

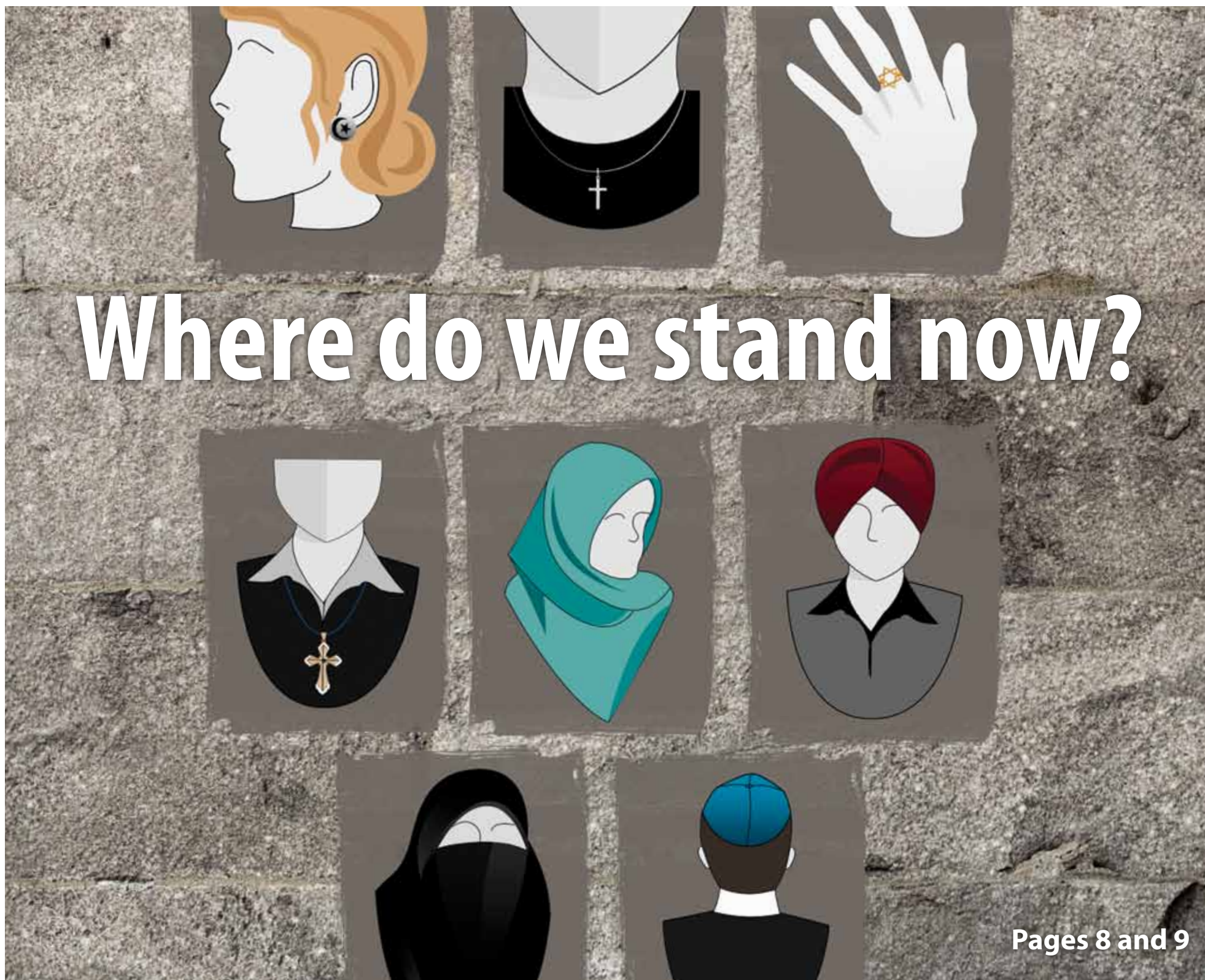
CATHOLIC TIMES



MONTREAL

Vol. 38 No. 01

SPRING 2014



Where do we stand now?

Pages 8 and 9

INSIDE

YOUTH AND FAITH

Page 7

**JOE MELL:
IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR**

Page 10

**LOYOLA CASE IN THE
SUPREME COURT**

Page 5



CATHOLIC TIMES

Published 5 times a year by the Catholic Times (Montreal) Inc. to serve Quebec's English-speaking Catholic community.

Distributed through parishes and other institutions.

Editorial Board

Paul Allen
Brian Boyer
Kathleen Coughlin Dunn
Gloria Ménard
Frances Charette Phelan

Contributors for this issue

Luiza Carreirao (acting editor)
Barbara d'Artois
Kathleen Coughlin Dunn
Melissa Henderson
Frances Charette Phelan (texts)
Danica Markovic (photography)

Board of Directors

Françoise Boisvert, CND (president)
Warren Allmand
Carroll Ann Carmody
David Colford
Joan Field
Clifford Lincoln
Martin Murphy
Jacquie Rourke
Harold Thuringer

Graphic Design

Beesum Communications

Printing

Payette & Simms

Advertising

ctimes@catholiccentre.ca

10,000 copies

Electronic issue available at

→ villemarieonline.com

Facebook page:

f/catholictimesmontreal

Member of Canadian Church Press

2005 St. Marc Street
Montreal, QC H3H2G8
Tel: (514) 937 2301 – ext. 258
@ctnews@catholiccentre.ca

Canadian Publication Mail Sales
Product – Agreement No. 40037770
ISSN: 0703-1521

Welcome to the new *Catholic Times*

NOW IN our 38th year, we are reinventing ourselves, trying to find the perfect balance between serving our community, producing quality content, and sustaining this publication financially on a long-term basis. We must evolve with the times to better fulfill our mission.

With that in mind, the *Catholic Times* is offering the community an online edition. You can access it at www.villemarieonline.com, our online partner. We are also embracing social media, where we hope to hear your feedback and suggestions. We want to get to know you better. Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/catholictimesmontreal. Let's start talking about the issues that matter to us!

With a new look, format, and online presence, the *Catholic Times* remains committed to the same editorial prin-

ciples and mission that have guided the publication from the beginning. It aims to "inform Quebec's English-speaking Catholics with a balanced presentation of news and information that is Church-related and presented from a Roman Catholic perspective." It continues trying to reflect the interchange of information and opinion, and to present the news comprehensively, accurately and fairly.

The *Catholic Times* is profoundly grateful to Eric Durocher, who has worked 33 years for the newspaper, the last 24 years as editor. Although he has resigned as editor, he continues his part-time work in communications with the Archdiocese of Montreal. His dedication, knowledge, persistence, and love for this publication made it the success it has been throughout the years. We wish him all the best in his new challenges.

We have many others to thank as well. We would like to recognize the efforts of our board members, collaborators, and volunteers who have dedicated their time and resources to make sure that we have the funds, the contacts, and the structure we need, after more than one year without publishing.

We also want to say a big Thank You to our advertisers. They stepped up to support the *Catholic Times* because they believe it is a relevant resource for our community. We hope more people will join us along the way.

Lastly, we would like to thank you, our readers, for taking an interest in the issues that affect us all, and for supporting us for so many years. We want to hear what you have to say. Feel free to email us with your opinions, suggestions, and ideas at ctnews@catholiccentre.ca. ↻



Bishop's Window

BISHOP THOMAS DOWD
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal

Dear friends,
Easter is a time of resurrection and new life. It is meant to be a time when we celebrate how God continues to work wonders in our world and in our lives, when we live the joy that comes from knowing that the Lord is on our side.

This power of renewal is a gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit renewed the dead body of Jesus, and brought it to glory, and He continues to do so for the Body of Christ (i.e. the Church) today.

There are sometimes parts of the Church that can seem dead. We do face losses, even very painful ones. Those losses can come to us even when we have been faithful – indeed, sometimes because we have been faithful.

That being said, we are a people of the Resurrection. The Church has been counted out so many times throughout history, and yet we are still here. It is a kind of historical miracle, and I use that word deliberately. Miracles happen because the Holy Spirit is present. Death is natural. Resurrection is miraculous.

Without taking away from the many challenges we face, I see many signs of this renewal in the diocese of Montreal. To name just a few for the English sector, there is the new late Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Fatima church every week at 8:00 p.m., the launching of the Ville Marie Online Catholic news portal on the web, the

courageous stand of Loyola High School in its court battle, the presence of missionary priests among us, the young adults active in the Challenge Movement, and so on.

Of course, we should include this new edition of the *Catholic Times* as another one of the Holy Spirit's gifts to us. I am grateful to have this chance to encourage the newspaper in its mission.

Finally, as a next step in the renewal of our Catholic community, let's save the dates of November 13-14-15, 2014, for a special conference dedicated to encouraging the vitality of our parishes. Stay tuned for more information.

