



# Ecclesia

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEMBROKE

## Knights of Columbus' good works assist parish and community

The local councils of the Knights of Columbus (KofC) remain vigilant in providing assistance to those in need while adhering to their Roman Catholic beliefs that are the driving force behind the organization as it continues to grow.

"I always recognized it as a great service group within the church, which ties faith to service and service to faith," says Jack Schreder, a member since 2005 and Grand Knight of the KofC, Bishop N.Z. Lorrain Council 1531 of Pembroke. "It's a great group of guys."

On October 2, 1881, Father Michael J. McGivney called together a group of men to a church basement in New Haven, Connecticut. At that gathering, a pledge was made to form a fraternal order based on their devotion to their country, families and faith. A life insurance program was established by the founders to provide for widows and orphans of deceased members, which still exists to this day.

Those wishing to join the KofC must be 18 years of age and be practicing Roman Catholics in union with the Holy See. Prospective applicants must accept the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, strive to live in accordance with the precepts of the Church, and be in good standing in the Catholic Church.

Not unlike the challenges the diocese currently faces in engaging youth to reconnect with their faith, so, too, are the KofC encountering hurdles in recruiting younger members.

"It's a hard fit for all the councils," admits Schreder. "The family dynamics have changed over the years. Both spouses are working and raising young families, so it is a very busy time. We find a lot of people would like to join, but with how busy young families are with hockey, soccer or you name it; they don't always feel they have the time to serve as a knight."

However, that has not stopped the KofC from expanding the number of active councils. Most



*Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on January 26, 2012, featuring the Icon and the Knights of Columbus newly formed choir.*

recently, a new gathering of Knights is being established in Douglas via St. Michael Parish. The endeavour is being initiated by Arnprior resident Kevin Ready, the Fraternal Councillor for the Douglas area.

"I started my work with the KofC in Montreal," says Ready, a native of Pembroke who has been involved with KofC since 2003. "I served as a Fraternal Councillor in Montreal for nine years before transferring back home to the Ottawa Valley."

According to Ready, his desire to establish a KofC presence in the Douglas area is driven by a desire to help both the local parish and the community at large.

"I have a lot of family roots in that area," explains Ready. "I'm familiar with a lot of people there. There are a lot of young couples with families. The KofC is a family organization. In my mind, the presence of the KofC at St. Michael's is a natural fit. What I've done with some of the men who have joined already is to give a shopping list of ideas they may want to consider, such as fundraising for St. Michael's Catholic School. They're also anxious to sit down and coordinate with Father (Brady) McNamara in terms of identifying projects that would be useful to the church."

"It's going to be called a round table," explains Dave Morgan, District Deputy for District 44, which encompasses the Arnprior, Eganville and Renfrew areas.

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**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS®**

## Knights of Columbus' good works assist parish and community

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"What this means is that the group is initially sponsored and supported by another council, which in this case is the Renfrew council. Men who join the Knights of Columbus from the St. Michael Parish in Douglas become members of the Renfrew council. At the start, a Round Table Coordinator will be appointed from St. Michael's who will meet with the pastor of the parish to understand what the men can do to help out. Those messages will be taken back to the Renfrew council, which will then offer their resources and support to assist the round table group. It is the first step to forming a council."

According to Morgan, a new council requires a minimum of 30 members.

"It is our hope that they will attract enough members to form a council," says Morgan, noting the current round table format can remain in place indefinitely.

Morgan notes that the addition of another round table is in keeping with their mission of expanding membership where possible.

"Part of my role is to encourage growth within the district," says Morgan, emphasizing the focus of helping local parishes when called to do so. "The best way the KofC can help is by providing assistance to the local pastor. The knights are always looking for an opportunity to assist the priests in any way they can."

Ready praised the Renfrew council for taking on the task of helping to establish the Douglas round table.

"Without their involvement, this wouldn't be happening," notes Ready. "It's a big job to bring a new council up to speed. Any time a council sponsors another group through a round table, they deserve a lot of credit. They're helping the fraternity to grow."

The KofC also strives to play a role in providing assistance beyond the immediate Catholic community.

"We do a tremendous amount of work not only for the church, but also for the community at large," says Schreader. "We are a member and contributor to the Pembroke-Petawawa Support Association, along with other service clubs. They look after the needs of those in dire straits and those who need help within the community. It ranges from people seeking dental care and shingling roofs, to building ramps for disabled persons."

Aside from the organization being approached by outside groups or individuals, members of the KofC themselves will often present causes in need of assistance.

A more recent example of the knights assisting the Diocese of Pembroke was during the recent 50th anniversary of the founding of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Pembroke. Schreader outlined the wide range of responsibilities members took on during the celebration.

"We manned the barbeque, we were ushers, we were Eucharistic ministers, we provided the Master of Ceremonies for the event they had in the church basement, and we sang in the choir along with other people. When we're asked for a specific need, we respond."

A new initiative started by the Pembroke council was the establishment of a men's choir, which has already performed at local parishes.

"I had experience in a small men's choir," explains Schreader in describing the inception of the ensemble. "When I took over as Grand Knight, we wanted to do a couple of things to raise the profile of the KofC within the community and to attract new members. The intent of our choir is to provide a vehicle for the members to have fun singing all sorts of songs. We've had great success with the guys."

Another program hosted by the group is The Good of the Order, where guest speakers are invited to address both members and the public at large.

"We've been getting really good crowds," says Schreader of the attendance to the guest speaker events.

"We just had Pierre Noel from the Pembroke General Hospital speak. We've had Father Ryan Holly speak on the annulment process. We're getting increasing audiences for those events, and they are open to the public."

This September will see the Knights of Columbus host a Salute to the Sisters, a celebration in recognition of the contributions made by the Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

"All 240 tickets for the dinner are sold," says Schreader in announcing the overwhelming response to the event from members of the diocese. "It's our event and we planned the whole thing. On this special occasion, Bishop Mulhall will be celebrating Mass at St. Columbkille Cathedral on September 22."

Looking to the future, the local council has initiated a Columbian Squires Circle, the official KofC youth program to nurture the next generation of potential recruits.

"We're the only district in Ontario that has two Squire Circles: one in Deep River and one in Pembroke," explains Schreader. "Last year they ran a community project where they solicited any requests from people to shovel snow for the elderly. They recently took part in the Relay for Life. Last year they were part of our Santa Claus parade float. It's a fledgling program that we've had in place over the last year."

For further information about the Knights of Columbus in your parish, contact your local Grand Knight.

## Knights of Columbus facts:

- First Council in Canada was Montreal No. 284 in 1897
- Council 485 in Ottawa was the first in Ontario in 1900
- Bishop Smith of Pembroke is the longest serving Ontario State Chaplain (26 years). He retired in 1977
- Bishop O'Brien of Pembroke has also served as Ontario State Chaplain
- Knights of Columbus in Ontario has more than 543 Councils and close to 57,000 members (Feb. 2011)
- Knights of Columbus in Canada has more than 227,000 members in more than 1,900 Councils
- There are nearly 1.7 million Knights of Columbus worldwide (United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam and Spain)
- Within the Diocese of Pembroke there are currently 14 Knights of Columbus Councils: Arnprior 2082, Bancroft 7476, Barry's Bay 6894, Bonfield 8940, Corbeil 6664, Deep River 5649, Eganville 1549, Fort Coulonge 7221, Haliburton 12326, Mattawa 6214, Pembroke 1531, Petawawa 11932, Renfrew 1916, Round Lake Centre 12218



# Ecclesia

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# Message from the Bishop

My dear Faithful of the Diocese,

On September 22, the Knights of Columbus of Bishop N.Z. Lorrain Council #1531 have organized a series of events to recognize and honour the women religious who have served in the Diocese of Pembroke. I wish to thank the Knights for this initiative and to thank you for the overwhelming support that has already been shown for this event. Of the many gifts which have been bestowed on the Diocese in these past decades, the faithful and dedicated witness of many religious sisters has been remarkable. Supported by the life of prayer and spirituality of each religious community, the women religious have offered a living testimony of the beauty of God's call to live a Christian life of full commitment in the heart of the Catholic Church. For this grace I am deeply thankful.

