



THE ARCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA CATHOLIC HERALD



VOLUME 19 NUMBER 2

WINTER 2016

Anglican Bishop Drainville & Catholic Archbishop Bolen, "sent out" for United Mission



Anglican Diocese of Quebec news release by Gavin Drake

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Pope Francis have commissioned 19 pairs of Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops from across the world to take part in united mission in their local areas. The bishops, selected by the International Anglican Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission (Iarccum) were "sent out" for mission together by the Pope and Archbishop from the same church were Pope Gregory sent Saint Augustine to evangelise the English in the sixth Century. The two Bishops commissioned for Canada are Catholic: Archbishop of Regina, Donald Bolen and the Anglican Bishop of Quebec, Dennis Drainville

"Fourteen centuries ago Pope Gregory sent the servant of God, Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, and his companions, from this holy place, to preach the joyful message of the Word of God," Pope Francis told the bishops. "Today we send you, dear brothers, servants of God, with this same joyful message of his everlasting kingdom."

Archbishop Justin Welby told them: "Our Saviour commissioned his disciples saying, 'Peace be with you'. We too, send you out with his peace, a peace only he can give.

The commissioning and sending out came in the setting of a Vespers service, led jointly by Pope Francis and Archbishop Welby, at the Church of Saint Gregory on the Caelian Hill in Rome.

The service was one of the highlights of an ecumenical summit organised by Iarccum to mark the 50th anniversary of the meeting between Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Michael Ramsey in 1966 – the first such public meeting between a Pope and an Archbishop of Canterbury since the Reformation.

St. John Paul II Statue Unveiled



A statue of St. John Paul II was unveiled at an October 22 special Mass and ceremony at St. Anthony's Church. Fittingly, the statue was unveiled on the Saint's feast day which is also the day he was elected Bishop of Rome and, St. Anthony's Church was established for and still ministers to the city's Polish community.

The former Karol Jozef Wojtyla was born and raised in Poland and became the first non-Italian Pope since the Dutch Adrian VI who served from 1522-23.

The statue was commissioned by the Marytan Foundation, a private family foundation established in

2007. Alex Banga, a parishioner of St. Anthony's, on behalf of the Foundation approached St. Anthony's Parish Council in September 2015 and proposed the Foundation's offer to commission a statue of St. John Paul II. "The Foundation wanted to give praise to one of the great saints of our time," said Banga in his opening remarks prior to the unveiling. Banga spoke of St. John Paul's accomplishments as Pope noting particularly his role in eventually ending communist rule in his homeland and in Europe. He was also the most travelled Pope in history with 104 foreign trips.

Winnipeg Archbishop Emeritus James Weisgerber in his homily mentioned that it was Pope John Paul II who appointed him bishop. "He had a very difficult life living under the communist regime," said the Archbishop. He along with other Polish bishops played a role in Vatican II. The ceremony was followed by a reception and banquet in the Church hall with Regina Archbishop Donald Bolen speaking about St. John Paul II's life.

The statue was produced by Ferdinand Stuflesser, Val Gardena Valley, Italy. Banga would only say the Foundation paid for it and would not reveal the cost. Banga and his wife Mary unveiled the statue which was then blessed by Weisgerber. The pedestal was crafted by Krzysztof Boleska a St. Anthony's parishioner.

The Marytan Foundation, according to a description in the ceremony's program, is based on the values of respect, dignity and compassion with support for the poor, marginalized and disadvantaged. It also supports religious and charitable organizations that share those common values.

Campion Alumni of Distinction



Dr. John Meehan SJ President of Campion College, Dr. Katherine Owens, Senator Denise Batters, Sandi Ellert Day Cahir, Board of Regents, Campion College.

Senator Denise Batters (BA '91) and Dr. Katherine Owens (BA Hons '98) are the recipients of the 2016 Campion College Alumni of Distinction awards.

Celebrating a Jesuit higher education that aims to graduate leaders of service, the Alumni of Distinction Awards are presented to Campion alumni and former students who demonstrate the Jesuit values and mission of the College in their professional and personal actions. Campion College is pleased to present this year's Alumni of Distinction Awards to two individuals who exhibit the Jesuit value of Men and Women for Others in both their professional and personal lives.

A lifelong resident of Saskatchewan, Senator Denise Batters holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Campion College at the University of Regina, and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Saskatchewan. She was admitted to the Saskatchewan Bar in 1995 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 2008. She began her career in private practice before taking on the role of Chief of Staff to Saskatchewan's Minister of Justice in 2007. Appointed to the Senate in January 2013,

Ms. Batters took the opportunity for leadership in service of others. As a member of the Canadian Senate, she works hard to ensure that Canadian laws are fair and just, and takes into account the needs of marginalized groups, such as those suffering from mental illness. Beyond her profession, Senator Batters is a passionate spokesperson for mental health awareness and suicide prevention, and raises her voice to bring awareness to this cause whenever possible. In recognition of her work in this area, Ms. Batters received the 2015 Champion of Mental Health – in the Parliamentarian category, from The Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health.

