

Northern Catholic News

Called to share the priesthood of Christ



Bishop presents newly ordained, Father Alvin Matias, left and Father Rene Antonio, right.

By: Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin
PRINCE GEORGE – The Diocese of Prince George gathered at Sacred Heart Cathedral in joyful celebration of the ordination to the ministerial priesthood of Alvin Tanglao Matias and Rene Mareno Antonio on May 31, 2013, the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In his homily, Bishop Stephen Jensen asked the people present to pray for the two men “who are to be ordained now and for all of us who have this vocation despite our weakness. May Our Lady be a mother to priests and help them reveal the saving visitation of God by their lives.”

Both Alvin and Rene came to Canada from the Philippines in response to the invitation of Bishop Emeritus Gerald Wiesner, OMI to complete their seminary formation and prepare for service as priests in the Diocese of Prince George.

While in the Philippines, Father Alvin Matias earned a degree in Public Administration and began his theological studies in Manila. After immigrating to Canada he entered St. Joseph’s Seminary in Edmonton in August 2007. As part of his formation

Father Alvin served his pastoral year at Annunciation Parish in Prince Rupert and, later, at St. Andrew’s Parish in Fraser Lake.

He was ordained to the diaconate in Stellaquo, a mission of Fraser Lake, on October 14, 2012 and was appointed by Bishop Wiesner to minister in the Church of the Resurrection Parish in Fort St. John.

The three parishes where he served were well represented at the ordination celebration. Also a few family members and friends of both Fathers Rene and Alvin were able to travel from the Philippines to Prince George for the occasion.

Father Rene Antonio earned a degree in Medical Technology before he entered Loyola School of Theology in Quezon City in the Philippines. In his third year of theology he returned to the work force for a time of discernment.

It was at this time that he received an invitation to come to our diocese. Soon after arriving in

2009 he traveled to Edmonton to enter St. Joseph’s Seminary. “There is no word that can express how much I appreciate your warm welcome,” he said when called upon to speak at his ordination. “Your gentle care and your compassionate love I have experienced throughout my stay here in your diocese, which I now call my new home.”

Rene was ordained to the diaconate on October 21, 2012 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Prince George and returned there to complete his pastoral year before ordination to the presbyterate.

Bishop Stephen Jensen announced their pastoral assignments in the week following ordination: Father Rene will serve St. Peter’s Parish in Mackenzie while Father Alvin will minister in Our Lady of Peace Parish in Chetwynd with its missions of Tumbler Ridge and Moberly Lake.

MORE PICTURES PAGE 17

Inside this issue:

Lay Formation	2
Bishop’s Letter	3
Fr. Brock’s 25th	4
Rose Prince Pilgrimage	6
Youth	11
Domano Renewal Centre	18
Schools	12-13, 19

Diocesan Annual Appeal
2013-2014

BUILDING TOGETHER
in faith

See Pages 8-9, 20

Everyone has a mission in the Church

By: Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin
PRINCE GEORGE - The 16th group to complete the Lay Formation program in the Diocese of Prince George was celebrated at a graduation Mass in St. Mary's Parish, Prince George on June 2nd.

The 19 graduates are among 298 people since 1994 who have completed the two-year faith formation program, dedicating one weekend per month to deepening their understanding of the teaching of the Church and developing their spiritual lives.

Over the past 19 years Lay Formation has been offered at the Domano Renewal Centre in Prince George, Camp Emile at Moberly Lake, Banner Mountain Lodge in Smithers and Sacred Heart Parish in Terrace.

The 2011-2013 program at the Domano Renewal Centre included participants from Sacred Heart Cathedral, Immaculate Conception and

St. Mary's Parishes in Prince George as well as from St. Joseph's Parish, Vanderhoof, St. Andrew's Parish, Fraser Lake and St. Peter's Parish, Mackenzie.

In his homily at the graduation Mass, Bishop Stephen Jensen affirmed the Church's teaching on the role of the laity and the formation necessary for them to participate in the life to which they are called.

"Everyone has a mission within the Church – in parish and diocesan life – and in the world," he said. "In a special way, the role of the laity is the crucial work of penetrating the world of secular work and society with the life that faith gives."

The bishop noted that in the Gospel, Jesus told the apostles to give the people something to eat.

"He asks us to give life to others – family, friends, other parishioners, especially the

young generation that is being formed in the faith now, to coworkers, fellow members of unions or professions or business partners, in political organizations, associations of all kinds."

"The Eucharist is the source of the strength and vitality we need to live the mission God gives each of us: as ordained ministers, as lay men and women, as consecrated persons in religious life. And the goal of all our efforts: communion with the Triune God."

"Lay Formation equips people to serve God in their vocations, in the Church and in the world, where it is never more needed," Bishop Jensen concluded. "So we pray for these grads and for all the people of our diocese, lay and ordained, that we may all grow in the vocation God gives in the Church and the world."

Northern Catholic News

Published by the
Diocese of Prince
George

6500 Southridge Ave
Box 7000
Prince George, BC
V2N 3Z2

Phone: 250-964-5644
Fax: 250-964-2101

Email:
majamin@pgdiocese.bc.ca

Editor:
Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin
Layout:
Lisa Weber



Nineteen people from six parishes completed the two-year Lay Formation program held at the Domano Renewal Centre in Prince George. They are pictured here with the Director of the program, Susan Campbell (front row, far left), Sr. Elizabeth Poirievre, FCJ, Director of the Centre (back row, far left) and Bishop Stephen Jensen (back row, far right) at their graduation, June 2, 2013. PHOTO BY: Frank Jamin

Transitions and new beginnings

At the start of a new pastoral year in parishes and schools, let me acknowledge some important changes in the diocese.

As announced earlier, Sister Mary-Ann Bates, RSCJ stepped down from the position of Director of Catechetics at the end of August. Sister served in that role for many years and we are grateful for the help she gave to parish catechists and teachers in our Catholic schools throughout her term. We wish her God's blessings in the years ahead: Ad Multos Annos.