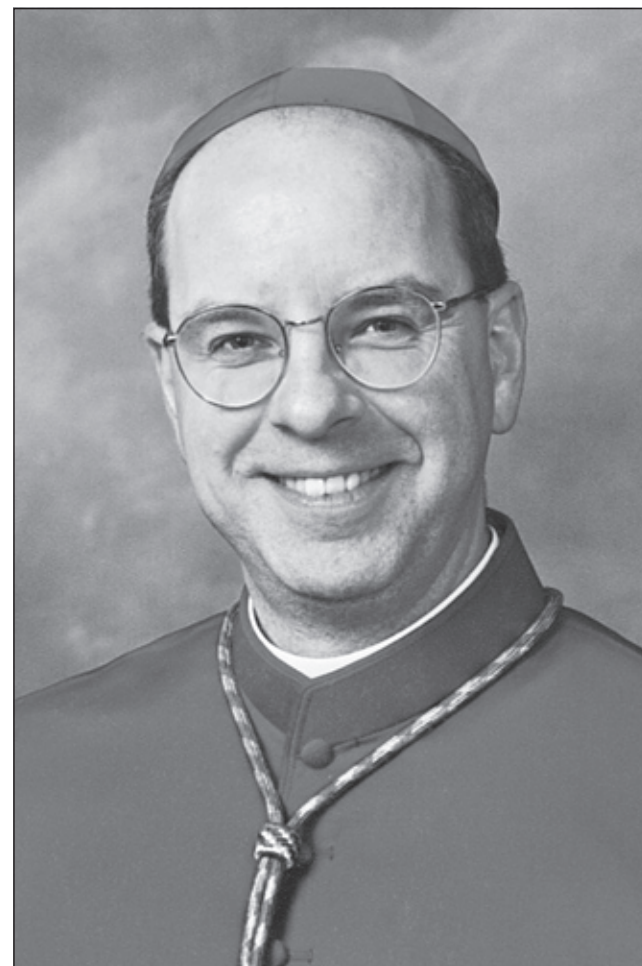
Some religious communities have come and gone from the Diocese, some are newly arrived and two, in particular, the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have maintained a continued presence closely connected to the life of the Diocese. With many religious vocations nurtured within the families of the Diocese, these Sisters have become very well known to the faithful over many years. Their dedicated presence in many areas of evangelical service in our communities has made them deeply appreciated. The two identifying works of this service that come to mind immediately are the fundamental Catholic concerns for education and health care. Without the work of the Sisters, Catholic Education and Catholic Health Care would have been entirely absent from many of our communities. And how many of us have met the life of the Sisters during the time of our educational formation and in our time of need when suffering from infirmity? The service of the Sisters in these two fundamental areas will always be remembered and treasured.

With the passage of time and the change of circumstance, the responsibility for these two concerns

of Catholic life has been passed on to the Catholic laity. As this "passing on" of responsibility continues to develop and grow, the past and present witness of the Sisters in our communities can offer for us a shining example, which we should strive to attain. This challenge will continue as many influences and forces in our contemporary world attempt to weaken the existence of faithful Catholic institutions. In the area of Catholic Education and Catholic Health Care, the Church will continue to work with those lay men and women who have taken on the responsibility of living and administering these Catholic institutions. This will always remain an essential objective in the life of the Church.

In the past decades, strong forces have been making their voices heard demanding that religious expression be removed from all aspects of public life. An argument is made that religious beliefs should be limited to the private associations within society. This notion, which is gaining strength, is contrary to our Catholic tradition. Because the act of faith is so fundamental to the human person, we hold strongly that every person of faith not only should, but must bring his or her faith to the service of the community. This is not a question of the imposition of one's beliefs upon another. It is rather a question of a person's faith responding to the needs of our brothers and sisters who suffer. It is the example of Mother Teresa, moved by faith and love to care for the hopeless and the dying. It is the question of respecting the integrity of each person to think and act according to the truth of right thinking and faith. It is this respect that is at the heart of the human and constitutional right of the Freedom of Conscience.

An artificial attempt to remove faith and any semblance of religion from all aspects of public life is to attempt to remove a fundamental component of human life from the life of our communities. This misguided opinion seems to think that the absence of faith in the public dialogue creates a "non-judging" or "tolerant"



flavour to society. Nothing could be further from the truth, because those same forces that wish to remove the influence of faith in public dialogue or service readily fill the void with the imposition of entirely human-based responses to the fundamental questions of life. In fact, in the tradition of the Catholic Church, it is the fully-rounded human being, internally at peace with the truth of proper reasoning and the gift of faith, who finds an adequate response to the fundamental questions of life and is able to offer these fruits to society.

The lived history of our Church tells of just such examples through the centuries. The history of our diocese, too, tells a wonderful story. The witness of the Sisters, especially in Catholic Education and Catholic Health Care, has demonstrated how misguided is the opinion that faith cannot exist in public institutions of service. The religious lives and faith of these Sisters was brought to and lived in the very heart of the communities of our diocese and with great benefit to everyone they loved and served. Our communities in the Diocese of Pembroke, our provinces and our country have been greatly enriched by the service of countless faith-based organizations of many denominations, which have seamlessly brought their faith in the acts of service they have given to society. For this testimony we are very grateful. It is my prayer and hope that this rich history will strengthen us to resist those who ask us to keep our faith at home or in the Church on Sunday.

My dear brothers and sisters, the great tradition of our faith has been handed down to us. May we always strive to reflect more deeply on the gift of faith, always respect the act of faith of persons of all denominations and beliefs, and never hesitate to defend our right to freedom of conscience and to bring all aspects of our humanity, including our faith, to the love and service of our wider community and world.

† Michael Mulhall  
Bishop of Pembroke

## Galilee Centre welcomes Matt Linn, SJ

Fall retreat, September 28–30, 2012  
"Journeying Through the Adult Stages of Life"

Matthew Linn, SJ, has focused on integrating physical, emotional, and spiritual healing. Since 1970 he has taught courses and given retreats on healing in more than 50 countries and has co-authored 21 books translated in more than 20 languages. He is a member of the Association of Christian Therapists and has advanced graduate degrees in sociology, anthropology, spirituality and theology.

For more information or to register and guarantee a place, call Debbie at 613-623-4242 ext. 21.  
Private/Single \$235 • Shared/Double \$205 • Commuter \$130 • Includes All Meals





## Parish Profile

# St. Paul the Hermit, Sheenboro, Quebec

It may not be the biggest parish in the Diocese of Pembroke, but St. Paul the Hermit Parish plays second fiddle to no one when it comes to the soaring spirit parishioners have for God and their church.

Located in Sheenboro, Quebec, St. Paul the Hermit may very well be the smallest parish in the diocese, and it faces a common challenge that all parishes are confronting with an aging population.