The Church is us, my friends. If we pool our gifts and stay open to the Holy Spirit, we are sure to be on the path to the Kingdom, and the power of renewal that comes from God's grace will flow into our lives. ↻



 **THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL OF MONTREAL**
Est. 1861

We Are Sacred!

Student-for-a-Day & Bursary Program Available

To learn more: sacredheart.qc.ca or call 514.937.2845
3635 Atwater Ave. Montreal, QC H3H 1Y4





Election brings euthanasia reprieve

Palliative care can relieve near-death suffering, but needs more resources

BY LUIZA CARREIRAO

THE PROVINCIAL election means that passage of Bill 52, legislation authorizing euthanasia in Quebec, has been suspended. Supporters and critics of the bill have gained more time to defend their arguments.

The Catholic Church in Quebec is clear in its opposition to the bill. The Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops (AQCBC) issued a letter on January 23 to the National Assembly stating that Bill 52 must not become law. "To cause death to a sick person is not to care for him. A lethal injection is not a treatment," the letter said. "Euthanasia is not a form of care." Archbishop Pierre-André Fournier, president of the AQCBC, urged Quebec Catholics to pray for the province's MNAs. Montreal Archbishop Christian Lépine even bought space in the city's newspapers to

will become insufferable. He believes those fears can be overcome if people understand that Canadians already have the right to stop a treatment, letting nature run its course. He also says that palliative care doctors can prescribe efficient medication capable of alleviating pain.

Rose DeAngelis, assistant executive director and nursing director at West Island Palliative Care Residence, points out that in the rare case when someone mentions euthanasia, it is usually caused by the anticipation of being in pain. "We explain to patients that we have the means and the skill to take 99 percent of their pain to a level at which they are able to enjoy their time with family and friends," she says. "Not many realize that; they thought it would steadily get worse and become impossible to handle."

Palliative care is available in Canada, but not enough

DeAngelis brings up another very relevant aspect of living with a terminal disease: people do not want



In the West Island Palliative Care Residence, a multidisciplinary team takes care of terminally ill patients, providing comfort and support to patients and their families

“Canadians already have the right to stop a treatment, letting nature run its course”


declare: "Hastening the death of another is not helping them to die, but rather directly ending their life."

What are the options?

The possibility of euthanasia becoming legal in Quebec raises a key question: what are the options for a terminally-ill patient or someone who lives with an irreversible, incapacitating disease? Dr. Bernard Lapointe, director of Palliative Care McGill and the Division of Palliative Care at the Jewish General Hospital, says that there are tools to take care of most of the pain and suffering that come with disease. "Palliative care aims to relieve pain and other symptoms, to make sure people are not dying alone, that they have someone to support them, and to make sure friends and family are supported."

According to Lapointe, patients diagnosed with a serious illness face two major challenges: they fear losing control of what happens to them, and they fear that pain

to be a burden to their family. That is why having access to a multidisciplinary team of palliative care professionals at home or at a palliative care residence makes all the difference in the quality of life patients and their families enjoy. "The problem," she says, "is that there is a shortage of beds and not enough professionals willing to do this kind of work."

She also points out that, besides the physical pain, dying patients have other issues that need to be taken care of. "We try and help them with whatever they need towards the end of life," she says. "They could be worrying about the family they are leaving, or something practical like their homes or jobs. They have things they want to accomplish and ties they need to knot. And they only have a short time to do it." DeAngelis believes that the goal of palliative care is to make death a better moment, making sure that it is comfortable. "The same way we prepare for a birth, we can prepare for death," she affirms. 



Kathleen Herron Meggs, 88 years old, lives at Father Dowd Home, where she receives daily visits from her husband, Peter. She needs help to do most of her daily routines. "If there wasn't a place like this and she needed to be cared for at home, it would be much more expensive," he says

**6767
Côte St. Luc Rd.**



**514-481-9609
www.spsquare.ca**

AFFORDABILITY * COMMUNITY * SECURITY

Discover a unique apartment building designed for autonomous individuals 55+. Building features include beautiful gardens, 9-hole putting green, 12-foot balconies, spacious lockers, individual thermostat, fitness room, indoor pool and library. A stone's throw from the CLSC, bus lines, banks and shopping centers. Enjoy an active and productive lifestyle in a welcoming community.

Check out our video on the web site!



What is a Catholic Education?

DR. PAUL ALLEN
Associate Professor
Department of Theological Studies of Concordia University


WITH THE closing of Dorval's Queen of Angels Academy and Loyola High School's appearance at the Supreme Court in March, Catholic schools are in the news. Rumours persist regarding the future of Catholic education in Ontario, so this is far from being an exclusively local story. What all these stories reflect is a common turbulence that cries out for some clarity and perspective.

A conceptual distinction is in order. There are Catholic schools and schools that serve Catholics. The latter, while they may be good for many different reasons, are not the same as the former. A second, equally important distinction is the difference between schools that "talk the Catholic talk" and those that "walk the Catholic walk." Identifying which is which is a tough call for parents whose own sense of their faith may vary considerably.

At my daughter's school, a redoubtable priest celebrates Mass with the girls each Tuesday morning. Does weekly Mass make for a Catholic school? Yes and no. Mass may be a necessary feature of a Catholic school yet it is insufficient. Another necessity is the fostering of charity and the virtue of justice. Many Catholic high schools in the U.S. now include in their curricula "service learning" opportunities, as do Loyola and Sacred Heart here in Montreal. These elements send the clear signal that academic performance is simply a part of the development of the whole person. Academics is not the exclusive concern. Popular in India among people of several faiths, Catholic schools there are affordable or free; they are seen by India's bishops as a key to the struggle against extreme poverty, respectful evangelization and the elimination of child labour. As Pope Francis said recently to the Congregation for Catholic Education,

“An important distinction is the difference between schools that ‘talk the Catholic talk’ and those that ‘walk the Catholic walk’”

Catholic education is both a gift for the church and a gift from the church to the world.

What about the future of Catholic education here in Montreal? One alternative plays out where we wring our hands, pour money into old buildings and hope for elusive philanthropists to bail out struggling bottom lines. Another alternative is where parents band together to support a critical mass of existing and new schools. A new elementary school starting off in an underused Church basement? Could happen. After all, the Church itself started in a dingy upper room on Jerusalem's lower east side. 



Politics: it concerns you, too

CLIFFORD LINCOLN

QUEBEC HAS just elected a new government. It comes at a time when distrust of politicians, and of politics, has reached an all-time high. Few are those who believe in a change for the better. Cynicism and disillusion are palpable.

Yet, like it or not, politics rules our lives from cradle to grave. From the day we are born until the day we die, we are subject to a vast array of laws, by-laws, and regulations which dictate the functioning of society. These laws and by-laws are enacted by politicians, and are not always fair and just. For laws to express the common good, they must be created by legislators who care, and who are ethical, objective and fair.

As go politicians, so go laws. Examples currently abound, here and beyond, of laws and legisla-


tive projects that are politically motivated, divisive, unethical and unfair, and where the common good is ignored.

Public service used to be seen as a noble calling. It is now shunned by many, perhaps a majority, and especially by the younger generation, as an unworthy endeavour and in some minds, "dirty business". Thus many qualified, ethical and caring individuals increasingly turn their backs on politics, thereby often leaving the field to self-serving and unethical candidates who then become the crafters of laws and regulations we deplore.

We must not give in to cynicism and distrust, and abandon the field of public service to chance. On the contrary, times of challenge to our values and convictions are an added reason to become increas-

“We must not give in to cynicism and distrust, and abandon the field of public service to chance”

ingly interested and involved in public life. There are so many ways we can do so: volunteering in our ridings, and keeping a watchful eye on their progress or otherwise; joining a school or hospital or CLSC board, or sitting on a municipal committee or council; and not least, following closely the evolution of provincial and federal politics in our region.

The goal should always be to replace dishonesty with ethics, self-service with public service, selfishness with the common good. Each one of us can alter his or her world at least a little, and together we can better it not just a little. 



Loyola defends World Religions course before the Supreme Court

The school challenges ruling which denied exemption from the government's ERC program

BY LUIZA CARREIRAO

ON MARCH 24, Loyola High School appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada to defend its World Religions course from being replaced by the Ethics and Religious Culture program introduced by the government of Quebec. This is the latest chapter in a long story. The Supreme Court's decision will set the tone for future legal cases regarding freedom of religion, not only of parents regarding the education of their children, but also the freedom of religion of institutions in general. While the final verdict is pending for later in 2014, here is a review of what has transpired thus far:

2008

- The Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sport (MELS) introduced the Ethics and Religious Culture program (ERC), ostensibly designed to “offer the same education to all Quebec students while respecting the freedom of conscience and religion of parents, students and teachers.”
- Believing that this course was in fact intended to exclude the perspective of faith in favour of a particular sociological perspective, Loyola High School applied for an exemption from the course. It asked to teach the contents and competencies required by the ERC program yet using a format and methodology more adequate to its Catholic identity. The Ministry denied the exemption with the argument that the government goals for the program could not be reached in a confessional context.

