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For pictures from the Family Art Workshop and other events around the Diocese, please see pages four and five. Photo by Janet Best.

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## Vision & Hopes from the Ven. Dr. Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu, Coadjutor Bishop Elect

VICTOR-DAVID MBUYI BIPUNGU

*The Ven Mbuyi Bipungu, Coadjutor Bishop Elect for the Diocese of Montreal, currently serves as the Priest-in-Charge of the Église de la Nativité, Rosemère and the Parish of St. Simeon & St. Bartholomew, Laval.*

On Saturday, May 3, 2025, with joy and humility, I have said yes to the call to serve you as your Coadjutor bishop. It's a wonderful honour. I am grateful and I thank you for trusting me and particularly for believing the Holy Spirit who has led you in making this decision.

I have been asked to express the vision and hopes I have as the future bishop of our diocese. It's a tough task at a time when I'm still trying to come to my senses after experiencing the emotions that have overwhelmed me and all the delegates attending the Electoral Synod.

So, I will not share a plan to be carried out during my episcopacy, but, rather, my vision and hopes; for the strategic plan as I have expressed in written answers to the search committee's questions, should be drawn up collectively, i.e. with everybody's input. That's a promise to you.

This vision and these hopes are a way for me to humbly embody the Bishop's role. As officially taught and celebrated in the liturgy of bishop's ordination, the role of a bishop is clear. He or she has to "guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the church; to celebrate and to provide for the administration of the sacraments of the New Covenant; ordain priests and deacons and to join in ordaining bishops; and to be in all things the faithful, pastor, and wholesome example for the entire flock of Christ..."

All this combined with the challenges imposed by the changes taking place in our world makes the bishop's role a heavy responsibility and leads me to make St Augustine's words my own :

"Where I'm terrified by what I am for you, I am given comfort by what I am with you. For you I am a bishop, with you, after all, I am a Christian. The first is the name of an office undertaken, the second a name of grace; that one means danger, this one salvation" (Sermon 340,1).

I can add on a hopeful note that what I am *with* you, - Christian and Disciple - gives sense to what I am *for* you - Coadjutor Bishop Elect. I therefore promise to keep both aspects connected so that the Church's mission may not be just mine, but ours.

Being co-responsible for the Church's mission means being proud of our diversity and welcoming everyone without discrimination or prejudice. For that, my hope is that we continue using all our languages; particularly English and French

but additionally singing sometimes in Haitian Creole and Spanish, Swahili and Lingala or in another language, and proclaiming the gospel from the Indigenous version of the Bible.

Co-responsibility in the Church's mission requires us to care for one another. Each and every one of us should feel safe and protected not only by caring brothers and sisters, but also by more effective policies. The diocese is already working on a robust review of its safe church policies and practices and I am committed to seeing this through with you. (see page 3)

Taking care of each other in missionary co-responsibility should also extend to our financial management. We have a duty to help parishes meet their minimum operating requirements. This will be possible if we encourage them to make better use of the resources already available, and to capitalize on neglected potential, such as our spaces, which are often leased at lower rates.

We will do all this supported by God's love, which is the engine of everything as stated in the diocesan profile under the title 'Who we are': "Our goal is to embody the love and compassion of God in all we do... we seek to be more than a gathering of individuals but a vibrant community that acts as "the hands and feet of Jesus." Our mission is to be actively engaged in the world around us, responding to the needs of our neighbors and inviting people to experience the transformative power of Christ's love..."

Thank you all for being open to what the Holy Spirit is saying to us. We really felt His presence on Saturday, May 3rd. I ask for Him to continue guiding us as we have a mandate given to us by Our Lord to spread the good news of salvation and serve and grow the faith in the diocese of Montreal for the coming decade.

Don't be afraid, for the God who has made everything beautiful in its time (Ecclesiastes 3:11) will be with us and we will do it well together.



The Ven. Dr. Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu. Photo by Janet Best.

## Vision et espoirs du Ven Dr Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu, évêque coadjuteur élu

VICTOR-DAVID MBUYI BIPUNGU

Le samedi 3 mai 2025, avec joie et humilité, j'ai dit oui à l'appel à vous servir en tant qu'évêque coadjuteur. C'est un grand honneur. Je vous suis reconnaissant et je vous remercie de m'avoir fait confiance et surtout d'avoir cru en l'Esprit Saint qui vous a guidé dans cette décision.