"It's like all the parishes in the diocese," says Father Mitchell Beachey. "We're struggling with the effects of urbanization. Young people can't stay in little places. To get a job, they have to move away. In that sense, it really is the same as any place. Even Pembroke is suffering from that."

But Father Beachey chooses not to dwell on the church attendance issue. Having served as parish priest for five years, he would rather tell about the passion parishioners have for keeping their church and community alive and prosperous.

"Sheenboro is the type of place that if you were born there, you always go back," says Beachey. Even though it is a small place as a parish, it is a powerful parish because they take care of their business. They work well



together; they have a lot of events every year. They have their Canada Day celebrations, they have St. Patrick's Day dances, and last year they had an Irish heritage festival. In that sense, they're very active people. They have a very strong faith."

Of those who see that faith in action are the regular visitors to the region who spend their summer months residing at cottages that are scattered across the picturesque landscape. Many make their presence known at Sunday Mass.

"Sheenboro is a very active place in the summer. There's a lot of cottagers and tourists, so our mass attendance will double during the summer," notes Beachey. "Those people who stay in the area are really good at lending a hand at all the different events."

Given how small Sheenboro is, St. Paul the Hermit has become the de facto gathering place for residents.

"The church is the only gathering place left," explains Beachey. "There's no store anymore, there's no bar. The church is the centre of community life, even for those that don't practise. There are dances at the church hall all the time."

Having evolved into something more than a place of worship, St. Paul the Hermit has become a reflection of how the local church has become the lynch pin to binding the social fabric of the community.

"A lot of people talk about pastoral planning and shutting down these little places. But the problem is that for a lot of these little places the parish is the central gathering place," says Beachey. "If you shut that down, there's nothing left. If you shut down a parish or two in Pembroke, they'd still have other parishes. It wouldn't be like the sacramental life of the church would cease."

A prime example of church and community coming together for the betterment of all is the annual Canada Day celebrations.

"Canada Day is their biggest celebration," explains Beachey. "The Sheenboro Recreation Association, which is not a parish group, always gets together with the parish council and together they put on Canada Day and divide the profits 50-50."

Partaking in gatherings outside his responsibilities as parish priest can be a challenge for Father Beachey, as he

is also pastor of St. Alphonsus Parish in Chapeau and St. Joseph Parish in St. Joseph's. Nonetheless, parishioners make it a point of ensuring Father Beachey, and other members of the clergy, are a part of their close-knit community.

"They invite you to everything; birthday parties or out for supper," says Beachey. "They're very hospitable and welcoming, not just to me, but to all the priests. Just this past June, we had a diocesan day of prayer for priests. The people of Sheenboro made the supper for us, and they also provided some entertainment for us that evening."

In keeping with their unique character, so, too, are the physical confines of the St. Paul the Hermit unique, due to the destruction of the original structure.

"The original church burnt down in 1918," recalls Beachey, explaining that the basement is the very place where parishioners worship. "It's a basement church. They built the basement for the new church, but the superstructure never got built. It's probably a good thing they never did build the superstructure because it would have cost a fortune to look after a big church."

But make no mistake, parishioners invest their time when required to ensure the church and hall are upgraded when required, ensuring their place of worship continues to endure, along with the Catholic community that calls it home.

"Because of their fundraising activities, they were able to complete substantial renovations to the hall; new floor, new bathrooms and a new level entrance to the church on the side so you didn't have to go down all those stairs," says Beachey. "We just recently painted the church, and we've done some renovations to the sanctuary. We're going to have our stained glass windows taken out soon and will get fixed up. Most of our construction is an ongoing thing. We raise funds for a year or two, then we do some fixing."

"It really is an example of how much they care about their parish. There's never any trouble with keeping things up to date. Every year they have different fundraisers and they do very well. It really shows the strength of the community."



St. Paul the Hermit parish hall



## New seminarian adopted by Diocese of Pembroke

The Diocese of Pembroke is proud to announce that another young member of the greater Catholic community has entered his first year of study towards becoming a priest within our Diocese.

"I'm pretty excited," admits Matthew Hatchen, a native of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. "I'm adopted by St. Hedwig Parish (Barry's Bay), so right now I am a Pembroke seminarian."

Hatchen's path to seeking a deeper understanding of God's love can be traced back to his parents, who nurtured an active relationship with the church.

"It had a great impact in my life," says Hatchen. "My father is Catholic. My mother was raised Protestant, but was baptized Catholic when I was around 10 years old. They both emphasized church and prayer."

Upon graduating from Saint Joseph's High School in Saskatoon in 2007, Hatchen initially entered the work force. Eventually, he decided to explore attending a post-secondary institute where he could delve deeper in understanding his faith via *The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College*.

"It names Catholic colleges across North America. I made a top ten list," explains Hatchen in his search for the right institute to attend. Ultimately, he chose to attend Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Academy (OLSWA) in Barry's Bay. Opened in 2000, OLSWA offers training in the liberal arts within the light of

the teaching of the Catholic Church. Hatchen began his training at OLSWA in 2009.

"There was some home sickness," admits Hatchen upon reflecting on his early days at OLSWA. "But I was blessed to have a roommate with an unlimited phone plan, so contact with my family wasn't much of an issue."

Hatchen also had to contend with the picturesque landscape of the Ottawa Valley, a sharp contrast to his native Saskatchewan.

"Coming out to the Ottawa Valley, I found it to be quite beautiful," he says, versus the wide, flat landscapes of Saskatchewan. "It (the Ottawa Valley) had a mountainous feel, without the mountains."

Hatchen immersed himself in the array of courses offered at the academy. In time, the curriculum provided new enlightenment to the Catholic faith.

"When I first arrived, I didn't know what to expect. I had heard that they (OLSWA) provided a good foundation," explains Hatchen.

"When I started to learn more about theology, I learned more about my faith than any other period of my life. The philosophy courses, by the time I came out of it, I was able to think a lot clearer. I could understand conflicts a lot better. With those two back to back, it assisted me with my discernment."

In hindsight, Hatchen's attendance at OLSWA provided the necessary confirmation of a near life-long inspiration he has felt to serve God.



"I've always had that feeling, even when I was younger," says Hatchen of seeking out a life in the service of God.

"There was always something there that I wanted to dedicate myself to God in some way. The priesthood just kept coming up. In the end, it was reaffirming. I would say near the end of my third year it started coming back more rigorously."

Hatchen completed his studies at OLSWA with a Certificate of Christian Humanities, double concentration in philosophy and theology. He entered St. Philip's Seminary in Toronto this fall.

## Youth "living their faith"—Muffy McIntyre

Laurel (Muffy) McIntyre is a well-spoken young woman, confident in who she is, in her faith and the support she will be able to offer to students at St. Francis Xavier University (StFX) in Antigonish, NS. Muffy is not only an alumnus of StFX, but also began a two-year position there as a Chaplain intern in August.

Muffy grew up in a Catholic family with parents and grandparents who encouraged her and her brothers to be involved in their faith both in school and in the community. The foundation for the faith journey began through parish life and the opportunities made available during her schooling. She is grateful to her family and teachers for their support. Muffy is an alumnus of St. Joseph's Catholic School in Renfrew and notes, "I appreciate my Catholic education and how the school allowed me to learn about the Catholic Church and grow in leadership."

While attending university she observed both the work of Chaplaincy and how it is present to serve the students and create opportunities to explore their beliefs and practise their faith. Students worked alongside the Chaplains and it was an environment that Muffy fit immediately. She was also involved and known on campus for her work with the Students Union, Residence Life, Orientation Crew, and intramural sports.