2009-2010

- Loyola took the case to the Quebec Superior Court, which reversed the Ministry's decision, with presiding Judge Gérard Dugré calling the Ministry's approach “totalitarian”.

2012

- On appeal from the Ministry, the Quebec Court of Appeal overturned the Superior Court's judgment, denying Loyola's exemption.

2014

- Having been granted “leave to appeal”, Loyola's Board of Governors appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada on March 24 to challenge the Court of Appeal ruling.



Loyola believes its students receive a more comprehensive education on world religions and ethics than the government requires.

What happens now? Paul Donovan, principal of Loyola High School, believes the Supreme Court will listen to the school's claim. He says “We are not asking to not meet the objectives of the program – recognition of others, the pursuit of common good, learning about other religions, ethics, and dialogue. We believe in all that. We are Catholic and would like to do that in keeping with who we are. They are saying you have to be secular to do that. The common good applies to all, whether religious or not. We should be able to do it without stripping our identity.”

Donovan says that the ERC course doesn't present any religion in a comprehensive way, being detrimental to the understanding of other religions. “Our kids get a much more comprehensive education on world religions and ethics than the ERC requires,” he states. To Donovan, it all comes down to the premise that, in order to respect another person's belief, one has to set aside his own beliefs first. “I would say the focus should be to accept the other person. The fact that you disagree with someone doesn't mean you disrespect that person,” he says.

McGill Law professor Daniel Weinstock was a member of the commission who proposed the

creation of the ERC course in the late 1990s. He believes that parents have great control over their children's education at home and in religious institutions, and that it is in the interest of children to know a variety of perspectives. “My fear is that they keep receiving the same message, lacking a variety of points of view.” He says that schools have many places where they can implement confessional values, and that the impact of the ERC course cannot be compared to the values children learn in the rest of their time. “I would say that parents have the right to educate children according to their values, but not to immunize children from other values.”

As for the Supreme Court's decision, Weinstock points out that there is no other case sufficiently similar to this one from which to draw comparisons. “The court has tended to be very generous,” he says. “Religious freedom is protected quite strongly. This case will really tell us a lot more about the way the Court will approach the question of freedom of religion of parents with respect to their children. My prediction is that the Court will probably, in a split decision, support Loyola, but it's just a prediction.”



The English Speaking Catholic Council

Le conseil catholique d'expression anglaise

Serving the English Catholic community since 1981



Interview

Raising teens

Julie Waters is the Montreal director of the Institute for Family Development and Culture. She supervises and runs courses on topics related to family and marriage. You can find out more about her work at <http://familymtl.com>.



CT - How should parents behave in order to better guide their children through disagreements?

JW - Parents' tranquility goes far in calming the irritable impulses of a teenager. Serenity and listening calmly to an outburst, letting some points pass, these keep the conversation going. The teen is trying to form an independent identity, with independent values, so it follows that he or she will question the values of the parents. Parents need to view these criticisms as opportunities for discussion with their children and to challenge them to develop their own principles and values.

CT - How can parents guide their children in the use of internet and social media without seeming invasive or antiquated?

JW - The house rules should be based on meeting everyone's needs for time for all the important

things in life, including sleep, exercise, study, family time, alone time, and friends. At this age, friends are a huge concern, but the consequences of actions on the social media need to be taught, to be directed towards good results. Teens can pick up on this quickly with guidance.

So knowing the teen's ability to turn the internet off himself at a reasonable time, when some other activity is more important for his life, is key. If he hasn't mastered that yet, then the parent can point out the teen's need to develop that ability before he is granted that freedom.

CT - How can parents help children develop their potential without putting on too much pressure?

JW - First, parents can get to know who their teen is, aware of their own biases and their dreams for their child. This might be very different from what they thought in the past. Discuss heroes, people of strong

character, and ask the teen to comment on what he sees in himself that he would like to develop, then introduce in a pleasant way more experience, more knowledge in that area. For example, if a teen expresses an interest in art. A parent might offer to take him to visit an exhibition or a museum.

CT - How can parents help their children build a healthy self-esteem?

JW - A healthy self-esteem means knowing oneself, both strengths and weaknesses, and accepting them as part of the person we are. Parents can challenge their children to develop their talents and moderate their faults as much as they can, but knowing they are lovable even with their faults.

Best not to give too much weight to the beauty of the body, as the heart, mind, and soul are better indicators of who the person is. This can be a challenge, as it is quite countercultural right now.



THE FOUNDATION OF CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
www.fccsmontreal.org

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Members

Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.
1857 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. – 5th floor

To present a report, elect Directors, and conduct other business as may be properly brought before the meeting.

ANNA ROMANO, SECRETARY

In appreciation of your attendance, a wine and cheese will follow.

Call for Membership

Any member of the English-speaking Catholic community of the Diocese of Montreal may apply for, or be proposed by a member in good standing, for membership.

Should you wish to join us, simply complete the application on our website under FAQ-Membership and Mail List before **May 19th, 2014**. Please note the all membership applications are subject to approval by the Board of Directors, prior to confirmation at the AGM.



Youth Ministry Office and an active 2014

BY ADRIANO D'ANGELO
From the Youth Ministry Office

THIS IS going to be a busy year for the Youth Ministry Office.

At the end of January Christopher West, renowned scholar on Blessed John Paul II's Theology of the Body, came to Montreal and spoke at six events in three days. By blending years of theological studies with pop culture references ranging from Mick Jagger to Rocky Balboa, West made his message accessible and compelling. "He knows and understands the reality that people face in today's society and the destruction that

it causes," said Kelly Ann Sinnett, a volunteer with the Mission Jeunesse team. "Theology of the Body is not about limiting what you can do but opening yourself up to how great you can be."

After that, the Youth Ministry office immediately plunged into running four YOUCAT sessions (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church) with Montreal Archbishop Christian Lépine and Bishop Thomas Dowd, followed by planning for the Diocesan World Youth Day, for April 12. The event featured a large procession with palms, open to all, a *Festival Jeunesse* for people aged 12-17, and a *Festival Jeunes Adultes* for those aged 18-35.

Regular meetings and parish visits are scheduled throughout 2014 to support and develop youth ministry in the communities, as well as training courses for current and prospective youth ministers.

The year will end with the fourth edition of the Apostles' Cup Ball Hockey Tournament, bringing together hockey-mad Montreal youth. The tournament organizers are currently looking for sponsors and donors.

Inquiries about donations, sponsorship, and starting youth ministry in your parish can be made by phone (514 931 7311) or e-mail (icorrea@diocesemontreal.org).



Youth and faith: where are the young people?

Teenagers and young adults discuss the Catholic Church, what attracts and what alienates

BY MELISSA HENDERSON

ACCORDING TO Statistics Canada, religiosity has declined since the late 1940s, with young adults leading the pack in plummeting Mass attendance. Touchy subjects like abortion, homosexuality, and divorce continue to spark debate, and many people simply find it too challenging to carve out time for church each week. But is there more going on?

The *Catholic Times* talked to the younger generation about their relationship with God and their attitude toward religion and churchgoing.

What's not working: mistrust, disbelief, lack of support

Gabriela Corluka, 35, questions the church's ability to uphold the very values it taught her. "The wealth the church is holding onto. Let go of that and give it to people who need it," she says, adding that the sex scandals of the past several years had much to do with her losing her religion. Instead, Corluka finds community in local social justice groups and uses yoga and meditation for stress relief. Still, she wishes she had a spiritual outlet, noting "the void" she feels.

Sam Jurdak, 24, raised Catholic, disagrees with the church's stance on creationism. "The universe is so infinite, so vast, there's so much we don't understand about it," he says. "To say we have any idea who created it [...] that's just blasphemous." He also doesn't believe anyone should have a say in what goes on between two people. These days, Jurdak finds strength in his friends, himself, and the cosmos: "When I look up [at the stars], I feel big, because I'm part of all that."

Samantha Turturici, 26, says her parents never taught her about or even encouraged her Catholic heritage. She still considers herself a Catholic and



Photo: Melissa Henderson

Samantha Turturici prays in her own way

prays regularly -- "It keeps me going" -- but doesn't feel confident enough in her knowledge of Catholicism to go to church by herself.

What is working: community outreach and fun

Catholic organization NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries of Canada sends young men and women across the country to connect with Catholic community parishes and their youth. Jimmy Morgan, 25, and Erin Lindoff, 27, supervise NET teams that encourage kids to "plant the seeds of faith," according to Morgan.

Lindoff, raised Catholic, says the decision to go to church needs to come from within. "It was youth group and the friendships and community that I found there that led me to make it a more personal choice," she says.

