In memoriam – Archbishop Joseph-Aurèle Plourde

By Archbishop Prendergast, SJ

Ottawa Emeritus Archbishop Joseph-Aurèle Plourde died on January 5, one week short of his 98th birthday, after close to 50 years as a bishop.

Born in New Brunswick’s Madawaska County in 1915, the 8th of 11 children, Archbishop Plourde was ordained a priest in 1944, after studies in Moncton and priestly formation at Holy Heart Seminary, Halifax. Later, he did graduate studies in social sciences at l’Institut catholique de Paris and at the University of Ottawa.

In 1964, Pope Paul VI named him Auxiliary Bishop of Alexandria, where he served until named Archbishop of Ottawa (1967-89). During his retirement, he wrote several books and spoke at retreats and conferences.

During his long ministry, Archbishop Plourde attended the Second Vatican Council and played a key role in restructuring the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB).

He chaired the committee that established Development and Peace in 1966-67 and was president of the CCCB from 1969 to 1971.

His interest and training in social studies were expressed in his outreach to the poor – both locally and worldwide. He advocated for refugees, workers, and for the Ontario francophones’ right to be educated in French.

(Continued on page 2)

Habemus papam – Pope Francis

By Archbishop Prendergast, SJ

The Year of Faith took a dramatic turn in February when Pope Benedict XVI announced that he would resign from the papacy. I had seen him a month prior and wondered then at the toll his duties were taking on his mental, physical and spiritual energies. The Church owes our Pope Emeritus a great debt of gratitude.

The Church and the world were surprised by the choice of Benedict’s successor, the 76 year old Cardinal Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Jorge Mario Bergoglio. He had not been mentioned widely perhaps because of his age. The cardinals quickly decided on him, however, electing him on the 5th ballot. A Latin American, he is the first non-European pope since the 8th century when three Syrian popes were elected.

In the days leading to the conclave, many cardinals expressed the wish for a fresh start to meet the challenges facing the Church today. Some suggested the need of an outsider who could renew the Roman Curia, which helps the Holy Father govern the Church.

With his new name, meant to honour St. Francis of Assisi, who rebuilt the Church and called it back to simplicity, love of the poor and respect for creation, and his Jesuit background, Pope Francis embodies two of the most important reform movements in Catholic history: the rise of the Franciscan friars in the 13th century and the Jesuits 300 years later.

The Holy Father is the first of five children and his father was an Italian immigrant to Argentina. He studied chemistry in university, before beginning the arduous training necessary to become a Jesuit priest. He has been a strong and compassionate bishop, who is becoming a formidable pope. We are living in interesting times.

Personally, I was delighted that a member of my religious community, the Society of Jesus, is the pope and I look forward to meeting him. Please join me by keeping him in your thoughts and prayers.
(Continued from page 1 – In memoriam – Archbishop Joseph-Aurèle Plourde)

In his addresses and homilies, he invited those called to be deacons, priests and bishops to become Jesus’ companions so that the entire Church could become a fellowship of disciples and friends in the Lord, bearing fruit that would last. Archbishop Plourde had this vision in mind when he encouraged the faithful, at the beginning of his ministry in Ottawa, to confide in him their thoughts, fears, and hopes.

Devoted to Mary, Star of the Sea, patron of Acadians, Archbishop Plourde was a seeker who, seized by God, became himself a star showing others the way to Christ. He could be hospitable, crusty, humorous, tender, brilliant and sociable, one who enjoyed company and loved a card game, especially bridge.

The Solemnity of Christ the King on November 24 will mark the closure of the Year of Faith, which began on October 11, 2012.

As we reach the mid-point in our participation, I note that initiatives have been taken by parishes and by our archdiocese to deepen our faith. Pope Benedict invited us to:
• understand our faith better;
• take action to witness to our faith; and
• share our faith.

It is important not to let this year slip away without personal growth in faith. These are a few ways to deepen faith life in the remaining months in the three areas that the Holy Father mentioned.

**Since faith seeks truth, I want to learn about my faith**

This can be done in several ways: by reading and praying the Scriptures and pondering the Sunday readings week by week, studying the Catechism of the Catholic Church and having it on hand to answer questions; and by reading a book on Catholic life, prayer, the lives of the saints or the Second Vatican Council.

**Since faith must lead to action, I want to search out actions that give proof of my commitment to Christ**

Some actions I am called to work on include: my prayer, for we live faith more fully by cultivating a regular prayer life, putting aside some time each day for personal devotions; my talents and spending an hour each week with people who are in need of my skills; and to give my treasure to financially assist the Church, its ministries and related charities.

