The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

The Mother Church of the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Kingston
The Most Reverend Brendan M. O'Brien, Archbishop of Kingston



279 Johnson Street, Kingston, ON K7L 1Y5

Telephone: 613-546-5521, Fax: 613-546-1947, email: smarys@cogeco.net,

Web Site: stmaryscathedral.ca

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9-5, closed 12 noon-1 pm.

Mass Schedule: St. James Chapel: Mon.-Sat. 7:45 am Cathedral: Mon.-Fri. 12:10 pm Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm; Sunday Masses: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 7:30 pm

Opportunities for Confession: One half hour prior to every Mass held in the Cathedral; Wednesdays 1 pm - 5pm, Saturdays 4 pm - 4:50 pm

Contacts

Rector: Father Shawn Hughes,
fathershawnjhughes@gmail.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Stéphane
Pouliot, fatherstephane@gmail.com
Deacon Blaine Barclay,

blainebarclay31@gmail.com

Parish Office Administrator:

Suzanne, smarys@cogeco.net

Pastoral Caring Coordinator:

Ann Lyng, alvng@cogeco.ca Sacristan: Leslie Darling,

lesliedarling37@gmail.com
Organist: Catherine Helferty,

catherinehelferty@hotmail.com

Parish Council Secretary; Ellen Hawman,

ellen.hawman@sympatico.ca

Catholic Women's League:

Ellen Hawman

ellen.hawman@sympatico.ca

Knights of Columbus Council #728: Doug Snider, di53@live.ca
Finance Committee: Chair Mark

Levac, mark@levacsupply.com

University Chaplain:

Fr. R. de Souza,

chaplain@newmanhouse.ca

Billings Method Natural Family

Planning: Jennifer Farah,

kingston@naturalfamilyplanning.ca

Creighton Model Fertility

CareTM System: Caitlin Fitzpatrick

cjfitzpatrick@outlook.com

Serena, Sympto-Thermal Method

of Family Planning:

www.serena.ca

serenakingston@gmail.com

Adoration: Karen King, karenking333@gmail.com, 613-541-5010 ext. 2415

St. Mary's Refugee Sponsorship:

Angela Gambin

stmarysrefugee@gmail.com

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN ST. JAMES' CHAPEL: You are invited to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Eucharistic Adoration at any time Sun. 11:30 am to 9 pm, Mon. to Fri. 8:15 am-9 pm, Sat. 8:15 am to 5 pm. People are needed for the following; Sun 1-2, 4-5 pm; Mon 9-10 am; Wed 5-6, 6-7 pm; Thurs 5-6, 6-7 pm; Fri 6-7 pm, Sat 11-2 am, 1-2, 2-3 pm. Please contact Karen King at 613-541-5010 ext. 2415.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 17th, 2016

<u>PLEASE TAKE NOTE:</u> We are pleased to announce that the parish bulletin will now be available in a convenient electronic format. To receive the new bulletin weekly in your email inbox, please send an email to stmarysdispatch@amail.com

THIS SUNDAY: Knights of Columbus Breakfast: January 17th, 2016, 8:30 am-1 pm at the Parish Centre.



Catholic Womens' League will meet Jan. 19th, 1:00 pm at the Parish Centre. For further details see ad below.

St. Mary's Moms and Tots: Inviting all members in the Kingston area for faith formation and fellowship. Next meeting is January 19th.

Babysitting provided. The first and third Tuesday of each Month, 10-11:30 am, St. Mary's Parish Centre, 260 Brock St.

<u>St.MarysMomsandTots@gmail.com</u> Facebook event: St Marys Moms & Tots.

BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY: The Mystery of God: Who He is and Why it Matters. How to talk to atheists. Word on Fire Ministries with Bishop Robert Barron. DVD series presented this Wed. Jan. 20th & Thurs. Jan 21st and Wed. Jan. 27th, 7-9 in St. Mary's Parish Centre. See info further inside

Parish Council Annual General Meeting will be held in St. Mary's Parish Centre, Tues. Jan. 26th at 7 pm. This is an open meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Healing the Church: January 28th, at 7 pm in the Parish Centre.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE – Make ShareLent a part of our journey in this Year of Mercy. Join us Saturday Jan 23rd at St. Joseph Parish in Kingston (392 Palace Rd.) from 10am-12:30pm for our annual ShareLent workshop. You will experience a virtual pilgrimage to visit the people Development and Peace is helping around the world in this Year of Mercy. We hope it will inspire you to help make ShareLent a success in your parish! For more information, contact: Susan Kennedy (613) 549-2621, susan.kennedy1915@gmail.com.

<u>Seniors' Lunches</u> continue Wednesday February 3rd, 2016 after the 12:10 pm Mass in the Parish Centre. All are welcome. Hosted by the St. Mary's Pastoral Care team.

<u>Latin Mass</u> will be celebrated February 7th, 2016 at 3 pm in St. James Chapel.

Attention Parents of Public/Private School Students either in (Sacraments grade older and Reconciliation/Confession/First Holy Communion), or in grade 7/8 or older. (Sacrament of Confirmation)! On Saturday mornings, beginning January 23rd, St. Mary's Cathedral will offer classes over several months to prepare your children. 9:30am for the children preparing for the Sacraments of First Confession/First Holy Communion, and 11:00am for those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will meet at St. Mary's Parish Centre-corner of Brock St. and Clergy St. Parents are encouraged to attendance. Please contact Father Stéphane Pouliot at fatherstephane@gmail.com as soon as possible to register or at 613-546-5521 extension 6. Also please pass this along to members of your families who might not see this.

Masses

Monday Jan. 18th

7:45 am Hermina & Werenfried Van de Ven

12:10 pm Helen (Doolan) Hutchings Tuesday Jan. 19th

7:45 am Joseph Patterson Healy, Mary Ellen Kelly Healy, members of Kelly & Healy families

12:10 pm Intentions of CWL

Wednesday Jan. 20th

7:45 am John Yakimeczko

12:10 pm Alice (Fowler) Lynch

Thursday Jan. 21st

7:45 am Hermina & Werenfried Van de Ven

12:10 pm Dorle Kromer

Friday Jan. 22nd

7:45 am Joseph Patterson Healy, Mary Ellen Kelly Healy, members of Kelly & Healy families

12:10 pm Dorle Kromer

Saturday Jan. 23rd

7:45 am Mary Yakimeczko

5 pm Dorle Kromer

Sunday Jan. 24th

8 am Mary Joseph, Joseph Thomas, Intentions

10:30 am for the people

7:30 pm Hermina & Werenfried Van de Ven

Ministries: Sat. Jan. 23rd 5 pm

Altar Servers	Doug S. Alec D.
Lectors	Ahyoung C Elizabeth N.
EM of the	Anne H.
Eucharist	

Sunday Jan. 24th 8 am

Altar Servers	David M. Charles F.
Lectors	Janet W. Betty R.
EM of the	Adora J.
Eucharist	Diane D.

Sunday Jan. 24th 10:30 am

Altar	Nick B. Barry M
Servers	Doug S. Michael G.
	Elizabeth S.
Lectors	Janice L. Callie M.
EM of the	Betty G Carmen D Bob C
Eucharist	Domenica B. Rita F
	Marietta M. Natalia A.

Sunday Jan. 24th 7:30 pm

Altar Servers	Students
Lectors	Taylor C. Michelle S.
EM of the	Pene L.
Eucharist	Jacqueline O.

Please pray for our Sick: Beverly Harris, Irene Haugh, James Hunter, Theresa Knott, Hermina Lawlor, Earl McDonald, Carmelita Orellano, Tony Overvelde, Connie Tan, Réal Vienneau, Giordana White.

