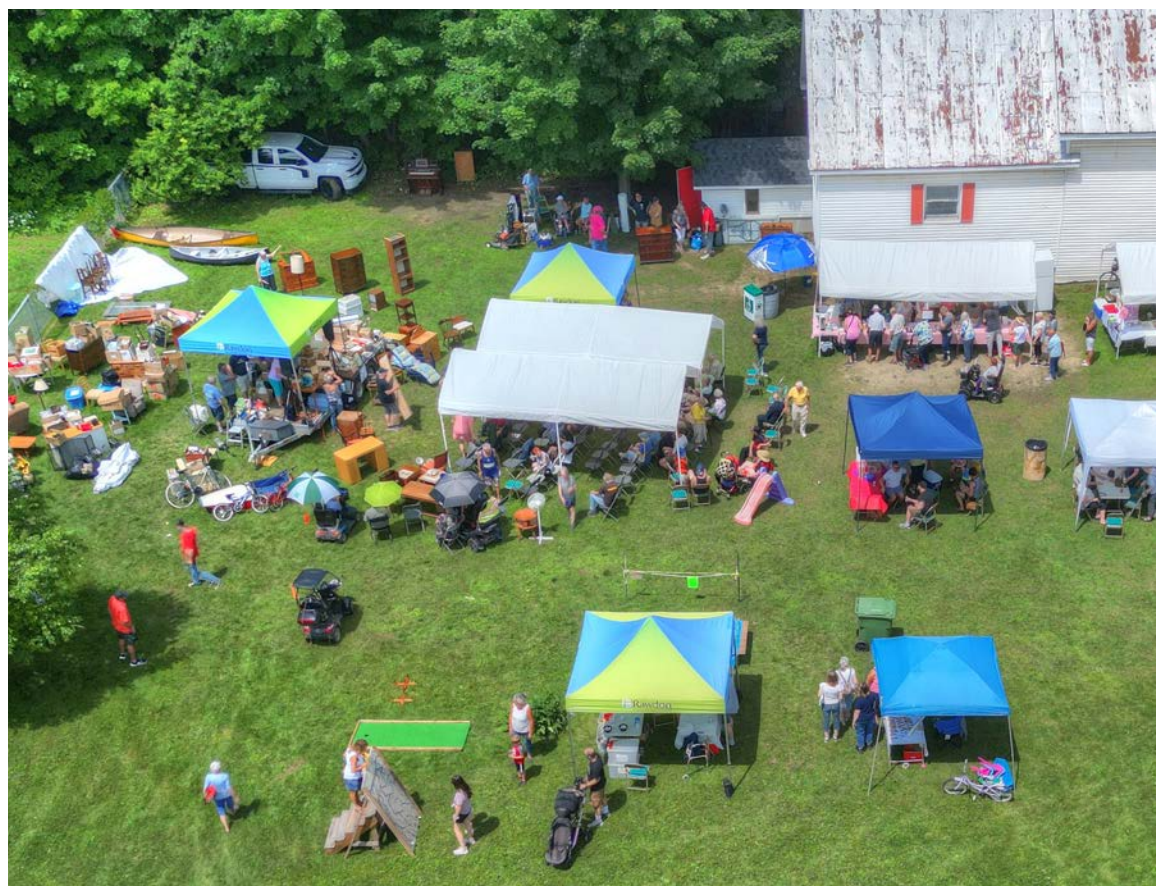
One of the important things which Christ Church Rawdon has done is pray for each other. The entire parish roll is prayed for each week by our ACW. The roll has been divided into 52, and each parishioner is remembered in intercessions at least once a year. These are small things to do; but the trust and the conversations which this simple discipline fosters is not small – it is parish changing.

*Christ Church has youth and young families worshipping with them because the congregation is listening, hearing and responding to their needs and program and animation requests.*

There will soon be another English school in the parish, bringing the total number of students in English school in the parish to more than 1000.

The population is growing and becoming more diverse. The parish is growing and becoming more diverse. Christ Church Rawdon has legs and a promising future.

Together the incumbent and wardens and volunteers along with the many who look to this parish for care and support - are taking steps to ensure the long-term sustainability of the parish and are working to cultivate new avenues for outreach.



On Saturday, July 13th, Christ Church Rawdon held its annual Auction and FunFair. Photo supplied.