At the beginning of September, Eunice Hii joined the diocese as our new

Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Eunice is a recent graduate of UBC and brings with her a wide variety of experiences and skills directly related to her new role.

She served in two summer missions with Catholic Christian Outreach (www.ccoCanada.ca), the dynamic university evangelization movement. Eunice is also a cofounder of The Passion Project (www.thepassionproj.org), an initiative to help students connect their talents and interests with community needs. This organization has quickly achieved impressive

results that have been internationally recognized.

She is also highly qualified in the "new media", the social networking and communications tools that are part of every young person's life. I'm confident that Eunice will contribute much to our efforts to harness social media in the service of the diocese and parishes.

These transitions witness to the continuity of mission in the Church. May God renew in all of us the spirit of faith and dedication to building His Kingdom in our time and place.



Bishop's Letter

Most Rev.
Stephen Jensen

The Father Emile LeRay Assembly was on hand to form a color guard when Bishop Stephen Jensen visited Christ the King Parish in Kitimat for Confirmation and First Eucharist, June 9th. Pictured with Bishop Jensen and Father Kenneth Uwaoma are Giovanni Gibaldi, Germano Carrita, Francesco Mauro and Francisco Barcelos. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt



PHOTO: Jim MacLellan from St. Joseph's Parish in Vanderhoof receives his Lay Formation graduation certificate from Bishop Stephen Jensen. PHOTO BY: Frank Jamin

“Another religious vocation”

By: Rev. Terry Brock

The following is from the talk given by Father Terry Brock at the celebration of his 25th anniversary of ordination on June 29, 2013 in Terrace.

TERRACE - On my ordination day, June 29, 1988, one of my aunts, said: “Another religious vocation in the Brock family,” or something to that effect.

My Mom had an uncle, Msgr. Bernard Russell, who was a diocesan priest and served at one time in Harlem, NY. I remember visiting his rectory in the Bronx with the long spiral staircase and railing that was fun to slide down on. He died when I was very young.

My Dad came from a family of seven and two of his siblings entered religious communities. Uncle Frank was a member of the Society of Jesus, the same religious order as Pope Francis.

In God’s providence, I visited him just prior to entering the seminary. He had the beginning of dementia at the time. At the end of our visit I announced that I was returning to Canada to enter the seminary.

Although confused, he lit up like a Christmas tree. I asked him to bless me and he gave the blessing, in spite of his dementia, perfectly and devoutly. Leaving the rectory that day, I had a good cry, realizing it would likely be the last time I would see him. He died two years later.



A swing and a miss: Father Terry celebrates his 25th anniversary with style!



Brock family members, including brothers Mike, Tom and Danny and his sister Rita, traveled to Terrace to help Father Terry Brock celebrate his 25th Anniversary of priesthood in June.

Aunt Mary, Sr. Margarita Brock, entered the Sisters of Charity in New York who, she reminded me, were the “real” Sisters of Charity. (She was jealous of Mother Teresa’s Missionary Sisters of Charity.)

I left Sydney, Australia where I was attending the World Youth day in 2008 to be with her during her last days. This time with her proved to be providential. Perhaps the highlight for me was when she asked me: “Father, can I go to confession?”

She was my favorite aunt. One memory I have of both Frank and Mary is that my dad was so proud of them and loved them very much.

In the summer of 1975, my brother Danny came as a volunteer to Camp Morice. The advertisement that first got his attention was one found in the back section of the Catholic Digest: “Volunteers needed, long hours, hard work, no pay! Contact Bishop Fergus O’Grady.”

Danny jumped on that ad.

When he returned home in the fall he had so many stories and pictures of northern Canada that enticed me. He tried to recruit the whole family but I was the only one to take the bait. Danny said: “Young men our age join the army and serve the government for two years, why not give two years to God.”

Like Saint Andrew who led his brother Simon to Christ; I was led to Christ and eventually to where Christ wanted me, the priesthood.

A vocation is a journey for sure, a mysterious call from one who is real, seen and experienced only in spirit. My priestly vocation came out of the blue, I simply offered myself to Jesus, saying: “If you want me, you can have me.”

For the past 25 years I have yet to awaken with regret. Every day I tell Jesus that I am sorry for all my sins and I thank him for calling me to be his priest. I could go on and on but suffice to say that I am most thankful to be his priest.

It has been a bumpy road at times but a road I never once desired to abandon.

I want to thank in a special way the parishioners of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Our Lady of Peace and Missions: Chetwynd, Tumbler Ridge, Hudson’s Hope and Moberly Lake; Christ the King Parish in Kitimat and Sacred Heart Parish in Terrace.

You have challenged me, loved me, encouraged me and helped me to grow into the priest I am today.

I wish to thank my immediate family, relatives and my friends.

I wish to express my gratitude to those who have traveled a long way to celebrate my special day; in particular to my brothers and sister; Mike and Carol, Tommy and Leona, Danny and Philomena and Rita and Tom.

God bless all of you and thank you for coming to my 25th!

Bishop Jensen and priests throughout the Diocese join Fr. Terry for his anniversary Mass.



Veritas teacher to serve in Cambodia

By: Rev. Michael Mendl, SDB

NEW ROCHELLE, NY - Trina Botelho of Terrace, BC was one of 28 mostly young women and men commissioned as lay missionary volunteers by the Salesians of Don Bosco on August 17.

Miss Botelho and her parents, Maria and the late Max Botelho, are/were members of Sacred Heart Parish in Terrace.

Trina graduated from Trinity Western University in Langley, BC, after which she taught for six years, currently at Veritas Catholic School in Terrace.

She will serve with the Salesian Sisters in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, teaching English, helping the girls with technical work (computers, filing) and in finding apprenticeships. She will also assist in the girls' orphanage.

She hopes to leave for Cambodia on September 8.

Trina joined the Salesian lay missionaries to "help in any way I can." She says she "felt called to do mission work for a while" and hopes "to be present to all I will be serving."

