

NEW VISION

The Church of Saint Boniface

Vol. 4 #5 – March 2014

2ND ANNUAL GALA DINNER



**Archbishop Albert LeGatt
invites you to the
2nd Annual Archdiocesan
Gala Dinner & Evening
on May 29, 2014**

Victoria Inn Centennial Ballroom
1808 Wellington Avenue
Cocktails at 6 pm; Dinner at 7 pm
followed by an evening of live entertainment

**Launch of the new book
*Cathedrals of St. Boniface***

Ticket are \$125.00 with a \$75.00 tax receipt
Tickets are available by phone
at (204) 237-9851, ext 200
OR (204) 233-Allô (2556) or 1-800-665-4444
OR at the Archdiocese, 151 Ave de la Cathédrale

Tables of 8 or 10 can be reserved

Dress code: Formal evening attire

Proceeds of this year's gala event will support
the Archdiocese's seminarians as well as
the *Saint Boniface Cathedral Renewal Project*

For more information,
call (204) 237-9851 ext 200, (204) 233-Allô (2556)
or e-mail Julie Turenne-Maynard
at consultjtm@mymts.net

For sponsorship information
call Julie at (204) 925-2321

Respect for Life Dinner

In early February, Tiger Mountain League for Life hosted its 32nd annual Respect for Life Dinner in Holland, with a record attendance. Prior to the evening, area catechists promoted a poster contest within the area with good participation from young people.

Following the banquet, Mr. Raymond de Souza, Catholic speaker of international renown, delivered an inspiring and profound message defending the traditional teachings of the Magisterium of the Church. Mr. de Souza is currently Director of the *Office of the New Evangelization and Apologetics* for the Diocese of Winona, MN.

He addressed the rapid transition in society's acceptance from contraception to abortion to euthanasia. He offered strategies to help combat this culture of death through prayer, study and action. He encouraged us to never sit back in an attitude of complacency and defeat, but rather, to stand up and do something. It all begins with prayer, especially Holy Hours.

The evening concluded with a family dance in a hall filled with many children.

***Denise Walley
Holland***

Our Archbishop's Message

Pope Francis – the Medium, the Message



Dear friends,

Now already several decades ago, Marshall McLuhan, a noted expert on the new world opened up by advances of all sorts in communication, set out this dictum: "The medium is the message". *How* we say or convey something ends up determining the "*what*" of that something as it is received by others.

I thought of this as I reflected on the impact of Pope Francis on the imagination of the Church and of the world as we celebrated the first anniversary of his election, on March 13.

He conveys the same message of the love of God given to us by Jesus Christ in the power of the Spirit through the words and actions of the Church, his Body, and through the words and actions of all people of good will. This love has formed the proclamation of the Church since the first Pentecost. He also expounds the same teaching of the Church upon faith, morality and mission that the tradition of the Church and all popes have always held, even as the understanding of these has developed (and will continue to develop) over the centuries.

But what has set Pope Francis apart (enough to be named Man of the Year by *Time* magazine, if this were even necessary) is how he presents this message. His joyful announcing and sharing of the person and love of Jesus Christ is done by smilingly (and patiently) welcoming a small child, by washing the feet of prisoners and clasping in his arms a man horribly disfigured by disease. Every time he stops to be totally present to a pilgrim or to a street person in the Vatican, every time he wears the same simple cross he always has and speaks of the gift of the poor to enrich the Church (if only she would give herself firstly and entirely to the lonely and disenfranchised on the periphery of society), people of all faiths and of no faith hear the message of God's love. The *how* renders the *what* so powerfully.

And so, his personal integrity then challenges our integrity, the integrity of each of us and the integrity of the whole Church. We may be heartened (or perhaps also rendered uncomfortable) by his clear call for greater dialogue in the Church, for more openness and

mutual trust, for less pomp and privilege and more humility and service. But if we only cheer (or bemoan) from the sidelines then we haven't realized or accepted the full power of Pope Francis' personal and particular witness to Christ.

We mark the first anniversary of his pontificate as we embark once more on a Lenten journey of communal ongoing conversion for the renewal of the faith and love of all in the Church in response to Christ's total and life-giving love. Let us reflect on the many *hows* by which we do (or don't) allow the age-old Christian proclamation of Jesus Christ to be in fact received as Good News by all whom we choose to enter into contact with, and with whom we hopefully establish sincere relationships of love and real service. If we were to do this, we would truly be acknowledging and accepting the witness of the Shepherd for the universal Church that God has graced us with at this time.

† **Archbishop Albert**

**"He became poor,
so that by his poverty
you might become rich"
(2 Cor 8:9)**

2014 Lenten message of Pope Francis

You can read the entire
Lenten Message at
www.Vatican.va.

Select your language then
choose from the menu
on the left side of the page.

Meeting Rooms Renamed

The meeting rooms of the Pastoral Centre have new names. The personnel of the Centre, guided by the Spirit, wanted to choose names that are more significant.

- Hall C has been renamed **Kateri Hall**, for the first aboriginal saint in North America, Kateri Tekakwitha. There are several First Nations Missions in the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface.
- Room B is now the **Marian Room**, thus honouring Mary, the patron saint of our Archdiocese.