Upon graduating, Muffy returned to Ontario to attend Saint Paul's University in Ottawa. A condition of her employment was the completion of her Master's, which she happily notes gave her "further motivation" to succeed. In June 2012, she received her Master's in Pastoral Theology. She notes that Cathy, a friend, mentor and then Associate Chaplain at StFX, "was instrumental" in her decision to pursue such a career.

"As St. Francis Xavier University Chaplain I am very happy to welcome Muffy back home to StFX," says Father Danny MacLennan. "This year StFX Chaplaincy is taking a new approach. To reach out to our young people, we have hired Muffy McIntyre as part of the chaplaincy team in the role as Chaplain Intern, and I know Muffy will be excellent in this role."

He adds, "During her four years in the undergraduate program Muffy was a well-respected student who not only practised her faith, but lived it. Her dynamic personality, her infectious smile and love and devotion to the Church will only bring others, especially our students, closer to their God. Muffy will bring new life to the chaplaincy team at StFX."

Muffy is excited to accompany students on their university and faith journeys, and believes that being a recent grad herself and someone their own age, she will connect easily with them. In a final paper for her degree, she wrote:

*Yes, I am young; however, I am equipped and able to connect with students on a real and personal level. Not that this is unique to the younger generation, yet it is my ability to understand and relate to the students as an equal. My response and service with Chaplaincy will stem from a desire to empty myself in order to serve and be present to each student with whom I encounter. And of course to trust that God will continue to empower and grant me the skills to respond.*

There are many aspects to the role and place of Chaplaincy on a university campus, and at St. FX it is a matter of creating a space where students can live, learn, and grow in their faith backgrounds. It is about the development of the whole person, explains Muffy.



**Cathy Walsh, Muffy McIntyre and Father Danny MacLennan.**

"My days are based on the needs of the students. It is a matter of listening and being attentive to what each person is going through and what they are asking for. For example, if a student experiences an unexpected event, requiring support or counselling, that would become a priority for the day."

Looking to the future, she is confident about one more thing. "I will always continue to carry out the work of the Church, especially with young adults."

She has no qualms about leaving the Ottawa Valley behind to return to Antigonish, as it became her "home away from home" during her time there as a student. In addition to the encouragement of her parents, Muffy says, "Nova Scotia is a beautiful place and I felt a calling—to work at this school and to help these students along their journeys."



# Seminarians of the Diocese of Pembroke

For the various seminarians from the Diocese of Pembroke, this fall will usher forth an important apex to their studies, bringing them one step closer to fulfilling their aspirations to serve God as priests.

"When you're learning theology, these are the last days before ordination. Soon you realize that 'Hey, I might actually become a priest, God willing,'" says Justin Bertrand of Île-du-Grand-Calumet, who has just completed his third year of study at St. Philip's Seminary in Toronto.

*"Prayer is definitely a big part of becoming a good priest."*

—Justin Bertrand

The theology portion of their studies will encompass a wide range of subject matters, which will collectively provide the necessary foundation required to administer to parishioners. This will include Church history, basic doctrine and teachings of the church, and how such doctrines evolved over time. Prior to the theology portion of their studies, seminarians must acquire instruction in philosophy.

"By understanding basic philosophy, basic Christian principles, then you can move on to study theology," explains Bertrand. "When you are studying theology in the seminary, you develop a library of resources. When a person asks you a question, you can go back to that library and seek out the answer."

"A straightforward application would be if a couple wishes to get married. There are marriage preparation courses, and if you don't know what the Catholic church teaches (on marriage), then you can't help them understand how to live it."

Although the summertime is providing a respite from seminary life, Bertrand upholds a constant vigilance in communing with God as he continues his quest to become a priest.

"A daily routine of prayer," says Bertrand. "I can't become a good priest if I don't have a good relationship with God, so I have to keep that up as well. Prayer is definitely a big part of it."

Examining church history will also assist future priests when dealing with a variety of challenges in parish life.

"There's learning to think through problems," says Stephen Helferty, a seminarian from the Douglas area. "We'll be going into a lot more depth on the various ways of tackling the problems throughout the centuries."

Now entering theology at St. Augustine's Seminary, Helferty confides that the philosophy curriculum did pose some initial intimidation for him.



Justin Bertrand, Stephen Helferty and Michael Lund (left to right) at the reception following graduation Mass at St. Philip's Seminary in May. Right, Anthony Burchat.



"It wasn't what I expected at all," he says. "When I first entered I was pretty hesitant. My background was in music and math. Going into a philosophy program was kind of scary because I was never much of a writer. It turned out to be very rewarding. I wasn't expecting to enjoy writing papers, but I got right into philosophy."

For Helferty, spending time back in the Diocese this summer provides both inspiration and reaffirmation in his continuing education towards becoming a priest.

*"There's learning to think through problems."*

—Stephen Helferty

"It's going to be great to get out there and help people," remarks Helferty of his firm desire to serve God. "A lot of being a pastor is done in homilies. It's been really important for me to get back to the Diocese for the summer, to see the priests in action and how they thrive off of helping people."

For one seminarian, his upcoming theology studies will take him overseas.

Having departed for Rome in mid July, Michael Lund of Killaloe will begin a five-year tenure in theology study. Prior to this, he will attend Italian language training.

"Basically it was all up to the Bishop," says Lund in explaining how he was selected to go to Rome. "He (Bishop Mulhall) prays about it, speaks to the people down at the seminary, and then makes his decision. I'm excited. It's going to be a great experience. It's a very holy place and I'm sure it will help me in my growth."

Lund will not return to Canada for at least two years. Despite the time away from loved ones, he received unconditional support from his family at the opportunity to study in Italy.

*"Going to Rome is going to be a great experience."*

—Michael Lund

"They are very happy for me," says Lund. "They wanted me to go to Rome when they heard there was a possibility. They are very supportive of me being here, even though I'll be away for a significant period of time."

He also gives credit to the faculty of St. Philip's Seminary in Toronto for their dedication to providing a nurturing environment to the seminarian body.

"I think they've done an excellent job," says Lund. "It (St. Philip Neri) is a terrific seminary, they provide solid instruction. I received a good foundation in philosophy, which is very important for studying theology. Philosophy is the handmaiden of theology. A lot of theological problems start off with philosophical problems. The spiritual formation there is very good. They are always encouraging you to grow in your relationship with Christ. They have prepared me very well for this next step."

Also taking a major step towards his goal of joining the priesthood is Anthony Burchat of Round Lake Centre. This will be his second year of attendance at St. Augustine's.

*"I have a lot of positive anticipation."*

—Anthony Burchat

"My only year at the seminary was completing a spiritual year, which was completely devoid of any study," explains Burchat. "This will actually be my first year studying at a seminary. I'm hitting the tip of the iceberg."

Burchat already possesses extensive post-secondary training, having studied at Our Lady Seat of Wisdom in Barry's Bay. In addition, he received a degree in philosophy from Redeemer University in Ancaster, Ontario.

"I'm hoping my previous education is sufficient to warm me up to whatever they're going to send at me," says Burchat, adding that he is anxious to absorb as much knowledge as he can from his upcoming theology studies.

"I'm definitely looking forward to it. I'm curious to see what the classes are like. The one thing you can guarantee from the classes is lots of good reading, usually more than you can handle. I have a lot of positive anticipation."

Upon completing the fall and winter sessions for 2012-13, Burchat will have three more years of study, followed by a one-year pastoral internship. As he made abundantly clear, his resolve to achieve his goal of becoming a priest remains strong.