She is inspired in part by Blessed John Paul II's exhortation for Jesus' disciples to "put out into the deep," and also by the SLM motto of "seeing Christ in the face of a child."

The eight men and 20 women commissioned with Trina came from



Trina Botelho

17 states, Canada and Puerto Rico - from 24 dioceses and archdioceses - to be part of a worldwide missionary enterprise on behalf of poor young people.

They range in age from 20 to 68, with an average age of 25.

They will serve in 15 mission sites on four continents, including three sites in the US. The commissioning took place at the end of a week of retreat at the Don Bosco Retreat Center in Haverstraw-Stony Point, NY, together with 44 Salesian priests and brothers from all over the Eastern US.

The 28 new volunteers were the most sent by the Eastern US province of the Salesians since 2010, when 22 were commissioned for

overseas missions and six for service in the States.

Provincial Superior, Father Thomas Dunne, SDB, presided over the commissioning Mass. He likened this sending forth of missionaries to what the early Church did, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, and expressed the hope that these missionaries, like the apostles, would build up the local churches to which they are being sent.

He observed that Salesian missionaries go out not to provide some "professional service" in a foreign country but to live as disciples of Jesus.

What we bring is "our simple selves," which will be an effective presence if it is rooted in Christ.

Over the last 30 years, hundreds of Salesian lay missionaries have served the young and poor in schools, orphanages, clinics and other Salesian and non-Salesian works in Latin America, Africa, and Asia as well as in various US sites such as Birmingham, Ala., Paterson, N.J., Chicago and New York City.

The Salesians of Don Bosco, the second largest religious order of men in the Catholic Church, are present in more than 130 countries around the globe, staffing schools, parishes, youth centers and missions.

To learn more about the Salesian Lay Missioners, visit <http://www.salesianlaymissioners.org>

"WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR SERVICE"

SIMBA MOTORS

Specializing in Auto Repairs

- Imports
- Domestic Vehicles
- Light Trucks

Claude & Eric Hoarau

Phone-250.564.5149

RE/MAX Centre City Realty
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Sue Lynch 
Managing Broker

1679 - 15th Avenue
Prince George, BC, V2L 3X2
Office: (250) 562-3600
Fax: (250) 562-8231
Toll Free: 1(800)667-7330
E-Mail: suelynch@telus.net




250-960-9260



Sr. Kateri Mitchell, SA, gives a presentation on Saint Kateri Tekakwitha at the Lejac Pilgrimage 2013. PHOTO BY: Susan Campbell

By: Bob McKeon

Reprinted with permission from the Western Catholic Reporter, July 17, 2013

EDMONTON – In July I participated in the Rose Prince Pilgrimage at Lejac. I went there because I am a member of the organizing committee for the Directions in Aboriginal Ministry Program, a program initiated and supported by the Western Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Directions program seeks to support aboriginal and non-aboriginal ministers working within aboriginal Catholic communities.

In previous years, meetings were held in Alberta at Newman Theological College or at Star of the North Retreat House. This year we were challenged to travel to join in with a major faith celebration of a local aboriginal community.

The pilgrimage was centred on the life, death and legacy of Rose Prince, a member of the Carrier Nation. Rose attended and later worked at the Lejac Indian Residential School.

She was known for her strong Christian faith and her concern and compassion for her fellow students and coworkers. She died of tuberculosis in 1949 at the young age of 34. She was buried in a cemetery near the school.

Two years later, it became necessary to move this cemetery. The coffins were dug up and carried on a stone boat to a new location. Rose's coffin opened during the move. Her body was discovered to be perfectly preserved.

Over the centuries, Catholics have recognized this as a sign that the deceased person lived a life of great holiness.

During our time at the Rose Prince Pilgrimage, members of our program were able to get deeper into the story of Rose Prince by talking with local community members associated with her life and legacy.

We spoke with an aboriginal man who worked at moving the coffins back in 1951 and was an eyewitness to the incorrupt state of Rose's body. We spoke with the nurse present with Rose at the time of her death who remembered that Rose's body did not stiffen with rigor mortis that normally occurs in the hours after death.

We spoke to members of two families who had a family member healed of serious medical conditions through prayers invoking Rose and the application of dirt from her grave.

As we got deeper into Rose's story, one member of our group spoke of "brushing up against holiness." This sense of encountering the holy is shared by the several hundred pilgrims, aboriginal and non-aboriginal, who gather annually from across Western Canada to participate in this pilgrimage.

The pilgrimage brought a deep experience of shared Christian community. The local Carrier people hosted the pilgrimage on their land, offering welcome and generous hospitality.

Over the three days, aboriginal and non-aboriginal participants shared worship, meals, campsites and often deep conversations together. However, the pain and suffering of many of the local aboriginal families became visible in the prayers of intercession during the "Living Rosary."

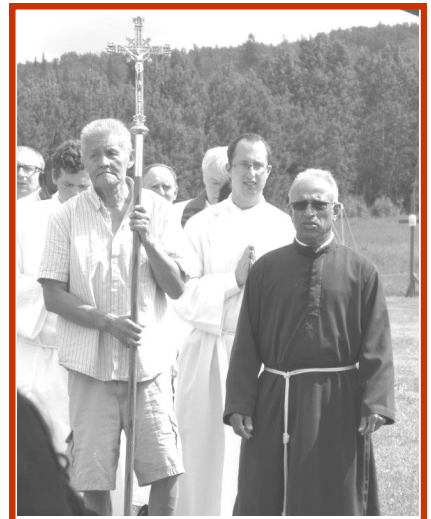
The pilgrimage is held on the site of the former Lejac Residential School which operated from 1922 to 1976. We spoke with former students, including a

classmate of Rose Prince, who spoke of the painful and difficult life at the residential school - being separated from family at a young age and being thrust into a strange and intimidating environment.

We also spoke with members of the religious community of Sisters who served at Lejac and heard about their commitment and support of the students.