Youth group member Catherine Barnwell, 19, agrees with the friendship component: "A lot of people think church is just boring, but I don't think they have friends that go to Mass. It makes it better." Eleanore Barrett, 12, said youth group was "a lot of fun and [...] growth," and enjoys mixing fun and faith. To Noah Ennis, 15, faith means, "believing in yourself and in God to help you succeed in life."

Montreal's Loyola High School required their students to get involved in St. Thomas à Beckett's youth group, but Anthony Tortolano, 14, says he and his friends enjoy it: "We can bring our friends and have some fun." Makayla Colicchio, 12, says the church helped shape her values, teaching her "to respect people, to be kind."

What still needs work: openness, family support and more outreach

"One topic that is not really talked about, and is almost shunned, is sex," says St. Ignatius youth group member Timothy Barrett, 17.

NET member Michelle Walsh, 24, believes the best way to reach today's youth is by rebuilding trust in the church: "Youth need a place where




Photo: Danica Markovic

St. Thomas à Beckett's youth group had a pizza-making night

they feel at home," she says. "They're looking to feel comfortable, not afraid of judgment."

St. Thomas Youth Group coordinator Lucie McEligott implores parents to help children develop a connection with God in simple ways, like prayer and family rituals: "The family is the first church. It's where you learn to love, forgive, strengthen, and nourish one another. Then you come here, and it's a bigger, extended family."

That's all Samantha Turturici wanted. "It bothers me that I don't know much about my religion. I think maybe just having someone that actually goes often and knows what to do and where to go would help." 

ISABEL CORREA

Director of Youth Ministry in the Office for English Pastoral Services

CT - What challenges does Catholicism face?

IC - Believing in God is not a popular trend right now. It's almost countercultural because society tells us we have to believe in ourselves, not the idea of Providence and trusting that there's a greater being out there.

CT - Why aren't more young people going to Church?

IC - Lack of understanding of what our faith is and a lack of a culture of gratitude. When we go to Mass it's because we're bringing the fruits of our labour of the week and offering them up in thanksgiving for everything we've received.

CT - Why doesn't the church talk about sex?

IC - We just had an event talking about it! The Diocese hosted *Theology of the Body* for teens and adults in the last week of January, presented by Christopher West. There are many places where there is a healthy conversation going on.



Photo: Danica Markovic

St. Ignatius youth group prepare for a talent show to raise money for children in Tanzania



Interfaith relations strengthened: the Bill 60 effect

Discussions about the Charter of Values gathered people from different traditions to uphold religious freedom

BY LUIZA CARREIRAO

THE RESULTS of the April 7 provincial election will ultimately decide the fate of Bill 60 and which measures, if any, of the proposed charter of Quebec values will ever become law.

Certainly, much has been said about Bill 60 since the Parti Québécois government proposed its controversial legislation last September. Abundant media coverage, as well as rallies and protests, preceded and accompanied the public hearings held this winter. Organizations and individuals were invited to present their opinions about State secularism and Bill 60's proposed limits on the display of conspicuous religious symbols and clothing by public sector employees. The PQ's intent was to affirm State neutrality.

The ESCC wants bill to be withdrawn

The English Speaking Catholic Council (ESCC), representing 397,000 English-speaking Catholics of Quebec, submitted a brief to the Committee on Institutions asking for the withdrawal of Bill 60 because "it threatens to erode the historically and legislatively foundational freedoms of conscience,

religion, opinion and expression." The ESCC said these are "considered to be 'first' freedoms in our society and any trend to dilute or undermine these freedoms must be resisted." The Council believes the legislation proposes "a secularized society in which religious expression and practice are marginalized.

"It seeks to reframe the public discussion so that the exercising of Charter-protected rights is to be understood as an imposition upon society which requires the permission of the State," the ESCC brief continued. "It muddles the separation of Church and State as it proposes the State has the power to define the nature of religious belief, practice and expression" (the complete brief can be read at www.catholiccentre.ca/escce).

Schools and hospitals oppose the charter

The English Montreal School Board (EMSB) also petitioned against Bill 60. "We cannot be party to a proposed legislation which, if passed, runs contrary to what we teach our students insofar as tolerance and respect of individual rights and religious freedoms are concerned," board representatives stated in their brief. "Since when does wearing a symbol equate with abusing authority? We consider this to be intolerant secularism. There is no question that secularism is becoming a religion which is being imposed on a pluralistic society." The EMSB brief added

that "we lose our prejudices through exposure to different cultures and religions."

St. Mary's Hospital Center (SMHC) declared in its brief that to prohibit its staff from wearing visible religious symbols would be "discordant with SMHC's principles of social inclusion, compassionate care, cultural competence and professionalism. The brief stated that "religious affiliations of our personnel and the wearing of religious clothing and symbols do not interfere with the ability of the medical and hospital staff to provide professional, compassionate, and culturally sensitive care to its patients/community." Hospital representatives added it has not received any complaints about religious clothing or symbols worn by its staff.

Religious communities demand respect

A brief from the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops, signed by Archbishop Pierre-André Fournier, described a misunderstanding of the concept of religious neutrality. "State religious neutrality means that it has no preference in this regard. It does not take a position for one or the other. No official religion. But no official atheism either. That's neutrality." The bishops urged the government to respect what people experience and express. "If it is really neutral, it will even take measures to ensure that people can live their faith and express it freely."

Salam Elmenyawi, of the Muslim Council of Montreal, said there "is nothing documented to justify



The PQ's bill proposes to ban the use of conspicuous religious symbols by public sector employees



A man carries a crucifix during protest against Bill 60 on September 2013

Photo: Oscar Aguirre

that religious symbols would prevent someone from performing a fair job.” He states that Bill 60 violates freedom of religion, conscience and expression.

Meanwhile, Luciano Del Negro, vice-president of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, stated that Quebec’s Jewish community has had an active role in

wear a hijab, side-by-side with Jewish men wearing their kippahs, Sikhs with turbans, Christians with crucifixes, and people who do not necessarily show their faith through symbols or clothing, but who believe in free religious expression. This interfaith dialogue, for some, is a precious legacy of the Bill 60 debate.

“People recognize this is the time for unity, to stand together. Quebec’s religious environment has always been very good; we have always had good relationships with different religious denominations,” said Salam Elmenyawy of the Muslim Council of Montreal. He said most immigrants choose Canada and Quebec because of the respect for rights and freedoms. “We need to resist this kind of proposal, which would slowly lead us to lose our freedoms and our liberties.”

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs joined forces with organizations such as Québec Inclusif, which gathers people from different religions and political opinions, in order to oppose the bill. Luciano Del Negro, vice-president of the Centre, encourages support for current laws, such as the Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, which promote a respectful society: “We are all governed by these laws; it is the responsibility of every individual to

“Opponents of the bill say it is a solution to a non-existing problem”

helping shape Quebec society. “We believe we have a legitimate expectation for our acquired rights to be recognized and respected,” he said. He affirmed that the responsibility of the State is “not to make secularism a religion, but to ensure that all religions are free to exist and flourish in a democratic society.”

Supporters plead State secularism

Bill 60 attracted the support of several groups, including the Syndicat de La Fonction Publique et Parapublique du Québec (SFPQ). The union’s brief stated that the “neutrality of the State is first expressed by the image projected by its agents,” and that religious affiliation should follow the same rules applied to political allegiances, which require public staff not to display their political preferences. Coalition Laïcité Québec agreed with this argument: “Refraining, for a while, from manifesting a belief does not constitute a denial of this belief, but an acceptable restriction in favour of promoting the principle of State secularism and respecting all beliefs, all religions.”

Different, but united

Opposition to the Quebec “Charter of Values” — outlined in Bill 60 — has brought together people of different faiths and political opinions, united in the belief that people should be free to express their religion as they desire.

The media captured compelling images of protesting Muslim women teaching other women how to

understand that this freedom will only be guaranteed by militating in favor of everyone’s freedom.”

Fr. Walsh praises dialogue

Fr. John Walsh quotes Dr. Jacob Bronowski saying, “there is no absolute knowledge, and anyone who claims it — whether a scientist, a politician or a religious believer — opens the door to tragedy.” Walsh affirms that “Quebec society is a multi-faith world and Quebecers have the possibility to listen and exchange ideas without the arrogance of believing they know the absolute truth. Truth is discovered in dialogue among all faith traditions and with secular society. Quebec is often described as tolerant, and the Charter of Values tests the metal.”

Walsh says all faith traditions are founded upon active compassion, and they all uphold human rights, strive for social justice and for healing the world. He believes this is the time for dialogue. An honest dialogue, he says, is “one in which each partner strives to understand the other as the other understands herself or himself. Interfaith dialogue protects Quebec against the absolutist truth that is evident on the part of those proposing Bill 60. The acceptance of ambiguity and uncertainty, not an imposition of dogmatic proposals, is the blessing all Quebecers deserve.”

(Visit www.villemarieonline.com for Fr. Walsh’s article on interfaith dialogue.)



