

# NEW VISION

The Church of Saint Boniface

Vol. 3 #6 – May 2013

## Mission to First Nations

Sisters Augustina and Eucharía and Father Peter Genger, with children who received their First Communion at the Easter Triduum.



©Ikwun

“Last year, at a pastoral meeting of the key lay people from our First Nations missions (and their priests), the message was very clear. Despite the hurts of the past, especially the Indian Residential School experience, the Catholic Native people want the Catholic Church to be part of their lives, part of their communities,” says Archbishop LeGatt. He adds: “What they want especially is presence, presence of priests and presence of Church people. They want relationships.”

Therefore, when he visited Nigeria in the spring of 2012, Archbishop LeGatt spoke with the Superior General of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus (HHCJ) and requested that she send missionaries to the First Nations Communities of the Archdiocese.

On February 12, 2013, two sisters and their Superior, Sister Bibiana Akpana Ikwun, left by winter road

with Father Rhéal Forest for Poplar River First Nation, on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Sisters Ursula Iheoha and Augustina Chukwu started a two-month mission in that remote community. Sister Eucharía Mgbéadichie has since replaced Sister Ursula.

Upon arrival, their first action was to hold an Ash Wednesday celebration the following day at the local church of St. John Bosco.

The sisters spent approximately two months in Poplar River. They held catechism classes for the children and prepared both children and adults for the sacraments. They celebrated the Liturgy of the Word and distributed Holy Communion. They visited the Health clinic, the school and Elders in the nursing home.

They have now returned to Saint Boniface for a month’s rest before

leaving for two months to another First Nation Community and start their next rotation. Their destination will then be Hollow Water First Nation, from May to June. There are eight First Nations Communities in the Archdiocese.

The charism of the HHCJ congregation is to meet the needs of the time, especially towards the poor, women and children. Consequently, sisters are trained in a variety of fields, from pastoral, social and medical to educational work.

Ten sisters arrived in Saint Boniface in April 2005 at the request of Archbishop Goulet.

Archbishop LeGatt concludes: “This first effort of the HHCJ Sisters is a very promising start. I hope and pray for the future success of this new missionary effort in our Archdiocese.”

## Archbishop's Message



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Dear friends,

The Fourth Sunday of Easter (this year on April 21<sup>st</sup>) is traditionally called *Good Shepherd Sunday* or the *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. I know many people are praying for new vocations to our diocesan priesthood. Well, your prayers are bearing fruit!

As described elsewhere in this bulletin, we presently have five seminarians studying to be priests for our archdiocese. And at a recent *Come and See Discernment Day*, a further six young men came to inquire about God's call in their life, how to discern this call, what is a priest's identity and ministry

### "Ask and you will receive"

really like, what is encompassed by the seminary formation that can stretch up to eight years (depending on previous university studies). So there's hope for the future. We must keep on praying and promoting vocations to the priesthood in our families (young people, parents and grandparents) as well as in our parishes, schools, youth groups and youth movements, etc.

Ways to help this happen are being offered to the parishes. Ask your pastor about the *Vocation Cross* project with a prayer kit for a week in the home of parish

families. Also ask your pastor about your parish adopting a seminarian, helping through prayer, visits, financial assistance, etc. Or again ask your pastor about inviting a seminarian to come on a weekend during July/August to tell his story and give a testimony.

Let's all pitch in to pray for and invite young men to consider answering God's call to serve and build up the Church. Jesus has said: "*Ask and you shall receive; seek and you will find*".

† Archbishop Albert

## Archdiocesan Gala 2013

Archbishop Albert invites you on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>  
Victoria Inn Centennial Ballroom:  
1808 Wellington Avenue  
Cocktails at 5:30 pm; Dinner at 6:30 pm;  
followed by dancing with *Nightfall*

- ◆ Tickets are available at 204-233-allô (2556)
- ◆ \$150 each (\$75 charitable donation receipt)
- ◆ Tables of 8 or 10
- ◆ Formal dress, black tie optional
- ◆ For more information: 233-allô (2556)

To sponsor this event, contact Julie Turenne-Maynard at 204-925-2321 or [consultjtm@mymts.net](mailto:consultjtm@mymts.net).



Annual Banquet of the Catholic School of Evangelization (CSE)

It was full house on Friday, April 12, at the annual banquet of the CSE, in the parish hall of Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens Church. The goal of the evening was to help raise funds to support the CSE in its many projects, as well as an opportunity to learn more about its different ministries.