I found my time at the Rose Prince Pilgrimage to be a powerful and transforming spiritual experience. All that I experienced there does not fit together into a neat, cohesive package. There were real tensions and at times apparent contradictions in the midst of God's special presence in mystery and abiding love.

These are significant conversations in the life of the Canadian Church today.



Brother Walter Lobo, at right and Zaa Louie, with processional cross, prepare for the entrance procession for the Sunday Mass which concluded the Lejac Pilgrimage 2013. PHOTO BY: Susan Campbell

Directions in Aboriginal Ministry Program



By: Susan Campbell
FRASER LAKE —This year, the Lejac Pilgrimage was the site of the 2013 Directions in Aboriginal Ministry Program offered in cooperation with Newman Theological College and Corpus Christi/St. Mark's College. The theme of this year's program was "Walking in the Footsteps of our Ancestors in Faith," and the participants delved into the life and times of Rose Prince.

Jack Lacerte, Peter Frank Joseph and George George, Sr. , former students of the Lejac Residential School, spoke to the participants of their experience at the school or of Rose Prince herself. The group also heard first-hand from the nurse who was on duty when Rose Prince died at Vanderhoof hospital. Participants attending the program came from across Canada.

Caroline Loninski, the nurse on duty at Vanderhoof hospital when Rose Prince died, spoke about her remembrances of this event during the Lejac Pilgrimage 2013. PHOTO BY: Susan Campbell



Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie celebrates the sacrament of anointing during the Healing Mass at the Lejac Pilgrimage 2013. PHOTO BY: Susan Campbell

Vice-President & Investment Advisor Michele Santos can assist you with:

Professional Wealth Management Retirement,
Estate & Financial Planning • T-Bills • GICs • Stocks
Bonds • RRSPs & RRIFs • Insurance Strategies



For more information contact:

Michele Santos

Vice-President
Investment Advisor
michele.santos@cibc.ca
250 960-2707



Transactions in insurance products, including segregated funds, are made on your behalf by CIBC Wood Gundy Financial services Inc., or in the case of Quebec residents, CIBC Wood Gundy Financial Services (Quebec) Inc. CIBC Wood Gundy is a division of CIBC World Markets Inc., a subsidiary of CIBC and a Member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada.



BUILDING TOGETHER IN FAITH

By: Rev. Richard Beaudette, OMI

As we began the Year of Faith last October, we were challenged to reflect on our faith and on the responsibility we all have of fulfilling the mission given to us in baptism to “open our ears to hear his Word and our mouths to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God” (adapted from Rite of Baptism).

We have an individual and a corporate vocation to proclaim the Good News and build the Kingdom of God in our world.

On an individual level, we are called to that vocation in our daily lives – at home, in our families, at work, in our recreational activities and our day to day encounters with others. On a wider level, we are called to continue the work of the whole church, and in our case, the Diocese of Prince George, in fulfilling the mandate given to us by Christ.

One of the ways we can participate in the vocation of the Diocesan Church is through our participation in the Diocesan Annual Appeal.

This participation takes various forms.

First of all, we are all called to pray for our Diocese and for the various ministries and missions supported by the Appeal. We are also challenged to do everything possible to grow in our own faith and to strengthen the faith life of our particular parish communities through our participation in the life of these communities.

Having a positive attitude toward the Appeal and encouraging others to participate is also essential to the success of the Appeal. Finally, as each one is able, we are asked to contribute financially to the Appeal.

Sometimes we may wonder what good our seemingly insignificant efforts can accomplish in the larger picture. We might look at all the needs in the world and the church around us and feel that our efforts will have no effect. And so we do not respond.

However, we need to be mindful that the seemingly insignificant individual effort of a large

number of people can have a tremendous effect.

We need to believe that our effort is worthwhile, that we are called to contribute to the mission of the church.

I remember my mother’s response to us, when as children we complained about things we were asked to do: “If you don’t do it, who will?”

We might ask ourselves the same question now. If we don’t respond to the Appeal and to the vocation to continue the Church’s mission today, who will? We are the church and we are the ones called to this mission.

We are called to “Build together in faith” during this Year of Faith and each day of our lives.

The Diocesan Annual Appeal “Building Together in Faith” reminds us that together we can live out our vocation to continue the Lord’s work in ways that we cannot accomplish as individuals.

The Lord’s work requires the effort of each individual.

Who gets letters...

The first letter goes to every household on the parish list

The second letter goes to every household that has not yet pledged

Reminder letters go to those who request them



HOME MISSIONS: Many of our smaller parishes and missions struggle financially. The Annual Appeal allows the Diocese to assist them.



2012-2013 Diocesan Annual Appeal: Becoming Church

As of: 8/30/2013

Parish	Households	Appeal Goal	Total Pledged	Total % of Goal	# of Pledges	Average Pledge	Pledges Received
Annunciation, Prince Rupert	290	29,711	26,884	90.5%	92	252	26,774
Christ Our Saviour, Prince George	185	20,077	24,795	123.5%	74	333	22,785
Christ the King, Kitimat	599	51,412	39,253	76.3%	154	257	38,333
Resurrection, Fort St. John	317	35,584	25,773	72.4%	99	272	25,143
Holy Cross, Tumbler Ridge	27	4,163	2,880	69.2%	13	178	2,880
Immaculata, Burns Lake	85	13,098	9,155	69.9%	29	327	9,135
Immaculate Conception, Prince George	191	26,343	24,273	92.1%	85	323	24,243
Notre Dame, Dawson Creek	262	28,328	23,554	83.1%	104	233	23,544
Our Lady of Peace, Chetwynd	66	11,942	10,811	90.5%	30	315	10,661
Our Lady of Snows, Fort St. James	99	8,774	2,755	31.4%	23	133	2,505
Sacred Heart, Prince George	610	48,285	44,238	91.6%	199	209	43,418
Sacred Heart, Terrace	500	52,684	53,579	101.7%	196	278	53,214
St. Andrew's, Fraser Lake	70	10,082	12,110	120.1%	45	280	12,110
St. Anthony's, Houston	41	4,776	5,010	104.9%	24	212	4,910
St. Joseph's, Vanderhoof	91	12,125	15,780	130.1%	39	430	15,660
St. Joseph's, Smithers	165	22,029	17,680	80.3%	68	288	17,610
St. Mary's, Prince George	527	42,110	47,963	113.9%	176	290	47,763
St. Mary's, New Hazelton	34	5,278	4,585	86.9%	15	334	4,585
St. Patrick's, McBride	62	3,576	6,160	172.3%	26	210	6,160
St. Peter's, Mackenzie	45	7,983	8,605	107.8%	25	354	8,605
Unaffiliated Donors			9,128		2	4,564	9,128
Totals	4,266	438,360	414,971	94.7%	1,518	284	409,166