**Since faith is not a private affair, I want to share my faith with others**

I can do this by attending Mass more often and bringing someone with me; joining or forming a study group to explore the Bible, Church teachings, social outreach to the poor and needy; and by talking to a family member, friend or co-worker about my faith.

The Year of Faith is a wonderful opportunity to help each other grow in our Catholic faith. Let us open ourselves so we can be amazed by how Christ works in and through us when we take initiatives to grow closer to Him in faith.

By making an effort to learn more about our faith, the closing moments of the Year of Faith will become more memorable for us, our parish and our archdiocese.

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**Christ the King to close the Year of Faith**

By Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, SJ

The funeral on January 11 of Ottawa’s 8th bishop and 7th archbishop drew nearly 20 bishops and more than 50 priests. Hundreds came to the cathedral to attend the funeral despite freezing rain and treacherous driving conditions. Following the funeral Mass, Archbishop Plourde’s remains were interred in the crypt below the cathedral. R.I.P.
Bishops from across Quebec and Ontario joined priests, religious and laity at this year’s March for Life, which is part of each year’s archdiocesan Week for Life.

On May 9, our Church of Ottawa hosted Masses at Notre Dame Cathedral, St. Patrick’s Basilica and St. Theresa’s church. Students from Catholic school boards, the Knights of Columbus and other church bodies marched from Parliament Hill through Ottawa’s streets in the cause of life, giving the March a festive air.

The need to defend life from conception to natural death because of each human person’s innate dignity is clear from reason. It is also stressed in the Scriptures and in the teachings of Jesus and his Church.
Pastoral Services

Pilgrimages for youth and young adults this summer

By Ted Hurley

The Ottawa Catholic Youth Office is organizing two pilgrimages for young people in July: Journey to the Father for high school students and World Youth Day for young adults.

The Journey to the Father conference will be held in St. Raphael’s, Ontario from July 19 to 21. This event helps teens grow in faith through talks, lively music, Adoration, outdoor games, small group discussions, and much more.

“When I come to St. Raphael’s for Journey to the Father, I’m encouraged; I go home with a lilt in my voice and a bounce in my step,” said Archbishop Prendergast.

“Wonderful things are happening here. Faith is being built up, new structures of the Church are being envisaged, and our young people are telling us they have great hope for the future because they believe in Jesus Christ, they love His Blessed Mother, they’re friends with the Saints, and they want to be holy. I can’t think of a better event for young people to come to, here in Eastern Ontario, than Journey to the Father.”

From July 17 to 31, a small group of pilgrims will be going to World Youth Day in Brazil. It will begin with missionary days in Apericida, Brazil, and continue in Rio de Janeiro with an opening Mass on Copacabana beach, the welcoming of Pope Francis, daily Catechesis, the Way of the Cross, and a final closing Mass with millions expected to attend. Please keep the pilgrims in your prayers.

For more information on either of these events, please contact me by phone: 613-738-5025 ext. 231, or by email: thurley@archottawa.ca.

Priesthood, religious and consecrated life

By Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake, EV

Many people are aware that we need to pray for vocations to the priesthood, but how many of us also pray for vocations to religious and consecrated life for our archdiocese?

We are blessed in Ottawa to have 20 religious orders of women, 16 orders of priests and two religious orders of brothers!

We also have two new religious communities of women in Ottawa that are unique: the Servants of the Cross and the Queenship of Mary. These two new ecclesial movements are evidence of the Holy Spirit’s continuing presence and help in the third millennium raising up new communities to engage the challenges of our day.

There is another form of religious life besides these orders and new ecclesial movements: consecrated virginity. Since the early days of
Celebrating our married couples’ anniversaries

By Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake, EV

Each year, we are pleased to celebrate a special day in the life of the Catholic faithful – the wedding anniversary Mass – at Notre Dame Cathedral. Since 2001, we have celebrated with more than 1,200 couples on the first Sunday of May. It is a joyful occasion for the Church in Ottawa to recognize many years of graces and blessings with happily married couples from across the archdiocese.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that “the matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament” (CCC, n. 1601).

Especially in today’s culture, which values novelty and constant change, the example of couples committed to the permanence of their marriage vows is a strong witness proving that with God’s grace and our own commitment, marriages do last for life! We are grateful for the living example of love, forgiveness, commitment and openness to life of so many wonderful couples. There was a joyful spirit in the cathedral and much gratitude not only for the blessings bestowed on these Christian witnesses over many years of faithful marriage, but also among family and friends who are encouraged by the example of faith and fidelity of the anniversary couples.