Dr. Katherine Owens holds Bachelor of Arts honours from Campion College at the University of Regina, and Master's and Doctorate degrees in Clinical Psychology from the University of Regina. She is a Senior Psychologist and the Director of Clinical Psychology Training with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Chief Psychologist at the Mental Health Clinic, serves as an Adjunct Professor for the University of Regina and Clinical Lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan, and provides assessment and treatment through her private practice at CBI Physical Rehabilitation. Alongside her professional career, Dr. Owens gives of her time and talents to local and international communities, and was the first psychologist to the Canadian-based, volunteer organization Humanity First, which provides support to regions in the world where humanity struggles for the basic necessities of life.

A federated college at the University of Regina, Campion College is the only Jesuit undergraduate college in Canada. It provides a liberal arts education dedicated to the development of the whole person—intellectually, spiritually, socially—for service within society. Approximately 700 students at the University of Regina are enrolled through Campion College in the faculties of Arts, Science, and Media, Art, and Performance.

MARIAN CENTRE CELEBRATES 50YEARS IN REGINA

Mary Beth Mitchell and Beverley Maciag regaled reception attendees with stories of what it was like when the Marian Centre first came to Regina 50 years ago October 15. celebration began with Mass at the Cathedral presided over by Archbishop Donald Bolen, a homily by Winnipeg Emeritus Archbishop James Weisgerber followed by an afternoon reception at the Marian Centre.

"It was a lot of work to get open," said Mitchell who told most of the stories. "Fifteen broken panes of glass, we had to lay new floor tiles but we couldn't have done it without the help of really wonderful volunteers. I am just filled with glorious joy at the number of volunteers and the way the Marian Centre has been kept up." Maciag said. "These people have been volunteering forever, years and years and years and it's like their house, so beautiful with their generosity."

Jack Scoeber is one of the original volunteers. "I love this place. I love the people. I feel good here. I Like to serve and I feel good about the way the people are treated when they come here."

The Madonna House Apostolate began in 1947 at



Combermere, Ontario by Catherine Doherty and her husband, Eddie, but its roots go back to Friendship House which Doherty in 1934 started in Toronto and expanded to New York, Chicago and other centres before moving to Combermere. From Friendship House to Madonna House the focus was always on clothing and feeding the poor. It eventually became a lay apostolate with its adherents committing themselves to God as celibate men and women. It now claims, according to its web site, a membership of about 200, men, women, priests around the world, with an additional 100 associate priests, bishops and deacons who serve in their home parishes.

SISTERS SERVANTS OF MARY IMMACULATE CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

One hundred years ago the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate began teaching music and religion in Yorkton and before long they branched out to Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert Schools.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Mary and the Latin rite church, St. Gerard shared the celebration ceremonies. St. Mary held the banquet and tribute speeches were held at St. Gerard.

"It was a wonderful celebration," said St. Mary parish priest Reverend Bohdan Lukie. "About 200 came including some from Toronto. Bishop Bryan Bayda and retired Bishop Michael Wiwchar and nine priests from around Saskatchewan."

The sisters actually arrived in Yorkton in 1915 but it wasn't until the following year that they moved into their new convent and began teaching.

Sacred Heart School in 1966, had 200 girls, sister Bohdana was the Principal and everyone else were Sisters. Leo Misko and Nick Greshuk became the first lay teachers.

Misko reminisced as he paid tribute to the Sisters in a banquet speech. "This was a very successful school run entirely by women because it was 1967," he said parodying Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's 'because it's 2015.' Misko spoke about the difficulties they encountered with no income and no government grants but they didn't beg. "I mean they used their social skills, on doorsteps, over garden fences, bazaars and visits to family homes to collect funds," said Misko. "They had an aura of respect and trust which inspired people to give willingly and generously."

Several additions were added to the original structure in 1916 and it became a modern school with all the amenities even including a swimming pool all paid for by the Sisters, said Misko. The Catholic School Board eventually took responsibility for the maintenance and daily operation. The school was abandoned when the school board moved into new facilities in 2003 and the Sisters had to decide what do with the building. Praying to their foundress Blessed Josaphata Hordashevskaya, Integrated Life Care came calling and the school was renovated, restored and expanded. The Sacred Heart Assisted Living Facility was officially opened October 21, 2008.

Besides education the Sisters contributed to the daily lives of the people of Yorkton, Misko reminded his audience that they cared for the sick, the elderly, the dying and cared for orphaned and deprived children especially during the 1918 flu epidemic. They also helped Ukrainian immigrants adjust to their new Canadian home.



Thinking Faith

Is a new audio podcast on the Archdiocese Website

Eric Gurash and Dr. Brett Salkeld discuss topics of concern to today's Catholics. Just click on the **Catholic Life** icon on the front page or go to:
<http://archregina.sk.ca/thinkingfaith>

Myriam Sisters Celebrate Year of Mercy

With song and words, Sisters of the Myriam Family of the Prairies and Holy Rosary parishioners took part in a Year of Mercy celebration held at the cathedral. "The Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis last year ends November 20 and we thought it would be good to celebrate God's mercy," said Sister Melanie Guillotte who led the celebration.