St. Mary's Cathedral Council of the Catholic Women's League

will be having their winter general meetings on Tuesday afternoons January 19th and February 16th, following the noon Mass, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the



Parish Centre. Please bring your own lunch; beverages (and perhaps dessert!) will be provided. Please note the change of time from the fall meetings. It is hoped that the afternoon time will encourage more women to attend who may find evening meetings difficult, especially in winter. At our January 19th meeting, Taylor Currie, a Queen's doctoral candidate, will speak to us about Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) and its

mission. The theme of this year's meetings, *The Holy Year of Mercy*, will be developed under the direction of our spiritual advisor, Father Shawn Hughes. Women from our parish, of all ages and backgrounds, are invited to become members. The membership fee is \$20/year. We will be holding a membership drive beginning later in January and continuing throughout February. Look for our information table after weekend Masses beginning January 23/24, or place your membership fee in an envelope with your name and contact information and marked "CWL" in the collection basket. Meetings are monthly from September to May, the third Tuesday of every month, with some exceptions, either following the noon mass or in the evening. The meetings always have a spiritual, a business and a social component. For more information or to arrange for transportation, please contact the President, Ellen Hawman: ellen.hawman@sympatico.ca or 613-634-8635.

TODAY: World Day of Migrants and Refugees: On Sunday, January 17, 2016, the Church marks the World Day of Migrants and Refugees as part of the Year of Mercy. This year, the Holy Father's message is entitled "Migrants and Refugees challenge us: The Response of the Gospel of Mercy"; it can be accessed under 'Messages' on the Vatican website at www.vatican.va. In October of 2015, the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace issued a Pastoral Letter on Refugees, entitled, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". The letter can be accessed under 'Commissions – Justice and Peace – documents' on the website of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops at www.cccb.ca.



We say Good Bye to our Custodian, Peter Draper

After turning 65 this past year Peter has decided to resign from his position here as custodian. He handed in his letter giving notice before Christmas and kindly stayed on until the New Year had begun. We wish Peter all of God's blessings as he embarks on this new stage of his life.

Healing The Church Workshop: A workshop on: 'Healing the Church: Addressing the Sexual Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church' will be held on *Thursday January 28, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at St. Mary's Parish Centre*. The material presented at the workshop by the Providence Spirituality Team is based on the extensive research of Dr. Sister Nuala Kenny, SC who is a physician and a member of the Sisters of Charity. This workshop is for every member of the parish but especially those who might have felt the effects of the crisis of clergy sexual abuse in the Catholic Church and the denial and secrecy that has sometimes accompanied it and those who have experienced a loss of trust in Church leadership, even a loss of faith and who find themselves apart from the Church. Please spread the news about this wonderful workshop to those who this may directly affect but who will not necessarily read it in our cathedral newsletter.

PLAN ON ATTENDING: BEGINNING THIS WEDNESDAY

"The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters"



How should Christians Respond to Atheism?

Atheism is on the rise. Skeptical thinkers like Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, and Sam Harris vigorously attack belief in God as irrational or, even worse, dangerous. The so-called New Atheism has attracted millions of young people thanks to bestselling books such as *The God Delusion* and *God Is Not Great*. How should Christians respond? How can we turn the tide of secularism and draw people back to God? In a new six-part DVD series from Bishop Robert Barron titled "The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters" you will reach into our rich intellectual tradition and learn how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Pope Benedict XVI, you'll uncover a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God".

Who is God? And why does he matter? Watch this series and you'll not only learn the answers yourself, but you'll discover how to share them with others—especially those who no longer believe. This DVD series will be presented in St. Mary's Parish Centre, Wednesday, January 20th at 7-9 pm, Thursday, January 21st 7-9 pm & concludes Wednesday, January 27th 7-9 pm. Facilitated by Father Shawn.