On m'a demandé d'exprimer en 1 000 mots maximum pour Anglican Montreal, notre journal diocésain, la vision et les espoirs que j'aimerais transmettre en tant que futur évêque de notre diocèse. C'est une tâche difficile à un moment où j'essaie encore de reprendre mes esprits après les émotions bouleversantes qui se sont déversées sur moi et, bien sûr, sur tous les délégués présents au Synode électoral. Je n'ai

donc pas à proposer un plan à mettre en œuvre pendant mon épiscopat, mais simplement ma vision et mes espoirs, car le plan stratégique tel que je l'ai exprimé dans les réponses écrites aux questions du comité de recherche, devrait être élaboré collectivement, c'est-à-dire avec l'apport de tous. C'est une promesse que je vous fais.

Cette vision et ces espoirs me permettent d'incarner humblement le rôle de l'évêque. Tel qu'il est officiellement enseigné et célébré dans la liturgie de l'ordination épiscopale, le rôle d'un évêque est clair. Il doit « garder la foi, l'unité et la discipline de l'Église ; célébrer et assurer l'administration des sacrements de la Nouvelle Alliance ; ordonner les prêtres et les diacres et participer à

*continued on page 3*



Lining up to vote at Electoral Synod, May 3, 2025. Photo by Janet Best.

Bishop’s Message, June 2025

The Diocese of Montreal has elected a new bishop, and the bishops of the Anglican Province of Canada have concurred! I am very pleased at the election of the Venerable Victor David Mbuyi Bipungu, and I am grateful to all of the candidates who put in time, thought and prayer to present their visions for the future. Thank you also to Archbishop David Edwards who led the process.

We asked the Holy Spirit to come and guide our diocese in that election. It was not an easy process and there were many bumps in the road, and many unmet expectations about how things would work. There was lots of fear about unwelcome outcomes, and lots of opinions about the danger of not electing the right candidate.

Throughout the process, many of you heard me say over and over that the Holy Spirit knew how to guide our diocese into electing the right person. My own journey of faith over the decades has been deeply enriched as I have grown in my own trust and hope in the Holy Spirit since I first became aware of the Spirit when I was a teenager. I have experienced the Spirit in many different ways, sometimes simply as an act of faith or trust and hope that God is with us.

The Church needs the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us, to teach us and remind us of the words of Jesus. Why? Because the church is full of human beings, each with their own personalities and foibles. It can get messy. It can be hurtful. And sometimes it can get off track completely and follow the wrong path.

Can the Holy Spirit work with people like us? I am convinced that the Holy Spirit DOES work with people like us. Read the New Testament to see what the early church experienced as it fumbled along by faith. Each of us needs to be open to God’s Spirit moving in us and directing us.

In this season of Pentecost, I ask you to pray for our Diocese, for the Holy Spirit to be released on us all for the work of ministry. Pray for bishop-elect Victor David and his family. Pray for the Diocesan Council as they meet to strengthen the church and improve its policies and canons. Lean into the words Jesus said to his disciples.

*“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”* John 14:25-27

Faithfully,

+ Mary



Bishop Mary and Metropolitan David Edwards. Photo by Janet Best.

Message de L’Évêque, juin 2025

Le diocèse de Montréal a élu un nouvel évêque, et les évêques de la province anglicane du Canada ont donné leur accord ! Je suis très heureuse de l’élection du vénérable Victor David Mbuyi Bipungu, et je suis reconnaissante à tous les candidats qui ont consacré du temps, de la réflexion et de la prière pour présenter leur vision de l’avenir. Je remercie également l’archevêque David Edwards qui a dirigé le processus.

Nous avons demandé à l’Esprit Saint de venir guider notre diocèse dans cette élection. Le processus n’a pas été facile et il y a eu beaucoup d’obstacles sur la route, et beaucoup d’attentes non satisfaites quant à la manière dont les choses devraient fonctionner. Il y a eu beaucoup de craintes de résultats indésirables et beaucoup d’opinions sur le danger de ne pas élire le bon candidat.

Tout au long du processus, beaucoup d’entre vous m’ont entendue répéter que l’Esprit Saint savait comment guider notre diocèse pour qu’il élise la bonne personne. Mon propre cheminement de foi au fil des décennies a été profondément enrichi, car j’ai grandi dans ma confiance et mon espérance en l’Esprit Saint depuis que j’en ai pris conscience pour la première fois lorsque j’étais adolescente. J’ai fait l’expérience de l’Esprit de diffé-

rentes manières, parfois simplement comme un acte de foi ou de confiance et d’espoir que Dieu est avec nous.