SOLANGE LEFEBVRE, professor of religion, culture, and society in the faculty of theology and religious studies at the Université de Montréal

CT – Which issues might be behind the Charter of Values?

SL – One of the factors is that France did it. Step-by-step, they attacked religious visibility, and it reflects on Quebec. The nationalist government here is tempted to align itself with France to differentiate Quebec from the rest of Canada.

Religion can be very instrumental to politicians, because it touches on identity. Some politicians use it as a tool to promote their popularity, using many identity questions that became stronger since September 11.

There is a fear related to Islam and terrorism, and it’s quite interesting because, during the 20th century, millions of deaths were caused by atheism, not by religion. It’s a time of irrational fear, and it’s hard to fight against that fear because it is about imagination.

When the Italians arrived it was the same and, in the 1960s to the 1980s, the “yellow fear” was strong; we were afraid the Chinese would invade the world. In any period of history, there is this kind of fear represented in some group.

People confuse orthodox religion with extremism. They are trying to impose a way to be religious: “you can be religious, but don’t wear that symbol, don’t pray at certain times, don’t bother us.”

CT – What makes a heterogeneous society peaceful or full of conflicts?

SL - It’s not only about differences; it is about history, geography, economy, poverty, territory. We are very lucky, in North America, to have such a new and fresh history: a diverse population, pockets of different people arriving all the time, with some tensions and sometimes conflicts. But this dream of starting a new world is still there, and I think that can help us go beyond our history.

CT - How can people overcome the fear of the different, or the fear of the unknown?

SL - They have to become familiar with religion and religious people, understand why they are doing it, and if they have an open mind, listen to the other. My observation is that opinions are very radicalized: each one takes a position and you don’t feel that they are going to change their opinion.

People & Places

BY KATHLEEN COUGHLIN DUNN

Montrealer **Sister Mary-Ellen Francoeur** was elected Animator of the Sisters of Service (SOS) and will begin her two-year term in April. She takes on a difficult task as the Order, which was founded by Catherine Donnelly in Toronto in 1922 and grew to 125 members by the seventies, has only 15 sisters remaining, with ages ranging from 67 to 99.

Caring for a spouse with long-term dementia is the topic of a radio interview between Dr. Anne Hallward, a psychiatrist in Portland, Maine, and her mother, **Clare Hallward**, of Westmount, who cared for her husband for 16 years. This frank and touching interview can be heard at <http://safespaceradio.com/2013/10/caring-for-a-spouse-with-long-term-dementia>.

Christine Jamieson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theological Studies at Concordia University, launched her book *Christian Ethics and the Crisis of Gender Violence: Exploring Kristeva's Reading of Religion, Culture and the Human Psyche* at the Thomas More Institute on February 28.

Dr. Tom Francoeur has been featured in the first segment of a 13-part documentary entitled *Guidelives for the Journey: Ordinary Persons, Extraordinary Pathfinders*. To access the video, visit www.guidelives.ca.



Montreal Challenge held its semi-annual retreat for young adults, 19-30 years old, the weekend of March 7-9 at Loyola High School. There were 26 new participants along with 36 team members led by co-directors Vanessa Chan and Bruno Da Silva.

Organizers of the **Diocesan Folk Music Camp Reunion** held at Loyola High School last June still have a few CDs/DVDs recorded at the event left for sale. To place an order, visit www.folkmusiccamp.org.

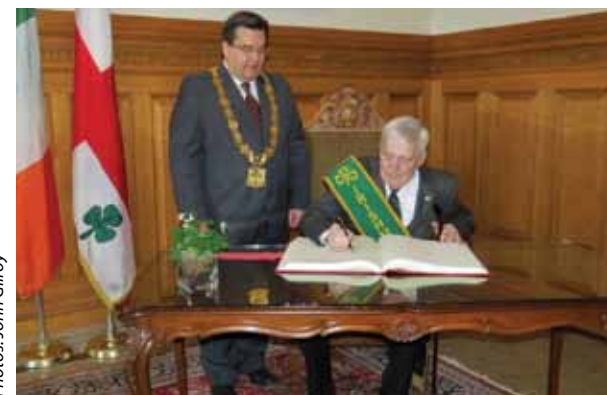
PROFILE

Joe Mell: Irishman of the Year

BY KATHLEEN COUGHLIN DUNN



Joe Mell addresses guests after receiving the Irishman of the Year award from Erin Sports Association



Mell signs the guest book at City Hall, with mayor Denis Coderre

JOE MELL is a quiet, mild-mannered gentleman who tends to shun the limelight in favour of getting things done behind the scenes.

Mell speaks fondly of Leo's Boys Sports Association, Cross-Roads House, Decision House, Waseskun, Good Shepherd, the New Year's Eve Veterans' Show, among many others, as if they were all someone else's doing. Without his eye for spotting a need, however, and his irresistible ability to recruit volunteers, staff and sponsors, these projects would never fly.

The idea behind forming Leo's Boys back in 1951 in his native Point St. Charles, Mell explains, "was to develop neighbourhood youngsters into strong competitors and good sportsmen through proper coaching." Over the years, he managed to find enough volunteers and sponsors to field 110 teams and some 1,600 youngsters annually in hockey, football, softball, track and field, and boxing, all at no cost to the parents. "Pretty good for a working class area," he says. What an understatement.

As times and demographics changed, so did Leo's Boys, which morphed into Leo's Boys Community Services. Now the focus is on rehabilitating ex-prisoners. In 1973 they started Cross-Roads House,

a half-way residence for federal and provincial parolees. Cross-Roads soon became affiliated with the St. Leonard's Society, a national association of half-way houses, and Mell served with the latter organization until 2007, part of that as vice-president for Quebec. In 1988, Cross-Roads helped set up Waseskun, a native healing centre for aboriginal offenders, now located in St. Alphonse Rodriguez. Mell is the only non-native Board member and, at 82, is still active as vice-president, Finance and Development.

Ever since his return from active duty in Korea, Mell has been helping to stage an annual New Year's Eve show for veterans at the Queen Mary and St. Anne's hospitals. "I figure I'll do it for another three years," says Mell, who never seems to run out of steam or ideas.

Mell's business career took him from Canadian Pacific to Catholic Community Services, to Ville Marie Social Services, to Good Shepherd Residence, to the Centre d'Accueil St. Margaret's, where he was able to combine his professional and community interests and skills. He is the father of five, grandfather of nine, and is married to Carole Costello Shaw, also of the Point. His Irish roots in the Point remain strong.



ROWEN & ASSOCIÉS S.E.N.C.R.L.
ASSOCIATES L.L.P.

SOCIÉTÉ DE
COMPTABLES
PROFESSIONNELS
AGRÉÉS

PARTNERSHIP
OF CHARTERED
PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTANTS

JAMES M. ROWEN, CPA, CA
WENDY N. ROSCOE, CPA, CA
LILY YUAN HU

1255, RUE UNIVERSITY, BUR. 1111
MONTRÉAL (QC) H3B 3W7
TÉL.: 514-871-1554
FAX: 514-871-9105
J.ROWEN@VIDEOTRON.CA

EXECUTIVES AVAILABLE Inc.

189 Hymus Blvd. #405, Pte-Claire (next to Target)

LET US HELP
YOU WITH YOUR
JOB SEARCH!

- Are you over 40 years of age?
- Are you a professional?
- Are you interested in the best programme available?

Then call NOW **514-697-2227**

* Limited space available

Emploi
Québec
Direction régionale de Montréal

ABSOLUTELY
NO CHARGE

St. Patrick's Day 2014



Clockwise from top left:
Parade marshals pose for a group photo

Montrealers got inspired and dressed for the occasion

Parade marshal Lisa Timmons is all smiles

St. Anthony's Parish unit, led by John Gilmour


Photos courtesy of the United Irish Society.




Bible study at St. Monica's

APPROXIMATELY 40 people attended the Bible study group "Experiencing the Living Word through the window of the Gospel of John" at St. Monica's Parish between January 29 and March 12. The group, coordinated by pastor Brent Walker of the Trinity United Church in Danville, QC, gathered parishioners of all ages – from 10 to 80 years old. "We talked about words being just symbols of something more," says the pastor.

Michael Newman, a retired professor, was one of the participants. "The speaker was very well informed, explaining difficult points," he says. "People were interested and asked a number of good questions. The Bible is not something you can just pick up and understand without some sort of instruction. That's why the study group is a good idea."

Anyone interested in future study groups can contact Anna Diodati at St. Monica's parish, at 514 481 0267 - ext. 22. 

Catholic Students' Night Fever

ELSBETH COSSAR, president of the Concordia University Catholic Student Association, described Night Fever as the highlight of Catholic Students Week, February 2 to 9, organized in conjunction with the Newman Centre at McGill. On a bitterly cold Friday evening, about 40 team members took turns greeting passers-by in front of Notre-Dame-de-la-Salette church on Park Avenue. They offered candles and an invitation to enter the brightly lit church for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confession, guided night prayer, and refreshments. Some 30 passers-by accepted and, says Cossar, "came out with a smile, relaxed and peaceful." She adds that this event is "our chance to be seen as Catholics in the city." 



chaussures
TONY
shoes
since ▲ depuis
1937


Montreal's best family shoe store for infants and adults in all sizes.