Don Bosco Gala - A celebration of ministry for youth and young adults

By Ted Hurley

Each year since 2008, the archdiocese has celebrated youth and young adult ministry with the Don Bosco Gala. This year’s event was held on Saturday, February 23, at Blessed Sacrament church. It featured a talk on the New Evangelization by Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake. The evening also included appetizers provided by the Queenship of Mary, a dance, and awards for outstanding ministry to youth and young adults.

The following people were celebrated with awards:

- Alba Talbora – Don Bosco ‘Heart of Youth Ministry’ award
- Sarah Proulx – St. Elizabeth ‘Woman of Joy’ award
- Corbin Blanchard – Blessed John Paul II ‘Reaching Out to Youth’ award
- Alain Chan – St. Peter ‘Rock of Youth Ministry’ award
- Chris Smith – St. Francis of Assisi ‘Faith in Action’ award
- Amanda Benwell – St. Joan of Arc ‘Zeal for Christ’ award
- Christian Madrid – St. Joseph ‘Man of God’ award
- Rachelle Gauthier – St. Mary ‘Love of Christ’ award
- Jerry Utronkie – Pier Giorgio Frassati ‘Man of the Beatitudes’ award
- Sarah Rudolph – St. Bernadette ‘Witness through Service’ award
- Alyssa Gervais – St. Therese of Lisieux ‘A Vocation of Love’ award
- Sister Shelly Lawrence – St. Francis Xavier ‘Sharing the Good News’ award

Congratulations to all the award winners, the nominees, and to all those who give so much in leadership to reach out to the youth and young adults in our archdiocese!
Pastoral Services

Changing funeral practice and Catholic tradition

By Fr. Geoffrey Kerslake, EV

It is clear that Catholic funeral practices are changing. The traditional Catholic practice is a funeral liturgy celebrated in three stations: a vigil liturgy at the funeral parlour, a funeral liturgy within Mass and a graveside committal liturgy.

The Church continues to express the hope that a funeral liturgy will be celebrated within Mass in the presence of the body with a committal liturgy to follow after the funeral liturgy. The symbols used at a “funeral liturgy within Mass” in the presence of the body highlight the respect the Church accords to the remains of the deceased: the white pall placed over the casket, the presence of the Paschal Candle, the use of incense and holy water, are all reserved for funeral liturgies celebrated in the presence of the body.

The Church also accords respect to the cremated remains of the deceased, but in a different way. We also see the increasing trend to having eulogies requested at a “funeral within Mass”. Eulogies or words of remembrance are not part of the Catholic funeral Mass, but are often seen in other denominations’ funerals. As Catholic Christians, we encourage words of remembrance to be spoken outside of the funeral liturgy with Mass either in the funeral home at the vigil for the deceased, or in the parish hall following the funeral Mass in order to focus our attention on the faith we share with the deceased and each other in the Body of Christ.

Called to be servants like Jesus and wash each other’s feet

By Patricia Marsden-Dole

Before washing the feet of young people on Holy Thursday, Pope Francis cited Christ’s command in St. John’s Gospel “So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you” (Jn 13:12-15). St. John’s Gospel for April 28 followed up with another tall order: “I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another” (John 13:34).

The economic cool down continues in our region with growing unemployment and increasing costs and taxes. We are as much challenged as is Pope Francis to do as Christ did – to serve others when they are hungry, poorly housed, tired of scrounging and making do with left overs, desperate to find work at fair wages.

At St. Theresa’s on April 8, the Mayor was witness to the ongoing efforts of the local Centretown churches’ food bank trying to meet a demand for food which has increased by 25 percent over the past year. On May 3, welfare recipients, agencies and advocates including the archdiocesan pastoral office responded at a meeting in City Hall to the growing poverty challenge in the face of a growing deficit in the province. Another immediate challenge to our faith in Christ is the lonely elderly in our hospitals, long term care facilities, or on their own. These are all the feet of those we must wash in attending to their marginalisation.
Responding to the Canadian bishops’ call for urgent action on the environment

By John Dorner

The Canadian Bishops’ Episcopal Commission for justice and peace has released a new document entitled “Building a New Culture – Central Themes in Catholic Teaching on the Environment”. Based primarily on recent papal documents, this resource serves as a wake-up call in support of cultural renewal. It promotes discussion, reflection, and decision making on the environmental problems we face today.

The eight central themes are: our creation in God’s image; creation’s intrinsic order; the relationship of human ecology to environmental ecology; responsible stewardship; care for the environment as a moral issue; solidarity; creation and spirituality; and necessary responses to current environmental problems, including the urgent need for action.

