



Northern Catholic News

VOLUME XXIV, NO. 3

SUMMER 2015

Inside this issue:

Palliative care	1
CWL	2, 10
Parishes/ Knights	4-5
Sabbatical	6
Missionary call	11
Youth & Young Adults	12-14
Schools	15
Rose Prince	16

Imitate God's mercy in caring for most vulnerable

By: Most Rev. Stephen Jensen

PRINCE GEORGE - In Easter week Pope Francis announced a "Jubilee of Mercy" beginning on December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This Holy Year is gift to help us grow in appreciation of God's merciful ways and implore pardon for the Church and the world.

The deterioration of our social world highlights the need for God's mercy in our lives and community.

Canadian courts have struck down protection of human life in one case after another. The unborn are without any legal protection and now the law against

physicians aiding their patients in committing suicide has been swept away.

We need to implore God's mercy on our country, especially its elected leaders who make laws and the media that present the ethical issues that confront us. The "culture of death" is entrenched in the circles of power and influence. Only God's mercy can deliver us from this spreading evil.

The government has been given a year to draft new legislation addressing end-of-life issues. As citizens and people of faith, we need to be well informed about what's at stake so that our voices can help shape the future, ensuring respect for life and care for those at the end of their earthly journey.

Palliative care is a medically and morally sound way of assisting the dying.

The diocesan website (www.pgdiocese.bc.ca) has resources that present the issues accurately and counter the misleading propaganda that lobbies public opinion to impose an ever wider culture of death on us. These resources also suggest practical steps we can take to exercise our role as citizens to improve society for all.

Our Lord assures us that what we do for the least of our brethren we do for Him. As we look forward to the Jubilee Year, we should imitate God's mercy in the attention and care we offer the most vulnerable.



The 20th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference. For more on youth and young adult ministry, see pages 12-14.

*Northern Catholic
News*
Published by the
Diocese of Prince
George

6500 Southridge Ave
Prince George, BC
V2N 5P9

Phone: 250-964-4424
Fax: 250-964-2101

Email:
majamin@pgdiocese.bc.ca
Editor:
Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin
Layout:
Lisa Weber

The Northern Catholic
News is issued four times
a year. Editions are
available online at
www.pgdiocese.bc.ca.

To subscribe by email,
please contact Lisa Weber
at lisa@pgdiocese.bc.ca.

St. Mary's hosts CWL Diocesan Convention

By: Georgina Hoffarth

PRINCE GEORGE – Oral reports from parish presidents highlighted the first evening of the 59th Annual Diocesan Convention of the Catholic Women's League held at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, April 10-12.

It is truly amazing what each parish council accomplishes. Though some are small in membership, they do an incredible amount of work in their parish and community. The struggling councils, as well as sick League members, were remembered in prayer throughout the convention.

Rev. Robert Smith, OMI, pastor of St. Mary's Parish, presided at the opening Mass. This year's National theme, "One Heart, One Voice and One Mission", Provincial theme, "Joyfully Serving the Lord", and Diocesan theme, "With Joined Hearts", were integrated into Father Smith's homily.

The themes were also woven into the opening remarks given by Provincial

President Pat Deppiessie, Diocesan President Laura Esposito, President of St. Mary's Council (host parish) Susanne LeFebvre and Convention Chairperson Carmen Foucher.

The next day in her talk entitled "CWL Facelift", Pat Deppiessie gave a fun and enthusiastic approach to recruiting new members.

Rev. Jack Michalchuk and John Connelly of the Diocesan Office of Catechesis and Evangelization inspired League members with their presentation, "A Missionary Disciple Today: A Practical Approach to Living One Heart, One Voice, One Mission." They demonstrated the need to listen for God's voice and emphasized that contemplation will transform our lives.

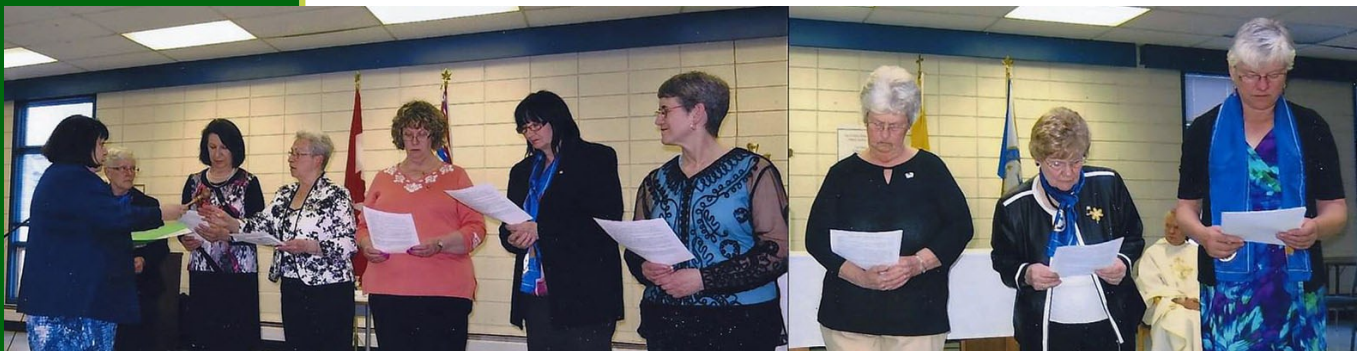
Mary-Anne Lewis Jamin, Chancellor of the Diocese of Prince George, discussed the Safe Parish & Community Policy which is designed to create and maintain a safe environment for parish and diocesan ministry. The process outlined in the policy

involves identifying ministry positions which could put children, youth or vulnerable adults at risk and implementing procedures to prevent their harm.