L’Église a besoin de l’Esprit Saint pour nous conduire et nous guider, pour nous enseigner et nous rappeler les paroles de Jésus. Pourquoi ? Parce que l’Église est remplie d’êtres humains, chacun avec sa propre personnalité et ses propres défauts. Elle peut être désordonnée. Elle peut être blessante. Et parfois, elle peut s’écarter complètement du droit chemin et suivre la mauvaise voie.

Le Saint-Esprit peut-il travailler avec des gens comme nous ? Je suis convaincue que le Saint-Esprit TRAVAILLE avec des personnes comme nous. Lisez le Nouveau Testament pour voir ce que l’Église primitive a vécu alors qu’elle avançait à tâtons par la foi. Chacun d’entre nous doit être ouvert à l’Esprit de Dieu qui agit en nous et nous dirige.

En cette période de Pentecôte, je vous demande de prier pour notre diocèse, afin que l’Esprit Saint se répande sur nous tous pour le travail du ministère. Priez pour l’évêque élu Victor David et sa famille. Priez pour le Conseil diocésain qui se réunit pour renforcer l’Église et améliorer ses politiques et ses canons. Appuyez-vous sur les paroles que Jésus a adressées à ses disciples :

*« Je vous ai dit ces choses pendant que j’étais encore avec vous. Mais le Défenseur, l’Esprit Saint, que le Père enverra en mon nom, vous enseignera tout et vous rappellera tout ce que je vous ai dit. Je vous laisse la paix ; je vous donne ma paix. Je ne vous la donne pas comme le monde la donne. Que votre cœur ne se trouble pas et ne s’effraie pas* (Jean 14:25-27).

Fidèlement,

+ Mary



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# Montreal Diocesan Theological College Convocation, May 5, 2025

## Fiona Crossling presented with honorary doctorate

NICKI HRONJAK & CHRIS BARRIGAR

Montreal Dio’s 2025 Convocation was held on the evening of Monday, May 5, 2025 at St. George’s Place du Canada. The service was a celebration of the accomplishments of students who will go into ministry in the Anglican and United Churches as well as other Christian denominations. Master of Divinity graduates included Ozioma Obijiofor, Sarah Wicks-Potter and Felississima Mwambarangwe. Fiona Crossling, a member of the Church of St. Mark and St. Peter in St. Laurent and a long-time advocate for the unhoused in Montreal, gave the Convocation address. At the ceremony, Fiona

was presented with an honorary doctorate for: “faithful and devoted lay ministry in the world that responds to a pressing human need in our context. This is an example of what baptismal ministry looks like and what it means to be a Christian in the public square.” The following is an excerpt from Ms Crossling’s biography, written by her husband, the Rev Chris Barrigar. *Fiona Crossling did her BComm at McGill, and a few years later her MBA at HEC. Fiona’s early career was as a management consultant within the Bell system of companies. During her MBA studies a friend invited her to St Stephen’s Westmount, where she encountered the Gospel in a new way and eventually gave her life to Christ. In 1995 Fiona married Chris*

*Barrigar, and in 1998 they moved to Bangalore, India, where Fiona moved into non-profit management for a Christian development NGO. During her years in Bangalore Fiona also provided management consulting for other Christian organizations in India. In 2001 Fiona and Chris moved to the city of Chennai, India, where Fiona shifted back into the business sector, taking a position as Chief Operating Officer of a Swedish-owned software company. In 2004 Fiona and Chris returned to Montreal, where Fiona took a position as Assistant Director of MultiCaf, a food-security non-profit in Cote-des-Neiges. After some time there, she moved to Assistant Director, and then Executive Director, of Share the Warmth, a community development organization in Pointe*

*St-Charles. Then at the very start of the Covid lock-downs, Fiona began her current position as Executive Director of Accueil Bonneau, which was founded by the Grey Nuns nearly 150 years ago to serve the homeless of Montreal. Fiona is a frequent voice in the Montreal media, both French and English, on behalf of the homeless of our city, and frequently engages with the Mayor’s office and the provincial Minister on homelessness issues. Fiona also believes in the value of research-supported practice, thus she has engaged her organizations with research teams from several of Montreal universities in social-sector research projects. As well, Fiona has been Chair of the Board of Interserve Canada, a human services organization that*

*seconds Christian professionals to organizations (both Christian and secular) in the majority world. (This was the organization which seconded Fiona and Chris to their organizations in India). She has recently contributed a chapter, on leading change, to a book on non-profit leadership. During their years since returning to Montreal, Fiona has also been a mother of two, and active in her home churches of St Peter’s TMR, and, more recently, St Mark & St Peter, St Laurent. This involvement has included teaching Sunday School, being involved in various parish groups, and on occasion helping organize certain parish events--not to mention giving moral and prayer support to her husband in his ministry.*



Bishop Mary with Fiona Crossling. Photo by Janet Best.