Women's 4-13 and Men's 5-16 in variety of widths.

1346 Greene Ave.
Westmount, Que.

514.935.2993


tonyshoes.com



Manoir Westmount
A Project of The Rotary Club of Westmount



A great place to live, in a perfect location.



Very affordable all inclusive rates...

✓ All Meals	✓ Medication Distribution
✓ Daily tea	✓ 24 hour security
✓ Daily housekeeping	✓ 24 hour nurse
✓ Personal Laundry	✓ Extensive activity programme

For an appointment to view, please call
514.937.3943

Manoir Westmount Inc.
4646 Sherbrooke Street West,
Westmount, Quebec H3Z 2Z8 

www.manoirwestmount.ca

100-year anniversary for “the Lindsay”




Sir Charles Lindsay, leading benefactor

THE LINDSAY Rehabilitation Hospital, first of its kind in North America, had its beginnings in downtown Montreal when, in 1914, a group of Irish Catholic women, members of the Loyola Literary and Art Club, set up the Loyola Convalescent Home to care for sailors who were sick or stranded. By 1933 the small 12-bed facility had progressed to a 104-bed pavilion, called the Montreal Convalescent Hospital, on Hudson Road in Côte-des-Neiges. It became renowned as a rehabilitation hospital, noted for the caliber of its services and teaching program.

In 1997 the Hospital was re-named Lindsay Rehabilitation Hospital to reflect the nature of its

services and to honour its leading benefactor, Sir Charles Lindsay, a local piano manufacturer.

In a re-organization of the province's healthcare network in 2008, the 200-bed Lindsay was merged with l'Institut de Réadaptation de Montréal, and now operates within l'Institut de réadaptation Gingras-Lindsay de Montréal (IRGLM). The IRGLM is affiliated with the Université de Montréal as a teaching hospital.

To commemorate its 100th anniversary, the Lindsay has published a history of the Hospital's first 50 years, “*Dans les yeux des femmes*”, which will be on sale this spring. 

Coming up

Women's Cursillo in June

The Montreal English Catholic Cursillo Movement is organizing a women's Cursillo from June 5 to 8. The retreat will be held at L'Ermitage Ste-Croix, in Pierrefonds. According to Deanna Taylor-Cline, Director of the Montreal Movement, the Cursillo is designed to help participants find themselves and become effective Christian leaders.


For information about registration and costs, call Deanna Taylor-Cline at 450 656 8811.

Embracing an abundant life

Certified professional coach Theresa Murphy will run the workshop “God's call to me: abundant life” on April 30 at St. Monica's parish hall

(6405 Terrebonne). From 7:15 to 9 p.m., participants will learn tools to break through the cycle of negativity and embrace the abundance of life. Deadline for registrations is April 25. More information with Anna at 514 481 0267 - ext. 22 or anna.diodati@stmonica.ca.


Easter celebrations

Resurrection of Our Lord parish has several celebratory events scheduled for Holy Week. An interdenominational walk will be held on Good Friday at 10 a.m. Other activities include a combined mass in English and Polish on Holy Thursday at 8 p.m., an Easter Vigil in English and Polish on Saturday at 8 p.m., and the Easter Mass on Sunday at 10 a.m. 

A call to participate

AT ST. Brendan's and St-Aloysius parishes, stewardship has been a growing way of life since it was introduced by Fr. Paul Pomkoski and the parish council a few years ago. “Stewardship refers to our responsibility to take care of all that God has given us to the best of our abilities,” says Connie Triassi, from St. Brendan's and St. Aloysius parish council. “We show our gratitude to God for these gifts by sharing our time, our talent and our treasure.”

According to Triassi, helping the community can be done in small steps. “Every minute has value—for when all the little minutes are combined, great things can be accomplished,” she says. She points out “everybody has a talent – whether to read well, organize events, play instruments, teach, offer support – and something to give.” These contributions can help the less fortunate in the community, can help maintain the fabrique, the various ministries, and the day-to-day functioning of the parish.

“You are a steward when you participate in parish activities, help to organize events, to raise funds, when you teach and help with courses, when you donate at Mass or to charities, and when you volunteer and help others,” says Triassi, inviting everyone to play their part in the community. 

CENTRE NEWMAN CENTRE
UNIVERSITÉ MCGILL UNIVERSITY

McGill's Catholic Community

Mass Times:

Tuesday through Friday 4:00 pm
Saturday: 7:00 pm
Sunday: 5:00 pm

We also offer:

Confession, Lectures, colloquia, Small Groups Studies, Spiritual Direction, Retreats, Community Events, Social Justice, Outreach, Saturday Suppers and more.

3484 Peel St.
(between Dr. Penfield and Sherbrooke, one minute from campus)

514-398-4106
newmancentre@mail.mcgill.ca

Supported by the Pillars Trust Fund

WWW.NEWMANCENTRE.ORG



Advertise in the **CATHOLIC TIMES**

Connect your brand to a well-respected publication while supporting our community.

ctimes@catholiccentre.ca
(514) 937 2301 – ext. 258

A place to call home – Newman Centre's 60th anniversary

BY LUIZA CARREIRO


MCGILL NEWMAN Centre is celebrating its 60th anniversary. In 1954, the Newman Club moved to the Edwardian style house at 3484 Peel Street, a place Catholic students learned to call home. Before that, the Club was operated out of an office. “The purchase of the house was a recognition from the McGill community that we needed our own place, to grow,” says director Nathan Gibbard. “We have been able to host events and to make it into a home where we have lunch, supper, activities, where students can feel a part of the community. Once you feel safe and loved, you can go out and give back to the world as a Catholic.”



Members of the Newman Students' Club in the fifties

Gibbard points out that Newman Students' Society has been involved in all major conferences, lectures, and events regarding Catholic life, and hopes to continue playing an active role in the community in future years.

Many celebratory events are scheduled throughout 2014. The Inaugural Mass on January 22, presided by Bishop Thomas Dowd, was dedicated to remembering and giving thanks to all who have contributed to the Centre, as well as celebrating today's community life. The same day saw the lecture “Catholics and the Neutral State” by Douglas Farrow, Kennedy Smith Chair in Catholic Studies in the Faculty of Arts at McGill. The Society was also a major participant in the Claude Ryan Lecture held on February 13 and 14, discussing his legacy. A Mass celebrated by Archbishop Christian Lépine was held at the Newman Centre on April 6, and there are more events to come next semester, including a dinner and other opportunities to reconnect with alumni. Information on upcoming events can be found at www.newmancentre.org.

The Newman Centre will also launch a capital campaign this year, aimed at completing necessary renovations to the house. 



The house at 3484 Peel Street is a home for McGill's Catholic students

Saint Luke's celebrates 50 years

BY BARBARA D'ARTOIS


THIS YEAR marks the 50th anniversary of St. Luke's Parish. “We will hold special events to celebrate and to thank God for the wonderful moments we have lived,” says the pastor, Fr. Bertrand Montpetit. “We wish to thank all those who have shared their gifts to make our faith grow stronger and to create a warm, vibrant community.”

A Mass scheduled for June 8 at the Dollard Arena will launch the celebrations. It will be a gathering of all who have contributed to the family aura that permeates parish life - clergy past and present, parishioners, former parishioners, their families, and friends. All choirs will participate, and a picnic lunch will follow. There will be no Masses at the church that weekend.

The popular Multicultural Sunday will be held on September 7. This event is a tribute to the myriad nations represented in the parish and features a multi-ethnic array of foods, entertain-

ment by ethnic groups, games, and fun for all. Continuing the festivities, a Day of Beauty is planned for Saturday, October 4. Parishioners will display beautiful things that they have created or inherited as a way of acknowledging the often unrecognized wealth of beauty that exists within the parish.

St. Luke's will host the first two evenings of “A Gospel Call Mission,” an ecumenical event to be held from October 25 to 28 with talks and social time to foster Christian unity. Fr. Tom Ryan, CSP, a former director of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, and Rev. John Armstrong, representing the Reformed Church, will be the animators.

To further mark this special moment, the parish invites all who have or have had ties with St. Luke's to enter their names in the Pillars Gallery, a new feature at the parish website (www.st-luke.ca). 



A 1966 newspaper shows pastor David McKee and a model of St. Luke's Church, then under construction

CLARET
ASSET MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

ESTABLISHED IN 1996, WITH OVER \$1.1 BILLION OF ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT, CLARET PROVIDES PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TO INDIVIDUALS.

Contact:

WILLIAM (BILL) K. KOVALCHUK,
MBA, CFA,

at **514-842-6115,**
1 888 842-6110 or

wkvalchuk@claret.ca

for a complimentary professional review of your portfolio.

