

Do you love me?

John 21:15-17



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"Do you love me?" John 21:15-17

As we look back over the past two years, we can make many connections between scriptural themes and our experiences. For many people, faith has been the foundation which has kept them together through the difficult times when we have been working "together apart".

We are preparing to bring our journey with the theological theme, "Do You Love Me?" to a close with the introduction of its sequel; I think we can take considerable consolation and a sense of real accomplishment from the degree to which our 'caring for the sheep; caring for the lambs' has enfolded and permeated many of the initiatives we have been able to retain and even to build upon over the last few years. We found innovative ways to deliver liturgy and faith formation sessions virtually. We managed to hold our annual Journey With Jesus in a way which actually allowed more participation at each school, while not losing the essential elements which have characterised this event (formerly "Walk With Jesus") in the past. We have seen very many solid examples of our students and staff extending Jesus' love in their schools and in their communities. We can honestly respond to Jesus' question: "Yes, Lord, we love you!"



Our pastors and parish teams have been very cooperative and creative in being present virtually to their schools and helping us to keep the Home-School-Parish triad alive and well.

Knowing how busy all our parishes are in their work to rebuild after the closures required by the pandemic, we can enjoy having developed new ways to involve our clergy and parish pastoral workers in the life of our schools which allow them to be present virtually.

The Catholic Education Week theme for this past school year is an excellent motivator for us as we move forward. May the summer be a time of refreshment, recreation and re-energisation for all of us as we enter into conversation with our new theological theme - Micah 6:8: What does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. This will be introduced with Faith Day 2022 on October 7th.



Catholic Education Week

May 1-6, 2022

Themes for the week:

- Rediscover
- Rebuild
- Restore
- Renew
- Rejoice



On May 5th, our schools joined in



From elementary ...



To secondary!



People of Life Symposium was one of the offerings during Catholic Education Week at HCDSB. On hold since pre-pandemic times, we returned with a virtual presentation on our Catholic response to the Climate Crisis. The day was planned by students in the St. Thomas Aquinas and Christ the King Eco Teams and was open to Eco Teams or related clubs in all HCDSB Secondary Schools.

Our guest speaker, Emily Lukasik was fantastic, managing to infuse our students with hope and a passion to act. We heard of concrete things we can do as responsible stewards of the earth. Our student organizers were poised and engaging. We were so proud to see them take on the challenge to lead. It was truly a student-led event.

Every school received a copy of “Don’t Be Trashy” by Tara McKenna. The host schools planted apple trees in honour of the event. Our Eco Teams will be busy nurturing these trees through the critical rooting period. We look forward to the eventual fruits of our labour!

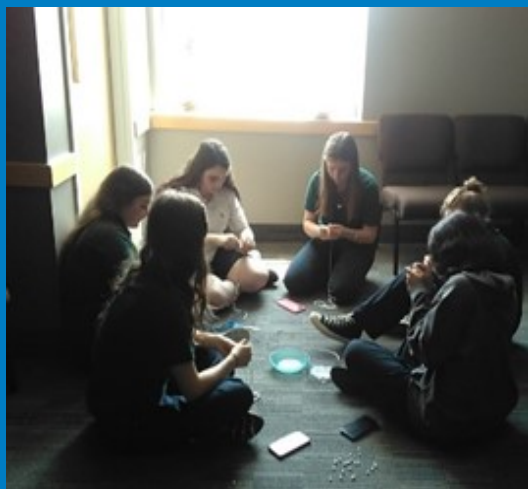


News from the Schools



CHRIST THE KING
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Praying and Creating with Extended French (Nous Prions En Français – Mme Lozowsky, Aumônier)



The chapel has been alive with the sound of French over the past weeks. M. Crowe likes to bring his French Immersion Religion classes to the chapel to pray the Rosary. I was not surprised when he asked me to join him for the rosary in French in the middle of May. I was surprised when I found I had given all my rosaries away to students. I learned that supply chain issues affect rosary supplies too, so I scrounged, searched and finally resorted to making my own class set of rosaries. Crisis averted, we were able to pray the Joyful Mysteries together.

My supply chain emergency inspired another activity. On May 20 M. Crowe's class returned to the chapel to make their own rosaries. They gathered in small groups throughout the chapel with beads, strings and small crosses. The versatile M.

