

# NEW VISION

The Church of Saint Boniface

Vol. 4 #2 – November 2013

## *Exposure Trip to Madagascar*



©Chaput

*Teens 13 to 19 years old working in a granite quarry.*

“The more we are exposed to the sufferings of the poor, the deeper and more lasting does our compassion become.”

**Albert Nolan O.P.**

“Let us be ‘protectors’ of creation, protectors of God’s plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment.”

**Pope Francis, Homily from the Inaugural Mass.**

Recently, three Catholics from our Archdiocese, Sr. Norma McDonald, CSC, Gabrielle Dupuis and Brenda Chaput spent three weeks in Madagascar, where Development & Peace has been actively working for over 25 years. They traveled the region to study development projects that are helping some of the most impoverished communities.

Their goal was to witness the trials and daily struggles of the poor of these communities as they protect themselves from the extractive work of a local

Canadian mining operation; to observe how villages are empowering themselves through local community radio; to see school programs in place for young children who live in poverty; and to witness what work is being implemented to help rural families have access to basic human resources such as water, land and agricultural products.

Although the trip is over, the journey has just begun. Presentations have already taken place locally in October as part of the Development & Peace Fall

Campaign: **A Voice For Justice**, in response to reports from mine-affected communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America that are experiencing conflict, pollution, forced displacements and other negative impacts from the presence of Canadian mines.

Let the voices of these poor, but immeasurably brave and persevering men, women and children of Madagascar, Africa, be heard. To inquire about events near you please contact the Manitoba Regional Office of Development & Peace at 204-231-2848.

## Our Archbishop's Message

### ARISE – A Missionary Effort



Dear friends,

How often have you raved to friends about a new restaurant where you discovered a special dish, or about a new recipe you tried out at home for the family and how everyone liked it, even the two-year old and the teenager. You had to share your culinary good news!

Well that's what we, friends and followers of Jesus Christ are called to do: share the Good News of our Lord and Saviour who is the Bread of Life, the Way and the Truth, Light for all. And the more we "taste and see how the Lord is good", the more we will want to

share it, starting with family and friends, but also reaching out to all.

In the last two seasons of *ARISE Together in Christ*, over 2000 people in our archdiocese have done exactly that; in small groups of 6-10 people, they have shared the good news of their faith with their joys and sufferings, their hopes and struggles. They have feasted together on God's love given in Jesus Christ in their everyday lives.

A third season is now starting. If you have not yet experienced this, it's not too late. You can join a

group at any season. And if you are part of a faith-sharing group already, now is the time to reach out and invite a friend to join your group, or perhaps even to forming two groups from one with new members. What better way to take up the missionary call of Christ: "Go out to all nations and make disciples". (Mt 28, 19).

† **Archbishop Albert**

### Youth Rally at Lorette

A Youth Rally, held Friday October 4, was organized by the Youth Ministry Coordinators for the Seine Pastoral Region. 27 participants from St. Anne, La Broquerie, Steinbach, Lorette and Winnipeg listened to the message of Colm Leyne, Youth Ministry Coordinator for the Diocese of Saskatoon on the theme 'Step by Step, Oh Holiness – Gonna Get to Heaven!'

"I mostly enjoyed the small group discussion because it gave me time to reflect"

**Emilie**

"I really connected with the presenter"

**Pierre**

**Ronda Lachance, Lorette**



### Youth Coordinator for Mountain Pastoral Region

Maria Legal has been appointed Youth Ministry Coordinator for Mountain Pastoral Region. In this half time position, she will work closely with Fr. Armand Le Gal, OMI, Pastor of Somerset. Maria was previously Youth Ministry Coordinator for Saint Boniface Diocesan High

School. You may reach her at:

[archstb.regionlamontagne@gmail.com](mailto:archstb.regionlamontagne@gmail.com).

The Archdiocese plans to eventually create similar positions in each of the Pastoral Regions.

## Parishes Without a Resident Priest

Five parishes in the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface have no resident priest. These are urban and rural communities, Anglophone, Franco-phone and Allophone. Faced with this undeniable reality, the diocesan authority wished to minimize or eliminate the risk that a decline of faith could happen in these communities.

To manage these parishes, Archbishop LeGatt has appointed a Priest-Moderator as well as a team or sometimes a person, often part time, as 'Facilitator of Parish Life', to be in charge of pastoral care and financial administration. After consultation, the Archbishop has chosen from among lay people or religious, those able to offer this essential service, for a period of one year, renewable each year.

The Facilitator is to work hand in hand with the Priest-Moderator, usually a retired priest, both under the authority of the Bishop. This new type of parish leadership needs to be accomplished in whole new ways and spirit.

The Priest-Moderator is not mandated by the Archbishop as a 'pastor',

since it is the person acting as Facilitator who holds such a role, though he/she is not known by this title.