The Archdiocese of Ottawa is dedicated to supporting many initiatives that support building a culture of life that safeguards all creation, including the embryo in the womb, the poor who suffer most from environmental degradation today, and future generations who will face the growing environmental crisis. For example, the central themes of the “Building a New Culture” document have been introduced on a weekly basis in the Friday Fax newsletter as well as on the archdiocesan website so that they may also be included in parish bulletins. Active programs are taking place to reduce the environmental footprint of parishes through energy conservation measures and helpful retrofits as well as through the introduction of environmentally friendly management practices. Further information is available on the Environmental Stewardship section of the archdiocesan website CatholicOttawa.ca, under “Pastoral Services”.

The vocation to the permanent diaconate

By Deacon Michael Seath

Each year, information sessions are held at the archdiocese in February and March. These sessions give men and their wives the opportunity to learn about the permanent diaconate and to have any questions they have answered about the Holy Order of Deacons.

For a married man to apply to the diaconate, he must have the support of his wife because the diaconate will affect his marriage and family relationship. For that effect to be positive and healthy, both husband and wife need to discern the validity of the husband’s call.

When applying to the diaconate, both husband and wife are invited by the selection committee to enter into discernment, a six-month period of prayer, reflection, and exposure to the life and ministry of deacons. It is not a formation, but rather an opportunity for the couples to gain a deeper understanding of the diaconate, its spirituality, its service, and the impact formation and subsequent ministry will have on them and their family. With this understanding, both husband and wife are better equipped to make a decision about asking to be considered for the three-year diaconate formation program.

There are currently many candidates from different cultures in the formation program. They represent the Philippines, India, Vietnam, China, and Lebanon. This reflects the richness and the diversity of our faith and bodes well for the future growth and diversity of the diaconate community in the Archdiocese of Ottawa.
Our findings from our survey on social media

By Sarah Du Broy

For the first time, last winter, we circulated a survey on social media to the parishioners of our archdiocese. The goal was to find out their web surfing habits, if and where they access social media, and why they go on our website – CatholicOttawa.ca.

Nearly 300 people filled out our survey. Most of our respondents are between 45 and 64 years old, followed by 25 to 34 years of age, and by 35 to 44 years of age. They go on Facebook more than once a day, but don’t go on Twitter or on Pinterest. Most do not blog, but they read Archbishop Prendergast’s blog, some a few times per year and others, as often as once a week. Most find social networking sites important, surf our website a few times per year to read the Archbishop’s blog, find our Mass times and read our press releases, finding our information easily accessible.

One of our challenges is to not put too much information on our homepage, planning that the web navigator will find information within one to three mouse clicks. We remove and add new modules to our homepage according to the time of the liturgical year in order to make the most important information easily accessible. Also, we put items under the “Recent News” module and Pastoral Services’ updates under “News from Pastoral Services (Friday Fax)” with the latest information being found at the top of our homepage. For any questions regarding our communications, please do not hesitate to contact me by email: sdubroy@archottawa.ca or by dialing 613-738-5025, ext. 238.

The Order of Malta - serving the poor and the sick in Canada for the past 60 years

By Dr. André Morin

The year 2013 marks the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the Canadian Association of the Order of Malta and the 900th anniversary of the official recognition of the Order by the Holy See. The Order of Malta is an organisation, which, for the past 900 years and from its beginnings in the Holy Land, has had as its mission assistance to the poor, to the sick and the defence of the Faith.

In 1113, Pope Paschal II, by the Pie Postulatio Voluntatis bulla, granted a special place to the Jerusalem hospital and to its members by placing them under the protection of the Holy See. The Pope granted to the Order the right to elect its Grand Master and his successors independently without interference from religious or lay authorities.

The Order of Malta maintains diplomatic relations with more than 100 countries, is recognized officially by Canada and has representatives with UNESCO, the European Council, the European Union and the United Nations.

The Canadian Association

It was created on January 27, 1953 by a federal charter that recognised its mission as a charitable organisation. It has members from the Atlantic to the Pacific, even in Nunavut, and manages several projects in Canada and abroad. In Ottawa, the members of the Order are involved with the Shepherd of Hope, a group that assists migrants. The Association works with and supports projects abroad.

The Spirituality of the Order of Malta

The members must be ready to assist their fellow human beings and to defend the Catholic Faith. The spirituality is centred on charity, caring for others whether rich or poor, regardless of religious affiliations.