Bishop Stephen Jensen celebrated the closing Mass and presided over the installation of the new executive. In his remarks as guest speaker at the banquet, Bishop Jensen spoke about Pope Francis' announcement of the upcoming Year of Mercy, December 8, 2015 to November 2016. Jesus is the face of mercy, he said.

Gratitude was expressed to Sr. Jude VanBaalén, OP, for her service as Diocesan Spiritual Advisor for the Catholic Women's League. Sr. Jude is returning to the US to serve in new areas of ministry for her congregation, the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Those gathered thanked her for all her work and prayed God's blessing on her journey.

An invitation to the 2016 CWL Diocesan Convention was extended by Fort St. John.



The 2015-2017 diocesan executive of the CWL is pictured during an installation ceremony at the 59th Annual Convention. Incoming president, Carmen Foucher is pictured third from the left receiving the gavel from outgoing president Laura Esposito.

You are invited: Charismatic Renewal holds Summer Institute



KELOWNA – ‘In the Name of Jesus’ is the theme of the seventh annual Our Lady of Pentecost Summer Institute to be held at Seton House in Kelowna, August 9-14.

Featured speakers are Most Rev. Sam Jacobs and Rev. Gerald Sekanga.

Bishop Sam Jacobs was born in Mississippi. He graduated from The Catholic University of America with Masters Degrees in Philosophy and Education/Administration. Ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette in 1964, he served as pastor, chaplain and associate pastor of several parishes there and in the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Bishop Jacobs served as chairman of the National Service Committee for the Charismatic Renewal and diocesan director of vocations and seminarians for the Diocese of Lake Charles. He

also served as the chairman of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee on Catholic Charismatic Renewal.

Bishop Jacobs was appointed 10th Bishop of Alexandria in 1989 and was installed as the third Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux in 2003. He retired in October of 2013.

Father Gerald Sekanga recently returned to the Diocese of Nelson after studying Canon Law in Ontario. He works well with youth and has an amazing interest in study. Very much the philosopher with a discerning spirit, Father Sekanga exudes wisdom beyond his years. He is a very popular priest in the Diocese.

The institute is sponsored by the Nelson Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service Committee and is endorsed by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services of BC. Beginning August 9 with Sunday evening Mass,

the institute concludes with lunch on Friday, August 14.

Presentations and discussions will take place each day with a healing Mass on Monday evening and other worship events Tuesday and Thursday evening.

Due to space limitations, registration will be limited to 45 participants, with lodging at Seton House available for 30. Some billeting may also be available.

Cost until June 30 is \$500 including lodging and all meals; \$275 for commuters or \$100 per day. Fees increase to \$550, \$325 and \$125 after June 15. Cancellations by Aug. 1 will receive a refund less \$25 cancellation fee.

Clergy and religious may attend for free, but registration is required. Call Maria at 250-707-1423 for registration, information or billeting. Full payment must accompany registration.

BURSARY



The Sisters of St. Ann are offering a Bursary named in honour of their foundress, Blessed Marie Anne Blondin. This bursary offers assistance to women seeking education in theological and ministry studies that promote justice, peace, integrity of creation, healing, holistic living and a healthy life style.

Priority will be given to a candidate from BC, the Yukon or the Northwest Territories. Preference will be given to one who is on limited income and who sees the educational opportunity as a means of employment training or personal growth.

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 2015

For an application form, please contact:

administration@ssabc.ca or 250-592-3133

FAREWELL

A farewell celebration will take place for Fr. Richard Beaudette, OMI who has faithfully served in this diocese for many years and will be leaving in August for Oblate ministry in Ottawa.

Monday June 29th, 2015

Mass at 7:00 pm Domano Chapel

followed by refreshments

at the Domano Renewal Centre

Bethany House Dining Room.

**Kindly RSVP by Friday, June 26th, 2015
to Lisa Weber, Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Prince George
lisa@pgdiocese.bc.ca; 250-964-5644**



Stations depicted in scroll saw art



TOP LEFT: Father Johmer Faderanga, pastor of St. Mary's Parish in New Hazelton, blesses Stations of the Cross presented to the parish by the Knights of Columbus Council #7973 prior to the first Friday of Lent. Also pictured is David Hemenway who created the scroll saw artwork. TOP RIGHT: The craftsmanship displayed in the work is amazing. PHOTOS BY: Jim Schwab

Canada Winter Games

For two weeks Prince George played host to young athletes and coaches from our ten provinces and three territories. The Canada Winter Games was an opportunity for parishioners throughout the city to contribute volunteer hours in their community. The distinctive green jackets worn by volunteers could be seen in significant numbers in all four parishes during the games.

TOP RIGHT: Pictured is a group from Immaculate Conception Parish. PHOTO BY: Elaine Hauck.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Many Prince George Knights and their families volunteered at the Civic Centre helping with checking the athletes' bags starting at 5:30 a.m. each day.



