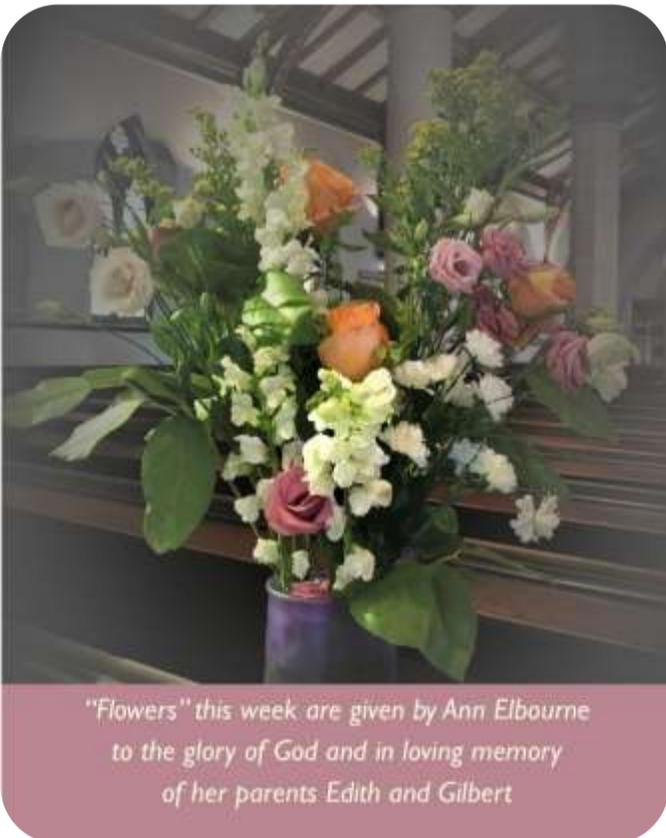


Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Bertrand had an accident riding his bicycle yesterday afternoon. He is home now with a plaster cast on his left arm. His elbow is broken, and he will need surgery. He was told it could take up to a week to get scheduled. Bertrand's face is battered and bruised, a bad cut over one eye and his lip. A friend stayed with him over night and Paul has been given permission from his employer to come to Montreal, they are now waiting for clearance from the Canadian Boarder. Despite it all, Bertrand remains in good spirits. Your prayers for Bertrand are welcome.

When the church was open, flowers were given each week in memory or thanksgiving by members of the congregation. Today we are starting a new way to celebrate a memory, while at the same time supporting the Cathedral, by creating a space for memorials and thanksgivings in the newsletter.

The wording used in the bulletin will be the same, but now you can add a photograph of the person you are remembering or ask the flower team to choose a picture of flowers. Rob and Vera will keep a calendar, so please send your request to them (either directly or through the cathedral office to Ann or Elizabeth). Please tell them the date you would like for your memorial, your name, the name of the person/people being remembered, a dedication and the amount of money you are donating. Please identify your gift as for the flower fund. Money in this fund will contribute to the maintenance of the building and the cost of services, and will be used to buy real flowers when the Cathedral reopens for Sunday services. There won't be bulletins, so notices in the newsletter will continue.



July events

1. **July 26, Sunday.** Our virtual choir will be back at the 10:30 am service, singing *Great Lord of Lords* by Orlando Gibbons. Jonathan will be preaching. The end of the month lunch is sponsored this week by a Cathedral member who wishes to be anonymous.
2. **July 30, Thursday, 6 pm** zoom brainstorming meeting to consider the cathedral's participation in Journées de la culture Sept 25 – Oct 25 zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82976862628?pwd=cW5EV2xZK0FmbXpjOTQ4aEFLZnZQdz09>

August events

1. The Cathedral building will be open for prayer or a quiet visit from 10am to 3pm in early August. The exact date to be announced. Masks will be mandatory, hand sanitizer will be offered at the door and a trained security person will be making sure visitors are acting safely.
2. Services will still be on line during August with an exciting addition for children. On Sunday, August 3, **children's church** will start at 10 am, finishing in time for the 10:30 am service.
3. **Book group** meets by zoom 7 pm, August 3. Contact Jane for the link and see the webpage for the books. <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/cathedral-reading-group/>
4. The annual **Pride service** will be held via zoom at 6 pm on August 9.
5. Elizabeth will be taking a well-earned holiday. The office will be closed during the first three weeks in August. There won't be a news letter in August until the 28th.

Ongoing

Fair trade kiosk by delivery – thank you Lisa and Joseph. Please spread the news among your friends. See the items for sale here, including new stock of coconut milk and spices

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMenh5mth8204T6DQmq5IAPzUN38SiatEn4iXwMb69c/edit#gid=0>

Email Lisa and Joseph at fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca with the items you wish to purchase and they will deliver the order to your doorstep. You can pay by e-transfer directly at accounting@montrealcathedral.ca.

News of parishioners

Here is a picture of Saoirse, very new daughter of Greg and Amy.



Amy writes they are crossing their fingers that circumstances will allow Saoirse's baptism on September 20. They are all in good health and looking forward to the boys being back in school, as well as to their first steps back into Christ Church whenever the world may allow.

This time last year Dramatis Personae was preparing a dramatized workshop reading of a play written by parishioner Nathan Elliott. Look out for his account in next week's letter about what has happened since.

Catherine Watson is another of the excellent writers in our congregation. She recently published her diary from the first two months of the confinement. She was reading *The Plague* by Camus at the time and compares what was happening in Montreal. You can read the whole article at this site

<https://montrealserai.com/article/diary-of-the-great-confinement/>

Here is an extract, the entry for March 28.

They told us yesterday we're entering a new phase: we're at the beginning of the steep rise that will lead to the peak. ... The bridges will stay open, but we should stay home. I don't think it's an order, but it's a strong recommendation, and we are told not to go out of our area, especially not the western part of the city. ...

The forecast was for a sunny day, but it's grey cloud cover and cold. I planned on going on the bus to Rosemount, to take a break from myself and look for local colour for the longer essay I want to write. The first scene would be on the corner of Boulevard Rosemont and Avenue des Érables. I tell myself I don't want to feel more shut in than I do already, unable to write because I couldn't leave the house. I tell myself I'll go anyway, though I'm nervous. Can they try to stop me – the police – if they see me walking alone? On the other hand, if I go later, the risk will be greater because the virus is spreading. I decide to go, but I'll stay apart.

The streets of Rosemount are desolate. I see one man, one woman, and it's hard to know if they're going somewhere or just using up time. Everything is shut: houses, stores, a cinema. It's an area that's become very chic with storefront windows displaying baby clothes and original home furnishings. On Boulevard Rosemont, a young man with a backpack and worn clothes asks me for change, and I don't give it. Why not? Because I'm alone and he's alone and if he did try to grab my purse, there wouldn't be anyone around to help me. Aloneness breeds aloneness and an obstinate hardness of heart. I keep walking, pass someone who looks less in need.

Thank you, Catherine, – you evoke some powerful memories. We did indeed feel very alone in those early days, but for many of us the Cathedral has been a lifeline, reaching out to us through worship and music, through discussion groups, chat rooms and phone calls. We are comforted by the power of love and the power of prayer and most grateful to the clergy, Jonathan, Nick and the other leaders of the community.

*“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -*

Emily Dickinson

