

  
CATHÉDRALE  
CHRIST CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

In the midst of this strange hot summer we hope you can find encouragement and spiritual refreshment in at least one of our many activities, most of which you can join via the zoom links on the COVID 19 page of the web site. However, in order to make these things happen we need your ideas, your loving support, your willingness to do some work, and, need I say, your continued financial support!

At the 10:30 am service last Sunday we gave a blessing to Ben, Erica and their newborn son Charles. Sarah Wicks and Tyson Røsborg are the godparents. Sarah says

*“Since Charles cannot be baptized yet, we are organizing a pre-baptism box and/or scrapbook to welcome him to the Christian community. We would love submissions such as letters, arts, or cards from the Cathedral community to welcome our smallest member”.*

Please contact Elizabeth or Ann in the Cathedral office to get Sarah’s address.



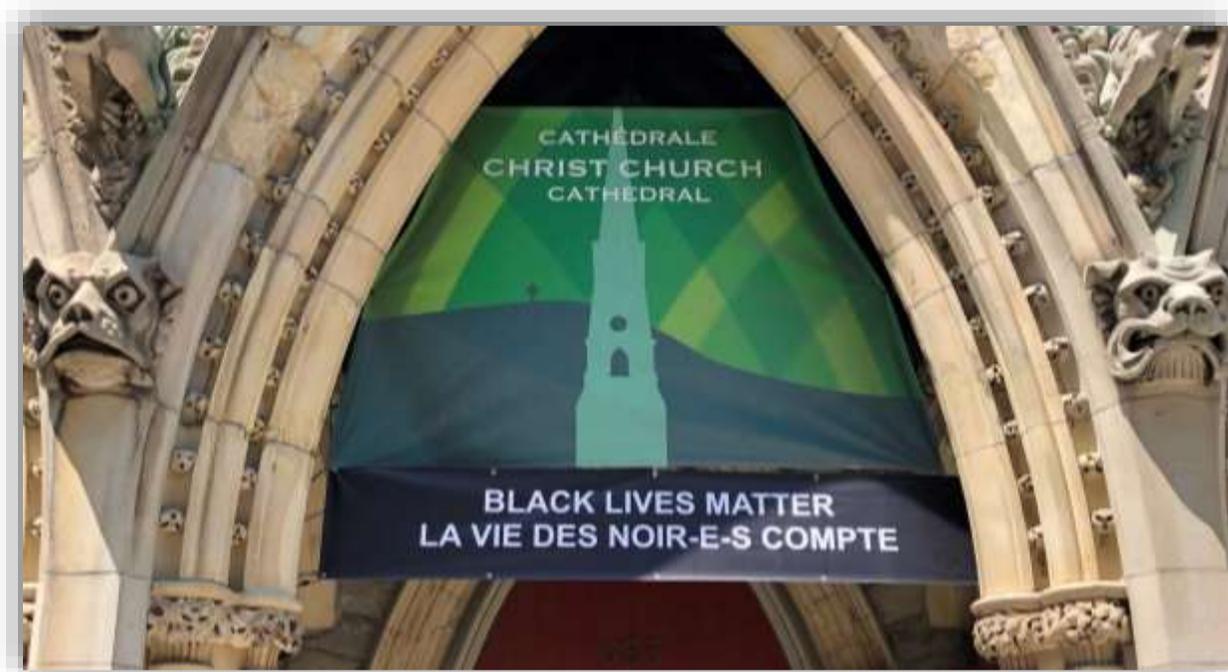
Sarah also gave us the lovely news that she and Scott Potter are engaged to be married. Because of Covid, they aren't planning a wedding till October of 2022 because they want their communities to be there. Their whole extended family is in the United States. “But Jean-Daniel has agreed to officiate and we're very happy” says Sarah. Here is a photo of Sarah and Scott taken at last year's pride march.

We had a good meeting last Monday following up the discussion at June Forum about the **Cathedral’s response to Black Lives Matter**. Four working groups were formed looking at internal implications for the cathedral: firstly, researching our historical context, secondly identifying areas of systemic racism and developing a culture of equal access, thirdly planning the ongoing education of the congregation and fourthly finding ways to celebrate our diversity. Please speak to Bertrand if you would like to join one of these committees. There will be a chance for further discussion at Forum on July 21

Meanwhile, two follow-ups have been initiated.

1. On July 19th, Dr. Daniel Weinstock will be joining us after the 10:30 am service to help us think through structural issues around racism and cultural inclusion in Montreal. Dr. Weinstock is Director of the McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy and holds the Katharine A. Pearson Chair in Civil Society and Public Policy in the Faculties of Law and of Arts at McGill. He will join us online at 11:45 am, on the Zoom link for the Sunday 10:30 am service.