Parish bids farewell to long time parishioners

By: Susana Borges

KITIMAT – When the news that John and Rosaria Medeiros were leaving Kitimat began to spread through the community, everyone was a little surprised and shocked. After all, we thought they were enjoying their newly renovated home and planned on staying for a while.

Their departure will certainly be felt by Christ the King Parish because they have generously shared many volunteer hours for the good of our parish community.

- John was the maintenance “go-to” person for the church, rectory, parish car and offices and rental suite. If there was a question or a problem, John was the person to ask.
- John was involved with church and school security, always vigilant and on patrol for strangers or unusual behavior.



John and Rosaria Medeiros pose with Father Babji Merugu, pastor of Christ the King Parish, at their farewell celebration. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt

- John negotiated our snow clearing contract for the church and school, clearing the exits and stairs when no one else came forward.
- He organized the grass cutting, lawn maintenance and landscaping.

- Extensive involvement with the Knights of Columbus, Social Committee and as Mordome of the Festa do Divino Espirito Santo (celebration of the Feast of the Holy Spirit).

John and Rosaria loved this parish and church community very much as evidenced by the time they shared with it. I know that for John, whatever he did was always for the good of the church. We benefited from it and so did the parish budget.

It was not easy to say goodbye to John and Rosaria as they gave their heart to this community and in return the community says thank you, thank you for everything!

We wish them all the best as they move to Langley. We hope they enjoy the gift of family - children and grandchildren - and come back to visit us often.

Kitimat youth receive scholarships

Grand Knight Frank Mauro presents scholarships of \$1,000 each to four local students at a ceremony held in the Mount Elizabeth Theatre in Kitimat. The recipients are: Nichlos Furtado, Lucas Fontes, Joel Meier and Steven Horianopolous. PHOTO BY: Max Patzelt



Prince George Councils
5246, 8046, 8318, 8927



Knights of Columbus

Serving Church and Community
in Prince George

Come and Join us — New Members Welcome



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

By: Rev. Rectorino M. Tolentino, Jr.

The last part of my sabbatical is characterized by a deeper immersion in the Philippine Church, outreach with victims of Super Typhoon Haiyan, on-going education and formation with special focus on the use of modern technology in the ministry of evangelization, visits with family and friends, relaxation, adventure and surprises!

Immersion in the Philippine Church

St. Peter's Parish and Shrine of Leaders in the Diocese of Novaliches, Quezon City became my host parish during my stay in the Philippines during the seasons of Lent and Easter.

I am grateful for the hospitality of Father Marlou Lemaire for allowing me to be a part of their parish community even for a limited but a fruitful time. Celebrating Mass with thousands of people every Sunday is already a unique experience for me; imagine Mass celebrated 16 times every Sunday, six times every day with baptisms, weddings, reconciliation and funerals on a daily basis.

The number of people who attended Mass regularly on Sundays and weekdays demonstrated to me the



"I am officially a Canadian Citizen. It brings new feelings of belonging to be a Canadian!"

Parishioners from St. Joseph's Parish in Smithers join Rev. Rector Tolentino and his mother in the Philippines for the celebration of Father Rector's 8th anniversary of ordination.



human need for spiritual nourishment and a constant relationship with God.

Their love of the Church and sacraments, especially their sincere and humble attitude towards the sacrament of reconciliation, made me think that we need more priests to journey with these people. Indeed the Catholic Church is a wonderful gift of God to his people.

God's work continues through the ministry of the Church and through priests who lead the celebration of the sacraments. Let us pray for more vocations to the priesthood. We need more priests!

I also regularly assisted Father Jun Roxas on Sundays in Parokya, San Pablo Apostol in my home province of Bulacan. It was an opportunity for me to give thanks to this lovely community who were part of my journey towards ordination.

Msgr. Jesus-Romulo Ranada, Vicar General of Novaliches Diocese, also asked me to spend from Holy Week to Easter Sunday at the Visitation of Our Lady Parish, Quezon City. This particular experience of Holy Week and Easter reminded me of the beauty of Filipino religious traditions such as the Salubong procession, the encounter between the resurrected Jesus and his mother.

Outreach

After the busyness of Easter Sunday, inspired by the gesture of Pope Francis who visited the victims of Super Typhoon Haiyan in Tacloban, Leyte, I went to Tacloban with three seminarians.

There we visited a family and neighbourhood badly affected by the typhoon and unable to get sufficient help from the government and other charitable agencies. Yes, there are neglected and forgotten people; there are still people who need help.

From our limited resources we were able to give a small amount of relief goods,

rosaries and prayer cards. Let us continue to remember them in our prayers.

On-going education and formation

With a strong desire to utilize modern technology in the field of evangelization, I registered to study web design and development at Informatics College, Diliman, Quezon City.

When I return to active ministry in Prince George I intend to help improve the use of modern technology and social media in ministry. This is also consistent with the invitation of St. John Paul II who said: "For the Church, the new world of cyberspace is a summons to the great adventure of using its potential to proclaim the Gospel message."

Reunion and visits

When friends and affiliations knew I was in the country, they took advantage of the opportunity to invite me over, not only for a simple visit but for a particular purpose.

It was a grace-filled experience for me to facilitate a Day of Lenten Reflection with the seminarians of Our Lady of the Angels Seminary, my College Seminary. I also facilitated an Easter Retreat with members of Sta. Monica Cooperative, Inc. in a neighboring town.