The charisma cannot be explained by words only: it must be experienced and lived as a form of service. For more information, visit www.orderofmaltacanada.org.
St. Anthony of Padua parish celebrates 100 years of faith

By Trina Costantini-Powell

The history of our parish is that of the Ottawa Italian community. An earlier chapel, in Lowertown on Murray Street, in 1908, moved to the current location in the heart of Little Italy in late 1913 and now, 100 years later, is still the heart of the community.

Our official opening event was held on Sunday, December 9. Archbishop Terrence Prendergast concelebrated the centennial Mass with current and former priests of St. Anthony’s as well as the Superior of the Servite Order. This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the Servites. Parishioners and dignitaries shared in this milestone offering. They filled the church to capacity and the voices of our choirs rose to the frescoed ceilings. Archbishop Prendergast asked that we remember our faith and our roots, all vital to St. Anthony’s being the vibrant parish that it is. A reception followed the Mass.

Other events included a beautiful Christmas concert, the annual dinner dance, a Eucharistic Adoration which brought faith-filled youth out in full, and a seminar on the art and beauty of the church that showcased the beautiful frescoes and stained glass windows of Guido Nincheri. Our upcoming events include the Ladies Aid Spring Tea on May 26 to mark their 65th anniversary, and our annual St. Anthony Feast Day celebrations on June 8-9 with the outdoor Mass, procession, pasta meals, BBQ and some musical entertainment.

Events coming this fall include a closing dinner on Saturday, October 26, the launch of a memory book encapsulating the history of the parish as well as a closing Mass with dates still to be finalized. For further information, dial 613-236-2304 or email: infocentennial@stanthonysottawa.org.

Let the chimes ring – Ste-Geneviève celebrates 50 years in grand style

By Colette Legault

Ste-Geneviève parish launched its 50th anniversary celebrations with a Mass held on December 15, 2012. The church was full and joy filled the room. The hymns that were sung added to the celebratory atmosphere and the sound that resonated from the new chimes captured my heart as a proud parishioner. It reminded me of my parents’ deep faith and our spiritual journey in this parish.

Archbishop Prendergast presided the Mass along with former pastors of Ste-Geneviève, including: Fr. Paul McKeown, Msgr. Gilles Lavergne, Fr. Michel Pommainville, Fr. Maurice Dionne, Fr. Jacques Poirier, our current pastor, Fr. Jacques Kabasu-Bamba, his assistant, Fr. Richard Lamah, and Deacon François Lortie. We all came together as one devoted family in God.

I am blessed to be able to experience, express, and share my faith in this parish which is my spiritual home.

A brief history (adapted from a text written by Mr. Jean-Louis Allard):

Fall 1962 – An organizing committee comprised of French-speaking parishioners from Resurrection of Our Lord parish was established to start a French-language parish for Elmvale Acres, Urbandale Acres and Hawthorne Meadows. Archbishop Marie-Joseph Lemieux, OP granted permission for a new French-language parish provided that French-speaking residents living in the sector expressed a desire and commitment to support it.

February 7, 1963 – A petition signed by 335 people was sent to the Archbishop of Ottawa.

May 28, 1963 – The parish was erected by Archbishop Lemieux, OP and he nominated Fr. Gaston Croteau as its first pastor.

Fall 1963 to June 1965 – The church was built according to the plans drawn up by a parishioner, Gérard Sincennes, in conformity with the liturgical renewal of the Second Vatican Council.

June 20, 1965 – The first Sunday Mass was celebrated in our new church.
A typical day in the life of the Head of Protocol of the Secretariat of State

By Msgr. Jose Bettencourt, PH

The Holy See has diplomatic relations with 179 countries. When an ambassador accredited to the Holy See arrives in Rome, he first meets the Head of Protocol who assists him, makes contacts, and sets up the important appointment to present the Letters of Credence to the Pope.

The Head of Protocol assists in coordinating visits of heads of state, government, dignitaries and delegations. At the Vatican, these visits take place for canonizations, creating new cardinals, papal funerals, and the election of the new Pontiff.

There are also state occasions at the Vatican when the diplomatic corps is invited to meet the Pontiff, including Christmas and Easter celebrations, the conferrals of palliums on metropolitan archbishops on June 29, and the pope’s New Year greetings to the diplomatic corps, among others.

The Head of Protocol comes from the Holy See’s own diplomatic ranks, and is named by the pope himself. He is a priest and meets the accredited diplomats as a priest; a man of faith and with a keen sense of service. I am currently in this position and I am proud to say that I am from the Archdiocese of Ottawa.