It began with Very Reverend Lorne Crozon, Rector of the Cathedral, in a short homily, talking about what the Year of Mercy meant and its effect on everyone. "We are called to be mindful that God's mercy is that which surrounds us as well, that helps us to recognize the depth of God's grace for us, the depth of God's love for us and the constant call to share that love and the constant call to share that gift of God's grace and goodness with those he has placed around us."

Pope Francis opened the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica December 8, 2015, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception for a Jubilee Year and asked churches around the world to open their holy doors of mercy. Holy Rosary Cathedral designated the doors of the main entrance as Doors of Mercy with a sign Enter the Doors of Mercy above the doors topped with an array of wreaths.

Catholic teaching proclaims that anyone walking through Holy Doors, accompanied by prayer and repentance, in a Jubilee Year results in a remission of sins. Participants in the November 9th ceremony took part in an adoration of the Blessed Sacrament provided by Reverend Mau Nguyen, Holy Rosary's Associate Priest. That was followed by song and prayer and the opportunity to go to confession offered by Reverend Mau and Reverend Norman Marcotte. With that done participants walked through the Holy Doors carrying large parcels, "representing their burdens," which they left on the floor inside the church after walking through the doors, representing their relief at getting rid of the burdens.

The Myriam Sisters invited everyone to join them after the service at their residence.



Photo is Leo Misko giving his speech.

Photo courtesy of Chad Holinaty.

CHAS Loses Government Grant

The Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS) is another casualty of the provincial government's revenue problems; it's \$85,000.00 grant will not be paid this year. "That's about a third of budget," said outgoing President Theresa Jelinski as she addressed CHAS' October 20, annual meeting held in Moose Jaw.

The group received the news October 3, three months after the beginning of its new fiscal year. "We will have to be creative to replace that funding," said incoming President Chris Donald in an interview with the PM. CHAS Executive Director Sandra Kary said the organization will approach the government and request at least the first quarter payment be restored. "We feel that money is still owed to us in all fairness." Kary said the options are to increase revenue or cut costs. "We may have to do a bit of both," said Kary. She noted the conference theme is Hope Floats, "so we're quite hopeful

that we're going to find a way forward." The newly acclaimed board met later in the afternoon and immediately began to address how to handle the shortfall. "We're looking to asking Catholics to help us find a way," said Donald. Funding is just one of the challenges CHAS will be dealing with this year. There's also the assisted suicide legislation and the continuing issue of abortion.

"There's going to be pressure on Catholic institutions to be required to perform physician assisted suicide; there's going to be increased pressure on doctors to perform it even though it's against their conscience and CHAS has been a voice with respect to those issues and we need to continue to be that voice." Donald believes Emmanuel Care, which, through the bishops of Saskatchewan owns Saskatchewan Catholic Health facilities, will not permit physician assisted suicide in its institutions but he believes a Catholic solution will be found. "I think there

are people of good will out there who understand our position and we can work together to find a way around it."

The conference also heard from three keynote speakers and one billed as an inspirational speaker. (see separate story...)

Donald, a Saskatoon lawyer, was acclaimed as the 2016/17 President of CHAS. All board members were acclaimed: Mary Deutscher, PhD is a Clinical Ethics Fellow, Centre for Clinical Ethics, Toronto and also serves on several Saskatoon Diocese committees; Lesley Larrea is President of the Prince Albert Kiwanis Musical Festival Association, an RN and a Certified Health Executive; Ethna Martin is a Saskatoon RN and a member of the Canadian Association for Parish Nursing Ministry; Terrie Michaud is an RN and currently an administrator at North Battleford's long term care facility Villa Pascal. Past President Theresa Jelinski will also serve on the board.

SANTA MARIA CELEBRATES THE END OF AND BEGINNING

It took 18 months and about \$180,000.00 and Santa Maria Senior Citizen Home's oldest section is now more modern with new furniture and new windows. The windows are not only new and venting they are lower so residents can see outside while in bed or sitting in chairs. A reception was held in the home's main floor entrance and gathering area September 14 to celebrate the end of the project.

Santa Maria was built in 1968 by the Regina Archdiocese with sponsorship from the Knights of Columbus. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Pembroke operated the facility until 1985. They continued to live in residence and provided pastoral care services until 1998. The Sisters of Our Lady of Missions moved into the residence



following the departure of the Sisters of St. Joseph and continue to help with pastoral services.

Of the \$180,000.00, \$120,000.00 was raised with the help of the Santa Maria Foundation with Chair Jean Mahoney. The remaining \$60,000.00 came through regular donations. The Foundation has begun another fund raising project with a goal to secure about \$400,000.00 for a major renovation which will transform Santa Maria from what is now a hospital

layout to more of a residence. "It will modernize it to create a more residential feel," said Executive Director John Kelly.

There are 147 beds in Santa Maria, all are occupied and there is a lengthy waiting list. The old section which was renovated contains 90 beds. Besides quality care, it retains its Catholicity with a chapel that provides regular services. Ownership was transferred to the Catholic Health Ministries of Saskatchewan (now known as Emmanuel Care), November 19, 2012. It operates under the governance of a Board of Directors with current Chair Joan Pratchler. Santa Maria is affiliated with and receives its operating funding from the Regina Qu'Appelle Health region.