These two retreats provided me with personal spiritual renewal. Lourdes College of Bulacan, the school where I finished secondary education, invited me to be their Commencement speaker. It was a humbling experience to face the graduates and share with them the story of my journey.

On two separate occasions, I witnessed the marriage of two of my nieces. As a family, we also celebrated Mother's Day with our mother. This was a very rare opportunity to gather and celebrate with family. I am thankful for all of this.

Relaxation and adventure

Every year during my holiday, I spent days away relaxing and re-discovering the beauty of my home country. This time I went to Bagac, Bataan and Baler, Aurora. Parishioners from St. Joseph Parish in Smithers visited me and we went to Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar in Bagac, Bataan.

The staff of Mary the Queen Parish in Quezon City also invited me to join them for their annual excursion. We went to the beautiful beach of Baler, Aurora. On our way to Tacloban, Leyte I took a side trip to the famous Mayon volcano in Legaspi, Albay. These were enjoyable moments of my sabbatical.

Citizenship

While I was away I was thrilled to receive the news that I was invited to write a citizenship test and attend a citizenship oath taking ceremony in

Prince George. In the middle of my time in the Philippines, I flew to Canada.

As of April 15, 2015 I am officially a Canadian Citizen. It brings new feelings of belonging to be a Canadian!

Bishop Stephen Jensen, Father Venerando Sabacan and Dennis Gonia came to the Ramada Inn to join me for the ceremony.

New Appointment

Days after becoming a new Canadian, Bishop Stephen Jensen made public my pastoral assignment for 2015. I am deeply grateful to Bishop Jensen for his trust and confidence in me as a young priest.

To be appointed Vicar General means I will not have an office of my own but rather share with the Bishop's office, to work with him more closely, to collaborate with him and to represent him. It is his ministry and vision that I will support and help accomplished.

I am very humbled to accept this responsibility, and as I do so, I renew my obedience, loyalty and support to the Bishop. I also ask for my brother priests' support. Please pray for me as I prepare to take on this new ministry.

8th Anniversary of Ordination

On May 18th I marked eight years as an ordained priest for the Diocese of Prince

George. I celebrated it with a Solemn Mass at St. Thomas Chapel, Baranggay Taboc, Angat, Bulacan, the village where I grew up and where I was first called to respond to God's call.

Family, friends, fellow parishioners and visitors from Manila attended. Father Rene Antonio of our Diocese and three other local priests came to join us. A couple visiting from St. Joseph Parish, Smithers was also able to attend.

It was a beautiful celebration and a great time to thank the people who supported me during my formation and throughout the years of my ministry. As I celebrated my eighth anniversary, I give testimony to the words of Pope Francis:

"There is nothing more beautiful for a man than to be called to the priesthood, called to follow Jesus, to be with him, to bring Jesus to others, to bring them his Word and his forgiveness."

I entrust my priestly vocation to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother. I look forward to returning soon to the Diocese of Prince George with renewed strength and enthusiasm in the ministry.



Many people in the Philippines still suffer the effects of Typhoon Haiyan. During his sabbatical Father Rector joined three seminarians in Tacloban to bring some relief to a suffering community.

**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.

New ministry for Susan Campbell

News release

COCHRANE – As Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre celebrates its 66th year, we are happy to announce that our new director, Susan Campbell, was formally commissioned to her appointment on March 29.

Ms. Campbell, originally from Edmonton, comes to the Mount with extensive theological and pastoral experience and background. She began her ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Edmonton, served at Newman Theological College, Edmonton, and latterly was the Director of the Catholic Pastoral Centre for the Diocese of Prince George.

She is also a team member of Returning to Spirit, a reconciliation process between aboriginal and non- aboriginal people working to heal the legacy of the Indian Residential Schools.

Susan’s background includes studies at Newman Theological College where she obtained her M.Th, the University of St. Paul (Ottawa) and the Catholic University of Louvain, Blegium where she obtained her M.A. in Religious Studies.

Former director, Friar Kevin Lynch said that Ms. Campbell’s hiring was in keeping with the 800-year-old Franciscan tradition of both our founding saints, St. Francis and St. Clare. This tradition calls men and women “to renew the Church which is falling in ruins” – as heard from the cross in San Damiano Chapel of Assisi during a vision St. Francis experienced.



Susan Campbell (centre) pictured with Franciscan team members.

The Mount’s mission statement states that “... all are welcome in the name of Christ ... to this spiritual centre of peace, healing and prayer”.

For more information about Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre visit www.mtfrancis.ca or phone 403-932-2012.

RHB SCHMITZ de GRACE

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Tel: 250-564-2515 or 1-800-976-7780

Fax: 250-562-8722


www.rhbcpa.ca

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



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

Archbishop Miller praises D&P

By: Ted Alcuitas

VANCOUVER – “D&P is a great blessing to the Church,” Vancouver Archbishop Michael Miller said of the relief and reconstruction work done by Development and Peace in Tacloban, Leyte in the Philippines – hardest hit by the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan.

In his address to the BC/Yukon Council at their April 19th Annual General Meeting at Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre, Archbishop Miller said he was pleased to see first hand the work done by Development and Peace

and its partners in helping rebuild the lives of the people most affected by the typhoon during his first visit to the country last year.