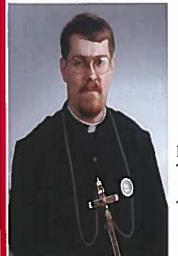


SASE-Kingston Presents a Course on the Power of God's Salvation

St. Andrew School of Evangelization Kingston (SASE- Kingston) is offering another great opportunity to deepen our faith. The course 'New Life' will take place at St. Mary's Parish Centre from Friday, February 19 to Sunday,

February 21, 2016. Registration fee is \$50, which includes all meals, breaks and course materials. If you desire to bring your baptism to life, are willing to encounter Jesus as profoundly alive, are hungry to know God's love personally, are eager for your faith to grow and are hoping to have your life renewed by the Spirit of God, this is the course for you!!! To register or for more information, contact Ann Lyng, 613-546-5521 Ext. 5

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE A SPECTACULAR SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE FOR OUR PARISH



IN THIS JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY YOU ARE INVITED TO A LENTEN MISSION HERE AT ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

DIVINE MERCY IN THE GOSPELS

Father Ben Cameron, C.P.M., The Fathers of Mercy of Auburn, Kentucky Saturday, March 12th & Sunday, March 13th, Homilist at all the Masses At St. Mary's Cathedral

Monday, March 14th: Ask for Mercy: The Prodigal Son
Tuesday, March 15th: Be Merciful: The Good Samaritan

Wednesday, March 16th: Confidence in Mercy: The Sinful Woman
Thursday, March 17th: The Cross: Wellspring of Infinite Divine Mercy

Daily Mass: 7:45 am and 12:10 pm

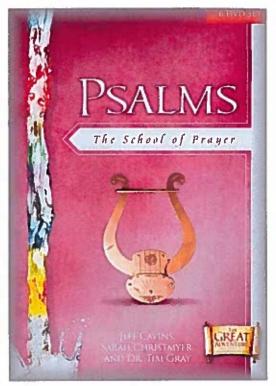
Each Evening: 6 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions

7 pm to 8 pm: Mission Talk

8:00 pm: Confessions following the Talk

Psalms: The School of Prayer

by Jeff Cavins, Sarah Christmyer, and Tim Gray



With *Psalms: The School of Prayer*, The Great Adventure moves from telling the Story to making it personal. While the historical books of the Bible recount God's creative and redemptive acts in history, the Psalms reveal Israel's response to God's covenant offer and serve as a model for our response to Him. Indeed, one could say that the historical books tell the "outside" of the story of Israel by giving an historical perspective, while

the Psalms tell the "inside" story, which comes from the deeply personal perspective of one who is seeking God. Our communication with God is enhanced by a deeper understanding of the book of Psalms and of the individual psalms that reside in each of our hearts.

At the heart of the Bible are the Psalms, prayers from God that help us learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. These sacred hymns become our heartfelt

response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God. Join us for this DVD series led by Jeff Cavins, Tim Gray and Sarah Christmyer as they show you how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God through the Psalms.

Facilitated by Ann Lyng and Father Shawn. Thursdays, Feb 18th, 25th, March 3rd, 10th & March 31st, April 7th @ 7-9 pm.

"This study has given me a renewed love of the Word, a desire to learn more, and most of all, a closeness to Jesus that I have not experienced before."—Linda Fort Smith, Arkansas

BUS TRIP FROM ST. MARY'S CATHEDRARL TO THE 24TH ANNUAL LIFT JESUS HIGHER RALLY IN TORONTO, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2016, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Keynote Speaker: Deacon Larry Oney and the Renewal Ministries Team: Ralph Martin, Sr. Ann Shields, Peter Herbeck. Holy Mass (with Sunday readings) celebrated by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins. There is a separate Youth Event (13-18 yrs.). Music, inspiring personal testimony, Prayer Ministry for Healing and Empowerment, Confessions, Divine Mercy Celebration, Eucharistic Procession, Power-Packed talks. Bus will leave St. Mary's Cathedral at 5:30 am sharp. We will stop for dinner on the return trip and should be back home by 9:00 pm. Cost for round trip transportation (admission ticket and dinner not included) is \$45. In addition, tickets to the rally are available at \$20 for adults and \$15 for youth. This rally always is, and promises to be this year, a fantastic spiritual experience of great speakers and wonderful liturgies and prayer. Bus reservations will go quickly. Call as soon as possible. For reservations and tickets contact Ann Lyng at 613-546-5521 Ext 5 or at alyng@cogeco.ca

St. Mary's Cathedral Newcomer Sponsorship: An Unexpected Turn of Events, and Continuing Our Mission



Shortly before Christmas, our sponsored family moved from Kingston to join a community of resettled Burundians in Québec City. Our family expressed how very important support from this community is to them. They are well connected with the Québec City community, and even described how ten years ago, when Baba was attacked in the refugee camp with a machete, a friend now living in Quebec City helped him. Our family is very happy to be rejoined with friends.