Public Rosary Rally in Regina

Two groups publicly said the Rosary, October 15; one group in front of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly at the south end of the flower garden across the road and the other prayed in front of Holy Rosary Cathedral. The Public Rosary Rallies were initiated by a relatively new organization called The Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization. It was established as a non-profit on June 25, 2013 to advance religion by the promotion of the religious teachings, tenets, doctrines, morals, and observances of the Roman Catholic faith and their application to individuals, families, and society in Christian culture and civilization. The public square rosary campaign is called Canada Needs Our Lady, according to the group's web page. Rallies were held by 337 groups across Canada, all praying for Canada and the world.

Sharon Martorana organized the group praying in front of the cathedral and Jessica Hernando's group was in front of the legislative building. "There are many reasons to pray in public," said



Martorana in an interview with the PM. "It is really important to honour Our Lady and pray for Canada. It is an opportunity for the public to see us," she said.

Hernando said the exposure helps Regina to Pray. "I think the Rosary is a powerful prayer." Hernando said several people approached her group and asked for a rosary. "They were probably Catholic but not going to church." She believes some of the people who asked for rosaries may have

attended the October 14 installation of Donald Bolen as Archbishop of Regina.

Both groups had about 30 people take part in praying the rosary which, according to Hernando, her group was about double the number who participated in 2015, the first year it was held.

The rallies are held on the Saturday closest to October 13th, which this year is the 99th anniversary of Our Lady's appearances at Fatima, said Martorana.

Archbishop Bolen's Preparation for the Comino



It took about a year of preparation for Archbishop Donald Bolen to prepare for his 875 Kilometer 39-day trek of the Camino de Santiago Campostela Pilgrimage route. It started about a year ago with a visit to a physiotherapist to get his bad knees into shape, said the Archbishop in an interview with the PM.

He wrote an almost poetic description of his travels along the route in the PM's October 5 special edition but it didn't include a description of what it takes to prepare for such a journey.

He began walking when his knees were strong enough. "When the weather turned nice in the spring, I started walking and then I got the knapsack out, started putting five pounds in the knapsack then 10 pounds in the knapsack and eventually before leaving for the Camino I was walking with 15 pounds in the knapsack about 15 kilometers, three times a week, but it's still a far cry from 20 pounds in the knapsack walking 20-25 kilometers a day with no days for a break, or very few." It carried rain gear, a change of clothes, water, snacks and a computer. He was between postings from Saskatoon to Regina and had to work three to four hours a day to keep up with what was happening at home. They walked an average of five to seven hours a day beginning before day-break when it was hot and reached their destination around noon or early afternoon.

The trip was in two stages; in the first 250-300 kilometers, they looked for accommodations, usually a bed and breakfast type but accommodations

had been arranged for the remainder of the trip when his sister Judy and her husband joined up.

As with most people, he said, the first couple of weeks on the Camino had some real rough moments. There were at least three occasions when they arrived at their day's destination that he told his group he had to take the next day off. "But you take the evening off, you have a good rest and the next morning every time I thought 'Ok I'll give it a try' and that's what we did and eventually of course you get really strong."

There is a bigger challenge after you return from such a wonderful experience, said Bolen. "You get back and you return to a busy life and it's how do you keep any of that up and so already in the last three weeks I've lost most of what I'd gained in terms of conditioning." He doesn't follow a conditioning regime but he does have an exercise bike and a treadmill that he hasn't yet set them up in his home. He does go for walks, his favourite activity, but not so much in winter.

Catholic School Delegates Learn of Impact of Truth and Reconciliation

Delegates to the Saskatchewan Catholic School Board Association's (SCSBA) annual conference and AGM spent the November 4-6 weekend learning more about the impact of residential schools on First Nations people, their children and grandchildren.

The conference theme, Healing Through the Living Gospel: Truth and Reconciliation in Catholic Education featured speakers and a panel who spoke about hurt and the road to reconciliation.

Eugene Arcand was a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Residential School Survivor Committee. He spoke about the 94 TRC recommendations but spent more time describing his experience in Residential Schools. He said he learned animal instincts when he was in school. "I was a party animal; I loved to fight; I was a bad parent but I have a good wife. I tried to forget with drugs and alcohol," all behaviours learned in school. Things have improved somewhat, said Arcand, but he sees bad behaviour among young people in Indigenous communities, "because they don't know who they are." Reconciliation has no boundaries, said Arcand. "We've never done this before and we don't know how to do it."

Shane Henry and CeCe Baptiste, second and third generation descendants of parents and grandparents who attended residential schools, described their own experience of taunts and abuse they experienced in school. Henry, a research/writer for the Saskatoon Tribal Council said he has a complicated relationship with the Catholic Church. "It is not compatible with my Indigenous identity." Reconciliation may be a bridge too far for some, said Henry. "Give First Nations some latitude to come to a good place. Genuine love is the order of the day but conditions have to be right for that to happen."

Baptiste is a financial analyst with the University of Saskatchewan's Institutional Planning and Assessment Unit. She shared her experience as the only Aboriginal in her school and the abuse she experienced when she took Grades nine and 10 on her reserve. "I Had to take care of myself. I didn't belong in the city and was too white for the reserve."