CLARET caters to high net worth individuals and their families.

CLARET manages personal accounts, holding company accounts, trust accounts, corporate accounts and registered accounts (RRSPs, RRIFFs, LIFs, IPPs, TSFAs and RESPs)

CLARET is registered with the AMF, ASC and OSC in Canada, and the SEC in the United States.

Claret Asset Management is a proud Sponsor of the **CATHOLIC TIMES**



Quebec's new Cardinal, Gérald Cyprien Lacroix

BY FRANCES CHARETTE PHELAN

THERE'S A new compliment of Cardinals at the Vatican, and Quebec City's Archbishop Gérald Cyprien Lacroix is a young buck among them. At the relatively tender age of 56 he is the second youngest of the 19 new cardinals named by Pope Francis on January 12. The appointment, which he said came without warning, includes prelates from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and developing nations such as Haiti. They were formally inducted into the College of Cardinals on February 22 at St. Peter's Basilica, in Vatican City.

Cardinal Lacroix is a native of Saint-Hilaire-de-Dorset, a small town 300 kilometres east of Montreal. Though born in Canada, Cardinal Lacroix moved to the United States when he was a boy. He lived there for 11 years before returning to Quebec at the age of 19. In 1975, Cardinal Lacroix entered the Pius X Secular Institute in New Hampshire and was ordained a priest in 1988. He then served as a missionary in Colombia for nine years before returning to Canada. He was named Archbishop of Quebec City in 2011.

As a new member of the College of Cardinals, the Church's highest ecclesiastical body, Cardinal Lacroix says he hopes to contribute all he can from his diverse pastoral experience as an archbishop in a secularized society. In interviews since his elevation he has shown the warmth, ease and diplomacy for which he is well known. He is, nonetheless, unafraid to give voice to views that he opposes. On the proposed Quebec Charter of Values, for instance, he says "People have a right to profess their faith in private and in public, and that needs to be upheld everywhere." Like the Pope under whom he serves, he favours "love and respect as a path to reconciliation."


Cardinal Lacroix becomes Canada's third cardinal, joining Toronto's Thomas Collins and Montreal's Jean-Claude Turcotte. Canadian-born Cardinal Marc Ouellet, who was formerly the archbishop of Quebec, now serves at the Vatican and is no longer considered to be on the roster of Canadian cardinals. They will all have a vital role to play as the Church moves forward under the fresh leadership of Pope Francis. 



Photo: Jeff Dachowski

CWL Corner

BY BARBARA D'ARTOIS - bg.dartois@sympatico.ca

The following events will be sponsored by the Catholic Women's League across the Diocese:

The Catholic Women's League of Canada, Montreal Diocesan Council, 93rd Annual Convention on Saturday, May 3, 8:30 a.m., at St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish. Reports from diocesan officers, Parish Council presidents, and spiritual advisor Fr. Andrew Thuraisingam, elections, Eucharistic celebration, luncheon, and guest speaker. Tickets with the parish council presidents.

Quebec Provincial Council Convention/Pilgrimage at Maison de la Madone Hotel, Trois-Rivières/Notre-Dame-du-Cap Shrine, on June 20-22. Activities include confessions, candle light processions, Divine Mercy chaplet, Way of the Cross, rosary in the garden, Eucharistic celebrations, and business sessions. The total cost is under \$200. Info at lamros@megadata.com.

St. Veronica Council monthly collection of casseroles for Labre House, through May. Poverty Meal on April 2, with proceeds to Development and Peace. Coffee party after 9:15 a.m. Mass on April 23 for the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Details of May 20 Twilight Retreat t.b.a.




Photo: Evelyn Meaney

CWL Diocesan Council president Beverley Baxter and Archbishop Christian Lépine at the CWL Diocesan Evening of Reflection at St. Edmund of Canterbury parish on November 19

St. Thomas à Becket CWL members, husbands, and guests will get together to celebrate the Council's 50th Anniversary with a special Mass at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, followed by dinner at the Beaconsfield Golf Club.

St. David's Council Good Friday Poor Man's Supper at the Mary Queen of Peace parish hall. Mass animated by CWL on April 27 at St. David's to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Closing "dinner out" in May.

St. Luke's CWL Spring Bake Sale after Masses on April 12 and 13. General meeting on April 16. Members will attend Good Friday Adoration from 2-3 p.m. Strawberry Social/Card Party on July 9. Tickets at 514 620 0262.

St Kevin CWL bake sale on April 13. Meetings on April 27 and May 18. Mother's Day event on May 17. 

Mitchell Gattuso

AVOCATS / LAWYERS

S.E.R.C. / General Partnership

www.mitchellgattuso.com

J.F. McMullan, B.Sc., D.D.S., F.I.C.D.

Dental Surgeon
Chirurgien Dentiste

17112 Chemin Ste-Marie
Kirkland, Quebec H9J 2K9

Tel.: (514) 697-2380

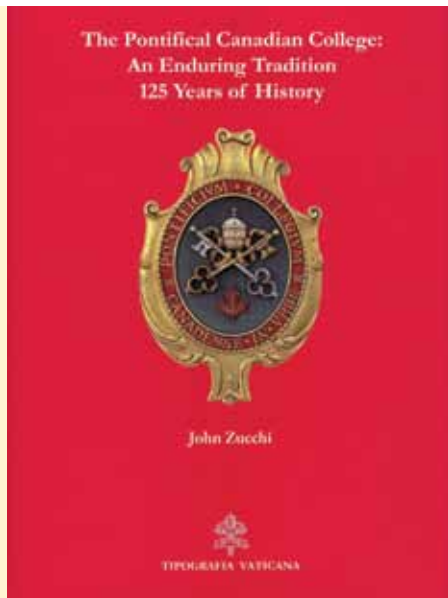
Fax: (514) 697-0533

drmcullan@videotron.ca




Andrea T. Bobkowicz wishes everyone a Happy Easter! Enjoy quality time with your family during this time of year.

 NATIONAL BANK
FINANCIAL
WEALTH MANAGEMENT



Celebrating 125 years of history

THE PONTIFICAL Canadian College in Rome is celebrating its 125th anniversary. To mark the occasion, McGill University professor and historian John Zucchi launched the book “*The Pontifical Canadian College: An enduring tradition, 125 years of history*” on February 28. According to Zucchi, the college is a “home away from home” to Canadian priests who are studying and living in Rome. The book will be available for sale in late April at the Grand Séminaire. 

Popes John XXIII and John Paul II canonized in April



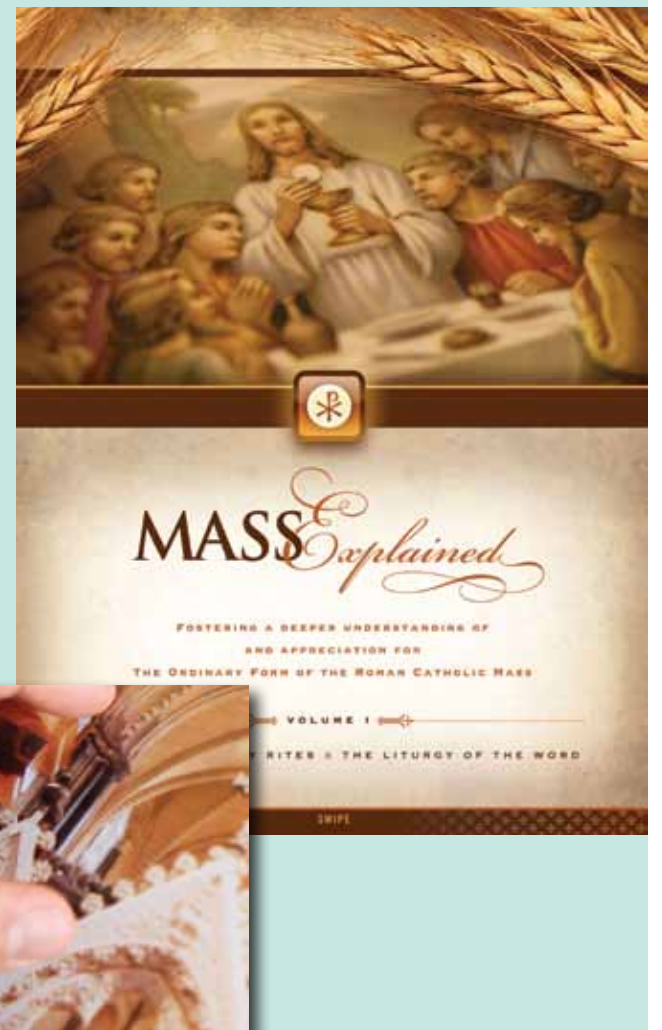
ARCHBISHOP CHRISTIAN Lépine will represent the Archdiocese of Montreal at the canonization of Blessed Popes John XXIII and John Paul II on April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from around the world are expected at Vatican City to watch the ceremony. John Paul II's beatification, on May 2011, gathered approximately 1 million faithful at St. Peter's Square.