Crowe is also a math teacher, so he was pleased that the exercise required some basic measurement skills. It went well, as students conversed, or worked in meditative silence. Young people are drawn to the rosary. Making their own adds an extra special touch!

In June we had another French language event. For the first time since March 12, 2020, we held a mass in the Chapel. We were delighted to welcome Père Jonas of Paroisse du Sacre-Coeur to preside at Mass and join us for a delicious French lunch.

M. Crowe, Madame Butera and their classes, the French Iterant Consultant and some Christ the King administrators and teachers joined us. The students were on the edge of their seats during the sermon, listening intently and responding to Père Jonas' questions. We are fortunate to have Père Jonas as part of our Christ the King community and we are grateful to the consultant for her support.



Grade Level Retreats

Innovation springs from adversity. What to do with students who have missed most of the events that build community and forge a sense of identity as a student of Christ the King? This year we met the challenge by playing with non-traditional formats for retreats. Rather than a full day off-site, we tried short "mini-retreats" for grades 9 through 11. The goal was always two-fold: to build community and to integrate faith with everyday life.

The grade 9s had a chapel tour and scavenger hunt to introduce them to the chapel and chaplaincy. Later they went on a relaxing hike to Cedarvale Park to enjoy some time together and to observe how well we practise stewardship of the earth.

Grade 10s enjoyed making Advent Wreaths. Some groups got a little off track, decorating their classmates rather than the wreaths but there was laughter, creativity, and pride of accomplishment. There was also a sense of service. These wreaths were for classroom prayer tables during Advent. All teachers were invited to come to the chapel and choose a wreath for their class.



Grade 11 students had the assignment of expressing thanks to front line workers for their sacrifice and dedication throughout the pandemic. They created banners, pinwheels and flowers. The cafeteria was filled with lively conversation, intense creativity and a sense of fun. The finished products were displayed in the halls, on school grounds and at Mountainview Terrace. A fine way to recognize the interconnection of the Lenten themes of sacrifice, giving and gratitude.





*Messages
from
St. Mark's ...*

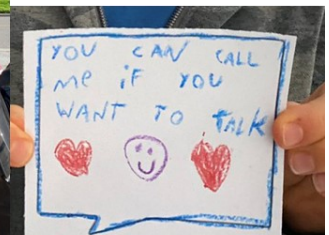


Lee Anne Burke – Pastoral Animator



During this challenging year staff and students at St. Joseph community have supported each other daily and have been there to offer reassurance at a time of uncertainty. We have continued to participate in Christian meditation as a way to unite and calm our minds and spirits. During Bell Let's Talk Day our community shared how they felt and that it was okay to need to talk. As a school community we recognize more than ever that many families in our community need support with necessities. Our school community gathered 994 pounds of food for the Acton Food Share. Our classes have also discussed that we are all children of God and no matter the disability we are all a person of value in our own way.

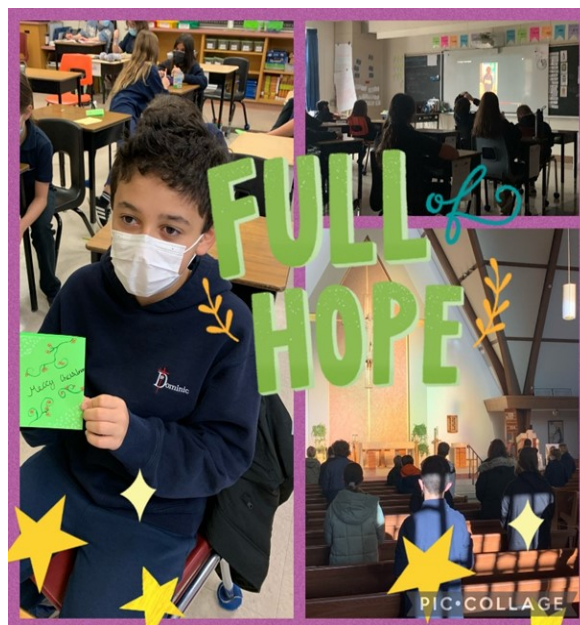
Oksana Tymczyna – Pastoral Animator





At St. Dominic, are very blessed to have a relationship with our parish community of St. Dominic. Over the course of the year, we have had many engaging opportunities with our pastor Fr. Ranjan, Michael the youth minister and the parishioners. Fr. Ranjan has participated in our virtual liturgies, both pre-recorded and live. We also had the opportunity to begin attending in-person Masses with the community. Parishioners who are homebound also received a Christmas card created by our students. We are very grateful to love and be loved by our parish community.