2. A banner is now hanging across the front entrance of the building



Members of **ESJAG** keep us focused on many ecological social justice issues. You can read about their recent conference on biodiversity as an example of their activity <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/2020/06/christians-covid-and-the-biodiversity-crisis-areas-for-urgent-action/> You can also take part in the Friday afternoon chat about social justice issues. And if this is an area of interest for you, here's an important invitation from Brenda Linn

**All those interested in helping ESJAG decide which ecological and social justice issues to focus on during the upcoming year, 2020 - 2021, are invited to join a Zoom meeting next Wednesday, July 15h, at 7:00 PM.**

New faces and voices always very welcome.  
Zoom link will be included in the links sent out on Saturday.

The cathedral is an important cultural and historical centre in Montreal and as such we have been participating in various city-wide events. The last was Nuit blanche, a few days before we closed. Imagine 3000 visitors in the Cathedral – it doesn't seem real.

We have been invited to participate in two events this Fall which we supported last year – **Les journées du patrimoine religieux, September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and Les journées de la culture lasting a whole month, September 25 to October 25<sup>th</sup>.** The theme this year is **Les 1001 métiers de la culture.** In a preliminary meeting Ann and Bertrand felt that we could offer guided tours for Les journées du patrimoine around the exterior of the cathedral and perhaps also have a self-guided tour which people could access on a phone.

We'd love to hear from anyone who has the technical expertise to do this. As for the month-long JDC, we obviously have to rethink the way in which we participate. There will be a **brainstorming picnic in Westmount Park on Thursday July 30 at 6 pm.** Bring a chair or a blanket, a mask and your own picnic. Above all be prepared to share creative ideas (and not the virus. Social distancing mandatory) Please contact Bertrand or me to say you're coming.



Gentle reminder, from our bookkeeper and our treasurer, the Cathedral continues to need your financial support, even as we slide into the slower summer months. At the end of June, pledged giving was down by 20% from what we budgeted.

We have several ways that you can send your donation to the Cathedral:

- Etransfer via your bank to [accounting@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:accounting@montrealcathedral.ca)
- Tithe.ly app, download: <https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>
- PayPal <https://www.paypal.com/ca/fundraiser/charity/3424039>
- Canada Helps <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/5518>
- Cheque 1444 Union ave., Montreal QC, H3A 2B8 (post-dated cheques accepted)

As always, please be sure your name/contact information is attached to your donation so we can record your giving appropriately (this is especially important if you give using PayPal on Facebook).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Shama, Cathedral bookkeeper, [accounting@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:accounting@montrealcathedral.ca) or 514-843-6577 ext 241

### **We are very grateful for your support.**

This month the Cathedral's fair trade kiosk is featuring fair trade organic spices and coconut milk from Cha's organics, a local Montreal-based company that imports their products from fair trade producers in countries such as Sri Lanka - Coconut milk is excellent in Summer Smoothies. The producers who grow the spices and coconuts for Cha's Organics receive organic seedlings, tools and natural fertilizers upfront purchased with money received from Fair Trade Premiums.



You can see what is available:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/IRMenh5mth8204T6DQmq5IAPzUN38SiatEn4iXwMb69c/edit?usp=sharing>

Please take a look, and if you want to place an order write to [fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca)

Normally we don't have a newsletter during the summer – but life this year is not normal, so the letter will continue until Elizabeth goes on holiday the first three weeks of August. There probably won't be as many notices, so I want to publish some longer pieces from Cathedral members. Meanwhile, please send photos, paintings, poems, prayers, blogs about your personal experiences and reflections about cathedral life or your own spiritual experience to [ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca) and I'll keep them on hold until we resume at the end of August.

*Your love O Lord for ever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.* (Psalm 89)

I hope you have been following the YouTube offerings from Jonathan and Nick on the topics of psalms and hymns. Jonathan recently posted a fascinating look at the composer Herbert Howells: *In a Green Pasture; Howells & Psalm 23*. Nick has been writing about Victorian hymns and also introducing the music for Vespers each Sunday at 4 pm. You'll find lots of interesting posts and lovely music here

<https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/music/covid/#>

We enjoyed the thought-provoking poems of our guest poet Darren Bifford last Sunday. Sam Keuchguerian wrote that while Darren was reciting his poem on the "Crow", he drew parallels with Armenian poet Tumanian's "A Fowl I hit one day". Here's Sam's translation into English.

A fowl I hit...  
By Hovhanness Toumanian (1869-1923)

A fowl I hit one day.  
He flew away and was wounded.  
It always flies in my mind  
With bloody wing and lost.  
1919

Happy summer days!

Ann Elbourne, with thanks to Elizabeth and Raymonde  
July 10, 2020