George Lafond was Saskatchewan's first Indigenous Treaty Commissioner from 2012-2016. He said there are five steps to reconciliation: Spiritual, legal, economic, political and educational. "Indian kids need more to allow them to compete in the world," arguing that equality with non-Indigenous students is not enough.

Rethinking Youth Ministry



Seventy-five parishioners and priests gathered at Holy Rosary Cathedral to listen to Archdiocesan Youth Ministry Coordinators Michelle Braden and Braden Kuntz encouraging a rethink of youth ministry. Most parishes are worried about the lack of young people in their pews and

to get involved as long as they do things the way they have always been done. We can't ask them to participate and share their gifts and then criticize and second guess what they have done"



are searching for ideas that will help bring them back.

Groups gathered to discuss the impact parish life had in their past. We realized that in many cases social activities centered around the church especially in rural communities. If young rural people saw their friends after school, it was usually at Mass on Sunday or at church social functions. There weren't as many extracurricular rivals for the attention of our youth in the past. However, many young people today are starving all around us, searching for spiritual food to feed their souls.

Seven young people shared their faith stories with the group and as we listened, a common theme emerged. They were invited to join the youth group by others, they were noticed and listened to, they felt part of something bigger than themselves and they felt loved.

As we were encouraged to "Rethink Youth Ministry" we were asked why we wanted young people back in our churches. Michelle said, "is it because you are tired and want them

Some suggestions we heard were: Notice your young people, ask questions, get to know them and learn their names; move out of our comfort zones go where the young people are in our communities and on social media; find ways to serve, offer to teach someone to bake bread or build something; draw out their gifts, ask them to serve; resist blaming the parents, the schools, or the parish; choose your battles; if we are constantly criticizing the little things like chewing gum or hats, will they come to us for guidance when they are facing a major problem; and of course... pray, pray, pray.

Workshop participants received handouts with action suggestions with things we can do and copies of the document, "YOU Give Them Something to Eat prepared by THE Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops,

a link to which is available on the Youth page of the Archdiocesan website.



Young people are not the church of tomorrow, they are the church of today and together we can give them something to eat.

St Theresa's School Welcomes Archbishop Bolen



On December 9th St Theresa's School students and staff welcomed our new Archbishop Donald Bolen. Sister Anna had spent time with the Grade two children talking about Bishop Don. This is the time that they are invited to receive Confirmation and Communion. At our welcome, the children marched in wearing the paper mitres that they made for the occasion and singing a joyous song. The Archbishop spoke for a few minutes about his life and after a song, blessings and gifts we concluded our special time with Bishop Don by making him an honorary member of our school, singing: Feliz Navidad, and thanking him with a special blessing.

Miller High School Hosts First Ever Cooking Competition

They all looked like professionals competing. Eight teams of four each from four Regina Catholic High Schools at Miller High School to cook up a beef dessert working against a 90 minute competition began to 1:30 p.m. savoury enticing some additional spectators from

The idea for the cooking skills a teacher/librarian at Riffel Catholic High observed in Saskatoon. "I just thought it do something like it at Regina Catholic." recruited Richard Donnelly, the Division's who approached several of his contacts Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association using Saskatchewan beef for four years. said Ryder Lee, CEO of the Cattleman's beef of tomorrow are here in school, whether it's at home with their family or in restaurants."

Chef Martin Turcotte, teaches cooking at Miller high school. He said students had to use ground beef in their appetizer and a strip loin for their main course. Dessert was whatever they wanted. Chefs from four of Regina's top restaurants as well as one from the commercial cooking course at Saskatchewan Polytechnique at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan each judged a team in their kitchen skills including organization and teamwork. The O'Neil High School team won first and a \$500.00 cheque with two teams from Miller High School taking second and third place and cheques of \$300 and \$200.



engaged in serious cooking from Grades 10, 11 and 12 students used the commercial cooking facilities dinner complete with appetizers and time constraint. From 9 a.m. when the scents wafted throughout the school a basketball game going on in the gym.

competition came from Joanne Beach School from a similar competition she was such a good idea that we should And she began organizing and business partnerships consultant as sponsors. Beach contacted the who agreed to sponsor the competition "It sounded good right off the bat," Association. "The people preparing the

Child's Baptism Brought His Parents Back to Church

By Fr. Mau Nguyen, Regina

"Woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel!" (1Cor. 9:16).

These words of St. Paul urge us as Christians who have a duty to bring the Word of God to others because Evangelization is the nature of the Church.

While visiting the classrooms, I meet many students whose parents are non-practicing Catholics and teachers who are not passionate about God. Therefore, these students are missing out on the experience of God's love, and are losing the opportunity to know God's love. Also, they may not realize what they are missing because their short-term needs are being filled by the distractions of materialism, the age of fast living and instant self-gratification.

While visiting patients at the hospital, I see some among the weak and the sick who are yearning for God's love but do not know how to approach God. They have been away from the practice of the faith and feel distant from God. Besides, many patients are hesitant to receive the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick because they think it will be their last rite.