Miller said the work of Development and Peace is a “witness to who we are involved with, and all of us need to be encouraged. Your work in Tacloban has encouraged us and you are doing it successfully.”

He said it gave him a “wonderful perspective on what D&P brings – not the kind of agency that walks away after giving aid but stays to help rebuild people’s lives.”

After the immediate emergency relief, D&P has a three-year reconstruction program in typhoon-hit areas to “support communities in rebuilding infrastructure, as well as strengthening community ties, bolstering local economies and helping communities develop greater resilience for future disasters.”

Development and Peace raised over \$13 M in donations nationwide with the Vancouver Archdiocese contributing one of the largest at over \$1 M.

New woman at helm

By: Ted Alcuitas

VANCOUVER - Liz Corrigan of the Kamloops Diocese was elected the new chair of Development and Peace’s BC/Yukon Regional Council, replacing Sandra Patrick of Vancouver.

Five diocesan councils - Victoria, Nelson/Whitehorse, Kamloops, Prince George and Vancouver - comprise the regional council which meets yearly in

various locations to hold the Annual General Meeting.

Over 40 delegates and observers from the different regions attended the meeting including Dick Mynen of Prince George, National Council Representative for B.C./Yukon, Isabelle Kim, Deputy Director, In-Canada Programs Director of Projects and Kelly Di Domenico, Communications Officer.



New regional chairperson, Liz Corrigan with her husband John at the recent Regional Development and Peace meeting. PHOTO BY: Ted Alcuitas.

Parish blessed by priest’s ministry



Rev. Johmer Faderanga stands next to a poster acknowledging those who have dedicated their lives to the religious vocation. The Year of Consecrated Life provided an opportunity for St. Mary’s Parish, New Hazelton, to express their appreciation for the four years Father Johmer ministered in their parish: “Father humbly serves his flock with compassion and love for our Lord”. He leaves the parish at the end of July for another pastoral assignment in the diocese. PHOTO BY: Vivian Nelson

CWL presents resolutions to BC government

By: Lorraine Thibeault

VICTORIA – BC/Yukon Catholic Women’s League Resolutions delegation - comprised of President, Pat Deppiessie from North Vancouver, President-elect, Evelyn Rigby from Powell River, Legislation chairperson, Gisela Montague from Chilliwack, and Resolutions chairperson, Dianne Barker from Kamloops - met with MLAs and representatives of the BC Government and opposition in Victoria in May.

Six resolutions of priority to the League and important for our country were presented and expanded upon by the delegates.

Before the presentation to the Liberal caucus, Ralph Sutton (West Vancouver-Capilano) introduced the delegation. In attendance were Honorable Todd Stone (Kamloops South), Jane Thornthwaite (North Vancouver-Seymour), Laurie Throness (Chilliwack-Hope), Pat Pimm (Peace River North), Marvin Hunt (Surrey-Panorama) and Gordon Hogg (Surrey WhiteRock).

The resolutions are:

1. BC Low Income Dental Care: asks the BC government to provide access to fully subsidized basic dental care for low income citizens
2. Electronic or E-Cigarettes: commends the government for passing Bill 14 - Tobacco Control Amendment Act, 2015 - regulating sale of e-cigarettes to minors
3. Flavored Tobacco Products Ban: requests the government ban flavored tobacco products to protect our children
4. National Standard for Newborn-Screening Including Screening for Severe Combined Immunodeficiency: asks the government to include screening for SCID (Severe Combined Immunodeficiency) in its newborn screening protocols



CWL delegation to the BC Legislature join Victoria’s March for Life. Carrying their banner in the March are Sharon Geiger, Gisela Montague and Pat Deppiessie.

5. Children of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: encourages continued participation in the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. While the RCMP Operational Review indicated that the number of missing and murdered women has been reduced, there are still too many murdered and missing women on the Highway of Tears, the 720 km section of Highway 16 between Prince George and Prince Rupert
6. Palliative Care - An Integral Component of the Canadian Health Care System: affirms the CWL’s opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide, and asks the provincial government to take a leadership role in providing palliative care throughout our province.

Government officials were informed of two resolutions, originating in BC and approved at the World Union of Catholic Women’s Organization (WUCWO), that were presented to the United Nations for action.

They were also asked to be vigilant in adherence to the federal Bill C36 which criminalizes the purchase of sexual services.

MLAs asked questions on many of the topics with special attention paid to end of

life care, e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco products and combating other countries trying to create ‘the perfect race’ through genetic manipulation. Thoughtful discussion took place with the MLAs.

The CWL delegation attended the Speaker’s Gallery where Minister Stone introduced them to the House and spoke briefly about the good work done provincially, federally and globally by the Catholic Women’s League.

The delegation also met with NDP MLAs Maurine Karagianis (Esquimalt-Royal Roads), Michele Mungall (Nelson-Creston) and Jennifer Rice (North Coast). These MLAs were particularly interested in the resolutions dealing with low income dental care, a ban on flavored tobacco products and children of missing and murdered aboriginal women, topics that are part of the agendas they have been trying to bring to the attention of the government.

While in Victoria the delegation joined BC/Yukon CWL Christian Family Life chairperson, Sharon Geiger of Salmon Arm, in the city’s March for Life. Following Mass at St. Andrew’s Cathedral with Bishop Gary Gordon, the provincial CWL banner was processed from Centennial Square to the grounds of the Legislature building where a peaceful demonstration in support of the dignity of life took place.