The Diocesan Appeal supports Youth and Young Adult Ministries including the Diocesan Youth Conference held each year. Camp Morice and Camp Emile also receive funding from the Appeal.

Twenty-five years later...

By: Susan Campbell

PRINCE GEORGE – After 25 years of service in the Diocese of Prince George, Sister Mary-Ann Bates, RSCJ, retired from her position as Director of Catechetics effective August 31, 2013.

Sr. Mary-Ann first came to the diocese in 1988 to serve in Christ the King Parish, Kitimat. In 1991 she moved to the Diocesan Centre in Prince George where she took on responsibility as Director of Renew, a parish-based program that provided training and resources for small faith-sharing groups.

A few years later she was appointed Director of Catechetics for the Diocese with responsibility for catechist formation on parish and school levels. She worked closely with Sr. Sally McLean, RSCJ, in providing in-services for teacher and parish catechists and parents across the Diocese.

After Sr. Sally retired, Sr. Mary-Ann continued to provide workshops and to work with individual catechists, especially new teacher catechists. Together with Sr. Sally she was a regular presenter in the Lay Formation program.

Starting in the mid-nineties, Sr. Mary-Ann was a key part of Bishop Gerald Wiesner's initiative to restore the order of the sacraments of initiation in the Diocese. She worked alongside Bishop Wiesner to prepare parishes for this transition.

Together with Bishop Wiesner she was invited by other dioceses in Western Canada to provide workshops for their catechists as well. Both were invited to give a workshop at the Western Conference of Catholic Religious Educators (WCCRE) conference in Saskatoon.

Sr. Mary-Ann was not one to stand out in a crowd. She often worked behind the scenes calling forth the gifts of others. She was quick to acknowledge and thank others for their efforts.

During her time in the Diocese, Sr. Mary-Ann chaired a number of



committees and councils: the Council of Religious, Jubilee Committee (preparing for the Jubilee Year 2000), Diocesan Pastoral Council, Western Conference of Catholic Religious Educators and the Diocesan Assembly Planning Committee.

While chairing the Council of Religious she sat as an auditor on the Council of Priests.

Sr. Mary-Ann had a good working relationship with the CCCB's National Office of Religious Educators (NORE) and was a tireless promoter of its *Born of the Spirit* catechetical resource.

It was clear for anyone who worked with Sr. Mary-Ann that she is a true catechist at heart.

Catechesis for her is holistic and comprehensive in scope; a deep formation in faith. It engages the whole person and is important for all age levels.

Although her work was often focused on the catechetical needs of children, she was also keenly aware of the need for adult faith formation. Catechists, often themselves parents and the first educators of their children, need to be formed in faith in order to echo that faith to

children and young people.

It is clear from my work with Sr. Mary-Ann over the past 18 years that she is a strong advocate of catechist as a vocation. Catechesis is too vital a ministry to be satisfied with a piecemeal or scattershot approach. It requires formation to serve well.

Sr. Mary-Ann demonstrated her deep respect for the role of the catechist by working to give them a greater appreciation of the dignity and importance of their vocation. Catechesis, for her, is a vital a ministry and she was exacting with the quality of the resources that should be used.

She understood better than most the multi-faceted richness Church's catechetical ministry and she cared deeply for the children who were being formed in the faith. Catechesis is at the same time ordinary and extraordinary. Some of the most ordinary catechists provide extraordinary results because they are able to teach in such a way that faith is caught, not just taught.

Sr. Mary-Ann was and remains an avid Vancouver Canuck fan. She was always front and centre at the annual hockey pool – an event she won the first year it was established. Her office sported Canuck memorabilia and an autographed picture of Trevor Linden, her favourite Canuck!

Both Sr. Mary-Ann and Sr. Sally have formed a strong bond with the community here and will continue to reside in Prince George.

Sr. Sally McLean, left, and Sr. Mary-Ann Bates during a presentation for

Lay Formation participants at the Domano Renewal Centre.



New beginnings for parish youth



Members of Christ Our Savior Youth Group are pictured here next to their church.

By: Alyssa Dugdale

PRINCE GEORGE - In October 2012 Christ Our Savior Parish started a youth ministry.

During the year youth in Grades 6-12 met two evenings each month to participate in the Life Teen curriculum, a US based Catholic youth ministry program.

We were nervous at first and wondered if it would work but over 35 young people participated in our year end murder mystery dinner!

Other highlights of this year include: small group discussions, large group activities like pumpkin carving and jeopardy game night, St Vincent de Paul service projects, a parish youth music ministry and participating in the PG Think Fast retreat and Diocesan Youth Conference.

Youth also enjoyed building community and friendships with one another.

Each gathering had one central theme such as Eucharistic spirituality, love, joy, affirmation, authenticity, evangelization and vocation. Games and discussions were geared toward

the theme to support our journey further in faith.

We appreciated great support from our parish families this year and look forward to next year for continued friendships and faith formation. Our goal is to make the gospel known to others and more deeply realized among ourselves.