# Befriending our Mortality: Recent Works Holly Ratcliffe in conversation

SHEENA GOURLEY

Ms Sheena Gourley is a member of Christ Church Cathedral and organizer of CCC's participation in *Journées du Patrimoine religieux*

Holly Ratcliffe is a retired Anglican priest and active ceramic artist living in the Montreal area. Here, we discuss her upcoming exhibition at Christ Church Cathedral and the path that led to her interest in funerary urns from different cultures.

**What is your background and how did it bring you to do your present work?**

As a child I always knew myself to be an artist. Drawing, painting, creating sculptures in chicken wire and paper mâché, etc., were activities that I found easy and deeply satisfying.

My first university training was as a cultural anthropologist. However, because the university wouldn't let me do both studio art and another discipline, I joined the choir of Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton as an extracurricular activity.

With considerable pushing by Joe Fricker, then dean of that cathedral, I entered theology at Trinity College in Toronto. At the time, I was very skeptical of religion, but I was reading philosophy and searching for meaning in life. I told him that if I didn't like it, I'd quit! As it turns out, I've been an Anglican priest for over 35 years.

**What led you to ceramics?**

I began to study ceramics in 2015. I found it to be a kind of therapy, as the clay is such an organic medium, and throwing clay on a wheel requires the whole body to be engaged in the creative act. But I also felt like I was coming home to an old, well known, self-as-artist that had been put on the shelf for decades.

It was in my third year of the cégep programme that I became drawn to creating funeral urns. That also had the feeling of returning to my roots in pastoral care, especially of people at end of life and their families. Ceramics became a way for me to engage our cultural silence around death.

In January 2020 I went to UBC as a ceramic artist in residence at the Museum of Anthropology where for three months I had the daily luxury of studying the collections of funeral ware from a variety of cultures, and of creating my own work in the museum's studio, inspired by some of their forms and techniques.

Then in 2022 I went to UVic as artist in residence at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. My project was called *"Pentimenti: Ceramic Funeral Urns as Biographies of Spiritual Homecomings."* It had two parts. First, I had to

research biographies of people from a variety of backgrounds who had experienced a return to their spiritual roots at the end of life, or at a crisis point in their life. And then I created urns whose forms and surface treatments would somehow express something of that homecoming in their life. It is the urns inspired by those six biographies which form the core of the work exhibited at the Cathedral.

**You speak about "returning" and "homecoming" in several different ways: those who return to their spiritual roots and yourself in your return to your earlier sense of self as a creative person. Can you elaborate on these ideas?**

It was the phenomenon of spiritual homecoming at end of life which inspired me to create the *Pentimenti* project at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS).

The previous director of CSRS, Harold Coward, co-edited a book entitled *Religious Understandings of a Good Death in Hospice Palliative Care*. I was inspired when I read about the use of the term "pentimento" to describe the experience of people who, under a communist regime, had been forced to abandon their religious beliefs. At the end of life, however, they desired to be surrounded by the liturgical practices and prayer presence of their early faith tradition.

We live in a cultural context in which people choose to abandon their religious roots, which has a different dynamic

from that of those who have been barred from practising their beliefs. But the whole idea of returning to one's spiritual roots in whatever form that takes, when life takes on such different priorities at the end of life, has remained my central focus, particularly as that expresses itself in different cultural and religious contexts.

"Pentimento" is also used in art history to describe a phenomenon in oil painting in which an earlier sketch or underpainting by the artist, which had been obliterated by subsequent layers, reappears with age. When I learned this, it was the obvious focus both for the biographical research and for the exploration of different techniques for revealing underlying layers using the ceramic medium.

**Your research on the attitudes and rituals around death in different cultures has clearly inspired you. Other cultures also have different and extraordinarily beautiful ceramic traditions. Have these also inspired your choice of form or surface treatment?**

I am interested in creating layered surface treatments which give the appearance of great age. And, perhaps because I need a large canvas for the surface treatments, I am drawn to creating simple, classic forms.

But it was the residency at the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) at UBC that really jumpstarted this area of my ceramic research and practice.