Rachel McNamara – Pastoral Animator



Door decorating at St. Scholastica!



There is no denying that one of the most eagerly anticipated PA Days every year is Faith Day. This past October was no different. Building a sense of community has been a challenge for educators as COVID-19 continually forces us apart. In an effort to keep the collaborative spirit of Faith Day alive every day of the year, the staff at St. Scholastica created a permanent door mural to remind everyone that our faith continues provide us with the building blocks to **Restore, Rebuild & Renew**.

*(Each staff member took time to reflect on **John 15:5** and place a leaf with their name on it to the staff room door.)*

Jennifer Leung – Pastoral Animator



While many COVID protocols are still in place, we have all found new ways celebrate our faith and reach out to others.

Our Opening School Liturgy was virtual but included the talents of Ms. Gamble's Grade 9 class, Ms. Awitor's French class and our new VP, Mrs. Boelhower.



Our Faith Day was able to take place this year at the usual time and we were so glad to be together with prayer on the back field, some inspiration from David Wells and a scavenger hunt to check out all the new spaces in the school since construction finished.

We had a very successful Food Drive in the Fall. All proceeds went to The Salvation Army here in Milton. Our Christmas Basket campaign was also very successful. We were able to help a great number of families this Christmas.



Our Grade 9 and 10 Religion classes have been enjoying our in-class mini-retreats. Not quite the same as our full day retreats of the past but it has been fun getting to know each other and our faith a little better.

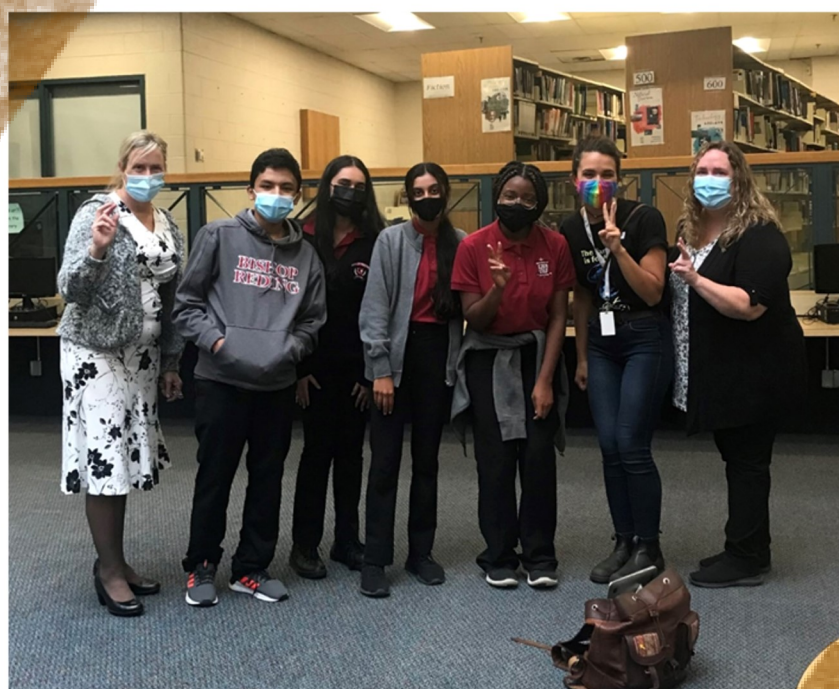




One highlight of the week is our Thursday Meditation time with the Special Education classes.



Our Development and Peace Club welcomed Emily Lukasik from Development and Peace to one of our meetings. We were excited to hear about the People and Planet First campaign. It was great to be able to have a guest speaker again as well.



WE BR



St. Kateri Tekakwitha was able to celebrate their first in-person liturgy together on Holy Thursday this year. The focus was on Jesus' washing of the disciple's feet, and his command that his



followers do the same. Staff and students came forward to wash one another's hands as a symbol of

their commitment to build a school community where all are ready and willing to serve one another.



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



New STA Social Justice Club Quickly Grows in Membership

Back in September, the Development & Peace Club was introduced to STA! Our club quickly grew in membership from four people to almost thirty in only three months.