This did not initially come as good news to us. The family moving from Ontario to Québec would mean the automatic dissolution of our sponsorship agreement. We spent many hours in discussions with the family. We discussed all of the benefits of sponsorship, the implications of leaving the sponsorship agreement, the uncertainties of moving away.

In response, the family often told this parable: that when you have a daughter, you guide her and raise her as well as you can; then one day she is married and there is no certainty beyond that, but you pray for the best. They say that they are like our daughter, and it is time for them to set out on their own path.

The family continues to express how deeply grateful they are to us, and has reassured us that this was not the "fault" of any of the committee. Mama said that we lifted her out of a "desert of problems" where she could not sleep safely at night and never knew when she would be robbed (or worse). She wishes that she had a gift to give us, but she has nothing, and so she will continue to pray that God will bless us. We continue to keep in touch.

At our January 13, 2016 meeting, the Sponsorship Committee discussed how to proceed, in view of our mission statement, which reads as follows: "The Newcomer Sponsorship Committee exists as a charitable organization that allows local community members to serve God through serving the human family, enacting their roles as Christians through refugee outreach in the international community.

Of course, our family departed Kingston before the lion's share of the donations received had been expended. Given the extreme generosity of our donors, we retain sufficient money to sponsor another family, as well as assorted furnishings and other goods that our first family chose to leave in the townhouse that we had rented for them. Arranging a new sponsorship, however, is a multi-step process that takes many months, even years. In contrast, the rented townhouse could be put to good use immediately, so a decision has been made to transfer the lease of the townhouse to another Kingston sponsorship group that needs housing for a Syrian family of 12. We will be placing many of the furnishings in storage for our next sponsored family.

St Mary's Newcomer Sponsorship has for some months been receiving requests from community members proposing sponsorships of family members in dire situations in such countries as Uganda, Rwanda and Mozambique. At our January 13th meeting, we decided to commit to sponsor a family of nine described in the first such request that we had received. The mother, Seconde, is already in Kingston, having sought and received political asylum last summer. Here is her story, as we know it thus far:

Mrs. Seconde Nyanzobe was a peacemaker and activist in her home country of Burundi, a nation long torn apart by civil war. She is a co-founder and the chair of an organization called Fountain ISOKO (http://www.fontaine-isoko.org/). This organization advocates for human rights and security in Burundi. In April 2015, the current president of Burundi, Pierre Nkurunziza, announced that he would run for a third term, in violation of peace agreements.

Seconde became one of the leaders of a non-violent campaign to prevent Nkurunziza from taking office. On April 12, 2015, she initiated and signed a petition to the United Nations General Secretary, reminding the UN to protect the citizens of Burundi. Because of these actions, she and her sons have received death threats,

After the threats, Seconde, her husband Gerard and three of their sons crossed the border into Rwanda, where Gerard and those sons remain now as refugees. Heartsick, the parents left their other children in hiding in Burundi with a family friend.

In June 2015, as part of her campaign for security in her country, Seconde travelled to New York City to attend a meeting for human rights activists at UN headquarters. During this meeting, she learned that there was a warrant for her arrest in Burundi. She crossed the border at St Armand, into Canada. She has applied for and was granted asylum in this country.

Seconde has sought our sponsorship so that she may be reunited with her husband and children. She is in touch with them daily via messenger. The children are Arnaud (23), Faby (22), Amy (20), Rodrigue (17), Amande (16), Enissa (14), and Chauvine (11). The family is Catholic. Seconde speaks four languages: Kirundi, Swahili, French and English.