From the suspended coffins

*continued on page 12*



Holly Ratcliffe's exhibition runs from August 19th to September 13th at Christ Church Cathedral, 635 St. Catherine West, Montreal. The artist will give talks about her work on Saturday, September 7th, at Christ Church Cathedral: at 1pm in French and 3pm in English. She will also be onsite from 1pm - 3pm on Sunday, September 8th.



CMP members with St Barnabas members, in conversation during lunch after the Sunday service. Locally caught walleye and pickerel fish were the highlight of the lunch. Photo by Chris Barrigar.

## CMP visits Waswanapi

CHRIS BARRIGAR

The Rev Chris Barrigar is the Incumbant of the Church of St Mark & St Peter.

For the past year, CMP has been exploring a possible relationship with the people of St Barnabas Anglican Church, Waswanapi—one of Quebec's ten Cree communities, located about a nine-hour drive north of Montreal.

In 2023 this process included a couple Zoom meetings with Waswanapi community members, to hear what it means to be Cree and to hear

their experiences of residential schools.

A visit to Waswanapi was planned by CMP leaders for June 2023, but was cancelled due to forest fires.

In July this year a team from CMP was finally able to visit, for 2½ days, to meet local residents to learn much more about Cree life and culture.

The members of St Barnabas warmly welcomed the CMP team, and possibilities for future engagement continue to be explored between the two church communities.

## Welcoming kids to church *cont from page 3*

This is a new initiative and one that is being refined. Thanks to the input of a select group of clergy and lay leaders we are still in the testing phase of the project. It is our hope that we will be able to grow the project in an ongoing effort to welcome and encourage fami-

lies to be a part of our worship experiences.

We need your suggestions and feedback. Please let me know if you would like to participate. (lmatthews@montreal.anglican.ca). We look forward to this new collaboration!

St. Lawrence Anglican Church presents  
Église Anglicane Saint-Lawrence présente

International Night Dinner  
Souper de la Nuit Internationale

Samedi, le 26 octobre 2024

520 75e Avenue, LaSalle, Qc. H8R 2P5

Cocktails @ 5:30 PM Dîner @ 6:30 PM

Donation

Adults / Adultes: \$50

Children under 15 yrs old

Enfants de moins de 15 ans: \$20

For more information, please contact the church:  
Pour plus d'informations, veuillez contacter l'église:

514-366-4652, stlawrence520@gmail.com

Come and join us!  
Venez nous rejoindre!



Campers participate in a Liturgical Dance, All Saints Deux-Montagnes Day Camp.

## Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps 2024

Two of our parishes hosted Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps this past summer. Here they share their experiences.

### All Saints Church, Deux-Montagnes

By Jeff Alexander, Coordinator, All Saints Church, and Crosstalk Ministries Day Camp Committee member

This year marks the second in-person Bible Day Camp we have held post-COVID. Our attendance was up modestly to eight from last year's six; however, beyond the quantity, we were very pleased by the quality of our interaction and of the youth helpers.

We followed this year's theme *Signposts*, adapting the curriculum slightly for our small and young (primarily kindergarten age) group of campers.

The music was expertly chosen for the week by our friends at the First Filipino Baptist Church of Montreal.

It was very rewarding to have four ex-campers – ranging in age from 12 to 20 – return as helpers, and their levels of vigilance, energy, encouragement, and kindness were incredible.

They were particularly attentive to two campers on the autism spectrum and our youngest camper who is being fostered by one of our church families; she started the week with her hoodie drawn closely around her face and gripping her stuffed bear, but brightened during the week and was eventually as energetic and expressive as the others.

We were also blessed with the attendance of some of the campers and their families at our closing service. We interspersed elements from Bible Day Camp throughout the liturgy, including a beautiful liturgical dance.

It was truly a blessing to our community to have hosted this wonderful week.

### St. Joseph of Nazareth Church, Brossard

By Rev'd Christopher Belle Priest-in-charge, St Joseph of Nazareth Church, Brossard

The Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps compact *Backyard Program* is a near-perfect fit for our church. We began in the evening with a meal prepared and served by members of the church. We then proceeded with the program, consisting of a main presentation, devotions, Creative Connection and games.

The children had a wonderful time. Our smaller numbers made for a more intimate setting, and it did not take long for some of the quieter ones' initial shyness to wear off.

A strong indicator of its success was the enthusiastic singing following the day camps. Children were still singing the songs on the way home.