L-R: Sarah Wicks, Ozioma Obijiofor, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, Executive Minister for Nakonha:k Regional Council, Principal Rev Dr Jesse Zink, Rt. Rev Mary Irwin-Gibson president of the college, Felississima Mwambarangwe, Fiona Crossling, Honorary Doctorate in Sacred Theology. Photo by Janet Best.

## Safe Church/Canon 1 Being Revised

The Diocese of Montreal has elected the Ven. Dr. Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu as Coadjutor Bishop to succeed Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson as the 13th Bishop of Montreal when she retires in October of this year. During the lead up to our recent electoral synod, concerns were raised about the diocese’s safe church policy and processes. Bishop Mary has heard these concerns and will recommend to the next meeting of Diocesan Council in June that an “ombudsperson” who is at arm’s length be appointed for at least the next three months to receive any concerns, questions or complaints. Diocesan Council has already set in motion a review of the existing Safe Church policy and we are committed to seeing this review through.

Through our baptism as Christians, we have willingly and knowingly entered into a “Covenant Relationship” and are committed to making the diocese of Montreal safe(r). This was the first time that the diocese used Canon 1 (The Election of Bishops) since its revision following the last episcopal election. Diocesan Council has indicated that it will review the electoral process to better understand how the process under the revisions of Canon 1 was exercised, the challenges the Search Committee faced, identify gaps in both process and policy, areas of concern, what needs the Search committee encountered, and propose the necessary changes. By working together we can continue to grow and build a church that is safe and gives glory to God.

## Ven Dr Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu

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l'ordination des évêques ; et être en toutes choses le fidèle, le pasteur et le bon exemple pour les membres de l'Église du Christ... Tout cela, combiné aux défis imposés par les changements qui se produisent dans notre monde aujourd'hui, fait du rôle de l'évêque un lourd fardeau de responsabilités et m'amène à faire miennes les paroles de saint Augustin : « Ce que je suis pour vous m'effraie. Ce que je suis avec vous me rassure. Pour vous je suis évêque, cela m'est une charge. Avec vous je suis chrétien, cela m'est une grâce ... ». (Sermon 340,1). Je peux ajouter et dire sur une note d'espoir que ce que je suis avec vous, - chrétien et disciple -, donne un sens à ce que je suis pour vous - évêque coadjuteur élu. Je promets donc de maintenir les deux aspects liés afin que la mission de l'Église ne soit pas seulement la mienne, mais la nôtre.Être coresponsable de la mission de l'Eglise signifie être fier de notre diversité et accueillir tout le monde sans discrimination ni préjugé. Pour cela, j'espère que nous continuerons à utiliser, par exemple, toutes nos

langues, en particulier l'anglais et le français, ou à chanter parfois en créole haïtien et en espagnol, en swahili et en lingala ou dans une autre langue, et à proclamer l'Évangile à partir de la version indigène de la Bible. La coresponsabilité dans la mission de l'Église exige que nous prenions soin les uns des autres. Chacun d'entre nous devrait se sentir en sécurité et protégé non seulement par des frères et sœurs bienveillants, mais aussi par des politiques de sécurité plus efficaces. Le diocèse travaille déjà à un examen approfondi de ses politiques et pratiques en matière de sécurité dans l'Église et je m'engage à le mener à bien avec vous. Le fait de prendre soin les uns des autres dans le cadre de la coresponsabilité missionnaire devrait également s'étendre à notre gestion financière. Nous avons le devoir d'aider les paroisses à satisfaire leurs besoins minimaux de fonctionnement. Cela sera possible si nous les encourageons à mieux utiliser les ressources déjà disponibles et à capitaliser sur les potentiels négligés, tels que nos espaces, qui sont souvent loués à des tarifs plus bas.

