The Church of Saint Boniface

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Message from Our Archbishop

Dear friends,

Catholic education, through Catholic schools in Manitoba, has a long and complex and sometimes thorny history. I am not wishing to revisit the past but rather to speak of the great gift that Catholic schools, both six parish-based elementary schools and a diocesan-based high school, are to our archdiocesan life, both now and in the future.

Knowing that Catholic parents have always, in the past and still today, wanted to raise their children in the faith, in the knowledge and practice of the faith, we can also recognize that there is a vast diversity in the ways that this can be done. Primarily it is through the practice of the faith, the daily life of faith

The Importance of Catholic Education

in the home, that children come to be disciples of Christ. This basic foundation then is built up by such efforts as parish-based catechism programs, home-schooling, catechism classes in certain French-language schools, correspondence courses and Catholic schools in certain Anglophone parishes.

These latter schools provide both the learning content but also more importantly the learning environment for faith to be passed on or in some cases announced for the first time. Along with solid academic results that prepare their students for all walks of life, these schools also seek to guide the students to

their parish or faith community. Through the witness of the teachers, through the religious education classes, through school and community projects, through liturgies and prayer times, the students are led to be familiar with what it means to be a Catholic Christian.

and

Yes, these schools are indeed a very valuable part of our diocesan Church. Let us all pray for them and support them as we can.

Archbishop Albert

Amigos

On Friday December 9th, the Amigos de L.U.I.S. held a fundraising social evening at Holy Family Parish, with entertainment including *Les Louis Boys*. Proceeds will be used exclusively for projects in the Dominican Republic and Peru this coming year.

Fifteen individuals will be leaving for two weeks on January 27th for the Dominican Republic, for the sixth year, this time to build homes in a mountain community of 43 families called Le Rodarero. A home of wood and cement blocks with a tin roof costs approximately \$500.00. The social event raised upwards of \$20 000.00. The Sisters of the Saviour of Saint Boniface donated \$10 000.00 to this cause. It was presented by Roger Legal.

Amigos de L.U.I.S. is a collective group, currently including members of Holy Family Parish, students of Collège Louis Riel in Saint Boniface and École Pointe-des-Chênes in Sainte Anne, as well as the Rivière Rouge MISSION Red River. Students from Collège régional Notre-Dame in Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes join for the first time to go in the Dominican Republic.

The group is named after Padre Luis (Louis Joseph Quinn, C.M., S.F.M.), a Canadian priest, who spent more than 50 years serving the poor of the Dominican and who died in 2007. After meeting him, Fr. Ronald Léger set up a group to bring missionaries to assist in his work.

Another group in Amigos de L.U.I.S., consisting of twenty-one individuals, departs on February 13th for Peru. Efforts are being made to explore the possibility of going to Cuba to look for potential missionary projects.

Miranda Hutlet, Holy Family Parish

Culture and Education

This past December, Sister Norma McDonald, CSC, Director of Spiritual Services, Université de Saint-Boniface, was one of six Canadian delegates at the Third World Congress of Pastoral Care for International Students, in Rome. She shares this reflection on the Address of Cardinal Savio Hon Tai-Fai, Secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

become followers

active members of

Christ

of

Our planet is in transformation because of the many forms of communication developed in the last fifty years. People move around easily; young people choose to study abroad. Postsecondary institutions face challenges brought about by globalization, which require openness on the part of the newly arrived and those who welcome them in their community.

The interactions between people open horizons that are both positive and negative. The capacity to communicate almost instantaneously and across distances can pose a great challenge in our ministry. We live in a world « multi » and « inter » - ethnic, cultural, religious. We look for harmony in this diversity. We want to live in respect and also tolerance. How can we then educate and offer opportunities for growth?

Cardinal Tai-Fai proposes to live the culture of the Gospel, which he defines as follows: "The culture which He (Christ) inserted at the root of humanity, it is the culture of love, of fraternity, of universal solidarity, of unity of all peoples."

To live this, it must be incarnated in our diverse cultures on our campuses, which are themselves living great times of transformation. How can we infuse this transformation in the daily life of our university students? How to integrate the Gospel in « their » culture? This remains the enormous challenge of our time. It is our mission of Evangelization!