Today, the Church’s engagement in every field of interest is still reflected in its unparalleled heritage conserved in its vast historical archives, museum collections and universities’ academic studies. Above all, the Church is the single institution in the world that is most present in the fields of health care, education, and social assistance.

Kindness and beauty should come naturally to the followers of Christ. The Vatican’s time honoured protocol is widely admired because it strives to be Christian and Catholic.

World Youth Day in Brazil this summer will hold surprises and blessings

By Nicolas Church

In July, I will be blessed to travel to Brazil for World Youth Day (WYD) in Rio de Janeiro. Having been to WYD Sydney, Australia in 2008 and Madrid, Spain in 2011, this will be my third experience.

Yet, in many ways, this will be new for me. I was blessed to go to the last two WYDs with my two siblings, and this time, I’ll be the only one going from my family. I’ll be travelling to a continent I’ve never been to before, to a country with a different language and culture, and to a city that I expect will be a major construction site – with the FIFA World Cup and the Olympics following soon after.

This will be my first WYD with our new Pope Francis! I’ve learned that I shouldn’t rely too much on my own expectations. While in some ways, this pilgrimage may seem scary, I am learning to increase my trust in our Lord. There will be challenges, just as in my past pilgrimages, but if I trust in God, He will deliver – and probably in an unexpected way!

We can think here of how our Holy Father Francis was elected. While we may have expected others to become Pope before him, he has become a role model for us as a humble, charitable servant of God.

I expect great things to happen in Rio this summer! What exactly will they be? At this point, only God knows.
Catholic cemeteries: new possibilities

By Benoît Bariteau

Choosing a Catholic cemetery is honoring the memory of our loved ones in an environment conducive to contemplation. The gestures of affection arising after the departure of those we loved take a whole new meaning in these sacred places. Adding to being a pastoral service, our cemeteries are also subject to the laws of Ontario.

Since July 1, 2012, the new law on funeral and burial services and cremation allows Catholic cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Ottawa to offer families new possibilities regarding cemetery services. It is now possible in all 48 cemeteries of the Archdiocese, to use better existing lots that were meant only for caskets burials by adding cremated remains, if space is available; administrative fees may apply.

Our two diocesan cemeteries, Notre-Dame Cemetery and Hope Cemetery continue to offer the prearranged services. Whether it is for a lot, a niche in a columbarium, counselors will guide you with warmth and empathy. In addition, it is now possible, on request, to celebrate the Catholic funeral at the Elizabeth Bruyère Chapel at Hope Cemetery. A priest can be present at the burial at a niche or crypt burial. Both cemeteries offer the full range of products and services required when a person passes away and commemoration such as monuments, urns, and ornaments of all kinds.

While remaining at the service of faith, our cemeteries meet the expectations and needs of today's families. For more information, visit: ottawacatholiccemeteries.ca.

Divorce and remarriage

By Fr. Vincent Pereira, JCD

Divorce and remarriage is a delicate and difficult subject for Catholics to deal with, because a Catholic marriage is a sacrament, a source of divine grace. As a divine and benevolent institution, the Church feels a deep empathy with Her children's painful situations and She seeks ways and means to embrace them in peace and reconciliation, as the father in the parable embraced his prodigal son. Persons divorce civilly for various reasons that may result from their inability to understand the essential rights and obligations arising from the marital consent or to critically evaluate the marital decision and to be able to carry out and share the marital responsibilities. Pastoral experience shows that some are simply incapable of marriage and yet marry. Some may think that remarriage outside the Church is the only option, but it is not. The divorced are strongly encouraged to enquire and find out how they can still enjoy the sacraments and possibly marry in the Church.

If enquiry proves that the previous marriage was null, there is no hindrance to marriage in the Church. Even if a couple has “married” outside the Church, the couple is invited to attend Sunday Mass, while abstaining from receiving communion until they are able to celebrate a sacramental marriage within the Church. The Church through the Chancery and Marriage Tribunal attempts to regularize any irregular marital relation so that couples receive grace and relief from the pain caused by irregular situations. Some couples simply require the assistance of the Chancery for administrative process. Others require the Marriage Tribunal for judicial process, depending on the nature of the previous marital union.

Pope Benedict XVI, now emeritus, announced the Year of Faith, which began on October 11, 2012 and will conclude on November 24, 2013. In his apostolic letter, “Door of Faith,” Benedict encourages us “… to arouse in every believer the aspiration to profess the faith in fullness and with renewed conviction, with confidence and hope… to intensify the celebration of the faith in the liturgy, especially in the Eucharist”. May couples hear his call to renew their faith in the grace of the sacrament of marriage.