Nous ferons tout cela soutenus par l'amour de Dieu, qui est le moteur de tout, comme l'indique le profil diocésain sous le titre « Qui nous sommes » : « Notre but est d'incarner l'amour et la compassion de Dieu dans tout ce que nous faisons... nous cherchons à être plus qu'un rassemblement d'individus, mais une communauté vibrante qui agit comme “les mains et les pieds de Jésus”. Notre mission est de nous engager activement dans le monde qui nous entoure, en répondant aux besoins de nos voisins et en invitant les gens à faire l'expérience du pouvoir transformateur de l'amour du Christ...’’ Merci à tous d'être ouverts à ce que l'Esprit Saint nous dit. Nous avons vraiment ressenti sa présence le samedi 3 mai. Je lui demande de continuer à nous guider dans le mandat que nous a confié Notre Seigneur de répandre la bonne nouvelle du salut, de servir et de faire grandir la foi dans le diocèse de Montréal au cours de la prochaine décennie. N'ayez pas peur, car le Dieu qui a fait toute chose belle en son temps (Ecclésiaste 3:11) sera avec nous et nous ferons bien les choses ensemble.

## Notable

Montreal Dio is pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. Morgan Bell as the next Director of United Church Studies. Morgan is currently in ministry at St. Andrew’s United Church in downtown Toronto and is completing a Ph.D. in theological studies at the University of Toronto (Emmanuel College). He will begin his new position in July 2025.

# Around the Diocese



Gail Booth and Sandra Fortier at Choir practice for Easter. Photo by Tim Smart.



Bob Kerr at the Regional Service on March 30th held at All Saints Church in Dunham. Photo by Tim Smart.



Baptism of Karsynn Irene Leavitt at Grace Church, Sutton, on Easter Day, with her mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Photo by Tim Smart.



Linda Carey and Gussy Turner following the Easter Sunrise Service. Photo by Tim Smart.



Easter Sunrise service at the home of Gail Booth in Sutton. Photo by Tim Smart.

# Around the Diocese



Florian Strich, Bishop Mary and the Rev Ben Stuchbery, Trinity Ste-Agathe on Easter Day. Photo supplied.



Lighting the Paschal candle at the Great Easter Vigil, April 19, 2025. Photo by Alex Griffin.



Aidan Zink at the Family Art Workshop, April 12, 2025. Photo by Janet Best.



Camille Isaac Morell and Teddy Zink at the Family Art Workshop. Photo by Janet Best.



Betty Onwura at the Family Art Workshop, April 12, 2025. Photo by Janet Best.



Harrison at the Family Art Workshop, April 12, 2025. Photo by Janet Best.

# The Bible Story Walk Returns with a New Journey of Faith and Art

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

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

The Bible Story Walk, a traveling outdoor art installation, has been making its way across church lawns for the past two years, sharing the Creation Story through vibrant illustrated panels.

This unique initiative was designed to engage neighbours who pass by or visit church grounds — offering them a moment of wonder, reflection, and connection with the host church.

This creative outreach has proven to be a powerful way to build community while sparking curiosity and conversation. Many churches that hosted the installation have shared enthusiastic feedback, noting how it has opened new doors for connection with local families and individuals.

This year, we are excited to unveil a new chapter: The Lord's Prayer (*Matthew 6:9 - 13*).



This beloved and familiar passage invites people of all ages to pause, reflect, and perhaps recall cherished memories of faith and prayer. Our hope is that children and families, in particular, will see themselves in this story - encouraged by its message and inspired by its presentation.

To bring this new edition to life, we sought the voices and creativity of young people across the Diocese. Through collaborative workshops and open invitations, children and youth offered their insights, questions and artistic expressions. Their contributions

*continued on page 8*

## Phoenix Community Projects *Empowering Change Igniting Hope*

JESSICA BICKFORD-GILBERT

*The Rev Jessica Bickford is the Executive Director of Phoenix Community Projects.*

The church is in a time of transition as we try to understand what its role is in this current societal context. There is a great deal of talk about what the church should or could do - but what would happen if talk turned into action?

**Phoenix Community Projects where passion meets purpose and neighbors become changemakers**

Phoenix is not your average community initiative; it's a vibrant hub of creativity, compassion and action. Whether serving meals, hosting art workshops, or launching youth programs, Phoenix's purpose is to provide safe, inclusive and engaging environments for families, children and seniors.