## Saint Boniface Diocesan Gathering 2013

Note two important dates: Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1, 2013. It will be an opportunity for members of the Archdiocese to come together as one family. On Friday evening, young adults and youth are invited to spend time with conference speaker, Fr. Thomas Rosica, c.s.b. He will be back on Saturday with presentations on the theme of "The Call of Christ." In addition, there are

workshops, kiosks, a daycare for pre-schoolers and activities for the older children.

Archbishop LeGatt will preside at Sunday Mass, followed by a BBQ and a closing concert. Peruse the attached program, cut it out and register your attendance at 233-ALLÔ!

***Come for the day - Come for part of the day – BUT COME!***



## Meet our Five Seminarians

The people of the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface are blessed that five young men have heard the call of Christ and are currently engaged in studies at seminaries. Archbishop LeGatt says: "I am most pleased with those five young men who have stepped forward to generously and openly seek God's will, God's call in their lives. And at a recent Discernment Day, another six young men, all from our diocese, were inquiring about a vocation to the priesthood. The Spirit is at work!"

**Joshua Gundrum** - I am 23 years old and I grew up in the Swan Lake area, on a farm. My mother is a nurse and my father is a teacher. I have one brother and six sisters. I love to be active, be outdoors and I enjoy playing any sport. I obtained a degree in Physical Education from the University of Manitoba, where I also participated on the U of M track team.

As a boy I helped serve at St. Martin of Tours parish. I sensed a calling to the priesthood while I was quite young; as I grew older, this continued. Although I did quite well in track, I quickly realized that this was not as fulfilling as it seemed it should be.

After I suffered from a tumour in a vertebra, I made a "leap of faith" and addressed the calling I had felt for some time. I entered St. Joseph Seminary in Edmonton in 2011. Whether God is calling me to be a priest or not, it is a decision I will never regret. I continue to discern God's calling for me and am currently in the propaedeutic year at the seminary.

**Peter Le Van Ngu** - Peter was born in Loc Tien, Viet Nam, 30 years ago, in a devout family of three brothers and three sisters. His parents are farmers in central Viet Nam.

Peter was altar server in his youth. At Hue University, he was a member of the Vocation Group. He says: "Monthly retreats were a precious time to maintain my vocation". He entered the Hue Major Seminary in 2008 and completed a three-year Philosophy program. In the summer, he did parish pastoral work in a parish and at the Marian National Shrine of La Vang.

He was invited here by Archbishop LeGatt and granted permission by his archbishop. After a visit in the spring of 2012, he decided to continue his formation in the diocese of Saint Boniface. "[I realize that] people today still hunger for the Gospel of God. I really desire ... to bring the love of God to everyone". He studies at St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario.

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*These young men ask for prayers as they continue to listen to His call*

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**Vincent Lusty** - I am 23 years old, currently in my second year of seminary formation. I love the life at St. Joseph Seminary in Edmonton. I have been immersed in church life since infancy. My mother is the Youth and Catechism Coordinator for St. Bernadette Parish and my activities have ranged from Youth Team member, Catechism teacher, Church environment, Music ministry and Social Justice.

To say I grew up surrounded by the Church is an understatement. A great model in my life was my great aunt, Sister Thérèse Champagne, known as Mother Teresa of the North. She gave love and hope to those she touched and their lives were forever transformed. She will forever be for me the model of what a life truly lived is. Sr. Thérèse lived her life trying to love like God, I can only pray my own vocation will be the same.

**Brian Trueman** - I am 26 years old and come from Landmark. I was born in Winnipeg but my family moved to the country when I was young. I discovered a love for cooking while working

towards my diploma in Culinary Arts and I now have a Red Seal as a chef.

Baptised in the United Church when I was 3 years old, I searched for God throughout my life, finding my way into the Catholic Church. I was welcomed into the Church in 2011, at Christ Our Saviour Parish in Steinbach, and knew it was meant to be. I have since been discerning my vocation to the priesthood and striving to become more Christ-like in all that I do.

I am extremely grateful to have the opportunity and blessing to embark on this journey of formation. My home is now at St. Joseph Seminary in Edmonton where I am in first year of philosophy.

**Sean Wilson** - I am 25 years old and I grew up in Oakville. We moved to Gimli when I was in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. My mother is a homemaker and my father worked as a corrections officer. I have two brothers and two sisters. My brother Kelly is currently a seminarian in the Archdiocese of Winnipeg.

I first thought about a priestly vocation when I was a child, but it got put on the back-burner. Eventually it came back through active participation at Mass and through the witness of good priests and good laypeople. I studied philosophy in Nebraska, where I enjoyed being a part of a vibrant Catholic culture and with a love for football.