When working in the parish, I see that there are many parishioners enrolled in the parish, but very few people attend Sunday Liturgy. Some Catholics go to Mass as a thing they have to do, instead of being in communion with their brothers and sisters who are experiencing God's immense love.

I was born in a country with 117 Martyr Saints, plus Blessed Andrew Phu Yen, in Vietnam.

Most of them are missionaries from Europe. They heroically sacrificed their lives and sowed the seeds of faith for us. We are proud of them because by their witness, we have strong faith. Through their examples, I became a missionary here in Canada.

Since my Ordination to the Priesthood on June 28, 2013, my experience in pastoral ministry reveals to me the daunting task of evangelizing God's People at all age levels. I want to bring the Good News to those who do not know God, and I also want to

re-evangelize those who have turned away from God. By re-evangelization, the Holy Spirit can work in their lives and awaken them to recognize God's love and turn back to him. God is waiting for them with opened hands just as the Father waited with lavish love for the return of his prodigal son.

In order to become a good missionary here, in North America, I need to study and explore what caused people to drift away from God and how to bring them back into God's love. I want to explore ways to ignite people to be excited about God's tender and loving mercy, so that they will evangelize within their circle of friends and families.

Who can be an evangelist, and evangelize for whom?

As members of the Church, every Christian has the duty to evangelize others.

However, a child who is not baptized can also re-evangelize his parents through his desire to be baptized.

One day in 2012, when I was a deacon, a Catholic teacher had invited me to come to her grade two and three class and talk to her students about the sacrament of Baptism. The students asked me a lot of questions about faith. Then a boy asked me how he could be baptized. I told him first to see me at church; after that I would help him. He said that there was no one to take him to church, so I asked him whether his parents were baptized. He answered, "Yes." I told him to urge his parents to bring him to church. While attending mass, he had a feeling for what was going on, so, the next Sunday, he took his sister to church. A year later, the two of them were baptized. Notably, this boy has not only evangelized his sister, he has also brought his parents back to Church and to God's love. It is so joyful to see that they are now a very faithful family filled with God's love, and this happened through the actions of a child.

The story really motivated me to help students in Catholic schools. There

are about 11,000 students in Catholic schools in Regina, and while some are active in the Church, and some are not Catholics, there are many nominal Catholics who have not really heard the Gospel. The question remains, "How many of the parents and teachers who are Catholics are actually practicing their faith?" What do students feel when their Catholic teachers tell them to go to confession while teachers themselves do not receive this sacrament? How can Christians evangelize others while they themselves are weak in the practice of their faith?

I see many Catholics away from the love of God, and many students are not concerned about receiving the sacraments.

I think that many Catholic teachers find it a challenge to fully live out their mission to model a strong living faith for their students. The world is changing, but God's love does not change. I ask myself, what is it that is taking people away from God's love and from the Church? Is it caused by self-reliance, materialism, consumerism, instant gratification, information overload, misinformation, Satan?

Moreover, many teachers today fear teaching Christian Ethics because they haven't had an experience of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in their life. If they don't know Jesus, how can they share Jesus with those entrusted in their care? And, I suppose, busy parents, students and children live active lives with sports, dance and exercise programs that fill their after-school hours. This is a mammoth program indeed.

The world, through the media and the ever-increasing influence of the Internet, is spending a lot of time and effort trying to convince us to seek instant gratification, to consume, and to be self-reliant. We are so overloaded with information that we do not have time for God. In fact, we are being convinced that we do not need God. The pressure to be consumers also

Campion College's New Entrance

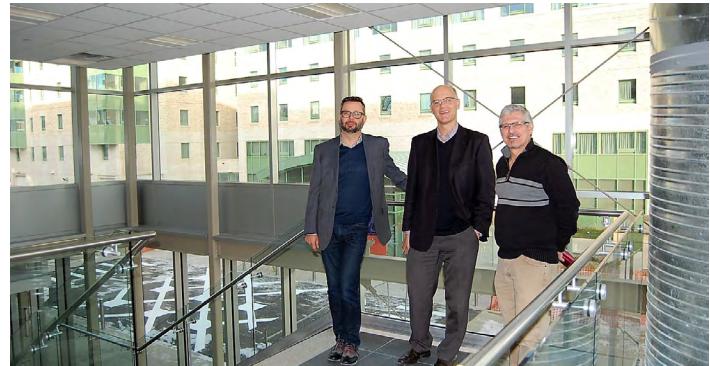
Campion College officially kicked off the start of year-long 100th anniversary celebrations with the opening of new and enhanced spaces designed to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities throughout the college building.

"We are very excited to mark the launch of our 100th anniversary year with the opening of the new entryway and elevator. As a Jesuit college, we are committed to creating a barrier-free environment for all and the completion of this project brings us much closer to that goal," says Dr. John Meehan, SJ, president, Campion College.

The project allowed the college to address many of the deferred maintenance needs of its 50-year-old building, and to better meet the demands placed on college programs and services by a growing university campus. The project includes the replacement and relocation of its elevator, the addition of spacious entryways at each floor, direct access into the college building, improvements to fire/life safety throughout, and the creation of an underground pedestrian corridor and service tunnel that connects Campion College to the University of Regina Kīšik residence tower.