New at the Resource Centre

Paoletti, Diego. Catherine Tekakwitha. Book

Catherine Tekakwitha was born in 1656 along the Mohawk River in present day New York State and died at Kahnawake near Montreal. She became known after her death from the miracles brought by her intercession. She will be canonized in 2012 and become the first North American First Nations person to be raised to sainthood.

The World I Know: Virtues in Action: DVD

In this dynamic and inspirational 10-part series, host Mary Rose Bacani brings you virtues in action. Each half-hour episode presents "virtues in action" in our Catholic school community, in our personal lives, and in the lives of young people who have followed the call to priestly or religious life. Discussion guide included.

For any inquiry or to request materials, call (204) 594-0271 or email to: secretariat@archsaintboniface.ca

Diocesan Catholic Education Council

An ad hoc committee of Catholic educators met for a year with Archbishop LeGatt to establish the mission, mandate and structure for a Diocesan Catholic Education Council.

The mission of the Council is three-fold: to inform the archbishop of important issues in Catholic education in the diocese; to work with the Archbishop in the development and implementation of a strategic vision and strategic supports for Catholic education; to encourage the whole Catholic community in their support of Catholic education.

Some of the tasks of the council include gathering and sharing information, initiating discussion and collaboration among parishes and schools and fostering greater strength and growth of Catholic Education.

The current council is presided by the Archbishop and chaired by Christine McInnis. Other members are Fr. Martin Bradbury, Director of Education for the Diocese, Fr. Isidore Igwegbe, Brian Steeves, Carol Ann Lussier, Annette Chartrand, Erik Persson, Maria Coutu and Sr. Charlotte Leake. They met for the first time in July 2011 and approximately every two months thereafter.

Diocesan Forum on Youth

Saturday January 14th, in the parish hall of Cathedral Parish, nearly 50 representatives of youth and young adult parish ministry and organizations, at the invitation of Archbishop LeGatt, met to discuss:

"How can the archdiocese in its seven regions and over 50 parishes, position itself in 2012 and beyond to respond to the spiritual and pastoral needs of its youth and young adults?"

This Diocesan forum was an opportunity to discuss the future of our youth and young adult ministry in the archdiocese and what leadership/services/resources the archdiocese should provide to establish an effective and inclusive model for youth and young adult ministry.

Several urban and rural parishes were represented, as well as organizations such as the Catholic School of Evangelization of St.Malo, Youth for Christ of Steinbach, To Encounter Christ (TEC) and Development and Peace.

Paulette Vielfaure-Dupuis moderated the session, which combined small group discussion followed by plenary exchange times. During the day, three questions were asked, each becoming more focused. First, the groups identified current strengths in their parishes or organizations. It was evident that the support of family and community meant a greater commitment from youth. It was felt that successful on-going youth groups are those that moved beyond sports events or fun nights to develop in youth a heart for evangelization and a missionary spirit. Many parishes have a well-attended youth mass and praise and worship time takes place with much youth participation.

Participants were then asked to identify needs. By and large, they felt that a paid position for youth ministry at the parish level would enable continuity in that ministry. Several suggestions were put forth for how this could happen. Communication was also highlighted, including a youth newsletter, a diocesan calendar of youth events, a website of other online tools for sharing and opportunities for networking such as regional monthly meetings and an annual gathering, such as this one, would be important.

The last question dealt with how the diocese could provide support. The main suggestion from all groups was for a diocesan youth coordinator along with someone to offer a regional presence in each pastoral region. This team of people would provide opportunities for personal and spiritual growth as well as material and human resources for youth ministers.

This day proved to be a very good start to more fully address the needs of our Catholic youth.

Michelle Larose-Kuzenko



Meet Father Carl Tarnopolski, V.G.

Ordained in 1973, Fr. Carl has served in several parishes both rural and urban. He obtained a Licentiate Degree in Canon Law in 1981 at the Gregorian University in Rome. He was appointed pastor of St. Emile parish in August 2011. He was named Vicar General in 2001 by Archbishop Goulet and later by Archbishop LeGatt.

The vicar general tries to serve with the mind of the Archbishop, so that if he needs to make a decision in a particular matter or situation, it will be as if the Archbishop himself had taken that decision. A vicar general serves at the 'discretion of the bishop.'