When I returned to Manitoba, I took up work in St. Boniface. After a year of further discernment I re-entered the seminary programme at St. Peter's Seminary in London where I am in first year of theology.

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**Briefly . . .** Are you looking for a fulfilling job? Visit the Website of the Archdiocese.

At the 'Employment Opportunities' icon in the left bar, you might find an interesting opportunity.

**Please note:** The June edition of NEW VISION will be published June 22 and 23.

## Faith Awareness for Little Ones



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'La P'tite Pasto' is a faith awareness path for children, 5 years and under, prepared and started by a group of parents in Québec. The Saint Boniface group started in January 2013.

As a busy parent, I am grateful that the P'tite Pasto offers friendship (for my children and me), toys, crafts, songs and an opportunity to introduce gently to my children the Greatest of friends: God. We hope that the loving presence of God will become so natural for our children that they will want, as they grow older, to get to know Him better. I also appreciate the guidebook for parents, that helps us to continue the faith awareness with our children.

The meetings include free play, singing, animated mini-catechism and prayer, snacks, crafts, all with times of interaction. Volunteer grandparents often come to help supervise and keep little ones occupied.

We meet every other Friday morning, from 10:00 to 11:30 in the Pastoral Centre of Saint Boniface. There are two sessions left: May 17 and 31. We will start again in September.

It is not too late to join us. Would you like to help or start a group in your area? Contact us at (204) 231-5161 or [beaudry\\_nic@hotmail.com](mailto:beaudry_nic@hotmail.com).

**Nicole Gabra**  
A Mother-Facilitator

## Spirit Night

Spirit Night began more than 35 years ago. It has evolved into a monthly-based discussion forum on faith-related topics presented by the Spirit Night committee.

Spirit Night offers participants an opportunity to clarify, deepen and share their faith, to find and give support in a relaxed environment. Participants range in age from young adult to senior. Topics are prepared and discussion is led by the committee members: Sr. Thérèse Bilodeau M.O., Fr. John Kracher S.M. and Dirk Schmid.

A few favourite past topics include: 'Faith and Flesh', 'Women of the Gospels', 'Have you been saved?'

## Decrease Poverty: the Centre Flavie-Laurent

Are you busy Spring-cleaning? The Centre Flavie-Laurent (CFL) will be more than happy to accept donations of items that may be of use to others.

Since 2005, when it opened on Marion Street, the CFL has helped 19,000 families! It is with your donations of clothing, small and large appliances and furniture that the volunteers of the centre can help up to 100 families per day.

The vision of CFL is "To reduce poverty by offering support and physical goods to people in need. The service is unique and attentive to the real needs of the individual." Gilbert Vielfaure, Director, adds that it is of the utmost importance to do so while respecting the dignity of recipients.

Each person or family must register at their first visit in order for staff to identify needs and sometimes to suggest other services that might be indicated. When clients leave, a list is drawn of the items selected and

and 'Where is the Kingdom of God?' A few topics have also been presented by guest speakers. The last evening of this year is 'The Holy Spirit: Giver of Life', to be discussed on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

The group meets at Villa Aulneau, the Oblate Sisters Residence (Apt. 330, 601 Aulneau Street), at 7:00 pm on the last Saturday of every month, except in December and the summer months. A wind-up with pizza after a Mass is held on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Come and join us and feel free to bring a friend! To receive monthly announcements of forthcoming topics, please send an e-mail to [spiritnight@hotmail.ca](mailto:spiritnight@hotmail.ca).

received free of charge. If they do not find what they need, they are asked to wait a month until their next visit, except when requiring basic items such as beds.

The clients come from all over Winnipeg as well as from rural areas. They often arrive by bus. The CFL is open from 9:00 to 1:00, but people regularly start queuing before 7:00 in order to enter as soon as the doors open. The CFL will deliver large items for a \$25 fee.

In January 2013, the Centre moved to 450 Provencher. Mr. Vielfaure would like to expand services of the CFL, such as adding in-house nursing. Volunteers are always needed to help clients or to repair donated goods. Donations are accepted on weekdays between 8:30 and 3:30 and on Saturday morning; CFL will pick up large items at your home if you make arrangements by phone.

For more information, visit the Web site of CFL at <http://www.cflc.biz/>

Send your ideas and comments to [bulletin@archsaintboniface.ca](mailto:bulletin@archsaintboniface.ca)  
Visit the Archdiocesan Website @ [www.archsaintboniface.ca](http://www.archsaintboniface.ca)