The Priest-Moderator comes from outside the parish to preside over pastoral actions such as Sunday Eucharist, special feasts, funerals, weddings as well as the celebration of the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation and anointing of the sick. In addition, he will be in direct, constant and active communication with the Facilitator of Parish Life.

For the Pastoral area, the Facilitator works in collaboration with the Priest Moderator so their common leadership may meet all the needs of the parish life. He/she is responsible for the animation of

- The ministry of the Word: the 'prophetic' aspect of the mission of the Church of Jesus. E.g., faith education, sacramental preparation, support for various parish groups
- The ministry of sacred worship: the 'priestly' aspect of the mission. E.g., the preparation and celebration of liturgy
- The ministry of service: the 'Royal Shepherd' aspect of the mission.

E.g., home visits to the sick and the needy; reaching out to lapsed Catholics; leadership within the Parish Pastoral Council.

- The ministry of administration, with the Parish Pastoral Council. E.g., all tasks related to the secretariat and insuring the implementation of the diocesan policy regarding parish personnel

For the financial and administrative areas, the Facilitator works in collaboration with the Priest-Moderator so their common leadership may meet all the needs of the parish life. In cooperation with the Parish Council for Economic Affairs, he/she is responsible for salaries and other benefits, budget, as well as coordinating the maintenance of the church, the grounds, the cemetery and the rectory.

**(Mgr) Albert Fréchette, PH**  
**Priest-Moderator, Saint-Hyacinthe,**  
**La Salle**

Abridged and translated from an article published in La Liberté, Sept 19-25 2012.

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## Consecration of a Hermit

The Solemn Consecration of Brian Watson-Colter as a Diocesan Hermit, by Archbishop LeGatt, took place at St. Martin of Tours parish in Swan Lake on Sunday, October 6.

This very beautiful and moving celebration was attended by more than 70 people, many of them friends and family, as well as from his home parish of St. Patrick in Manitou, and his fellow seekers who travelled with him in the Nathanael formation program.



Please send your comments  
or suggestions to  
**Bulletin**  
**@archsaintboniface.ca**

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**www.archsaintboniface.ca**

## Meet...



### **Diane Bélanger**

Diane is the new coordinator of Catechetics for the Francophone Sector.

A native of Saint-Alexandre-de-Kamou-raska in Quebec, the parish named after Archbishop Alexandre

Antonin Taché who was born there, Diane is engaged in consecrated life as an Oblate of the Myriam Beth'lehem Family. Prayer and the Eucharist hold an important place in her life.

She is interested in history and enjoys daily walks. You might surely come upon her on a street in Saint Boniface and you will recognize her by her smile. She is happy to have followed Jesus here, in the steps of many priests and religious that came from Québec, including four from her own family.



### **Pierre-Alain Giffard**

Pierre-Alain is the new Director of Pastoral Services for the Archdiocese. He previously held a similar position at the Diocese of Valleyfield, in Québec. He holds a Doctorate in Pastoral Theology from the University of

Montreal.

He was born in France and grew up in Calgary. He spent time in China as a businessman, where he met his wife Mary. They have two young daughters, Christine and Isabelle.

With his family, he has been attending Sunday Mass in different parishes. He enjoys the diversity in celebrations and is encouraged by the life of the local Church. "I work for Christ. We are all in the service of Christ. The greatest gift we can give the world is to give it Jesus-Christ and make Him known."

## New Diocesan Catechetical Policy



*Lacey Bernardin, Cécile Plante, Lorna Castillo at fall formation.*

The Gospel is not new. Yet the Word of God can be heard, the person of Jesus Christ can be encountered in so many different ways today!

A new *Diocesan Catechetical Policy*, in place for all parishes, is one of these ways for children, families and catechists. This new document, consisting of five specific guidelines, responds to their need to know and grow in faith. The policy focuses in real and ongoing ways on the needs of school-age children and their parents as they prepare for sacraments and through their formative years.

Two coordinators of parish catechesis share their thoughts.

*How will the new Policy benefit our families and parishes?*

"The consistency of the Policy facilitates a better dialogue with parents and gives them faith that what we are doing is well thought out and purposeful. It gives each parish a means to assert a standard that creates unity in programs for families. This will hopefully result in children receiving an ongoing catechetical experience rather than relying on sacramental years."

**Gina Borges, St. Alphonsus**

*If I was a parent and new to Catechism, what would you tell me?*

"As a Church, we are convinced that you, as parents, are the main people responsible for the faith education of your child. Neither school nor parish could replace you in your role in the spiritual awakening and growth of your child. Therefore, in order to support you in this important task, we request that all parents of children registered for a sacrament also follow a catechesis to renew their Christian faith."

**Thérèse Dorje, St. Agathe**

The *Diocesan Catechetical Policy* document is available on the website. Additional information about programs and resources are available from the *Service of Catechetics*.

**Koreen Hrizai, Coordinator, English Sector**  
**Diane Bélanger, Coordinator, French Sector**