It is important for youth to have the opportunity for peer faith community in order to encourage each other. We need one another.

Sometimes it is easy to fall into the habit of just going through the motions, but I believe we should always be challenging ourselves and each other to authentically live our faith in all aspects of our lives.

Knowing and loving Jesus should transform our lives.

Throughout the year we appreciated the openness and support our parish priest, Fr. Roger Lavoie showed for our youth ministry.

Youth coordinator Alyssa Dugdale was supported by a youth leadership team comprised of Fiona Raine, Sabrina Matte and Angela Dauvin.

This shared leadership was a key component of our youth ministry. Another was the broadened demographic, Grades 6-12, which helped build mentorship into the program and increased the pool of people able to participate.

Several means were used to communicate youth events. Announcements at Sunday Mass, advertisements in the parish bulletin and on Facebook along with talking with youth and encouraging them to bring their friends all generated an interest and excitement.

Another key factor in successful youth ministry is making connections, to the parish through presentations to Parish Council and with other Catholic youth group coordinators where we could talk about challenges and co-plan common initiatives like ThinkFast and the Diocesan Youth Conference.

Future youth ministry plans include asking Parish Council for office space and exploring further use of technology.

Finbar and Aedan Wilson traveled to Prince George from Lethbridge to participate in the tournament named for their late father. Here they are pictured (at left and right) with Donncha O'Callaghan and Terry Murphy, long-time friends of the Wilson family.
 PHOTO BY: Rebecca Gilbert

PRINCE GEORGE - Bishop Stephen Jensen pronounced Friday, May 31, 2013, "a perfect day" for a soccer tournament. And so it was for 14 teams from six schools who participated in the Third Annual Terry Wilson Memorial Cup.

Bishop Jensen was on hand for the opening ceremonies that welcomed enthusiastic soccer players from St. Ann's School in Quesnel, Veritas School in Terrace, St. Anthony's School in Kitimat and St. Mary's, Immaculate Conception and Sacred Heart Schools in Prince George.

The final game saw St. Ann's defeated by Veritas in a hard fought, one to nothing game.

Terry's two sons, Aedan and Finbar Wilson, traveled to Prince George from Lethbridge for the



Veritas School are the winners of Third Annual Terry Wilson Memorial Cup held on May 31, 2013 in Prince George. PHOTO BY: Rebecca Gilbert

tournament that honors the memory of their late father. As well as refereeing the games they, along with their mother, Rebecca Gilbert, presented the Terry Wilson Memorial Cup to the Veritas team at the closing ceremonies.

The tournament celebrates a game that was a passion of the former Sacred Heart School principal.

Terry came to Prince George from Ireland in 1986 and worked as a PE teacher at St. Mary's School before moving to Victoria to further his education. He returned to the north as principal of St. Ann's School in Quesnel and then, in 1994, of Sacred Heart School in Prince George where he worked until 2002.

Throughout these years he was an integral part of the soccer scene, as a player and coach and as part of the Prince George Youth Soccer Association. A semi-professional player in Ireland, he was one of the highest qualified coaches in the region.

He was an important member of the coaching staff at the prestigious soccer camps at Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island where he eventually became the director.

On July 19, 2010 Terry died of a brain tumor in a Calgary hospital.

The Memorial Cup brings together teams from Catholic schools in the diocese and beyond, and is a fitting tribute to a man who loved soccer and was committed to his Catholic faith.





Matilda D'Silva
 Ph: 250-685-8229
 Ph: 250-692-5805
 Fax: 250-692-7779
 E-mail: matilda@matildadsilvacga.com
 3115 Taylor Frtg. Rd
 Burns Lake, BC
 V0J 1E2

ACCOUNTING, TAXES & PAYROLL SERVICES
 for small & medium businesses,
 self employed persons & individuals



ENGINEERING LIMITED
 1210 Fourth Ave,
 Prince George, B.C.
 V2L 3J4

Ph: (250) 562-1977 Fax: (250) 562-1967

Kitimat Graduates and Scholarship Recipients

Graduating students from Mount Elizabeth High School in Kitimat were honored at a Mass at Christ the King Parish, June 16th. A luncheon hosted by Christ the King Knights of Columbus Council 5148 for the students and their families followed. Participating students are pictured here with Grand Knight Frank Mauro and Father Kenneth Uwaoma. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt



Four students of Mount Elizabeth High School received \$1,000 scholarships from the Knights of Columbus Council 5148. Pictured here at the 2013 Awards Ceremonies at the school are, from left to right, Alaina Fonts, Grand Knight Frank Mauro, Kyler Cordeiro, Logan Martel and Mathias Tait. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt

Parishioners and Catholic School honored by City



Congratulations Norm and Colleen Easson, cyclists of the year!

PRINCE GEORGE - Norm and Colleen Easson of St. Mary's Parish were named Cyclists of the Year by the Bike to Work Week 2013 organizing committee.

Norm and Colleen received their award from the Prince George City Council during a meeting at City Hall on June 24th.

At the same meeting Sacred Heart School was awarded four new bike racks as a result of our participation that week.



For the Life of the World

*Rev. Douglas
Jeffrey, OMI*

In the document, "ON GOOD SOIL: Pastoral Planning for Evangelization and Catechesis with Adults", there is a wonderful section about the teaching style of Jesus. Following this presentation the authors of the document talk about the Church as a visible continuation of the teaching style of Jesus:

"God seeks constantly to be known, and revelation is ongoing. There is a vital connection between faith and life. Therefore, catechesis has the never ending task of 'finding a language capable of communicating the word of God and the creed of the Church, which is its development, in the various circumstances of those who hear it.'"

When you first read this it might seem like a mouthful but it really is quite simple: we need to find ways to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with people so that those who are receiving the Good News can in fact understand it.

I have had opportunity recently to speak with people who believe in God but don't go to Mass very often and find themselves more and more disconnected from their local faith community.