This article is the third of a series on the value of Marriage Law and the Tribunal Ministry. In the next issue, the article will be on annulment: a judicial process.
Jubilarians 2013

Reverend Reginald Mac Neil – 65 years

Born in Glace-Bay, NS on March 24, 1922, Fr. Mac Neil was ordained a priest on May 23, 1948. After more than nine years of ministry in the Diocese of Antigonish, Fr. Mac Neil served in the Military Vicariate of Canada: Goose Bay, NFL; Comox, BC; Winnipeg, MB; Ottawa, ON; Zweibrücken and Lahr, Germany. He received the Bene Merenti medal from blessed Pope John Paul II. For almost three decades, Fr. Mac Neil taught religion at St. Joseph's Jr. High School, was spiritual director for the Anglophone Cursillo movement for 25 years, and served as chaplain to different groups in Ottawa. He wrote weekly columns in The Ottawa Citizen and wrote for Novalis Living with Christ weekly edition and for Quarterly Homiletic Service.

Most Reverend Marcel Gervais – 55 years

The Most Rev. Marcel Gervais was Archbishop of Ottawa for nearly 18 years. His motto was Evangelizare. He was born on September 21, 1931, in Elie, Manitoba, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 31, 1958, and then to the episcopate on June 11, 1980. He served as Auxiliary Bishop of London; Bishop of Sault Ste-Marie; Coadjutor Archbishop of Ottawa; and finally as Archbishop of Ottawa. He was also president of NET Ministries for 13 years, of CNEWA Canada for four years, and of the CCCB for two years. He became Archbishop Emeritus of Ottawa on May 14, 2007.

Reverend Robert La Plante – 50 years

Fr. La Plante was born on October 2, 1924 in Bonne Terre, Missouri. He holds a Masters’ degree in Electrical Engineering. He served in the United States Navy during the Second World War for several years. Fr. La Plante was ordained a priest on April 20, 1963 by Archbishop of St. Boniface Maurice Baudoux, at the Séminaire des Saints-Apôtres in Laprairie, Que. He served as chaplain to the Sisters of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame in Montreal, to the Visitation Sisters, and to the Sisters of Ste-Jeanne-d’Arc. He also served as principal theological consultant to the CCCB.

Reverend William Marrevee, SCJ – 50 years

Regional Superior of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus since 2005, Fr. Marrevee was born in Schiedam – a city and municipality in the province of South Holland in the Netherlands – on July 5, 1936. He became a member of the priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on September 8, 1956 and was ordained a priest on June 15, 1963. He was a Theology professor at Saint Paul’s University for 28 years, and served as pastor to parishes in Gatineau and in Buckingham. He has written articles for Église et théologie magazine. His pastoral guide entitled The popular guide to the Mass was published by The Pastoral Press (Washington, DC) in 1992.
Reverend Kevin Milaney – 50 years
Fr. Milaney has been pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish for the past 22 years. Born in Ottawa on February 27, 1940, he was ordained to the priesthood on June 13, 1963 at Blessed Sacrament church by the Most Rev. Joseph Raymond Windle, Auxiliary Bishop of Ottawa. He served as assistant pastor at St. Patrick’s, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and St. Maurice parishes. He also served as administrator of St. Patrick’s parish. He was pastor at St. Michael’s, Corkery; St. Peter Celestine, Pakenham; St. Mary’s, Almonte; St. Declan’s Mission, Brightside; and finally of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish, Ottawa, where he currently serves as pastor. Fr. Milaney was diocesan chaplain of the Boy Scouts and Cubs, and diocesan representative for the Priests’ Eucharistic League.

Reverend Janusz Jajesniak, OMI – 25 years
Currently pastor of St. Hyacinth Polish parish, Fr. Jajesniak was born on August 3, 1962 in Kazimierz Wielka, a small city in Poland in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, about 45 km northeast of Kraków. He has two brothers and one sister. He was ordained a priest on June 20, 1988. Fr. Jajesniak has served as associate pastor in Winnipeg and Mississauga, and as pastor in Edmonton and Ottawa. He was appointed pastor to St. Hyacinth Polish parish on August 1, 2008 for a six-year term.

Reverend Robert Poole – 25 years
Born in London, England on February 4, 1955, Fr. Poole has served in specialized ministry for the Archdiocese of Ottawa, which he began five years ago. He is currently serving as pastor to St. Philip’s parish in Richmond and to St. Clare’s parish in Dwyer Hill. He is also providing pastoral care to the Lift Jesus Higher Community in Ottawa, since 2007. He was ordained a priest on October 8, 1988. From 1988 to 1996, he served in parishes in London, England. Prior to becoming a priest, Fr. Poole worked for the local government in England and was a religious education teacher in England.