Development and Peace is a Canadian Catholic charity that runs under one of the largest charity organizations in the world, "CARITAS". Their mission is to help those in the global south to pursue alternatives to unjust social, political, and economic structures. Alongside their hands-on work in the global south, Development and Peace educates Canadians about the causes of the impoverishment and to mobilize them to act for change. They do this through their school outreach program known as the Development and Peace School Program. This program aims to engage students from across Canada in societal recognition around the globe. It is this very program that appeals to many students because of the engaging and educational monthly challenges. Some of the initiatives include: a 'Dress down, Speak up' challenge, which helps bring awareness to sweatshops and a 'Major Mustard' challenge which defines the importance of mustard seeds in poverty ridden regions of the world. Our club is planning on hosting such initiatives in our school within the coming months.

Another appealing reason for students to join the club is to support their extended families. Many of our student's families are from the global south so this club is an excellent opportunity for them to work on solutions and educate others about the injustices their relatives face. It helps the students feel helpful rather than helpless.

Students like to have a voice and be a part of healthy change for the betterment of society. This year's fall campaign titled "People and Planet First" allowed our students to get involved on a political level. This campaign's objective is to hold Canadian corporations liable for their human rights and environmental abuses in developing countries by encouraging the federal government to enact a law called MHREDD (Mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence). Our Development and Peace Club contribution to this campaign included bringing awareness to the issue by making presentations to every class and collecting signatures for the petition. We collected close to 700 signatures, and we are now in the process of getting a member of parliament to table our petition.



Our club is determined to continue to fight global injustice however we can in our school community. We hope our efforts will encourage even more students to join us so there is more of us to speak up for those who can't.

By: Michaela Nolan - Grade 9 STA Development and Peace Club Co-leader



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



The STA Eco Team Takes on Local Litter

At St. Thomas Aquinas CSS, the pandemic didn't stop students from doing good in their community! In November, the STA Eco Team organized two community cleanup events in which they ventured through the community picking up harmful forms of waste and pollutants that pose threats to the environment. The leaders of this initiative, Olivia Kosmala, Cristina Dragalin, and Giuliana Zambito, organized the event in hopes of cleansing the local community of all the litter scattered along sidewalks and by the waterfront.



The STA Eco Team on November 27 at Shell Park Beach.

The STA Eco Team enforced safety precautions while out in the community including safe crossing of busy roads, wearing gloves, masks, and social distancing measures. Such precautions, paired with enthusiasm and effort of participants, aided the team in collecting 14 bags of waste in total! The STA Eco Team commented on several of the oddities that were discovered. These included: a dirty shoe, disposable COVID-19 masks, a pumpkin, an old blanket, packaged pet food and fast food containers. After sorting the litter into proper waste categories, the event coordinators ensured the bags were properly disposed of.

With the help of reporter Mansoor Tanweer, the Oakville Beaver was able to assist the team in documenting the event's success. In addition to this written piece, the STA community was reminded to be mindful of litter and waste consumption outside of school grounds through numerous announcements, Instagram posts, and even a display exhibit on the school premises. The team was ecstatic to be able to direct local change and they can't wait to see what the 2022 year has in store for them. Plans for hands-on events, school wide campaigns, climate change projects, Earth Day activities and more are currently in the works!



The STA Eco Team on November 23 Tannery Park.

By: Giuliana Zambito, Olivia Kosmala, Cristina Dragalin - Grade 11 STA Eco Team Co-Leads.



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL



STA Global Aid Club - Proud to be a Community Catalyst

This school year, the new Global Aid Club has joined our STA community with the goal of making a positive global impact. The club supports and collaborates with Chalice, a Catholic international aid and development charity that works directly with impoverished communities worldwide to create a better quality of life for the people within them.

This year, we are assisting Sanangula Primary school in Tanzania by raising funds to help them build a water storage tank since they struggle every day to find clean water resources. In quad one and two, the Global Aid Club created a Christmas video for the Sanangula school students with Christmas well wishes and messages of hope from Mr. Perusin, our principal, staff, and students. We also designed a personalized Christmas banner and invited students to sign it. We did this to spread awareness within our school and to build a relationship with the Sanangula community. Even though these students live far away, across the globe, we knew that by sending the banner and video we would connect with them on a personal level rather than just sending money for the water tank. Our goal is that they understand that our club is continuously working to find ways to help them achieve a better future.