They have several complaints about our Church today ranging from but not limited to:

- * the new texts for the liturgy are difficult to understand
- * the homilies don't touch my life
- * I cannot hear or understand our priest's English
- * the music is difficult to sing
- * we are not part of the 'in-crowd' and don't feel welcome
- * the community doesn't do anything except worry about how many people come to Mass and take part in the sacraments

The problem for me as a pastor is that I am hearing these comments more and more frequently. My father used to say, 'where there is smoke there is usually a little fire!'

As a pastor and leader in the community I must ask the question: What can I do so that people feel more at home and more involved in the liturgies and ministries of the Church?

There is a clue in the excerpt quoted above. I must work to a find a 'language capable of communicating the word of God and the creed of the Church, which is its development, in the various circumstances of those who hear it.'

If someone does not understand my words, repeating them in a louder voice or with greater frequency is not helpful. I must find new ways to make the message known.

This task does not belong only to the bishops and pastors; it belongs to every member of the Church. I must be in touch with what people are saying, the language and images they use to communicate with each other.

Otherwise I am incapable of communicating the wonderful news of God's love and mercy in a way that makes sense and draws forth a commitment of faith.

While it is true that there are many aspects of communicating the gospel that do not need words, we certainly do need

words to speak about and celebrate our faith.

As we continue our celebrations of the Year of Faith we, both pastors and laity alike, need to work together to find words and images that communicate God's love.

We also need to take a second look at our faith community.

Are we concerned with ourselves and are we reaching out to the poor?

Do we get excited about how many people are not coming to Church and do we get excited about putting into practice the teachings of Jesus?

Do we celebrate our rituals because we have to or do we carefully prepare and celebrate our rituals well so that they both express and lead to greater faith?

Do we speak of the God who continues to delight the world with ongoing revelation or do we present a tired and angry God who is impatient with a people who lack familiarity with our ritual language and symbols and question our authority?

Soon we will be searching our closets for warmer clothing. Now is a good time to search the treasures of our Church for language, symbols and rituals that reveal a God who is involved in our daily life, a God who is simple, warm and loving!

Perhaps we, like our God can seek our brothers and sisters with a spirit of welcoming joy!

Prince George Councils
5246, 8046, 8318, 8927



Knights of Columbus

Serving Church and Community
in Prince George

Come and Join us — New Members Welcome

Let your faith shine

By: Evelyn Rigby

VICTORIA - The successful passing of three resolutions was just one of many highlights of the 66th BC and Yukon Catholic Women's League Provincial Convention held June 6-8 at the Harbor Towers and Suites in Victoria.

Ten League members from the Diocese of Prince George attended including executive member Linda McClinton and Diocesan President Laura Esposito.

The host planning committee, ably led by Sheila Quinn and Betty Hoskins, prepared a comfortable setting for 200 delegates to delve into the responsibilities and rewards of being active women of faith in service to God and Canada.

The resolution entitled Uninterrupted Services for Disabled Youth to Adult Services will be formally presented to the provincial legislature this fall. Formulated by a Powell River member, it addressed the troublesome wait period during the transition from childhood to adulthood when various kinds of support are no longer available to special needs citizens and their families.

At the resolutions dialogue members learned of many instances where present practices caused hardship to all concerned.

Two other resolutions dealt with live births from late-term abortions and

concerns about the lack of a regulatory framework for assisted human reproductive technologies. These two resolutions were forwarded to the National Committee. If they are passed they will be taken by national representatives to the annual fall meeting with federal members of parliament.

In his presentation Archbishop Miller spoke of the circumstances leading up to the election of Pope Francis and outlined the internal and external challenges now facing the Holy Father. He encouraged attendees to pray for the success of this papacy and to be vigorous and joyful in proclaiming the gospel.

Bishop Gagnon spoke on the national and provincial CWL themes, "We Have Seen the Lord" and "Let Our Faith Shine". He encouraged members to give witness to their encounter with Christ while addressing the big questions about the meaning and purpose of life, why we believe and why we are Catholic.

Pat Nichol's workshop further explored the place of joy in our lives. She noted practical ways of recognizing and conveying happiness in our lives, even through suffering.

In her presentation Halla Elmobayad of the BC Cancer Prevention Agency gave many practical examples of effective measures to reduce the risk of cancer.

Susan House of the Catholic Health Association invited the CWL to support plans to honor the legacy of religious women who worked in BC's education, social services and health care since 1858.

An interview with Father Tien Tran revealed a vocation grounded in the love of a Vietnamese Catholic family upbringing, tested and brought to fruition through adversity and adolescence in an alien culture.

Friday's International Night featured a fun-filled musical tribute to Father Tran as outgoing Provincial Spiritual Advisor. Members young and old sang and danced to the easy-on-the-ear ethnic music of the Gypsy Rovers while proudly wearing their national costumes.

At the banquet, newly installed Provincial Spiritual Advisor Father Edwin Kulling traced his story from conversion to priesthood. Winners of the Life Members Arts and Culture Award and Mollie Boucher Bursary, Vincent Plana and Leandra Armstrong Hooker, were announced.

The next Provincial Convention will be held June 4-8, 2014 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Kamloops.

For those unable to attend the convention this year, oral reports are posted on the provincial website: www.bcyukoncwl.com.

Series addresses current health care issues



Approximately 40 people participated in two workshops on Community Care held at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Speaker Kim Dixon addresses issues around mental illness.



Sr. Dorothy Ryan, CSJ, speaks about issues pertaining to depression and anxiety at the Community Care workshop.

Oh Canada!



Sr. Maria Paz of Jesus, ED, poses with friends during her citizenship ceremony, August 27, 2013. Congratulations Sr. Maria! Photo by: Richard Beaudette, OMI.