Phoenix is based out of St. Margaret's of Antioch in Brossard. Created as part of co-founder Rev. Jessica Bickford's diaconal project, Phoenix began with the vision of creating intergenerational programs and spaces where people can create connections and break social isolation.

Five years later, Phoenix has become a volunteer-based not-for-profit whose mission supports: two weekly community lunches, several children's programs (Kids' Club, Play Like a Girl and Summer Day Camp), Silver Fox Club for seniors and quarterly special events (Street-fest, Halloween Trick or Treat Trail, Easter Scavenger hunt).



If this wasn't enough, the volunteers also support and create community partnerships. Phoenix has worked with schools, cegeps and other organizations to provide programs, life skills workshops, internships and work placement opportunities.

Finally, Phoenix is not just about service and outreach, as one new initiative is organizing spiritual workshops. It is Phoenix's intention to not only support physical and emotional needs but to provide opportunities to be spiritually nourished.

From a dream to reality Phoenix is an example of what can happen when a group of people have vision, desire - and are willing to do the hard work.

To continue living the dream Phoenix Community

Projects is proud to participate in the national *Say Yes to Kids* fundraising campaign hosted by the Anglican Foundation. With a goal of raising \$5,000, all proceeds will support their key children's programs; helping families access enriching, supportive activities.

As Phoenix celebrates this important milestone, it remains dedicated to fostering joy, connection and personal development across generations. Community members are encouraged to support their campaign and be part of this ongoing story of hope and togetherness.

To learn more or to donate, visit the Phoenix Community Projects website [www.phoenixprograms.ca](http://www.phoenixprograms.ca) or the [www.anglicanfoundation.org](http://www.anglicanfoundation.org).



## Would you like to deepen your relationship with God? EfM can help

Education for Ministry is a place where all questions about our faith are welcome;

*Do you enjoy meaningful conversation with trusted seekers?*

*Do you question different interpretations of biblical passages and want to explore them more deeply?*

*Are you seeking God and desire others to accompany you on your search?*

*Does Sunday morning whet your appetite for more?*

Education for Ministry (EfM) helps us understand how we are called into relationship with God, neighbour, and creation wherever we are - at home, at work, in all the places we spend time. God's revelation through Christian tradition is taken seriously by EfM, from the earliest biblical messages, through the development of liturgy and theology, and even to the context of the challenges we face in our own times and daily lives. We practise integrating faith and life, and communicating our faith to others.

### What is involved?

EfM-Classic involves four years, taken one year at a time: Old Testament, New Testament, Christian History, and Christian Spirituality & Ethics. EfM-Wide Angle is an overview of the spiritual journey that introduces participants to EfM-Classic, by touching on the Old Testament, New

Testament, Christian history, spirituality, and ethics within one year.

### Who participates?

EfM is designed for lay people of all ages. At baptism we are all called to ministry. Don't let the four years be overwhelming, we only ask for a one year commitment. Or you can try the Wide Angle option of one year.

### Where?

The Wednesday evening group meets in Montreal at Dio (Montreal Diocesan Theological College) on the McGill campus and online.

### Like to learn more?

Contact: Nancy Greene-Grégoire, EfM Coordinator, 514-862-5367 or [greenenm@gmail.com](mailto:greenenm@gmail.com). Get in touch soon! New participants should register by July 15th. ([www.efmcanada.ca](http://www.efmcanada.ca))



Cacilie Maria Bernadette Walker Cyr, Caëla Marie Michelle Walker Cyr, Izabella Nikita Świątopełk-Czetwertyńska, Lea Antonina Świątopełk-Czetwertyńska with Bishop Mary and Fr. Rodney Clark, following the girls' first communion service at Christ Church, Rawdon, May 04, 2025.

# Parish News

## Summer Organ Recitals Grace Church, Sutton

JOHN HOBLYN  
*Mr. John Hoblyn is a parishioner of Grace Church Sutton.*

For the fourth year Grace Anglican Church Sutton will present a series of organ recitals by students at the McGill Schulich Organ School who will demonstrate their skills on the Johannus Ecclesia digital organ. This is an opportunity to hear performances from outstanding young professional organists.

### June 7th

The first recital on June 7th will be given by Owen Spicer who is pursuing a Master's degree while serving as the Assistant Organist at Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa. He also accompanies ensembles in Ottawa and Montreal, such as the Caelis Ensemble and the Christ Church Cathedral choir.