MLAs Gordon Hogg, Ralph Sultan, Pat Pimm, Jane Thornthwaite, Marvin Hunt are pictured with the CWL delegation comprised of Evelyn Rigby, Pat Deppiessie, Dianne Barker and Gisela Montague



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

The call to nurture missionary parishes

By: John Connelly

PRINCE GEORGE – All of us have hopes and dreams. It is simply a part of being human. We all want happiness, we all want fulfillment.

Dreams are a way of looking forward to the future.

God also has dreams, dreams for his people, for his Church. But these dreams and visions of God only happen when people like you and I cooperate. Like Mary we need to pray: "Let it be done in me according to your Word."

It is a thought worth contemplating that people like us can actually be instruments in fulfilling God's loving plan on earth today. So the questions we need to ask individually and as a family of faith are: What does God dream for his people today? What is our role in fulfilling these dreams?

Much could be said about this but I will focus on one dream that is coming to the forefront of the Church today. God dreams of renewed parish communities, parishes filled with what Pope Francis calls "missionary disciples".

Imagine parishes that are fully alive in faith, hope and love. Imagine a strong emphasis on evangelization, dynamic faith formation, prayer, adoration, community and social justice.

Imagine people with a deep, intimate, loving relationship with Jesus and a profound sense of mission.

This is the dream that is described to us by our Pope and many bishops, clergy and lay people today. In the document "The Missionary Dynamic of the Parish Today", the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops quotes the vision of Pope Francis:

"The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an

environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration.

"In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey and a centre of constant missionary outreach. We must admit, though, that the call to review and renew our parishes has not yet sufficed to bring them nearer to people, to make them environments of living communion and participation and to make them completely mission-oriented."

We at the Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office highly recommend some prayer, reflection and dialogue around this important document. We are finding

inspiration in this ongoing dialogue about parish based renewal in the Church today.

We are committed in the coming year to integrating this inspired call for parishes in the wider discussions in our diocese.

All around us we see signs of renewal and hope. Our youth and young adult communities are growing. Many good initiatives both new and old are bearing fruit. People are asking for resources and practical ways to move ahead.

This is a global phenomenon. There are dreams and visions arising in people's hearts. There is a sense that many communities in the Church are awakening and that the inspiring vision of Pope Francis is having a profound effect.

Let us pray often for the Bishop, clergy and laity of this Diocese. May we continue to have the courage and fortitude to dream God's dreams and follow them through. Let us build on the good which already exists and look to the future with hope.

Let us create a shared, open-hearted dialogue of clergy and laity on nurturing our parishes and inspiring them to be fully alive. As the CCCB document says:

"The mission of the parish today is challenging indeed. Yet as Christians, we possess the Good News that our world needs, and is in fact longing for: 'How important it is for our time to discover that God alone responds to the yearning present in the heart of every man and woman!'

The great treasure held within the parish is not any temporal wealth, but rather the living God revealed in Jesus Christ and made present to us by the power of the Holy Spirit, whom the world so desperately needs."



L & M
ENGINEERING LIMITED
1210 Fourth Ave,
Prince George, B.C.
V2L 3J4
Ph: (250) 562-1977 Fax: (250) 562-1967

"WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR SERVICE" **SIMBA MOTORS**
Specializing in Auto Repairs
Imports
Domestic Vehicles
Light Trucks
Claude & Eric Hoarau
Phone-250.564.5149

St. Thérèse teaches the "Little Way"

While attending her first year of university, Carly Weber, a parishioner from St. Mary's Parish, Prince George found herself searching for more. She felt the need to understand her faith more deeply while living in an authentic community. She found what she was looking for at the St. Therese School of Faith and Mission in Bruno, Saskatchewan.

Located one hour outside of Saskatoon, the St. Therese School of Faith and Mission is a 9-month formation program, running from September to May. The program is designed for young adults between the ages of 18 and 35. It provides classes on Church teaching, as well as great opportunities for spiritual growth through the sacraments, community life, prayer enveloped in the spirituality of St. Thérèse of Lisieux.

Through the teachings of St. Thérèse and Catherine Doherty (foundress of Madonna House), the students learn how to love and serve God in everyday duties of life.

St. Thérèse teaches that by recognizing weakness, they can acknowledge the need for God, who cares and provides for all needs. St. Thérèse shows a "Little Way" of

Holiness, which is marked by total trust and confidence in God.

Carly found the School allowed her to develop a closer relationship with Christ. "It was a blessing to be among students and teachers who were supportive of my faith, and who are seeking to grow in their faith as well. I discovered unhealthy patterns of perfectionism in my life. I know now that I can depend on God for all things, and I don't need to earn his love through my works, abilities, or accomplishments. I strive to trust in Him in the midst of my weakness and battles."

The students at St. Therese gain many foundational life-skills as well as confidence to live in the world as a faithful Catholic and Missionary Disciples — whether they are single, married or join consecrated life.

St. Therese is recommended for any young adult looking for a deeper, more fruitful, and joy-filled relationship with Christ. To find out more about the program, visit their website at www.StTherese.ca.



TOP: Graduating students with Bishop Bolen at their Commissioning Mass.