"My conviction on that has not changed," he says. "I'm still 100% convinced that God wants me to be a priest."



# Members of Pembroke Diocese attend Eucharistic Congress in Ireland

The Diocese of Pembroke was represented at the 50th International Eucharistic Congress held in Dublin, Ireland, this past June.

"The main object of the congress is the recognition of the Eucharist," explains Paul Morris, Financial Administrator for the Diocese of Pembroke. He was one of four members of the diocese to attend. The others were Sheila Morris, Irene Perrault and Carmel Rumleskie.

A week-long celebration held every four years, the event draws Catholics from around the world to reaffirm the place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Roman Catholic Church. As Morris tells, attendance at the event was impressive.

"There were about 12,000 who attended the opening ceremony. There were 236 cardinals and bishops. There were 1,200 priests, and pilgrims from 123 countries. The Irish were very grateful and humble in the sense that all these people from different countries would come to their country."

The congress concluded on Sunday with some 80,000 worshippers gathering at Croke Park Stadium for the closing mass. Pope Benedict XVI addressed the crowd via video link from the Vatican.

As Irene Perrault explains, the experience of attending the congress can provide an opportunity to move closer to God and manifest his love through the individual.

"It's however the Lord works through you when you come back," says Perrault, president of the Pembroke branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

In light of the modern challenges the church is facing with absentee parishioners, a clear message was delivered that active Catholics will have to re-galvanize themselves in spreading the joy of Christ to others.

"In the future, we're going to have a smaller unit of the church," says Perrault. "Each one of us will be responsible to outreach. We're going to have to bring back our faith because we've lost it. We have to pass the faith on."

"They just don't expect you to go to Sunday Mass and just sit there, take it in, and walk away," adds Morris. "It's about going out and spreading the good news."



*Carmel Rumleskie, front left, Irene Perrault, front, third from left, Paul Morris, back right, and Sheila Morris, front right, attended the 50th International Eucharistic Congress held in Dublin, Ireland, in June.*

Perrault notes the message has particular importance for parents and their responsibility in passing their faith on to their children.

"It is my responsibility as a parent to pass that faith on to my children, and the same thing with my children passing it on to their children," says Perrault.

For Carmel Rumleskie, the International Eucharistic Congress was an opportunity to experience the Catholic Church in action with the prayer sessions, Eucharistic celebrations and the many occasions to listen, learn and share our personal journeys of faith. One workshop that impressed her was about grandparents passing on the faith to their grandchildren.

"The vocation of grandparents was affirmed and we were challenged to be an anchor of faith to our grandchildren—plant a seed of faith through prayer, rosary, Bible stories, church visits and time spent with them," says Rumleskie.

Each day featured a theme relating to the celebration of the Eucharist. Examples included Communion in Marriage and Family, Priesthood and Ministry in the Service of Communion, and Reconciliation in our Communion. Attendees could partake in a wide range of addresses, group discussions and workshops. Daily mass and confession were also held.

"Some of the sessions we just couldn't get into because they were overflowing," says Perrault. "The sessions started at 10 a.m., and if you didn't get seated by 9:30 a.m., you couldn't get in. There were some topics that were more important than others. I thoroughly enjoyed these discussions and hearing what people had to say."

Making an impression upon Perrault were the Irish hosts and the vibrant faith they displayed. In particular, she noted the focus Irish practitioners have towards the Seven Deadly Sins (Capital Vices), a classification of objectionable vices.

"We don't even talk about the Seven Deadly Sins in Canada," says Perrault. "They had one confirmation class do posters of the Seven Deadly Sins and they had them on display at one church we visited."

While Sheila Morris has travelled to Ireland a number of times, this trip to attend the International Eucharistic Congress had special meaning for her. She particularly enjoyed the discussion sessions, adoration chapel and the numerous Eucharistic celebrations, in particular the closing Mass at Croke Park.

"It was truly a pilgrimage, and to see the faith of all those gathered and the welcome of the Irish people was very special," she notes.

The next International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Cebu City, Philippines, in 2016.

## World Youth Day 2013 "Go and make disciples of all the nations" (Mt 28:19)

**July 23–28, 2013, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

The Pembroke diocese is planning a pilgrimage to attend this epic event. Those interested should contact the Family Life and Youth Ministry Office no later than September 28 at 613-732-7933 ext. 208, or [yvettebourque@pembrokedioocese.com](mailto:yvettebourque@pembrokedioocese.com). You must be 18 to 35 years of age at the time of travel to participate.





## Restoration of St. Gabriel's church a labour of love

The St. Gabriel's Historical Preservation Committee is working diligently to restore St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church to its former glory. The small pioneer church is located in Springtown overlooking the Madawaska River midway between Calabogie and Burnstown. It was deconsecrated in 1952 and has stood unused for the last 60 years.

Bruce Pappin, a volunteer with the Building and Property Committee of the Diocese of Pembroke, endorsed a recommendation to preserve the church as a heritage asset. He notes, "It's a unique site. The 1854 building has survived unaltered since its last renovation in 1906, with the original altar and communion rail. Even the nineteenth century lithographed Stations of the Cross still hang in their gilt frames."

The church and surrounding pioneer graveyard also have great significance to local residents whose roots run deep in the area.

A preservation committee was formed in 2010. Members include Father Pat Blake, Pastor of Most Precious Blood Roman Catholic Church, Diocesan representative; Kevin McCrea and Mary-Joan (Skippy) Hale, Co-Chairs; Joel McCrea, Treasurer; and Gayle Blenkhorn, Secretary. Mary-Joan (Skippy) Hale also takes care of publicity and Yvette Blimkie acts as archivist for the project. At present the Fundraising Coordinator role is vacant.

The committee quickly set to work on the exterior of the building, beginning at the top since moisture entering through the roof was causing interior damage.

Hale says, "This involved nailing down or replacing parts of the metal roof and flashing around the steeple. The hole for the bell rope was sealed." In addition, a "non-functioning" chimney was removed and covered over. "These repairs also prevent further entry of birds and bats," notes Hale.

Broken windows have been temporarily replaced with plywood until proper restoration can be completed.

Volunteers, with the advice of professionals, have been carefully repairing the one remaining statue. This work is being carried out in the basement of Most Precious Blood Church where it is cleaner and brighter.

Interior projects, such as restoration of the Stations of the Cross, tin walls and ceiling will require the assistance of professional curators.

Repairs so far have been done by volunteers as "gifts in kind" and, until now, funds have been raised by donation, bake sales at most Precious Blood Church in Calabogie, and the sale of two books *Calabogie Timber, Trains, and Tourists* and *Springtown Reflections: A Study of People and Time*, written by Irene Robillard, who generously donated \$5.00 per book to the project.

Hale says, "We are at a crossroads now, since we are not incorporated and must be in order to apply for grants." But the group is determined to clear all hurdles in its path, and is in the process of dealing with that issue.

The next big projects planned are at the ground level of the building. The grading has eroded over time allowing rainwater and spring run-off to seep in through the foundation of the church. The concrete between the stones of the foundation is crumbling and needs to be replaced, as well as the stone porch steps. The dampness in the basement has also caused some disintegration of the square, old-growth timber log sub-structure inside.

Several scenarios have been suggested for proceeding with this work, some of which are beyond the groups' present finances, and there are other considerations as well. Hale says, "We are concerned that improper grading could upset the foundation and cause further structural damage. We have had an assessment by Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) and two structural engineers, as well as local construction professionals. We are proceeding cautiously, yet if too much time is spent, we may get beyond the point of no return."