- The Conference Room becomes the **Renewal Room**. It is the meeting room for the personnel of the Centre, where they gather to plan, among other things, the pastoral and spiritual renewal of the Archdiocese, following the Action Plan for 2013-2018.
- The downstairs Salon, where is found a bust of Saint André of Montréal, a Canadian saint, is renamed **Brother André Salon**.

Diocesan Gathering 2014

The Gathering of the Archdiocese will take place May 30 and 31, with the theme **Being witnesses to God's love and mercy**. The invited speaker is Marguerite "Maggy" Barankitse.

The evening of May 30 will be reserved for youth, with a time of praise and worship, a time for questions and answers, activities and a concert.

On Saturday May 31, times of praise and worship will be followed by conferences led by Maggy, in English and French; workshops for adults; activities for children and

youth; and displays. During the lunch hour, families will be able to relax at a carnival with inflatable bouncy games, clowns and various activities. The day will conclude with Sunday Mass followed by a barbecue and an evening concert.

Let's all come to the Cathedral to understand better how to be witnesses of the love and the mercy of God. All events are free. A registration form will be available in the May edition of NEW VISION.

Committee for the Archdiocesan Gathering

Welcoming Young Adults in Our Parishes



Sr. Marie Cooper, SJC, leads a session for Francophone leaders of small faith groups of the Seine River and Red River Pastoral Regions

During the first week of February, Sr. Marie Cooper, SJC, from *RENEW International* was in the archdiocese to offer workshops for all the *ARISE Together in Christ* leaders of small faith sharing groups who will begin Season IV of *ARISE* the week of March 3. That same week a workshop was presented on "Preparing a Place: A practical approach to becoming a parish more responsive to young adults."

Recent statistics clearly show us the extent to which young adult Catholics are missing from our parishes. Canadian data indicates that 39% of the population identify themselves as Catholic. Of that number, 18% are

between the ages of 18 to 29. We then note that 10% of this age group, for Canada, attends Mass at least once per week. In Manitoba, that figure is much higher – up to 23% for the 18 to 29 age group.

What to make of all this? Sr. Marie, along with Amber Wsiaki of the Catholic School of Evangelization presented an overview of the situation with practical suggestions at a workshop offered to parish leaders on Friday, February 7 in the Parish Hall of Saint Boniface Cathedral. The suggestions centered on how parishes can become more welcoming and inviting to young adults.

They want to feel welcomed, loved for who they are, a part of the fabric of a parish community without being judged for not doing things or not thinking 'the right way'. They need to find a safe place to discuss the many problems and issues they face in today's society. They are deeply interested in social justice issues and desire to do something about them, not just watch from the sidelines and they need to be supported in these ventures.

**Julien Fradette, Coordinator,
*ARISE Together in Christ***

"Has Christ Been Divided?" (1 Cor 1:1-17)

Blustery winds and frigid temperatures did not deter over a hundred people of various denominations from attending the Prayer service held at Holy Redeemer Parish on January 23rd, during the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*.

A committee, chaired by Deacon Ken Perrett, prepared the order of service based on the theme for Day Five: *Together... we are called into fellowship*. The service opened with the gathering hymn "Come, Now is the Time to Worship" followed by the lighting of the unity candle.

What better way to celebrate that theme than to invite fellow members of the *Northeast Winnipeg Ecumenical Group* to participate actively in the service? The Rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker, Grace Lutheran Church and Sharon Gray, St. Stephen Anglican Church shared the readings, followed by the Rev. Marc Whitehead of North Kildonan United Church proclaiming the Gospel. We were privileged to have Christian journalist Harold Jantz, a member of River East Mennonite Brethren Church and the



Left to right: Deacon Ken Perrett, Sharon Gray, The rev. Marc Whitehead, Diane Skalenda, Harold Jantz, Judy Johnson, Deacon Wayne Johnson, The rev. Courtenay Reedman Parker.

founding editor of "Christian Week", share his reflection: *God With Us*.

This ecumenical service of prayer, reflection, music and proclaiming of The Word came to a beautiful conclusion as the congregation raised both taper candles lit from the unity candle and their voices to the final hymn "Go Light Your World".

Fellowship continued over coffee and refreshments in the gathering space following the service. While weather conditions did not improve for the trip home, those in attendance had a beautiful candle to light their way.

***B. Diane Skalenda
Holy Redeemer***

A step forward for ecumenism

For the third year, Saint-Joachim parish in La Broquerie and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Steinbach collaborated to prepare an ecumenical service in their region. Local media supported the initiative with publicity for the event.

As hosts for the evening, the parishioners of Saint-Joachim welcomed members of St. Paul's as well as members of other Christian churches in the area, who joined them for this celebration.

Pastor Terry Gudmundson of St. Paul's spoke warmly of ecumenism,

affirming that this type of gathering is an excellent way to strengthen common ties between the Christian communities. "It follows for all of us that we must work together in the service of Christ. Our actions and the choices we make have the capability to bear fruit in an incredible way across the region."

Testimonies received following this evening have been very positive. Members of the different Christian communities participating for the first time were surprised by the ambiance of the evening and assured us of the

need for this kind of service in the area. They noted the importance to continue this beautiful initiative and showed an interest in having their church participate in the next celebration.

A time of fellowship, with coffee and dainties, followed the celebration in the church hall. A big thank you goes to the organizing committee and to the numerous participants who came and contributed to making this evening the success it was.

***François Grenier
La Broquerie***