As explained by Adham, a member of the Global Aid Club; “The Global Aid Club has been a great experience to help me understand how I can personally impact the world by helping others.” The Global Aid Club creates many opportunities for STA students to become involved within their own school community. It also encourages us to think globally by supporting equity and social justice in other countries. The Global Aid Club enables students to create, collaborate, and dive into fundraising and humanity while gaining valuable global perspectives. In essence, the Global Aid Club is proud to be a community catalyst that encourages STA students to provide solutions to support equity and social justice so that families and communities in other countries can have a better tomorrow.



By Ethan Huynh, Joy Fam, Sara Solache Bernal – STA Global Aid Club Members



Holy Trinity's Titans for Life organized Christmas initiatives which included Halton Alive's *Inspire Hope Christmas Card Design Competition* and *Snowflakes for Seniors*.



HTD&P (Holy Trinity Development and Peace) organized Christmas initiatives (Two-nies for the SSVP of St. Michael Parish and requested items for Shifra Home, the Women's Centre of Halton, Kerr St. Mission, Canadian Food for Children, the Scott Mission, and the Good Shepherd Centres) and have received three badges of the Development and Peace Schools Program: Flip the World, Christmas Party for Peace, Christmas Letters of Solidarity and were working on CST (Catholic Social Teaching) Promoter and Petition Magician.



Submitted by: Lorenzo Campanelli, Chaplaincy Leader

GRADE 11
CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
Promotion of Peace



"Peace is not just the absence of war. It involves mutual respect and confidence between peoples and nations. It involves collaboration and binding agreements."

- POPE JOHN PAUL II

There is a close relationship in Catholic teaching between peace and justice. Peace is the fruit of justice and is dependent upon right order among human beings.





Here at Corpus Christi, we run morning announcements via MS Teams. We have a little studio at the back of the chapel. All teachers log into the call every morning from their classrooms. We start with the Administration reading the land acknowledgment, then the School Chaplain or a student will lead the whole school in the "Our Father". If it is an important feast day, we add an additional prayer. All announcements are presented by the Student Council afterwards. If there are any important announcements, the Principal joins the call. This year, we introduced Wednesdays as international days with the "Our Father" prayed in different languages and Thursdays, we pray in the French language. The School Chaplain tries to engage students as much as possible to lead the school community in prayer.



Wounded Peace of Christ

On Wednesday, January 26th, our Holy Father called the whole Catholic community to pray for peace in eastern Europe as tensions between Russia and Ukraine increased. Here at Corpus Christi, we offered Holy Mass on that day, praying for peace in the world. Having experienced the terrors of war in former Yugoslavia and settling in Canada as a refugee, this time has been very emotional for me. At the same time, as a Ukrainian priest, many people ask for my opinion about the current situation in Ukraine. In my opinion, war should never be a solution or option in solving any conflict.

Engaging in war means opening the back door for evil, which brings darkness into people's hearts. When Jesus walked in behind the locked doors on Sunday morning, finding His disciples sitting in fear and confusion, he said: "Peace be with you." Then he showed them his hands and his side full of wounds and said again: "Peace be with you."

Jesus showed his wounds while offering peace. We all live in a world that carries so many wounds. As we commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27th we asked are we not aware of the wounds of genocide that we still carry? The only way to achieve peace and stability is by looking at the wounds we carry and reminding ourselves how much we have suffered already.

The wounded peace of Jesus that we pray for will not bring serenity or stop the conflicts in the world, but it will offer a change of hearts. It will bring healing to our existing wounds and enlighten the hearts of world leaders to choose dialogue and diplomacy instead of war.

Submitted by: Fr. Andrija Petresin

Our Chaplains' Retreat



Our chaplains are called to be very energetic individuals who share, form and foster faith in many ways in their communities. One cannot do this without recharging and taking care of oneself. Regular prayer and sharing is a part of the dynamic which makes our chaplains such an effective team; however, we also enjoy opportunities to grow and learn.

The Chaplains' meeting on June 17th this year was held at the Indigenous Education Centre at Milton's Country Heritage Park, where we enjoyed learning from Sherry Saevil, our Board Indigenous Education Advisor, about the wisdom of "Grandmother's Voice", wisdom from which we can all benefit. In keeping with our commitment to *Laudato Si'*, to learn from First Nations Peoples, we asked Sherry to share with us some teachings about the Land and to take us on a tour of the healing garden which Grandmother's Voice and their supporters have installed at this site.