Two subcommittees are drawing up further construction plans and long-term goals for the property.

### Gravestone recovery

The committee has also taken on a rescue mission nearby. At some point in time grave markers from the cemetery were thrown into the river. Hale says, "With the help of local divers, we hope to bring up the grave markers from under the Springtown Bridge."

The committee has sent out an appeal to any divers who might be interested, and a restoration committee member who lives close by has offered a pontoon boat to aid at the dive spot.

Once the stones have been retrieved, Hale says the committee would "return them so that we may respect those who are buried in the cemetery."

"We are really enjoying our project and the more we can interest others in this 'labour of love', the happier we will be," concludes Hale.

Anyone interested in helping with this project or being added to our mailing list may contact Mary-Joan Hale at [maryjoanhale@gmail.com](mailto:maryjoanhale@gmail.com).



Kevin McCrea and Ken Hasler use the Genie Lift to carry out roof repairs at St. Gabriel.



Liz Chapman pieces a statue together.



# Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha will become Canada's first aboriginal saint

By Jason Dedo

On February 18, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI announced that the Church will canonize (officially recognize as a saint) Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. The canonization ceremony will occur in Rome on October 21, 2012. This event is significant for the aboriginal peoples of North America as Blessed Kateri will be the first indigenous North American to be recognized as a saint by the Church.

Kateri was declared venerable (and her first miracle was recognized) by Pope Pius XII in 1943 and was beatified (named Blessed) by Blessed John Paul II in 1980. On June 24, 1980, Blessed John Paul II, in an address to the aboriginals of Canada, stated the following: "My brothers and sisters, may you be inspired and encouraged by the life of Blessed Kateri. Look to her for an example of fidelity; see in her a model of purity and love; turn to her in prayer for assistance. May God bless you as he blessed her."

Blessed Kateri, known as the "Lily of the Mohawks", was born in 1656 in what is now New York State to a Mohawk Chief and a Catholic Algonquin mother. Her parents and brother died of smallpox when she was a young child and Kateri herself was left nearly blind and badly scarred in the face by the same disease. She was subsequently raised by aunts and her uncle who did not welcome Christianity. When she was 10 years old, her village was visited by Jesuit missionaries and she became exposed to the Catholic faith. At age 18, she was baptized.

An excerpt from the website of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) relays the following events of her faith journey:

*Despite his misgivings, her uncle allowed her to be baptized as long as she remained in the village. Following her Baptism, Kateri lived a pious and faith-filled life, spending hours in prayer and fashioning crosses out of twigs. She also refused to marry, believing that she was married to God and that no man could take God's place in her heart. Her beliefs were met with ridicule, hostility and threats. Thus, two years after her Baptism, she fled to St. Francis Xavier Mission, a Christian Mohawk village in Kahnawake, Quebec.*

*There, she received her first Communion on Christmas Day 1677. She also made a vow of perpetual virginity on the Feast of the Annunciation in 1679. In Kahnawake,*

*Kateri was known for her faith and holiness. She taught prayers to children, cared for the elderly and the sick, and would often attend mass at sunrise and sunset.*

*Kateri's health deteriorated in the last years of her life. She died of tuberculosis on April 17, 1680, shortly before her 24<sup>th</sup> birthday, and was buried at St. Francis Xavier Mission. Her final words were: "Jesos Konoronkwa" ("Jesus, I love you"). Witnesses report that within minutes of her death, the smallpox scars vanished from her face, which then radiated with beauty (Source: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)).*

Kateri died at a Christian Mohawk village in what is now Kahnawake within the current Diocese of Saint-Jean Longueuil, Quebec, and so she is claimed by both the Church in Canada (country of her death) and the United States (country of her birth).

It is believed that many miracles have occurred due to Blessed Kateri's intercession. On December 19, 2011, Pope Benedict XVI signed a decree officially acknowledging another miracle attributed to her intervention. The December 20, 2011, edition of the Catholic Register reported that a young boy in Seattle whose face had been disfigured by flesh-eating bacteria and who almost died from the disease, recovered completely; and the Vatican confirmed the work of a tribunal who determined there was no medical explanation for it (Source: [www.catholicregister.org](http://www.catholicregister.org)). This miracle apparently occurred due to the prayers of the boy's parents to Blessed Kateri, asking for her intercession.

The CCCB announced the following events in Rome at the time of Blessed Kateri's canonization:

*The major events in Rome will include a Prayer Vigil the evening before the Canonization, the Canonization itself, a Mass of Thanksgiving the following day for Canadians who will be in Rome for the Canonization, and the screening by Salt and Light Television of a new film on the Saint's life. The Holy Father will hold his regular General Audience on the Wednesday morning following the Canonization, where he is expected to give special greetings to those at the celebrations in Rome (Source: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)).*

The canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha will no doubt be a great time of joy and celebration for the Canadian Church, as well as for our First Nations peoples. Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us!



## First Diocesan Youth Peru Work Experience is underway

A group of youth and young adults are preparing for an experience of a lifetime. In February 2013, the group will travel to Peru for a 12-day, hands-on work experience to help Peruvian families in need in Chincha Alta. First they will visit the city of Lima and its magnificent Cathedral and then travel to the Chincha Valley where they will stay with the Sisters of St. Joseph and visit families who are most in need of assistance. Two youth and an interpreter will carry out home visits to meet the families and assess their most immediate needs. This could be as simple as a comfy chair, beds, mattresses, cribs for infants, or even a new stove or roof. They must use the resources in the village to travel to the market to purchase these items and deliver them to the homes. Pictures must be taken and logged as visual proof that a particular family received aid and in what context. All of the work accomplished each day will be logged in a journal with corresponding pictures and sent by e-mail to all the supporters back home who are interested in the work being accomplished.

The youth are required to bring money they have earned and/or fundraised in Canada to make the

purchases for needy families in Peru so that the money is being spent in the local economy, which, in turn, helps even more people in the area. They will also likely have the opportunity to work on a water project underway at present in the village by helping to dig trenches, hammer some nails, place pipes, etc.

Participants are also encouraged to bring needed gift items with them from Canada such as small flashlights, small blankets, t-shirts with Pembroke or Canada on them, puzzles, colouring books, hair accessories, etc.

Mid trip, the youth will participate in an overnight stay with a Peruvian family to experience more intimately what it is like to walk in the shoes of those who have much less materially. The Canadian youth will bring each host family a gift of necessary food items in a basket as a thank you.

A day trip to Pisco on the ocean is also planned for the group to enjoy some fishing, boating and time at the beach. Before leaving, the youth will also visit the popular market in Lima for some last-minute souvenir shopping and to experience some local cultural dancing and festivities.



Anyone wishing to make a monetary donation or donate gift items for the February work experience can do so by dropping them off at the Diocesan office at 188 Renfrew Street beside St. Columbkille Cathedral. Monetary donations should be made out to the "Sisters of St. Joseph" and marked "Youth Peru 2013". Any donation of more than \$10.00 will be issued a tax receipt, so please include a return address.

There are only a couple of spaces still available for youth participants. The cost is \$2,000 for this 12-day experience. **The deadline to apply is September 30, 2012.** Please contact the Family Life and Youth Ministry Office for forms or more information at (613) 732-7933 ext. 208 or [yvettebourque@pembrokedioocese.com](mailto:yvettebourque@pembrokedioocese.com).