### July 19th

Grace Church welcomes back Doctoral student Maria Gajraj on July 19th. Her research focus is on 20th century Caribbean organ repertoire.

She is currently the Music Director of St. Lawrence Anglican Church in Montreal. Maria is passionate about studying and programming works by historically underrepresented composers, such as composers of colour and women composers. She strives to break stereotypes, and to make the organ more accessible for everyone.

### September 13th

The last recital on September 13 will be given by Doctoral student Qing Xu who completed her bachelor's and master's degrees at the China Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing.

Ms Xu has performed the Chinese premiere of numerous works and has given recitals in several cities in China. As a specialist in late Romantic rep-



Mária Budáčová at Grace Church in 2024

ertoire, several of her articles on this topic have been published in Chinese academic journals.

### The organ

Grace Church's 1937 organ was typical in having a very limited specification and was designed only to accompany services. It had insufficient volume to fill the church, high maintenance costs and had to be heated in the winter.

In 2021 this organ was replaced by a Johannus Ecclesia digital organ that is maintenance free and guaranteed for 20 years with no winter heat needed. With two manuals and 26 stops, it offers versatility for

all abilities of players, so any organist can select appropriate settings, whether it be for accompanying hymns or a full-scale recital.

Grace Church's Ecclesia has proved to be powerful enough to fill every nook and cranny with rousing music and its congregations are singing more lustily than ever before!

### Please join us

Take note of the dates and come hear wonderful organ music in beautiful Grace Church. For information: John Hoblyn at 450 242 6839 or johnhoblyn1@gmail.com.

## Christ Church Rawdon is making a Joyful Noise!

RODNEY CLARK

*The Rev Rodney Clark is part-time Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church, Rawdon; Grace Church, Mascouche; and St-John-the-Baptist-in-the-Wilderness, Kilkenny.*

Funded almost 100% from donations from outside of the parish's regular donor base, Christ Church has kicked-off the project to install a custom-built state-of-the-art 22-stop French Baroque pipe organ.

We will remove the old organ in mid-June. This will allow for the repair of plaster and the upgrading of wiring in both organ lofts [one loft is above the sacristy – on the epistle side of the sanctuary; and another loft is above the choir room – on the gospel side

of the sanctuary].

The mother boards, each weighing about 550 lbs, will be installed in mid-August, and Yves Levesque, master organ builder, will install all 1276 pipes; will rebuild the console, will wire it with state-of-the-art mother boards; and have all completed for inaugural concerts Sept 26-27-28. Once completed, the value of the organ shall be greater than 700k. This will bring to more than \$1M the value of musical infrastructure for Christ Church accomplished since 2023; all to serve the cultural needs of the community and region.

We will publish information on inaugural concerts on e-news for the diocese of Montréal.



The organ motherboards will be installed in mid-August.

## CCB and All Saints Holy Week Youth Retreat April 17-18, 2025



Volunteer Marie-Claude Martz helping youth bake hot cross buns at the the Holy Week Youth Retreat. Photo by Serena Caplette.



Good Friday family breakfast at CCB; with hot cross buns made the previous evening by the youth doing the overnight vigil at All Saints by the Lake. Photo by Rev. Peter Lexk.

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

Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to live among us and bear our pain. Through him, you worked healing miracles that transformed people's lives. Be amongst us now in our time and place, we beseech you and heal us too.

God of healing graces, we give thanks that we live in a country that values Medicare for all. We praise you for bringing to fruition this important institution. Through it, most Canadians have easy access to medical professionals and multiple treatment options. We pray that those living in isolated areas across the nation will be granted this privilege as well.

God of wisdom, we pray that you guide our government officials, both federal and provincial, to look at the evolving crisis in our health care system with fresh eyes and an innovative spirit. The current situation serves no one. Our health care professionals are tired and frustrated at the lack of resources, the aging population is



straining the current infrastructure, and the administrative bureaucracy is preventing real change. We pray for radical yet thoughtful transformation where all members of society receive the healing they deserve in a timely and stress-free manner. God of restorative graces, we pray that you will uphold and

strengthen all medical professionals. We give thanks for these individuals who devote their careers to healing the sick and caring for their needs. Instill in our youth the desire to continue to enter this important field and become sympathetic health care practitioners.