One of the interesting items we viewed at the site is a "greenhouse" made of recycled plastic water bottles assembled on rebar and with a wooden frame. Although not an incentive to drink water from single-use plastic water bottle, it is a way of keeping them from the growing pile of destructive garbage which they might otherwise join.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

2021 – 2022

The Office of
Faith Formation

Do you love Me?

John 21:15-17

Achieving Believing Belonging

Every year, our Adult Faith Formation Program offers engaging sessions welcoming all staff the option to participate in an exploration of faith.

Sessions this year included:

Eco Café

Facilitator: Sr. Mary Heather MacKinnon, SSND, D.Min.

Date: Session 1: Wednesday, October 13, 2021
Session 2: Wednesday, February 9, 2022
Session 3: Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Via Zoom

This program is designed to help participants develop and embrace a spirituality that will sustain our efforts to bring about the change that is needed in our world to address Climate Crisis. Christine Palmer, author of the book *Earth: Our Original Monastery*, calls us to focus on earth itself where we learn how the wonder of God's creation gives us profound resources for the work of eco-justice today. To learn more about the author or her text see <https://www.earthmonastery.com/>.

HCDSS staff are asked to register for three (3) sessions as this is an **Original Monastery**. The book *Earth: Our Original Monastery*, is provided by the HCDSS for all staff who join the Eco Café for 2021-2022. Once book will be sent to you by Board courier in early September.

Anyone who is not a staff member of the HCDSS and wishes to participate in the Eco Café, please contact **Sister Mary Heather MacKinnon, SSND** directly at mhmackinnon@gmail.com.

Benedictine Rule and the Modern Catholic Education

Presenter: Andrew Bourque

Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Online (an invitation with a link will be sent to those who have registered)

For at least 1500 years monastic life has been an important part of the Church's life. Today, the unique spirituality of Catholic monastics and contemplative monks and nuns offers us profound lessons on prayer, community, and hospitality which continue to inspire Christians both inside and outside the monastery walls. With special attention to the history of St. Benedict, this session will explore what monastic life is, its history and the valuable lessons it offers the modern Catholic educator both in their personal spiritual lives and classrooms.

Do you love me? Love my Mother...

Presenter: Gillian Federico, C.D.

Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Online

Who can forget the touching image of Jesus, while dying on the cross, showing his concern for his Mother, as we read in John 19:26-27?

Our relationship with Mary is very much a hallmark of the Christian Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions. We shall explore some of what we know about Mary, traditions about her and devotions associated with her.

The Trinity: a Model of Love and Inclusion for our Time

Presenter: Fr. Darren Dias, O.P.

Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Online

At the heart of Christian belief is the doctrine of the Trinity. But what is this doctrine? Is it a complicated, esoteric, theological construction? A mystery so beyond comprehension that we need not reflect on it? Instead, I suggest that the Trinity is relevant for our everyday life of faith and prayer. In this session we will retrieve some key insights from the doctrine of the Trinity that can act as signposts as we navigate the complexities of our current social contexts.

A Time Apart: Reflecting on the Wisdom of Our Elders

Presenter: David Dayler

Date: Monday, December 6, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Online

Lo, he comes. To aching hearts. To exhausted people. To warring societies. To fractured families. To anger in the streets, and grief in our homes. He comes to remind us – again – that the Kingdom of God is available and near, and we can choose to participate in it.

Advent calls us to a time apart, a time of serious reflection on how we will live the lives that have been formed in us and around us. Where we are where we are – some of it by our own choosing, some of it foisted upon us, some of it deeply lamentable, some of it worth celebrating joyfully.

The invitation of Advent is to gaze seriously about how we will each respond to the gifts the Christ Child brings. Let us spend our time together reflecting on the Wisdom of the Elders as we enter this beautiful season of Advent.

Do Monkeys Go to Heaven? The Beauty and Wisdom of Faith and Science

Presenter: Fr. John McCarthy, SJ

Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Online

There persists a seemingly widespread notion that religious faith and empirical science must, by necessity, be in conflict. Yet as many contemporary scholars of the history of science tell us, the relationship is much more complex than that. In fact, there exists only one world. Science and religion attempt to make sense of that one world. Properly understood, science and religion are not in conflict but act as fruitful partners in a healthy dialogue that seeks the truth of the fullness of human experience. Furthermore, this dialogue, if carried out with charity and a critical mind, responds most authentically to our innate desire to know fully and comprehensively.