# Grandma—I want to make my First Communion!

By Jason Dedo

Recently, I had a conversation with a friend who shared with me that she brings her grandchildren to Mass with her on a regular basis. Her daughter and son-in-law have other priorities for Sunday mornings and at this point in their lives, they are not willing to commit to participating in Sunday morning Eucharist with their children. My friend shared with me how her grandson is expressing interest in beginning the sacramental initiation process for First Holy Communion. The child's parents are not interested in being involved in this process at this time, but my friend would really like to see her grandson make his First Communion and is more than willing to accompany him on this journey. She is now wondering how to approach her pastor about this situation.

In my several years working in the Diocesan Faith Formation Office, I have encountered such cases frequently where the grandparents are playing or want to play a significant role in the faith formation of their grandchildren. I would guess that as we go through time, we will see more and more cases of this phenomenon.

When we, as parents, bring our children to the church for baptism, the celebrant asks the following question of us:

*You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training him(her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him(her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking? (Rite of Baptism for Children, #122).*

And everyone answers, "Yes!" and in doing so, we agree to become the primary educators in the faith for our child (*General Directory for Catechesis*, #255).

Later on in the rite, the celebrant speaks to the parents and godparents in these words:

*...On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him(her) up in the practice of the faith... (Rite of Baptism for Children, #122).*

In many situations, the parents of baptized children practice their faith very little and as a result, many children are not given the opportunity to practice and grow in their faith. There are many possible reasons for this reality.

Maybe the parents did not receive adequate preparation for the baptism of their child and, thus, were not prepared to make the commitment they made on the day of their child's baptism. Perhaps the parents have made other priorities in their lives that do not include an active faith journey or participation in the Sunday Eucharist. Is there a situation where a single parent feels so overwhelmed with the demands of work and home that commitment to parish life does not seem workable? Have parents attempted to engage with a parish at some point and found the parish to be unwelcoming? Do the parents not see the relevance of the church in their lives or do they feel at odds with the church over some issue or situation?

Our primary focus should be to first try to answer these questions concretely, by inviting parents to

reflect on the promises they made to God at their child's baptism and calling them to responsibility as worshiping members of the faith community.

Whatever the reason for the absence of many parents from parish life, many grandparents feel the need to fill this void in the faith lives of their grandchildren. The Church's *General Directory for Catechesis* tells us the following: "In this family catechesis, the role of grandparents is of growing importance. Their wisdom and sense of the religious is often times decisive in creating a true Christian climate" (#255).

Regarding the duties of family members, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states "For Christians, a special gratitude is due to those from whom they have received the gift of faith, the grace of Baptism and the life of the church. These may include parents, grandparents, other members of the family, pastors, catechists and other teachers or friends" (#2220).

In the *Second Letter from Paul to Timothy*, St. Paul tells Timothy, "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure lives in you" (2 Timothy 1:5).

All of these references highlight the importance that grandparents can have in the faith formation of their grandchildren. It is wonderful when grandparents love their grandchild and their faith enough to want to actively support their grandchild on their faith journey. However, a situation where a grandparent

asks to accompany a grandchild for the process of the sacraments of initiation may present many pastoral challenges.

As parishes, we will be continuously challenged to attempt to respond to these situations in a pastoral manner that respects the ideal role of parents as the primary educators in the faith, but also recognizes the reality that many parents are not willing to fulfill this role.

By responding pastorally to such situations, I am not suggesting that a pastoral response means the pastor doing whatever is asked of him by a grandparent. There is often no quick or easy solution to such pastoral dilemmas. Every situation is different and pastors who are presented with a scenario like that of my friend at the beginning of this article have to take a number of factors into consideration before making a decision. Evidently, the church does not want to advocate an easy way out for parents who promised to support their children in the practice of the faith at their baptism. A pastoral response may be to creatively find ways to invite disconnected parents into taking a more active role in the faith development of their child and to ensure that they discover a welcoming and supportive parish community.

God bless the many grandparents who are able to serve as witnesses to the faith of their grandchildren! As the People of God, let us continue to pray for all baptized children that they will be accompanied by loved ones who will be authentic role models in the faith.



The Diocese of Pembroke Family Life and Youth Ministry Office presents...

## FULL FILLED IN FAITH

A High School Retreat for youth grade 8 to 12, February 1–3, 2013

Madawaska Valley District High School, Barry's Bay

\$40 before January 18; \$45 until final deadline January 25

Registration forms will be available at parishes, high school chaplaincy offices or by contacting Yvette at [yvettebourque@pembrokediocese.com](mailto:yvettebourque@pembrokediocese.com) or (613) 732-7933 ext. 208.

The title and theme for the retreat was chosen in an effort to connect with the upcoming "Year of Faith" declared by Pope Benedict the XVI from October 11, 2012, to November 24, 2013.

This retreat seeks to help young people understand that until we empty ourselves of all that is worldly: pride, hurt, sin, self-control, ego, lust, greed, the need for attention, etc., we will not be able to experience what is Heavenly. Further, it aims to help youth to make tough decisions and ask difficult questions during their walk towards Christ. The relevance of what we do at Mass, the sacraments and how we live the Catholic faith from Monday to Saturday (not just Sundays) will be highlighted and explained through simple talks, activities and analogies. This retreat is based on the Lifeteen retreat titled *Full Filled* and is based on the book, *Blessed are the bored in Spirit: A young Catholic's search for Meaning* by Mark Hart. This book will be available at the retreat for participants to purchase at a minimal cost.

Come and enjoy a fun filled weekend of learning, praying, playing, discussing, singing, adoring, confessing, laughing and celebrating with other youth from across the Diocese and beyond. See you there!



# Journey to the Father

*youth*  
in the diocese

*By Angela Richmond, Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Parish, Deep River*

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the Journey to the Father (JTTF) Conference on July 13–15, in St. Raphael's, Ontario, along with the D-week, which is held the week before the conference and organized by NET Ministries of Canada. As a participant for the past five years, I have grown immensely in my faith through the annual conference with activities such as talks, testimonies, praise and worship, the rosary, adoration, games, free time, and simply meeting other people my age who share a common faith. Every year, the conference has a new theme with this year's being "Chosen by God—Pray, Trust, Act".

Since my first encounter with Christ through adoration five years ago at JTTF, I've seen the conference as a place of acceptance, fellowship, and faith formation. This year was my first time attending D-week (formally known as the Disciples Program). On the website, NET D-Week is explained as "a Catholic discipleship and leadership opportunity for mature and sincere youth eager to learn more about their faith and grow in their relationship with Christ." For me, D-Week went well beyond all expectations. Through games, talks, testimonies, small groups, personal prayer time, volunteer work, and team building activities, I learned more about myself and how to live for greatness—responding to your individual call to holiness by following Christ and striving for heaven. A concept that I really took away from D-Week was "Duty of the Moment", which is what you should be doing at any



*Angela Richmond and Pia Dimayuga perform a skit.*

given time, in whatever place God has put you, to the best of your ability and with great love. Throughout the week, those of us attending D-Week became not only a team, but a family.

As I enter my final year of high school this fall, I'll look forward to attending the next JTTF conference and D-Week as a place of acceptance for my beliefs, a

place to see young people excited about their faith and a place to discover the depth of God's love for each one of us. This conference and all the people involved in making it possible will affect me and my relationships during the upcoming year by not being afraid of who I am as a child of Christ and enabling me to explain the reason for my joy for life and love for others.