God of compassion, we pray that you continue to bring kindness and empathy to all who are caring for loved ones in this stressful environment. Difficulties booking appointments, getting to medical offices and the curtness of front line staff is taking a toll on morale. Help your church find ways to assist these caregivers and ease their burdens. Bring your loving strength to those who are living without an advocate or caregiver. The healing process is a difficult path to travel alone.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale

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

Peter Denis, 1940 - 2025

EDITOR'S NOTE: I was saddened to hear of the passing of Peter Denis, a long-time member of the Anglican Montreal Board of Management. Peter helped proofread this paper for years; always with a love of the written word, keen willingness to help and mischevious sense of humour. My condolences to his love ones.

DENIS, Peter A. - Died March 7, 2025 in Montreal at age 85. Son of the late Frank Denis and Elizabeth Kennedy. Beloved husband of Loy Mackie for 59 years. Father of Richard (Deirdre) of Toronto, Frank (Christine) of Halifax, and Bruce (Vicki) of Terrace, BC. Big Dad to Lauren, Evan, Adrienne, Richard, Cameron, and Camilla. Brother of John Denis (Paule) of Ottawa. Peter's life was celebrated at St. Matthias' Church, 131 Cote St. Antoine Road, Westmount on Saturday, March 29th. Donations may be made to St. Matthias' Memorial Fund or Fondation de Centraide du Grand Montreal.

Bible Story Walk *cont. from page 6*

helped shape the visual narrative of this year's walk, adding colour, dimension, imagination and authenticity.

A highlight of this process was the Diocesan Family Workshop, where participants explored The Lord's Prayer through a variety of artistic mediums, including pastel, watercolour, collage, charcoal, and ink. (for pictures, see page 5) These creative responses enriched the project and deepened our shared understanding

of the text. We are delighted to announce that the new Bible Story Walk will be in circulation from June through October, beginning with a launch event at St. James the Apostle (19 Maple, Stanbridge East). We warmly invite you to come, experience the story and share your thoughts. Your feedback helps us continue growing this ministry of presence, creativity, and community.

Notables

**All Saints Buffet Breakfast**  
Saturday, June 7th 10am  
Church Hall 248 18th Ave,  
Deux-Montagnes  
[pilkington@sympatico.ca](mailto:pilkington@sympatico.ca)  
Good will offering

**Annual Plant Sale & Vendor's Market**  
June 14th from 9:30 - 1:30  
St. Paul's, 321 Empire, Greenfield Park  
Gloria Kidd - 450 678 2460  
Email [gkidd71@yahoo.com](mailto:gkidd71@yahoo.com).

**Strawberry Social**  
Saturday July 5 at 2pm  
All Saints Hall 248 18e ave.,  
Deux-Montagnes  
Billets requis à l'avance Kathleen Leeming 450-472-3065 or [pilkington@sympatico.ca](mailto:pilkington@sympatico.ca)

**SUPPER CLUB SPAGHETTI NIGHT**

**June 19th 5:30 PM**

**A free, plant-based community event for all!**

Anglican Diocese of Montreal 1444 Union

RSVP 514 953-4060

Let's gather to share a simple meal! Thursday, June 19th 5:30pm  
"Give us today our daily bread." Matthew 6:11

Please join us for a simple evening of community, conversation and food in Fulford Hall, 1444 Union Avenue, on the 2nd Floor. Please confirm by June 17. No previous Supper Club experience needed—just come hungry and open to connecting. Everyone welcome!

ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Say Yes! to Kids

**Mile-End Mission**

Quebec Lodge Nature Mission

Mile-End Mission – A Nature Mission: Raising funds to send children from the Mile-End community to Quebec Lodge Outdoor Centre, giving them a life-changing opportunity to experience nature, community, and growth. [www.anglicanfoundation.org/sytkdonate/](http://www.anglicanfoundation.org/sytkdonate/)

Notables

**CHURCH GARAGE SALE**

**Church Garage Sale**  
July 5 from 9:30 - 1:30  
St. Paul's, 321 Empire, Greenfield Park  
Table rentals available, \$30 each  
Table reservations until June 15.  
BBQ - Hamburgers, hotdogs  
Gloria Kidd - 450 678 2460  
Email [gkidd71@yahoo.com](mailto:gkidd71@yahoo.com).



**Day Camp**  
August 4-8, 10am - 3pm  
All Saints Church  
248 18 Ave,  
Deux-Montagnes  
Bible stories, games, crafts and more for children aged 4 -12  
For information contact Jeff Alexander at 450-473-6415 or [jeff.alexander@sympatico.ca](mailto:jeff.alexander@sympatico.ca)