"The underground pedestrian corridor is an example of the strong partnership and collaboration between the University of Regina and its federated colleges. Thanks to joint efforts of our two institutions, we were able to make even greater improvements to accessibility on campus than originally imagined," says James Gustafson, executive director, Campion College.

The project is funded in part by contributions to previous annual campaigns, as well as a donation from the Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus, Regina Councils, that allowed for the purchase of a wheelchair lift at the entrance of the underground pedestrian corridor. The Ministry of Advanced Education provided assistance through the Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Fund, which enabled the college



to move ahead with and complete the project.

"Our Government understands the importance of eliminating barriers and creating accessible communities where everyone can succeed," Advanced Education Minister Bronwyn Eyre said. "This project is one example of how we are making life better for Saskatchewan people who live with disabilities."

More information on the Building Enhancement Project can be found here: <http://campioncollege.ca/about-us/building-enhancement-project>

Campion College was founded in 1917 as the Catholic College of Regina. The college originally began as a secondary school, and later offered undergraduate Arts courses as a junior college of the University of Saskatchewan. In 1965, Campion College became a federated college of the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, which is now the University of Regina. With the closure of the high school on 23rd Avenue in 1975, Campion College became solely an undergraduate college at the University of Regina. Campion is the only Jesuit undergraduate college in Canada, and a center of educational excellence offering academic programs and services in partnership with the University of Regina, Luther College, and First Nations University of Canada.

Child's Baptism Brought His Parents Back to Church...cont'd

takes precious time from the family and the community. At the end, these things are keeping people from God.

Even though people are being kept away from God, I do see people who are yearning for His love. People in the family I mentioned, people in the parish, and people who I visit in hospitals; some of the people I visit in the hospital want to receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, so that God can heal them both physically and spiritually. I am encouraged when I see people who have been away from God wanting to return to God through the sacrament.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has called last year, a Year of Mercy for Catholics to open the doors of their hearts and to welcome people back to the Church. I think that parish priests and Catholic teachers need to work together to connect their mission. How do we encourage parents and teaching staff to put into practice their living faith?

I want to do something to help them, but I am only a cog

in this fast moving world, and I also have lots to learn. So, I need to have many collaborators in evangelization. We can start small - planting the seed with small faith groups at school within the teaching staff and hopefully including a parent or two. We need to encourage one another - keeping positive, gentle and loving.

I trust in the help of the Holy Spirit, and I believe that God is in charge of evangelization. I hope that we will bring more people to experience God's love. God knows our needs much more than we can imagine.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16)

Yes, Lord! You told us what we are to do. You told us to teach all nations, baptizing them and working with you to build up the reign of God on earth. However, I find it difficult to bring people to you. Please help me, Lord. With you, O Lord, I believe that all things are possible.

What did the Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories Just Say About Funerals and Assisted Suicide?

By Dr. Brett Salkeld, Archdiocese of Regina Theologian

I have recently received several communications expressing concern about the supposed decision of the Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories to deny funerals to anyone who has died by assisted suicide. The decision is often portrayed as cold and heartless and even as a pastoral abandonment of a suffering family at a very difficult time. Many people express deep hurt and anger over this decision.

After hearing people's concerns, my first question is, "Have you read the document, or just the media reports?"

Fellow Catholics, if you learn anything from this episode, let it be this: whenever the media reports something about the church that makes you confused or frustrated, check the sources.

While some media outlets have been more careful than others, it is certainly fair to say that the impression most Canadians have is that the bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories have pronounced that no one who has died by assisted suicide will be permitted a Catholic funeral.

This is simply untrue.

The issue is further complicated by the fact that some reporters contacted bishops' offices in Quebec and heard that those bishops would not deny Catholic funerals to those who die by assisted suicide. There is little that is more enticing than a dispute between Catholic bishops on a contentious and sensitive topic. The problem is that the dispute is a false one because the bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories did not say what everyone is assuming they said.

So, what did they say?

In a substantial document dealing with many issues of pastoral care and sacramental ministry surrounding assisted suicide, the bishops include an important section on "The Celebration of Christian Funerals." In it they note that the church does celebrate funerals in cases of suicide and that burying the dead is one of the corporal works of mercy. They also note that assisted suicide is unique because, in some cases, the disposition of the deceased towards church teaching is sometimes known and public.



In light of this, the bishops mention two possible cases where Catholic funerals may be impossible. The first is that of a high profile case where the person's opposition to Church teaching is manifest. Even here the bishops do not say that a person must be denied a funeral, but rather, "In such cases, it may not be possible to celebrate a Christian funeral." And they go on to note that, "If the church were to refuse a funeral to someone, it is not to punish the person, but to recognize his or her decision."

As the bishops had noted earlier, the church does not offer funeral rites to those "who have defected seriously from the faith, "because the church is "respectful of the conscience and decisions of those who have died."

The second case that the bishops consider is when "family or friends . . . wish the funeral rites to be an occasion to celebrate the decision of their loved one to die by assisted suicide or euthanasia and thus to promote these practices as acceptable." On this the bishops' language is more definite: "Such a request for funeral rites must be gently but firmly denied."