MIDDLE: In addition to studies, there are opportunities for fun and exercise.



BOTTOM: Students assist in the potato harvest.

Pure Witness Team members needed!



Have you ever thought of giving a year of your life in missionary service? Pure Witness Ministries engages teams of Catholic men and women, 18 years of age and older and trains them as missionaries to proclaim the freedom, hope and joy that come

from living pure lives for Christ, and to present the teachings of our Catholic faith to youth and families across Western Canada in dynamic ways that speak to this generation. Pure Witness missionaries experience a transformational year in their lives as they live out the three-fold mission of Community Life, Faith Formation and Outreach. Discover all that you were created to be and be a part of the renewal of faith in our Church as we work together to love a generation back to Christ. For more information check out www.join.purewitness.com or email carmen.marcoux@purewitness.com.



Pure Witness team member at the evening retreat for school students at the 2014 Terry Willson Memorial Soccer Tournament in Prince George.

Step out into the deep at Camp Morice

By: ALYSSA DUGDALE,
CAMP MORICE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
programdirector@campmorice.com

Camp Morice invites everyone this summer to come 'into the deep' and experience fun, friends, community and Christ. Nestled on the beautiful shores of Stuart Lake, Camp Morice is part of the Diocese of Prince George and is a Catholic camp for children and youth serving the Northern BC community.

We're going all in this summer to make it an incredible experience for everyone.

The camp theme this summer is "Into the Deep" based on Luke 5:4 where Jesus first calls his disciples to put out into the deep and let their nets down for a catch.

It is our prayer that all who are a part of camp this summer may have the opportunity to encounter the heart of Jesus and be challenged to go 'into the deep' in their relationship with Christ by allowing him to become the centre of their lives.

The great team is excited to see what is in store, including Mission Impossible, Capture the flag, our Disciples in Training program and, of course, the famous and breath taking Camp Morice sunsets!

There are camps for all ages. Be sure to register early to ensure a spot. Visit our website for more detail at www.campmorice.com. There are also volunteer and paid opportunities for those who want to come build the kingdom of God this summer right here in our Diocese in the hearts of young people. Inquire at info@campmorice.com



Hope to see you at camp this summer!

Summer 2015 Camp Dates

Leadership Training (for all volunteers ages 13+): July 5-10 \$100
 Teen Camp (Grades 7-12): July 12-17, \$275
 Tween Camp #1 (Grades 4-6): July 19-24, \$245
 Kids Camp (Grades 1-3): Aug 3-7, \$245
 Tween Camp #2 (Grades 4-6): Aug 9-14, \$245
 IGNITE with Face to Face Ministries - see details below
 Register at www.f2f.com - (Grades 8-12) Aug 16-21
 Disciples Program (all weeks but Teen Week ages 13+)
 Cana Camp (Family Camp): Aug 23-28, \$350

Do not miss these amazing youth events!



World Youth Day 2016 takes place in Krakow, Poland in July, 2016. We are excited to be bringing a group for this incredible event. If you are interested in learning more about this, please e-mail Diocesan Youth Coordinator, Eunice at youth@pgdiocese.bc.ca. We will have an information session in September.

For the first time ever, Facetoface Ministries will bring their wildly popular week-long camp, IGNITE, to the Diocese of Prince George. This week-long summer camp is for teens Grade 9-12 who are serious about growing in holiness. It is an incredible week with excellent talks, amazing people, daily Mass, epic large group activities, reconciliation, adoration, praise and worship and much more! You will grow in knowledge of Christ and the Church and be empowered to go forward striving to be a modern-day saint. For more information visit www.f2f.ca/ignite or email youth@pgdiocese.bc.ca.



Youth and young adult office provides great faith events

By: Eunice Hii

PRINCE GEORGE - There has been no shortage of events in the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult office!

This semester at UNBC saw the launch of the Campus Alpha program. The evenings included a meal and an Alpha video followed by discussion. The goal of Campus Alpha is to provide an informal gathering to hear the Gospel message and explore the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

This is a great way to speak about the joys of a personal relationship with Christ. Each evening concluded with "Dish with the Bish", that is, dinner with our Bishop Jensen.

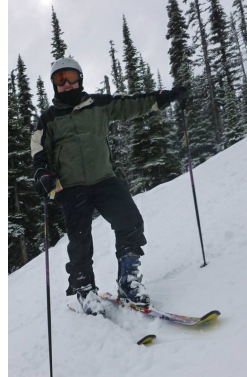
March saw over 27 young adults participate in a young adult ski retreat in Smithers. At the wonderful hospitality of Father Pier Pandolfo, pastor of St. Joseph's Parish and parish youth coordinator, Melissa Cacchia, participants gathered in Smithers to ski and have some quality retreat time.

The theme for the weekend was "Ski Not Afraid", inspired by St. John Paul the Great's message to young people to, "Be Not Afraid." During the retreat Father Jack Michalchuk explored the role of holy fear in our lives versus the type of fear that keeps us from truly living out the Gospel.

We were especially enamored by the beauty of Smithers' slopes and spent time meditating on the life of John Paul II.



ABOVE: Over 27 young adults gathered in Smithers to ski and retreat.



LEFT: Fr. Jack Michalchuk shows off his sweet moves on the slopes of Smithers.