The Archdiocese of Montreal will mark the canonizations during its diocesan patronal celebration, May 31, at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral. 

Mass on the iPad

AN IPAD application promises to help Catholics understand and better know all aspects of the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite – the Mass we are most familiar with. The Mass Explained app explores each part of the liturgy with scriptural references, photographs, maps, videos and other interactive features. It was reviewed by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and received two declarations of accuracy: one by Mgr. Terence E. Hogan, dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, Florida, and one by Thomas G. Wenski, Archbishop of Miami.

The app is available in English and runs only on Apple iPad 2 or newer versions. It can be purchased online at the App Store. 



COURTAGE www.bglbrokerage.com
BGL LTEE LTD.
 BROKERAGE

COURTIERS EN DOUANE TRANSITAIRES INTERNATIONAUX
 CUSTOMS BROKERS INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS

300 ST. SACREMENT ST., SUITE 123
 MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC H2Y 1X4
 TEL.: (514) 288-8111

JIM BARRIERE, C.M.
 PRESIDENT

FAX: (514) 288-6226
 E-mail: jbarriere@bglbrokerage.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Montreal

This is our downtown city and yours.

Diocese

This is our parish family and yours.

Organization

70 Grand Knights over 110 years in our Montreal Council 284

Strength

Knights of Columbus Insurance Company among the Top 4 in North America

... Make it yours!

For more information,
 please contact:

Montreal Council 284

514-363-4841 (Financial Secretary)
 1857 de Maisonneuve Blvd., 5th floor
 Montreal, QC H3H 1J9



**KNIGHTS
 OF COLUMBUS**
 IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Francis - the SuperPope

He has won hearts among Catholics and non-Catholics

BY FRANCES CHARETTE PHELAN

THE KID was dressed in a cape like his superhero, but the rest of his costume wasn't blue tights with a big red "S" on the chest, nor Batman's grey muscle-bound shirt. Under a plain white cape, the small boy wore a miniature white cassock. He and his parents were in a crowd at the Vatican hoping to meet an unlikely superhero, Pope Francis, whose warmth, humility and openness have captured the imagination of young and old around the globe.

Pope Francis is a man of many firsts. He is the first pope from outside Europe in over a thousand years, the first from Latin America, the first Jesuit, and the first to take the name Francis, after the humble St. Francis of Assisi. It seems likely that he may also be the first pope to join the ranks of action figures.

In the short year since Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the 76-year-old former archbishop of Buenos Aires, was elected the 266th head of the Catholic Church, he has been in the spotlight in ways few could have imagined. There he is, a benign smile on his affable face, on the covers of pop magazines like Rolling Stone, The New Yorker, and Vanity Fair. You can buy your child a Pope Francis Comic Book app for the iPad at the Apple store. He's been splashed in bold but officially sanctioned graffiti on stone walls in old Rome. Last December he was proclaimed Time Magazine's "Person of the Year." The list goes on.

Pope Francis has attracted the world's curiosity, attention and praise in no small part because his humanity, like his humility, is so constantly in evidence. This is a man who invites the mothers of babies he is baptizing in the Sistine chapel to nurse their infants during the service if they are hungry. He embraces and caresses the bowed head of a man with grotesque facial tumors. He washes the feet of juvenile prisoners. He welcomes an errant child


Graffiti by the artist Maupal on a street near the Vatican depicts Pope Francis with the red and blue scarf of his favourite football team San Lorenzo of Buenos Aires peeking out from his briefcase of "values"

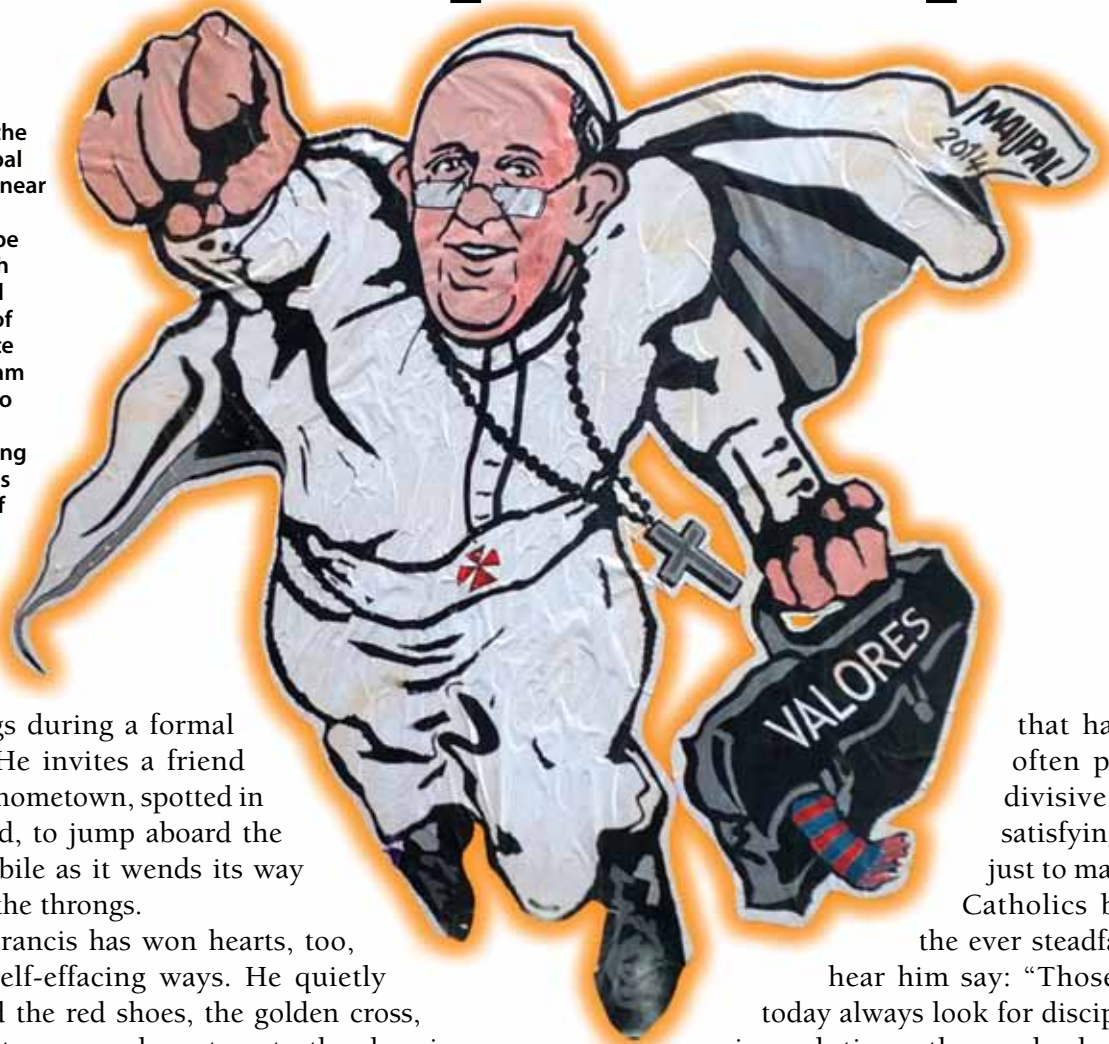
with hugs during a formal speech. He invites a friend from his hometown, spotted in the crowd, to jump aboard the pope-mobile as it wends its way through the throngs.

Pope Francis has won hearts, too, for his self-effacing ways. He quietly eschewed the red shoes, the golden cross, the sumptuous papal apartments, the gleaming Mercedes of papal tradition in favour of a plain white cassock, a shared guest house, a Ford Focus where he rides beside the driver. This is a man whose past life has illustrated his concern for the poor and the marginalized, an attitude that hasn't changed with his elevation to the Church's highest office.

In Francis the Church has found a communicator that people are eager to embrace. There is a sense that his is a healing mission, that he is a leader who seeks to affirm rather than to condemn. He exudes a sense of hopefulness when he responds with forthrightness to the questions of faith and morals

that have so often proved divisive. It is satisfying, not just to marginal Catholics but to the ever steadfast, to hear him say: "Those who today always look for disciplinary solutions, those who long for an exaggerated doctrinal 'security,' those who stubbornly try to recover a past that no longer exists – they have a static and inward-directed view of things."

While the core doctrine Pope Francis espouses may never become as forward thinking or as transformed as some would wish, the tone of his words, neither cautious nor guileful, has been one of affirmation. It offers hope especially to those who see the Church as an institution out of step with the world, and badly in need of self-examination. It is a job that will require all the superpowers he can muster. 



Pope Francis has been in the spotlight in ways few could have imagined for a Catholic pontiff, even featuring on the covers of pop magazines