The underlying concern in both cases is that of public scandal. That is, the Church cannot be seen to condone assisted suicide. Nor should it be manipulated into celebrating that which it can only lament.

This does not mean that no one who dies of assisted suicide will get a Catholic funeral, nor does it mean families will be abandoned by the church in their grief. The bishops note, e.g., "Perhaps the family did not will the assisted suicide or euthanasia of

their loved one, and is looking to the church for the assistance and comfort of her intercession for mercy. In such a situation, provided there would not be cause for public scandal, the funeral rites could be celebrated."

In other words, pastors have to carefully discern the situation of both the deceased and the family to determine whether or not a funeral would be a public scandal. Only one situation, that of a family and friends using the funeral as a celebration of the choice to die by assisted suicide, is seen as automatically a matter of public scandal.

Finally, the bishops conclude this section of their document by noting that whether a funeral is possible or not, the church remains committed to the pastoral care of families and the burial of the deceased. The last paragraph is worth quoting in full.

"It must always be remembered that the burial of the dead is among the corporal works of mercy. Therefore, even when the official funeral rites of the church must be denied, a liturgy of the Word at the funeral home or simple prayers at the graveside might be proposed. Perhaps a memorial mass for the repose of the deceased's soul could be celebrated at a later date. This is a matter of the priest's good pastoral judgment. How to offer care and support to a family in the wake of these tragic events remains something that we must always bear in mind, whether we celebrate a funeral or not."

The bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories have not denied Catholic funerals in all cases of assisted suicide, nor have they instructed priests to pastorally abandon the families of those who have died in this way. They have carefully noted that certain limited circumstances may make a Catholic funeral impossible and left wide room for the discernment of pastors both as to when funerals must be denied and what other pastoral measures might be taken in such cases.

In this, as in all such cases, I strongly recommend reading the document itself. It can be found at: http://caedm.ca/Portals/0/documents/family_life/2016-09-14_



DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF CHRIST IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA,

Warm greetings to each and all of you. In this holy season we enter into a mystery, the mystery of the God of all creation coming not in overwhelming display of power and majesty, but in vulnerability, in poverty, in an act of self-emptying which speaks of a boundless love. When we kneel before the Christ child, we kneel before the mystery of the Master of the Universe becoming small for our sake, the eternal Word becoming 'abbreviated,' so that we might see with our own eyes, and touch with our hands, the word of life.

Pope Francis invites us to think of the Incarnation as God going in search of us. With a loving weakness for those who are lost, the God revealed in Jesus is a God who searches us out, searches for us especially in our darkness, in order to lavish forgiveness on us, to pour out a cascade of consolation, of tenderness. God finds joy in this; the Lord is the Lord of consolation, the Lord of tenderness.

Early on in his pontificate, Pope Francis used an image to speak of the birth of Jesus which totally caught my imagination. He said it was to have hands that God became human. "God meddles in our miseries, he approaches our wounds and heals them with his hands; it was to have hands he became human."

This reminded me immediately of the sublime poem 'somewhere i have never travelled', by the American poet E. E. Cummings. He speaks about the gentle subtlety of God's presence in our midst, with the line "nobody, not even the rain, has such small hands."

What do we learn from this? It tells us that God loves what is human; loves human life, loves this human condition that we so often struggle with. God loves what he has created, loves so much as to become what he has created; to become one of us, to draw so near. God loves this created world, loves us stumbling human beings, loves us enough to give himself to redeem us.

In the Incarnation we learn of the great dignity of what it is to be human, for being human is the language God uses to speak his very self. We learn that the designs and dreams of God are woven into the fabric of what it is to be human. We come to God, God draws us to himself, through our humanity, in our living and in our dying.

So come, let us kneel in a moment of silent wonder before the God who comes in search of us, who loves us into life. And let us kneel too, in a different way, before the vulnerable and the wounded in our midst, mindful of our own great need for God's mercy, and for the holy calling of bringing God's gentleness and mercy to others, pouring out a cascade of tenderness on the lonely, the strangers in our midst, the longing souls, the suffering. Let us find God's own joy by being bearers of that joy and hope to others.

Wishing each and all of you a blessed celebration of the Lord's birth, and every good blessing in the New Year.

+ Donald J. Bolen, Archbishop of Regina

Simbang Gabi Held in Regina

Regina Arcgbishop Donald Bolen, along with several Filipino priests con-celebrated a December 23 evening Mass at Holy Child Church to end the nine-day Simbang Gabi, a Filipino traditional novena preceding Christmas.

In his opening remarks Archbishop Bolen thanked Reverend Danilo Rafael, Holy Child Parish Priest for bringing this "wonderful tradition to our archdiocese and opening the doors for all of us to join in this celebration."

The novena began December 15 and continued for the next nine days ending with an evening Mass at six pm each evening. A different priest celebrated Mass each day with different Fillipino groups providing the music and readings. Some of the readings and responses were in Tagalog, the Filipino national language. About 200 people attended each evening service

A huge pot luck supper, with many traditional Filipino foods followed the December 23rd