Seconde has performed exceptional humanitarian work fighting for social justice and human rights, placing herself in personal danger. She and her family are excellent candidates for our ongoing support. We have committed to work towards reuniting this family and supporting this incredible leader.

It is a great blessing that our initial sponsorship campaign is benefiting two families – a total of 20 persons will have received our assistance. If anyone in the parish would like to offer comments or suggestions, they are invited to contact Father Shawn and/or Angela Gambin at stmarysrefugee@gmail.com.

Our next sponsorship meeting is Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 7:00 pm, in St. Mary's Parish Centre. All are welcome.

UPDATE ON ASSISTED DYING: from Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

The Ontario government is hosting end-of-life consultations (<u>Link to the consultation website</u>). Consultations can be done by email, by filling out the online survey, or by attending a consultation in person.

Euthanasia Prevention Coalition has published three articles on the one-sided pro-euthanasia consultation.

- 1. Consultation seeks death on demand (even for children). http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.ca/2015/12/provincial-territorial-group-seeks.html
- 2. Panel recommends a dangerous approach to assisted dying. http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.ca/2015/12/panel-recommends-dangerous-approach-to.html
- 3. Panel report seeks to protect physicians not patients. http://alexschadenberg.blogspot.ca/2015/12/ontario-government-euthanasia-report.html

Email the consultation your thoughts at: endoflifedecisions@ontario.ca

Complete the online survey at: http://www.ipsosresearch.com/endoflifedecisionssurvey/

You must pre-register to attend the consultation in person (Link to registration page).

Consultation dates for Kingston is this Monday, tomorrow, January 18, at the Holiday Inn Waterfront - 2 Princess St (6:00 pm).

This Letter to The Editor appeared in the National Post on January 5, 2016 and is reprinted here with the author's permission.

Euthanasia 'landslide'

Re: Granting A Child's Death Wish, Jan. 2.

In talks about end-of-life issues and euthanasia, people are always horrified when I tell them that children in the Netherlands and Belgium can request and receive euthanasia. The Groningen Protocol in the Netherlands not only allows for the killing of newborns with serious complications, as stated in this article, but also allows parents to request euthanasia for a child up to the age of 12 who has serious complications. Apart from the fact that a child cannot possibly be truly capable of consent, in this last circumstance, consent is not even sought: the parent requests death for the child.

This is light years from what most people in Canada think euthanasia is about. The move towards euthanasia in the Netherlands and Belgium began with a plea for compassion for adults with terminal illness who were suffering unbearable pain. Euthanasia was then rapidly extended to people who cite "unbearable suffering," but who do not have a terminal illness and may only be suffering from depression. Now, the Groningen Protocol allows euthanasia for children, and euthanasia proponents in Canada want the same. This is more a landslide than a slippery slope!

Dr. Moira McQueen, Burlington, Ont.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE:

Signatures Requested for the Ecumenical and Interfaith Declaration on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

Dear Friends,

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked CCBI to circulate the Ecumenical and Interfaith Declaration on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide and to encourage you to become a signatory to the Declaration.

"The Bishops of Canada, along with our ecumenical and interfaith signatory partners, are circulating the Declaration broadly in their respective communities in the hopes of gathering more signatures indicating our opposition to the legalization of Physician Assisted Suicide."

Signatures to the Declaration are made on line. The Declaration (see next page) and the signatory option may be accessed at the following links:

English - http://www.euthanasiadeclaration.ca/sign-the-declaration/

French - http://www.euthanasiadeclaration.ca/fr-signer-la-declaration/

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada Declaration on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

Assisted suicide and euthanasia raise profound social, moral, legal, theological and philosophical questions — questions that go to the very core of our understanding of who we are, the meaning of life, and the duty of care we owe to each other. The recent Supreme Court of Canada decision has brought this issue to the forefront of public discussion and compels each of us as Canadians to reflect upon our personal and societal response to those who need our compassion and care.