I was also encouraged by how well children recalled what they had learned the evening before. The quiz was an exciting showdown every time. It is clear that they understood what we tried to pass on to them.

I am always impressed by the many ways day camps allow children to express themselves. There is something for everyone; singing, liturgical dance, arts and crafts, crazy games, devotions. Children usually find their niche.

I find that the supper at the beginning is a key element in building a sense of community; a time for campers to share and learn about each other. And having parishioners who are enthusiastic about child ministry, and happen to be good cooks, is an absolute blessing.

Thank you, Crosstalk Ministries. God bless you.



The Youth Council and other volunteers helped put on the ice cream social in Stanbridge East on July 20, 2024. Photo by Peter Onego.

## The Inside Scoop on the St. James the Apostle Youth Council

TYSON ROSBERG

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

On Saturday, July 20th, 2024, 235 people came out to enjoy a bowl of delicious Coaticook ice cream at the second annual ice cream social, held in the church hall of St. James the Apostle in Stanbridge East.

The event was organised by the parish's Youth Council, a dedicated group of young people who are committed to bringing about positive social change in our region, with a particular focus on supporting initiatives that help young people and families.

The Youth Council meets to learn together and share skills (including fundraising techniques, event planning, marketing and publicity, and financial management), all while giving back to the community — and having fun too. As a priest, it is so rewarding to be able to empower and equip the younger generation for leadership in the Church and in the world!

Since its inception in 2023, the Youth Council has raised over \$6,000 to give back to the

community. That is tremendous generosity on behalf of the parish!

Maddison Ingalls, a member of the Youth Council who recently completed CEGEP at John Abbott College and who will begin studying psychology at Concordia this fall, said "Events like the ice cream social are so important to me because my grandmother used to be heavily involved in the community, and this way I feel I can follow in her footsteps and help out the community that raised me. I am so proud to be part of the St. James the Apostle Youth Council!"

Similarly, Genevieve Baker, the organising chair for this year's ice cream social and a mother of two young children, reflects that, "I grew up in the Church, but it was only after I had my own kids that I realized how important it was for me, and I wanted to get more involved. As a church it is important for us to be involved in the life of the community; the work of the Youth Council is one way of fulfilling that."

Bedford Pizzeria (a local restaurant whose unfailing support for the community is outstanding), the well-known Laiterie de Coaticook, and

Maison de la Pomme (a local apple processing company) all made donations for the event, and sheet cakes were baked by a team of eager volunteers. All of this helped to ensure that the event had zero organising costs, maximising the event's fundraising potential.

St. James the Apostle hosted the ice cream social, but several other organisations helped with ticket sales and publicity, including; the Order of the Eastern Star, the Stanbridge East firefighters, the Missisquoi Historical Society, the Royal Canadian Legion, the Town Hall of Stanbridge East, and the United Church in Stanbridge East. The ice cream social is a real community event! It is gratifying to see the wider community getting so involved in the life and outreach of the parish.

The doors of the church were open during the event, allowing the public to take in the beauty of the church's religious architecture. The red brick building is a unique architectural gem amongst Anglican churches in the Eastern Townships — and, indeed, the rest of Quebec. It is built in the

*continued on page 12*

**Christ Church Beaurepaire Centennial**  
 Service + potluck dinner — come celebrate with us!

**September 15, 4 pm**  
**455 Church Street, Beaconsfield**

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

God of wisdom, discernment and calm, we pray that you will inspire and support the members of the Search Committee for the Coadjutor Bishop who will be installed as the 13th Bishop of Montreal in the fall of 2025.

This is no small task. New guidelines for the electoral process are in place, other voices will raise multiple concerns, and the angst surround the unknown brings unnecessary fear and trepidation.

Be with us during this time of transition. We pray You will sustain the SC members when this responsibility feels burdensome and gets contentious. Keep their hearts and minds focused on Your larger vision for this Diocese and its future Bishop.

Gracious God infuse the SC



members with optimism, openness and insight as they craft the first ever Diocesan Profile. May this work be a blessing to the Diocese; illuminating the strengths and weaknesses that define us.

We pray that this profile will pique the curiosity of future candidates and that Your Spirit will instill in them a sincere call to respond. We pray for these unknown individuals who will face scrutiny and vetting as part of the process. May You sustain them with your grace and mercy as they journey through this discernment.

Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer,

Valerie and Stacey

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



## All Saints by the Lake has a new kitchen!

The kitchen was finally completed this summer following parish discussions that started about one and half years ago. All Saints consulted with its major renter, a Daycare, about the current and future needs for food preparation.

Construction began in May and wrapped up in July.

Restocking of the new kitchen took place July 25 and it re-opened on July 29, as a bright, multi-purpose space.

Huge thanks to our dedicated volunteers, our project committee for their leadership and to our Parish secretary for her amazing project management skills.



## Sisterhood of Saint John the Divine Quiet Day on May 1, 2024

At St Stephens Lachine and led by Sister Elizabeth Ann. Rev Shirley Smith welcomed twenty-four SSJD Associates and friends to the worship service. The day's theme was Living in the Age of the Spirit. Sr. Elizabeth Ann helped us ponder such questions as "How do people of faith listen for the leading of the Holy Spirit in their lives?"; "What does being Spiritual and Religious even mean in today's culture?" and "How can we remain hopeful in today's world?" A great day by all.

## Notables

**Events at All Saints Church**  
248-18th Ave. Deux-Montagnes  
450-473-9541

**Sept 7/Oct 5/Nov 2**  
Monthly "Food for Body and Soul" Breakfast. The first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. Good will offering.

**Sept 8/Oct 6/Nov 3**  
Monthly Youth Service for teens and young adults. 6pm  
A meal follows the service.

**Sept 26/Oct 31/Nov 28**  
Holy communion service at Les Cascades 10:30am

**Oct 6th**  
Annual Pet Blessing

**Nov 9th**  
Annual Bake sale - a delicious assortment of fresh baked goods and knit/crochet items

## Holly Ratcliffe *continued from page 10*

of Northwest Coast First Nations' communities (before the Christian missionaries came), to the turtleback tombs of Okinawa (before the bombing in WWII), I became enthralled with exploring the beliefs, funeral rituals and accompanying material cultures around the world.

It was at MOA that I began to create larger, sculptural ossuaries inspired by Etruscan, Israeli and American prehistor-

ic ceramic traditions. But I was also inspired by some of the ceramic techniques I discovered at the MOA.

For example, the earliest Chinese ceramic urns often have a rope textured design. This rope technique has become synonymous with the Jomon historical period (Jomon means rope). One of the urns in the exhibition uses a version of this technique.

## Save the Date

### Advent Quiet Day

for SSJD Associates and Friends

**Saturday December 7, 2024, 9:30am to 2pm**

St Stephen's, 25-12th Ave Lachine

Priest-in-Charge and Leader: Rev. Shirley Smith

All welcome. Bring your lunch, coffee and tea will be available. To register please call 514-488-5137. Thank you.



Some of the participants in a recent CMP/ARM softball game for recent immigrants to Ville St-Laurent.

## CMP welcomes refugees & newcomers

CHRIS BARRIGAR

*The Rev Chris Barrigar is the Incumbant of the Church of St Mark & St Peter.*

CMP has a husband-and-wife couple on staff, André and Fatima Leitao, who lead CMP's outreach ministry in St Laurent.

André and Fatima, who speak English, Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic, and Niveau-7 French, have previously worked with refugees in Egypt and in their native Brazil.

André has a Brazilian soccer coaching certification, and uses sports to help integrate refugees and recent immigrants into life here in Canada.

This summer André has worked with CMP members and Action Réfugie Montréal to organize softball games, to introduce recent immigrants and refugees to the game through playing with CMP members. These have been a lot of fun, and especially a great opportunity to make new friends!

## The Inside Scoop *continued from page 11*

carpenter gothic style: identifying features of this style include steeply pitched roofs and gables, gingerbread ornamentation, and strong vertical design elements.

Fundraising from the Youth Council has benefited several local elementary school breakfast programs; Girl Guides of Canada; the Graham Neil Winter Classic, which provides winter sports equipment to children whose families cannot afford it; le Tremplin, a home for at-risk youth; and Reilly

House, a not-for-profit organisation that supports families throughout the Eastern Townships.

There is an old expression attributed to Theodore Roosevelt: People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. The Church cannot simply talk about loving our neighbour, it has to manifest that love to the world. As a priest, I am proud to be connected to a church that has such a big heart for the community around us!