## MORNING WATCH



Join the faithful from across  
the diocese for All-night  
Adoration of Jesus

Saturday October 27, 7:00 p.m. to  
Sunday, October 28, 9:00 a.m. Mass  
Mount St. Patrick Parish  
Mount St. Patrick, Ontario

For more information or to book an hour of adoration please call the parish office at 613-752-2224 and leave a message. Sr. Zita will return your call.

*Many thanks and blessings to the parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Deep River, who hosted the last MORNING WATCH EVENT this past June.*





# Financial report for the Diocese of Pembroke

Year ending December 31, 2011

This is the first year that a Financial Statement of Operations for the diocese has been presented. It is presented for your information in the form of pie charts.

The figures show that for the 2011 fiscal year, the diocese reported an operating surplus of \$361,378. The Pembroke firm of Scott, Rosien & Dempsey has been engaged by the diocese for the preparation of the year-end Financial Statement of the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Pembroke. These financial statements support the information reported in the Revenue and Expense pie charts.

The surplus was aided by significant interest income, historically and to present supported by sound investment policies. With the majority of investments in the bond market we have not been greatly affected by the negative down-turn in the stock market.

We are sincerely grateful to the members of the Diocesan Finance Council for their advice, their wisdom and for sharing their time and talents for the benefit of the

diocese. We recognize the past and current economic struggles and their effects on our parishioners and their parishes and we thank each one of you for your financial support this past year. The parishes and the diocese depend on your continued generosity in support of their mission in today's world.

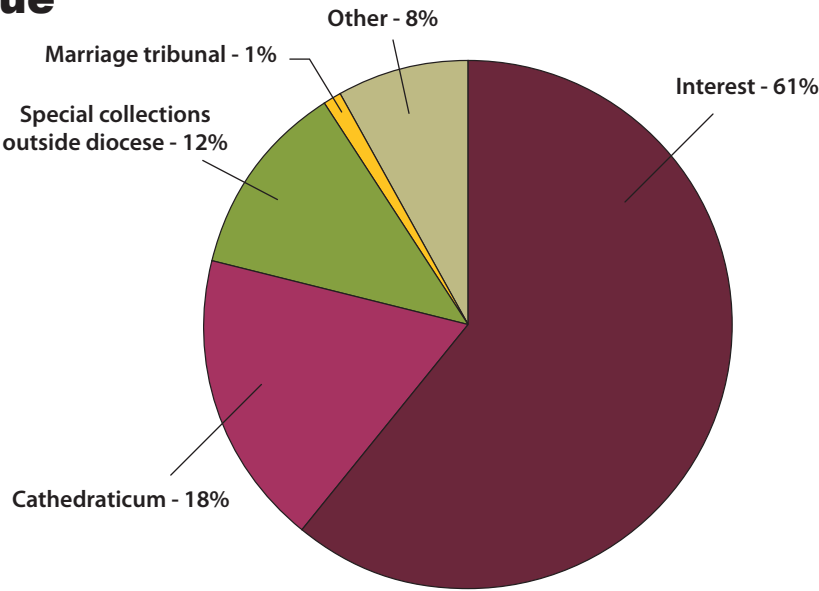
Thank you for your stewardship, may God bless you.

If you have any questions concerning the information presented, please contact Mr. Paul Morris, Diocesan Financial Administrator at 613-732-7933 ext. 207.

## Members of the Diocesan Finance Council

- Bishop Michael Mulhall
- Robert Tate
- James McCluskey
- Rev. John Burchat
- Fred Sinclair
- John Huff
- Paul Morris

## Revenue

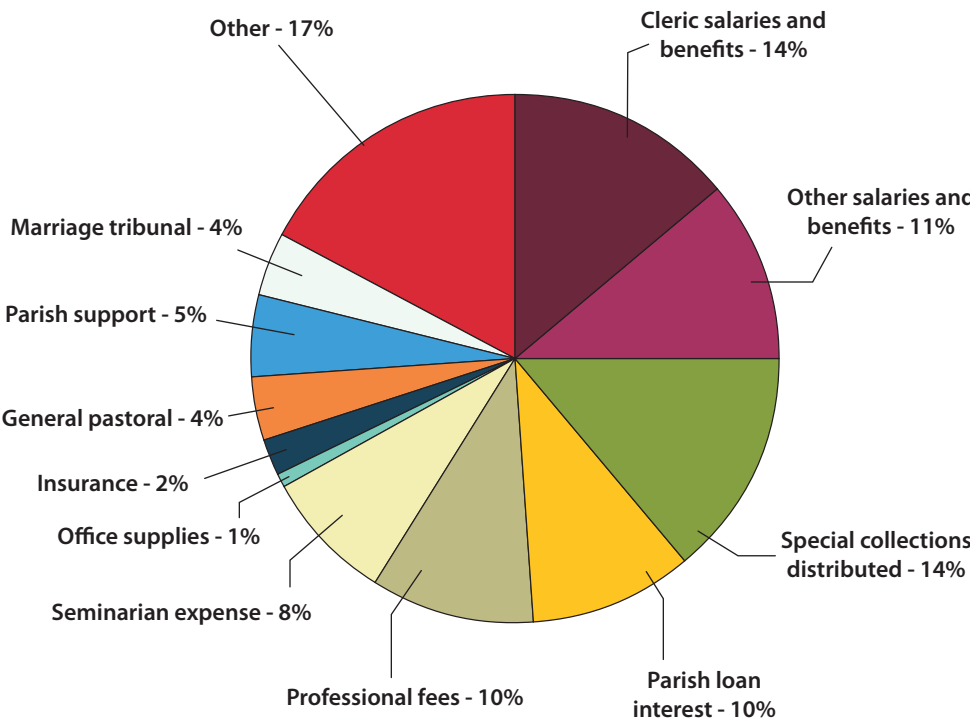


Revenue		
Interest	61.0%	\$1,436,554
Cathedraicium	18.0%	\$429,596
Special collections outside diocese	12.0%	\$273,112
Marriage tribunal	1.0%	\$12,135
Other*	8.0%	\$193,275
Total	100.0%	\$2,344,672

### \*Significant revenue items under "Other"

Estates and donations	\$69,251.00
Rental income	\$37,906.00
Health & dental contributions from parishes	\$34,552.00
Seminary collections	\$19,516.00
Priest retreat contributions from parishes	\$12,000.00

## Expenses



Expenses		
Cleric salaries and benefits	14.0%	\$281,097
Other salaries and benefits	11.0%	\$223,516
Special collections distributed	14.0%	\$274,854
Parish loan interest	10.0%	\$197,811
Professional fees*	10.0%	\$201,927
Seminarian expense	8.0%	\$164,522
Office supplies	1.0%	\$23,318
Insurance	2.0%	\$30,913
General pastoral	4.0%	\$71,776
Parish support	5.0%	\$108,628
Marriage tribunal	4.0%	\$71,153
Other**	17.0%	\$333,779
Total	100.0%	\$1,983,294

\*Not specifically detailed under "Professional Fees" are expense payments of legal fees and settlements of actions concerning abuse by priests. The diocese appreciates the support of several insurance companies that have provided coverage for these matters.

### \*\*Significant expense items under "Other"

Office of Religious Education	\$57,978.00
Residence building maintenance	\$30,495.00
Diocesan tax transfer to C.L. Nelligan Clergy Fund	\$30,000.00
Travel & vehicle	\$29,163.00
Donations	\$25,888.00
Mass intentions	\$20,237.00
Priest retreat	\$19,274.00
Ecclesia	\$9,510.00