We, the undersigned, each from the basis of our sacred teachings and enduring traditions, affirm the sanctity of all human life, and the equal and inviolable dignity of every human being. This is an affirmation shared by societies and cultures around the world and throughout history. Human dignity is not exclusively a religious belief, although for us it has a significant religious meaning. Furthermore, we affirm that reverence for human life is the basis and reason for our compassion, responsibility and commitment in caring for all humans, our brothers and sisters, when they are suffering and in pain.

The sanctity of human life is a foundational principle of Canadian society. It has both individual and communal import: it undergirds the recognition of the equal dignity of each individual regardless of their abilities or disabilities and shapes and guides our common life together, including our legal, health care and social welfare systems. It engenders the collective promotion of life and the protection of the vulnerable.

While Canadian society continues to affirm the importance of human dignity, there is a worrisome tendency to define this subjectively and emotionally. For us, human dignity is most properly understood as the value of a person's life before her or his Creator and within a social network of familial and societal relationships. We are convinced the only ways to help people live and die with dignity are: to ensure they are supported by love and care; to provide holistic care which includes pain control as well as psychological, spiritual and emotional support; and, to improve and increase resources in support of palliative and home care.

On the basis of our respective traditions and beliefs, we insist that any action intended to end human life is morally and ethically wrong. Together, we are determined to work to alleviate human suffering in every form but never by intentionally eliminating those who suffer.

The withholding or withdrawal of burdensome treatment must be distinguished from euthanasia and assisted suicide. The intention in such cases is not to cause death but to let it occur naturally. We understand that under certain circumstances it is morally and legally acceptable for someone to refuse or stop treatment. The refusal of medical treatment, including extraordinary measures, is very different from euthanasia or assisted suicide. Euthanasia is the deliberate killing of someone, with or without that person's consent, ostensibly in order to eliminate suffering. Assisted suicide occurs when one person aids, counsels or encourages another person to commit suicide. There is a fundamental difference between killing a person and letting her or him die of natural causes.

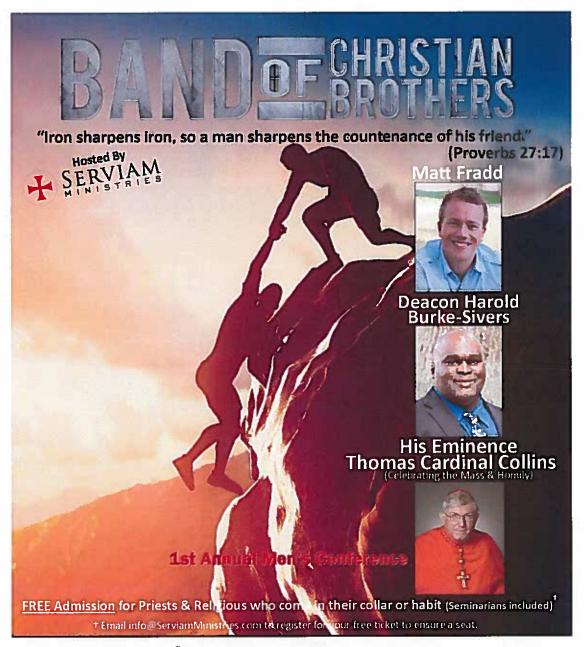
Euthanasia and assisted suicide treat the lives of disadvantaged, ill, disabled, or dying persons as less valuable than the lives of others. Such a message does not respect the equal dignity of our vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Health care systems must maintain a life-affirming ethos. Medical professionals are trained to restore and enhance life. They are not trained or expected to administer death. Any change in this regard would fundamentally distort the doctor/patient relationship. Similarly, all members of society are called upon to do their utmost to protect their neighbours when their lives or safety are threatened. This basic care and concern, so fundamental to society, is evident in the continuing efforts to provide better, readily available palliative and home care.

Health Canada defines palliative care as "an approach to care for people who are living with a life-threatening illness, no matter how old they are. The focus of care is on achieving comfort and ensuring respect for the person nearing death, and maximizing quality of life for the patient, family, and loved ones, and is a societal affirmation of caring for the most vulnerable amongst us. Palliative care addresses different aspects of end-of-life care by: managing pain and other symptoms; providing social, psychological, cultural, emotional, spiritual and practical support; supporting caregivers; providing support for bereavement." Assisted suicide and euthanasia are contrary to the philosophy and practice of palliative care.

