



CATHÉDRALE
CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL

[In this week's newsletter: Ways to participate and volunteer, things to enjoy, support, invitations to pray and to worship with and for the community]

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

At the risk of sounding even bossier than usual, today's newsletter will suggest ways to be part of the community grouped under six suggested calls to action:

1. Participate!

- a. Forum meets on Tuesday, May 19 at 6:30 pm in the St Anselm Chapel on the second floor. All parishioners are invited to join the elected members to hear about Cathedral activities and give their input. ESJAG (Ecological and Social Justice Action Group) will make a short presentation about their activities. Attending Forum meetings is a great way to feel part of the community.
- b. ESJAG and friends are doing a neighborhood clean-up around the cathedral on Saturday, June 8th, from 10:00 am to 1 pm, Everyone is welcome to participate. Group lunch at The Copper Branch afterward. Many years ago, I remember leading a cleanup being done by the children in the cathedral grounds. The kids held a solemn funeral for a dead pigeon with gleeful ghoulishness – but then we found another ... and another ...
- c. We are trying a new time and place for the English bible study. Join us on Sunday, June 9 after the 10:30 am service (at approximately 12:45 pm) in the Board Room on the third floor. Jane will lead us in a discussion about 2 Peter.
- d. The young adults have many activities, including bible study. Contact Jean-Daniel.
- e. QueerSpace@CCC will meet on May 26, 12:15 pm at the cathedral as they create a space together to pray, discuss scripture, identity, orientation, and these intersections together. Please bring your own snacks. For questions email queerspace@montrealcathedral.ca
- f. This Sunday, May 19, after the 10:30 am Eucharist, the Cathedral's Social Service Society will meet in the Hollis Lounge to consider finances and future possibilities. A light lunch will be served. All welcome.

2. Volunteer!

- a. If you are looking for a new hobby that combines fun, flowers, and volunteering Vera Burt urges you to join our Cathedral Flower Guild. The flexible schedule will accommodate your busy life.
- b. The organizers of the monthly lunch offered to people in need would like some volunteers to help with serving the meal on May 26. Speak to Adrian.

3. Enjoy!

- a. A picnic in the Wallenberg Square behind the cathedral on June 2 after the 10:30 am service. This will be a special occasion welcoming our new Director of Music, Jonathan White.
- b. Reading a good book recommended by the cathedral's book club: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. In 1922 Count Alexander Rostov, an unrepentant aristocrat, is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel near the Kremlin. The story is irresistibly funny. One sentence alone made me laugh aloud on the bus: "One hour later ... the Count bounced on his new mattress to identify the key of the bedsprings (G-sharp)". We will meet to discuss the book on June 2 at 7:00 pm
- c. Music at the Cathedral – a wonderful Oasis concert every Saturday at 4:30 pm when you can hear brilliant young emerging artistes perform. This Saturday Marlène Demers-Lemay is presenting works by Debussy on the guitar. <https://www.oasismusicale.ca/> And of course choral and organ music during our Sunday services are a delight and inspiration to worship.

4. Support!

- a. Rob Hamilton, our brilliant Cathedral Organist and joint Choir Director Pro Tem, will be one of 4 finalists in the Lynwood Farnham annual organ competition to be held in St James United Church this Sunday, May 18, at 2:00 pm. Rob took second place last year. In the past, several of the Cathedral's Assistant Organists have also been successful – Alex Ross won in 2015, Adrian Foster in 2014 and Michael Capon in 1987. Mark McDonald, Director of Music at Diocesan Theological College is the competition coordinator. We will be sorry to say goodbye to him at the end of May, but are confident he will be successful in his studies at Rochester. You can contribute to a farewell gift, either with an e-transfer to accounts@montrealcathedral.ca or by putting an envelope marked Rob's gift in the collection plate. There will be a farewell reception on May 26.
- b. You can also support amazing actor Edward Yankie when he gives his one man performance of Richard II at the Mainline Theatre on June 28. Space is limited, so buy your ticket soon!
- c. More theatre for your entertainment – Ann and Greg are performing with Dramatis Personae, Westmount's Community theatre in June. Greg is a born comedian!
- d. The cathedral needs financial support for all kinds of reasons. One special piece of fund raising is "Rock the Cathedral" which hopes to buy sound equipment to be used at the 6 pm contemporary service. www.montrealcathedral.ca/music-at-six-fund

5. Pray!

- a. We are delighted to give thanks for the safe arrival of two babies born to members of the young adults group – Vivian the daughter of Ellie Nash and Louis Rodgers, and Abigail daughter of Zach Ingles and Selina Mullin.
- b. Please join us in regularly praying for the restoration project, that our Cathedral may bring glory to God here in Montreal for many generations to come. Thank you. Here is a prayer you can use

Eternal and generous God, You have given us Christ Church Cathedral as a powerful symbol of your presence in Montreal, a gathering place for Anglicans in our diocese, and a place of ministry and mission in the heart of the city. Continue to bless our restoration project, our architects, consultants and all charged with the intricate and arduous labour involved.

We pray for the fundraising team and all those who have supported us so far.

Renew our vision, creative energy, and generosity, that we may together bring this project to completion, and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom our cathedral is dedicated. Amen

Major Fundraising Campaign: cathedral.fundraising@montrealcathedral.ca

6. And come to church!

- a. You will find the bulletins for Sunday services on the web site www.montrealcathedral.ca
- b. Choral Evensong this Sunday is at 4:00 pm, as usual, and also broadcast live on Radio VM 91.3 FM and the internet. Music will be by Jean Langlais, Richard Shephard, Herbert Sumsion, T. Tertius Noble, William Harris and Jean Guillou. The officiant will be the Rev'd Wendy Telfer.
- c. The Cathedral at Six, is a bi-monthly bilingual Communion service with contemporary praise music.
- d. There are 3 services every weekday at 9:15 am (Morning Prayer), 12:15 pm (Eucharist) and 5:15 pm (Evening Prayer). Please speak to one of the clergy if you would like to join the roster of officiants at morning and evening prayer

I hope you don't feel bullied and badgered, but rather inspired to join at least one of the many opportunities described in this letter.

A word of comfort to finish, taken from the second reading this Sunday, "I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life"