Placing biological evolution in dialogue with the Christian theology of creation, we will examine the wisdom and beauty of science and faith. We will consider the vast, wondrous world of "both/and" rather than the limited, repressive world of "either/or." We possess an unlimited desire to know. This desire is grounded in a mature self-appropriation of our human knowing process, a self-aware process rooted in value, meaning and purpose. Both science and faith deal with data – albeit data of a different character and quality. Both scientific and theological/philosophical inquiry need to be taken seriously. It is in a charitable and welcoming dialogue that any semblance of truth may be attained.

Love is...

Presenter: Mary Lozowsky

Date: Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: TBC

What is God's plan for us as sexual beings? How do spirituality and sexuality come together?

This session aims to build confidence in our knowledge about sex in a Catholic context and increase our comfort in sharing our vision of healthy sexuality with our students.

All You Need is Love...

Presenter: Adriana Rereich

Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: TBC

In this session, we will spend time focusing on the images of God we hold affect how we view ourselves and how we view God. To do this, we will work through the process of theological reflection, a process that has many different titles. We will use famous art images to get us started with the process. From there we will tie in the various disciplines from our Catholic tradition and the other disciplines of our history and education. This promises to be a fruitful conversation where we will know more fully who we are and whose we are. There may even be some dancing!

If "God So Loved the World" ... then why don't we?

Presenter: Fr. Greg Kennedy, SJ

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: TBC

In this presentation, poet Greg Kennedy SJ will invite us to consider ecological care not only as necessary for survival, not only rooted in our faith, but also a key component to our happiness and spiritual wellbeing. What if, like Christ, we were sent to inhabit Earth not in order to condemn it with our neglect and abuse, but to save it with our love? How would such a faith change our hopes and our lives?

How Wide Are God's Arms?

Presenter: Dr. Murray Watson, Adult Faith Facilitator, Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Date: Friday, April 29, 2022 (evening) to Saturday, April 30, 2022 (afternoon)

Time: Friday 5:00 p.m. to Saturday 3:30 p.m.

Location: Mount Mary Retreat Centre (TBC)

For much of Christian history, our view of heaven tended to be quite narrow and exclusive: "Outside the Church, there is no salvation". In the last 75 years, our lived experience as Church – and new theological approaches – have led to a much more nuanced and humble approach to the question of "who gets into heaven". How can our new answers to these vital questions help us to appreciate, welcome, and model God's mercy in our own lives, as 21st Century Christians?

The retreat will include prayer, short presentations, large and small group discussion, and time for personal reflection.

Catholic Social Teaching and Our Call to Agape

Presenters: Andrea Taylor & Marie O'Connell

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: TBC

Agape is the type of love for another that is born out of a choice to be concerned about their wellbeing and greatest good. This is the type of love that the early Church preached about, and the way in which Christians today are called to love our neighbour. In this session, we will explore how Catholic Social Teachings take our call to agape from an individual to societal concern for the wellbeing of all.

Theological Education for Leadership (TEL)

2021-2022

"The greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves."

Luke 22:26

Leading from Within

It is our ability as leaders to discover solid ground, to truly hear the quiet prayers that are building to war cries, to sense that time is short, and to trust that our lives can matter. It is summoning the discipline to focus attention in directions that cause discomfort, facing moral dilemmas in all their complexity."

Diana Chapman Walsh, Trustworthy Leadership: Can We Be the Leaders We Need our Students to Become? P. 1, 3

Fifteen years ago, Diana Chapman Walsh, the President of Wellesley College, dared to ask this question. She added her voice to a 21st century chorus of leaders challenging us to set a different course for leadership in education, one that is as concerned with the soul, identity, and integrity of students as we are with their 'achievement'. It is not one or the other, it is both/and.

In the ongoing faith and leadership development for our Administrative leaders, this year's TEL sessions combined learning about:

- the theological foundations of prophetic leadership in this time of uncertainty, drastic change and struggle;
- practical leadership skills to support a community on a journey of change; and
- opportunities for reflection and focused conversations.



