

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Are you planning to join us for some enjoyable events this coming week?

- Saturday, February 22 - The Diocesan **Black History Month Celebration** in the Cathedral at 11:00 am with a reception following. Bishop Shannon McVean-Brown, the new Bishop of Vermont, will be preaching. **A massed choir** will sing and all those interested in singing are invited to come to the Cathedral at 9:30 am for a rehearsal.
- Shrove Tuesday – **Pancake Supper** 6:00 pm in Fulford Hall. Cost \$10 per adult, free for children. Get your creative juices flowing; we hope to see you all in your Mardi Gras masks. We will have a table with a limited amount of mask making craft materials for those who are maskless. George needs volunteers to help with the supper.
- Saturday February 29 – *Vers le vert / Going Green* for **Nuit blanche at the cathedral**. Our evening features hot chocolate, candles, an art exhibition, ecological displays and activities as well as music from 4:00 pm to 1:00 am starting with the Quatuor Cobalt, followed by alternating sets from the Gay Men's Choir and the Choir Ciné/Jazz, and finishing with the Nicole Arrage Jazz Trio to round off the evening. At 9:15 pm singers from our choir led by Jonathan and Bertrand will sing *Compline* – Gregorian style chant by candlelight. February 29 is traditionally the day when women can propose marriage to their significant other, so perhaps it's appropriate that our selfie station is set in the garden of Eden.
- The **lunch this Sunday** will be sponsored by Mazon Canada. For over thirty years this Jewish organization has supported efforts across Canada to feed the vulnerable. Adrian will need 6 volunteers from the community to help serve the lunch.
- Sunday, February 22, **Choral Evensong 4:00 pm**, also broadcast live on Radio VM 91.3 FM and the internet. Music by Robert Schumann, Herbert Howells, Richard Ayleward, Felix Mendelssohn and Guy Ropartz.

Other events this Sunday include a meeting of **QueerSpace@CCC** after the 10:30 am service, **Pain, partage et prière**, the French bible study group after the 9:00 am service and the **Cathedral Reading Group** meeting in Diana's house at 7:00 pm to discuss Indian horse.

Lent is coming – very soon. **Ash Wednesday** is next week, February 26. There will be communion services with imposition of ashes at 7:30 am, 12:15 pm and 7:30 pm.

Bishop Mary has asked the whole Diocese of Montreal to dedicate this Lent to fasting and praying for renewal and revival throughout the Diocese. In her most recent newsletter she also highlighted the key recommendation made recently by the Primate's Task Group on which she served. They are asking Anglicans worldwide to enter **a season of repentance**. She wrote "We are deeply aware of the pain of division in our midst. All have shared in hurts given and received. In the spirit of Matthew 7:3-5, a call to prayer and self-reflection in repentance has been made for **Lent**. You can find a collection of resources for prayer, including one specially created by Archbishop Moon Hing (Southeast Asia), at: <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx>)

Here in the Cathedral we have been praying for a just and peaceful solution to enormous and complicated issues raised by current protests in Canada. Some people have found the article linked below gives useful background information [The Wet'suwet'en, Aboriginal Title, and the Rule of Law: An Explainer | First Peoples Law](#)

We have just received some sad news. Gaston Lamontagne, Donald Boisvert's husband, died Thursday morning. He had been ill for a long time, but still able to worship with us until recently. At one time he translated the Sunday bulletin into French for us each week. May light perpetual shine upon him as he reunites with Donald. The funeral will be held at the Cathedral on Thursday, February 27th, 2:00 pm.

Volunteer Opportunities Our wonderful community contains many people who give generously of their time. People often ask "What can I do?", so - If you lead a ministry here which makes use of volunteers, please send a list of tasks/times to Deborah, so that we can have a complete listing available for our members and newcomers. Deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca

Good news about Diana Blackaller received on Wednesday from her friend Laura Olguin in Mexico. She has had her second emergency eye-surgery. Laura wrote "The doctor said he was very happy with the procedure and she is going to spend the night at the hospital and be home tomorrow afternoon, so please let's pray her recovery will be fine." We are sending Diana our love and prayers as she recovers from her surgery at home.

Finally, two reminders about coming events which need action taking fairly soon if you're interested:

Come and See: If you are curious about Christianity or seeking to renew your faith, Come and See serves as preparation for Confirmation at Easter, but open to all. Will be scheduled around availability of those interested. deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca.

Dying to Live: A Lenten Quiet Day, March 21, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm. A day of prayer, led by our Dean, the Very Rev. Bertrand Olivier. Recommended (but optional) donation: \$25-30, due 3/15, includes lunch. Contact deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca to enroll.

Wishing you happy celebrations and a holy Lent,

Ann Elbourne
February 21, 2020