Knights recognize family

The Knights of Columbus Council 5148 acknowledges their 2012-13 Family of the Year: John Medeiros and family. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt



TERRACE TERRACE
 **TOYOTA**  **CHRYSLER**

 **FLEETWOOD**
Driven to Explore

800 313 6558 800 313 7187

For All your Automotive and RV Needs

www.terraceautomall.com

 **SPRUCE CREDIT UNION**

879 Victoria Street, Prince George, BC

MORTGAGES*LOANS*CREDIT LINES*INVESTMENTS

DRIVE-THRU ATM

INTERNET AND TELEPHONE BANKING

(250) 562-5415

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK, NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Ordination Pictures of Alvin Matias & Rene Antonio

Bishop Stephen Jensen and the newly ordained Fathers Alvin, left and Rene, right, pose with priests who participated in the ordination celebration. PHOTO BY: Amir Austria



Father Rene blesses a child following his ordination. PHOTO BY: Amir Austria



Rene Antonio & Alvin Matias lie prostrate during the Litany of Saints.

Largest selection of indoor plants, trees and garden supplies in town.

"Specializing in Weddings, Funerals and all Occasions"

Hart Hwy and Northwood Pulp Road 250-562-6988

Hwy 16W and Kimball Road 250-964-6056



RHN Schmitz de Grace
Chartered Accountants

1116 - 6th Avenue
Prince George, BC
V2L 3M6

Tel: (250) 564-2515 or 1-800-976-7780
Fax: (250) 562-8722

Email: josh@rhngroup.ca www.rhngroup.ca



HELP US SEND A CHILD BACK TO SCHOOL

\$33/month



SPONSOR NOW!

1.800.776.6855 www.chalice.ca



nc0913

Domano Renewal Centre Schedule September to December 2013



SEPTEMBER	EVENTS	FACILITATORS
12	Walking Retreat: Ancient Forest	Fr. Richard Beaudette, OMI
16, 30	Christian Meditation	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
19	How to Deal with Difficult People... When Strangling isn't an Option!	Dorothy Ryan, CSJ
23	The Rosary ~ All About It!	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
OCTOBER		
7 - 11	Priests' Retreat	Bishop Gregory Bittman, Auxiliary Bishop of Edmonton
15	On Blessings	Dorothy Ryan, CSJ and Irene Baker, CSJ
15, 22, 29	Book Discussion: "Radical Gratitude" by Mary Jo Leddy	Claire Petrucci
17	Faith: A Legacy, An Opportunity and a Way	Fr. Doug Jeffrey, OMI
21, 28	Christian Meditation	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
24, 31	"St. Benedict's Toolbox"	Ven. Peter Zimmer
25-26	Retreat for Women	Sandy Prather
NOVEMBER		
4, 18	Christian Meditation	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
5, 12, 19	Book Discussion: "Radical Gratitude" by Mary Jo Leddy	Claire Petrucci
6	Retreat Day for Artists	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
7, 14, 21, 28	"St. Benedict's Toolbox"	Ven. Peter Zimmer
22-23	Retreat for Men	Fr. Doug Jeffrey, OMI
26	Advent Incarnation: Keeping God in the Flesh	Dorothy Ryan, CSJ and Irene Baker, CSJ
30	Advent Crafts	Phyllis & Cyndi Sarrazin
DECEMBER		
2, 9	Christian Meditation	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
3	Advent Incarnation: Keeping God in the Flesh	Dorothy Ryan, CSJ and Irene Baker, CSJ
4	Advent Prayer Service	TBA
7	Taize Prayer	Frank Jamin & Lorenzo Sia
10	Morning of Stillness in Advent	Elizabeth Poilievre, FCJ
11	Christmas Coffee Open House	All Invited
14	Grieving with the Help of Your Catholic Faith	Dorothy Ryan, CSJ

PLEASE REGISTER BY CALLING, EMAILING OR REGISTERING THROUGH OUR WEBSITE

(250) 964-4475

drc@pgdiocese.bc.ca

www.domanorenewalcentre.org

Nature in the raw

By: Nuala Powers
PRINCE GEORGE - Sacred Heart School students were delighted to participate in four environmentally friendly fieldtrips in June.

The Kindergarten class visited Connaught Hill Park which is just a short walk from the school. Our guide and forester, Frank Caffrey, shared the secrets of the soil with students who were very interested in the ant antics there.

Ms. Kilbey's Grade 1/2 students took the bus to Forests for the World where Mr. Caffrey guided them through the many tree species being eaten alive by caterpillars!

Ms. Johnston's Grade 2/3 students and all the Intermediate students were led by forest hydrologist, John Rex on two separate trips to The Ancient Forest. Students loved the giant trees and the spectacular waterfall.

All the trips were made possible by a grant from the Conservation Education Assistance Fund. These funds are generated by a levy on license fees for fishing, trapping, guiding and hunting in BC.

If your school is interested in applying for a grant which will cover bus transportation, leader or program fees and trip materials, the Fall/Winter application deadline is September 15th for funding between September 15th and March 30th.



Sacred Heart School students Dylan and Matthew display the giant leaf they discovered near the trail head at the Ancient Forest.



Jenna Johnston and some of her Grade 2/3 students appear to be holding up a giant tree in the Ancient Forest near Prince George.

St. Anthony School Speaking Contest Winners



A contest was held May 23rd at St. Anthony's School in Kitimat to determine who would represent the school at the Annual District 16 Knights of Columbus Speaking Contest. Principal Katja Groves (left) and Grand Knight Frank Mauro (back), pose with winning students Harrison Oscavi (4th), Ava Galante (3rd) and Nina Gidaldi (2nd). PHOTO BY: G. Max Patzelt

BUILDING TOGETHER *in faith*



2013-2014

Appeal Goal \$400,000.00



**FAITH
FORMATION
\$160,000**



**SEMINARIANS
AND PRIESTS'
ONGOING
EDUCATION
\$29,000**



**CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS
\$65,000**



**YOUTH/ YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRIES
\$70,000**



**HOME
MISSIONS
\$76,000**



Diocese of Prince George
Box 7000, Prince George, BC V2N 3Z2
Phone 250-964-4424
Fax 250-964-2101