These are our English sector Jubilarians for this year. Please see Catholique Ottawa – édition du printemps / été for our French sector Jubilarians’ biographies. Our Francophone Jubilarians are: (65 years) Reverend Fernand Carrière, (55 years) Reverend Côme Chénier, the Most Reverend Marcel Gervais, Reverend Yvon Soucy, (50 years) Reverend Jacques Huppé, Reverend Bernard Lapointe, Msgr. Gilles Laverigne, PH, Reverend Marcel Léger, (25 years) Reverend Albert Kaumba Mufwata, and Reverend François Kibwenge.

Other priests in our Archdiocese celebrating their anniversaries are: (60 years) Reverend Jourdain Lavoie, OP; Reverend Yvon Beaudoin, OMI; Reverend Gilles Leblanc, OMI; (50 years) Reverend Marcel Dumais, OMI; Reverend Jacques Desgrandchamps, OSM; Reverend Gilles De Grandpré, OP; (40 years) Reverend Owen Carroll and Reverend Simon Paul Cormier.
Donating to your Church online

By Msgr. Kevin Beach, VG

Through the Internet service provided by the registered charity CanadaHelps, the archdiocese and a number of our parishes enable local Catholics to make contributions online. CanadaHelps provides accessible and affordable online technology to both Canadian donors and charities. Today, CanadaHelps facilitates over $40 million in donations annually.

Donating through CanadaHelps is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. You can find the Archdiocese’s location by visiting the diocesan website – CatholicOttawa.ca – and clicking on the CanadaHelps logo in the right column of our home page. By clicking on the link, you will be transferred to the diocesan page on CanadaHelps’ site.

2. Once on the CanadaHelps website, enter payment details and follow the menus.

3. Download your tax receipt, available immediately.

You can also provide specific instructions as to the use of your donation. If desired, donations can be made anonymously. Donors can also provide for monthly donations using the CanadaHelps website.

Why make a will

By Ted Prowse

A will is a legal document that contains directions regarding the distribution of one’s estate among the persons and charities that you may want to benefit. It names a representative chosen by you who will be responsible for carrying out the terms of your will.

Many people postpone making a will until faced with an unexpected illness. While the preparation of a will under these circumstances is beneficial, one should have a will at all times, review it on a regular basis and update it where necessary. Changes could be necessary due to, for example, changes in income tax legislation, changes in the assets bequeathed or gifted under the will, in the event that your named representative is no longer able to carry out the task of administering your will or in the event that one wishes to change a beneficiary.

If you die without a will and you are a resident of Ontario, the current law of Ontario will determine who will receive your assets, generally family members, and the amount of the inheritance. It should be noted that institutions such as your church would not be eligible to receive a gift if you die without a will. The court would appoint an administrator to carry out the executor’s duties but this appointed administrator may not be a person you would have chosen. By making a will, you choose your executor who will follow your wishes and instructions as to whom you bequeath your estate, including to Catholic institutions that have always been important to you.

Too many individuals do not have an updated will or even a will and may die without this important document and, while a “will kit” could be used to draw up the document, it is suggested that the will be drawn up by a lawyer practicing in this area of the law. Once your will is prepared, it is suggested that your wishes be reviewed with your executor and the location of the original copy be made known to your executor.

Photo courtesy of the Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network
Recent Diocesan Activities

*Top: Homelands Mass, middle: Chrism Mass, bottom: Way of the Cross*

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The Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, SJ
Archbishop of Ottawa
cordially invites you to

THE ANNUAL
Archbishop’s Charity Dinner
A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN SUPPORT OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD FOUNDATIONS ASSISTING CHILDREN IN NEED
Wednesday, October 16th, 2013 • 7:00 pm

BENEFICIARIES:
Foundations of:
• Ottawa Catholic School Board
• Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario
• Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est
• Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l’Est ontarien

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS
GOLD $5,000
SILVER $2,500
BRONZE $1,000

TICKETS
$130 per person ($60 tax receipt)
$1,170 for a table of 9

For further details, please call 613 738-5025, ext. 235, or email dev@archottawa.ca

TICKETS

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Recent Diocesan Activities ...
Left column: Press conference on Pope Benedict XVI’s resignation, Wedding Anniversary Mass, Easter Vigil
Right column: Wedding Anniversary Mass, Homelands Mass

Hampton Inn Ottawa and Conference Centre
200 Coventry Road, Ottawa (at Coventry Road and Vanier Parkway just off the Queensway)