In light of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, we urge federal, provincial and territorial legislators to enact and uphold laws that enhance human solidarity by promoting the rights to life and security for all people; to make good-quality home care and palliative care accessible in all jurisdictions; and to implement regulations and policies that ensure respect for the freedom of conscience of all health-care workers and administrators who will not and cannot accept suicide or euthanasia as a medical solution to pain and suffering.

Humanity's moral strength is based on solidarity, communion and communication – particularly with those who are suffering. It is personal attention and palliative care and not assisted suicide or euthanasia that best uphold the worth of the human person. It is when we are willing to care for one another under the most dire of circumstances and at the cost of great inconvenience that human dignity and society's fundamental goodness are best expressed and preserved.



Sat. March 19, 2016 9:00AM—5:00PM



St. Mary's Cathedral is sponsoring a bus for this event. It will leave at 6 am March 19th and return by 9 pm. To register (\$39) & reserve and pay for your seat (\$38) for the bus please contact alyng@cogeco.ca. (Total \$77).

Band of Christian Brothers

"Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." (Proverbs 27:17)

With Matt Fradd & Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers

Saturday March 19, 2016

Schedule of Event

8:30AM – Doors Open

9:00AM - Opening

9:10AM – Talk 1 – Matt Fradd (God, the Universe and Everything)

Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where are we going? Everyone wants the answers to these questions. Some people have found their answers in God; others are still on the path of discovery. And some have grown discouraged—and stopped looking. Don't give up! With all the energy, humor, and down-to-earth realism that have made him a sought-after speaker around the world, Matt shares his own story of being shaken out of the agnostic apathy he suffered as a young adult. Challenged to find reasons to believe that life has meaning—no matter how messy or senseless or full of suffering it may get—his long search finally led him to belief in the God of Christianity, and in his Church. Now he offers that same challenge to anyone: from teen to adult, from hardened skeptic to lukewarm believer. Don't back down before the absurdity of a world without God. Don't pass on the most important question of your (eternal) life. Watch God, the Universe, & Everything and be refreshed in your journey to the truth.

10:10AM - Break

10:25AM – Talk 2 – Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers (Clothed and in His Right Mind: Reclaiming the Heart of the Spiritual Man)

The God of Love sent his Son into the world to remind us of the unchangeable principles of reason and faith. This presentation will examine Luke 8:35 and explore how conscience formation prepares us to live as men of God. Catholic speaker Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will show how the formation of conscience empowers men to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to make the kingdom of God present in the world.

11:25AM - Rosary / Confession

11:55PM - Lunch / Confession

1:10PM - Talk 3 - Matt Fradd (Taking Down Goliath)

Pornography is a great deceiver. We watch it to fill a craving for intimacy... yet it leaves us feeling alone. We want our manhood affirmed by the bodies of fantasy women... and wind up emasculated. Porn is also a powerful foe. It's a roaring lion seeking to devour, a sumo wrestler looking for a fight. It is Goliath: eight feet tall, armor-clad, and seemingly impossible to take down. But all things are possible with Christ.

In his powerful talk, Taking Down Goliath, Apologist and Speaker, Matt Fradd uses his infectious and engaging speaking style to help you with five strategies to get porn out of your life.

2:10PM – Mass and blessing with St. Joseph relic. (Cardinal Collins will be the celebrant and will give a homily.)

2:50PM - Adoration / Confession

3:35PM - Break

3:50PM – Talk 4 – Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers (Putting on the Armor of God: Preparing for Spiritual Combat)

This presentation the Catholic Speaker and Evangelist, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, will examine Satan's strategy for destroying a man's relationship with God. Dynamic Catholic speaker Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will develop a battle plan to combat the effects of sin in the hearts and lives of men and their families, and provide the tools men need to be spiritual leaders in the family and society.

5:00PM - Prayer and dismissal



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