With the great organizational skills of Trina Botelho (Grade 9 teacher at Veritas School in Terrace), in April a retreat was held for students in Grades 7-9 in the three Catholic schools in the western region of the Diocese. Over 120 youth gathered for a full day to explore what it means to be a true disciple of Jesus.

Presenters included Jenny Connelly, Michael O'Hara and Andriano De Luca (who flew all the way from Ottawa);



Michael O'Hara, Jenny Connelly, Sabrina Matte, Eunice Hii, Andriano De Luca, Anthony Pires, Melodie Vandermeer and Alyssa Dugdale helped facilitate the Grade 7-9 retreat for Catholic schools in the western region of the Diocese.

Sabrina Matte hosted the retreat. The hope is that this is just the beginning of more regional retreats.

Last but not least, in May the Pastoral Centre opened its doors for the 20th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference. Almost 150 youth and young adult volunteers, presenters and chaperones filled the chancery with their joy and excitement.

Keynote speaker, Chris Padgett from Steubenville Ohio made us laugh with his great sense of humor. We were also blessed to welcome a worship band from Pure Witness Ministries and Facetoface Ministries in Saskatoon. This year's theme, "Fix My Eyes", focused on how we can fix our eyes on Jesus amidst the storms of our life.

Participants were invited during adoration to listen and respond to the invitation to step out of the boat as Peter did in the Gospel. We listened to talks about how a personal relationship with Jesus is not only possible but offers us the most fulfilling and adventurous life.

It was spectacular and moving to see many young people open up to this great relationship with our Lord and come into a deeper encounter with Him.

Mackenzie Gorman from Terrace wrote the following poem about DYC. She shared it ever so bravely at the celebration Coffeehouse.

Welcome to DYC!
A place where you can be safe, faithful and happy.
Here you will make a new friend
And hope that DYC will never end!
You will enjoy and watch a comedy show
And you will discover new things and share what you already know!
Dinner is such a treat!
Here we have a different and peculiar way to eat!
We open our eyes
And promise to let Jesus inside.
We play games here and there.
And meet people from everywhere!
No matter if you live in Prince George or somewhere not so near.
Just always remember that you're always welcome here!

“Terrific talent and sterling performances”

By: Rebecca Gilbert

PRINCE GEORGE – Pirates Galore!

The entire student body at Sacred Heart School dazzled the community with their production of the classic, *Treasure Island*, May 21.

Rehearsals, which began soon after Christmas, resulted in the young actors and actresses displaying their terrific talents with many sterling performances.

Directed by Nuala Power, the hour-long matinee and evening performances were jam packed with song, dance and acting with none other than their very own Mr. Horianopolous as Squire Trelawney.

The cast also included Long John Silver and his merry pirates seeking out their long lost treasure.

Special thanks to all the community who came and celebrated the artistic talents that fill Sacred Heart School.



LEFT: Students from Sacred Heart School participated enthusiastically in Choric Drama, Choral Speech and Shakespearean Scenes at the Annual Prince George Speech Arts and Drama Festival in April. The Grade 4/5 students, under the direction of Ms. Jenna Johnston, were awarded the Choral Speaking trophy for their terrific performance of “Bad Cold”. The Kindergarten students secured the Choric Drama trophy for their selection “The Cats’ Tea Party”.

BELOW: Sacred Heart Kindergarten students, Carson and Elias, hold a piece of fabric signed by every student and staff person at the school. The signed fabric will be joined to others from Canadian schools to create a giant flag which will then be displayed at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris in December 2015. A similar flag was created 25 years ago.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE MURPHY

Kindergarten students at Sacred Heart School were BC winners in the 2014 Recycle My Cell Challenge. They collected 50 pounds of cell phones which were sent to a recycling centre in Ontario just before Christmas. The announcement that the students had the greatest amount of cell phones recycled for the Province of BC came March 2015. They were awarded a certificate and a cheque for \$500.00. The photo shows Kindergarten student, Kara, with one of the earliest "brick" type cell phones which was an amazing sight (and weight) for the little ones.



Annual Rose Prince Pilgrimage



July 3,4,5, 2015
Tse Yaz Bunk'ut

Guest Speakers

Fr. Jack Michalchuk & John Connelly
Office of Evangelization & Catechesis
Diocese of Prince George

Friday, July 3

Opening Prayer 7:00 pm
Welcome Address 7:15 pm
Mass 7:30 pm
Fr. Jack Michalchuk

Saturday, July 4

Breakfast 8:00 am
Morning Prayers 10:00 am
Fr. Jack Michalchuk 10:30 am
Lunch 12:00 noon
Confession 1:30 pm
Healing Mass 3:00 pm
Supper 6:00 pm
Living Rosary 8:00 pm
Candlelight Procession 9:00 pm

Sunday, July 5

Morning Prayers 10:00 am
Mass 10:30 am
Bishop Stephen Jensen
Closing Remarks 11:30 am
Lunch 1:00 pm

Volunteers or Information contact:

Rev. Vincent James, OMI
Box 580 Fraser Lake, BC V0J 1S0
Tel: 1-250-699-6593
Fax: 1-250-699-6532

Accommodations

Cataline Motor Inn 250-699-6254
Fraser Lake Inn 250-699-8500
Free camping onsite
No drugs, alcohol or soliciting onsite

