

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Last week we were rejoicing that the cathedral was once more open for a Sunday service, but Monday morning, we learned that, as part of its effort to contain the uptick in Covid cases, the Government of Quebec has limited attendance at in-person worship services to no more than 25 persons. Jane has adjusted the online reservation system to reflect that new reality, so if you wish to join us in person, please continue to use the protocols which were outlined last week.

<https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/in-person-prayer-services/>

This week, we are also opening up Evensong to the public under the same conditions, but without pre-booking, on a first come first admitted basis. Please join us for beautiful music and prayers. You can also listen on Radio VM 91.3 FM at 4 pm. <http://www.radiovm.com/> or streamed on the Facebook page.

Sunday also sees the return of hot meals offered at the end of the month lunch. Our wonderful cook John McLean will be back in the kitchen. The meal will still be a take-out following all the safety protocols. Thank you to an anonymous parishioner who has donated this month's lunch.

Zoom church continues with services at 8am, 9am (in French) 10:30am and 7pm. The times and links are posted on the website. <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/events-calendar/>

Deborah has arranged for a special guest speaker to join us on 3 Sundays at 11:45am.

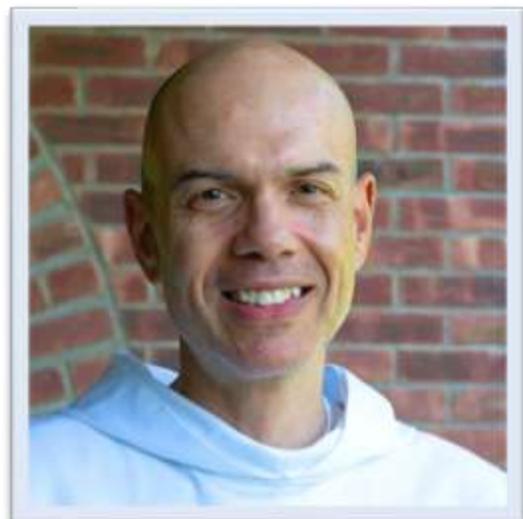
Intimacy: A Series of Conversations

On the three Sundays beginning October 11th, Br. Josép Reinaldo Martínez-Cubero, OHC, will lead us in a discussion of intimacy with God, with our selves, and with one another. Br. Josép is an Anglican monk at Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York. Originally from Puerto Rico, he sang opera and led a children's theater company in New York City before following his monastic vocation. Each conversation will begin at 11:45am on the Zoom link for the 10:30am service.

Oct 11: Intimacy with God: Solitude vs. Isolation;
Prayer; Silence

Oct 18: Intimacy with Self: Self-care;
Contemplation; Creativity; Beauty

Oct 25: Intimacy with Others: Unattachment;
Community; Listening; Contemplative Dialogue;
Sense of Humor



Black Lives Matter, Congregational Read

At the start of the summer, the Cathedral embraced a multi-pronged Anti-Racism initiative as part of our commitment, made during our baptismal covenant, to honor the dignity of every human being. One facet of that initiative is a "Congregational Read," which we announced a few months ago. We will be forming discussion groups in November, so there is still time to participate!

Parishioners are invited to read pairs of books.

- The English-language pair is Desmond Cole's *The Skin We're In* **and** Ibram Kendi's *How to be an Antiracist*. The French-language pair is Ta-Nehasi Coates' *Une Colère Noire* **and** Ibram Kendi's *Comment Devenir Anti-Raciste*.
- The French version of the Kendi book will be out this week, at \$37 per copy. The Cathedral will put in a batch order if people notify Deborah by Friday, October 2nd.

Deborah also has "loaner copies" of the other books, as well as of Debby Irving's *Waking Up White*; contact her at deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca if you wish to borrow one. (I should add that the title of the French translation of the Coates book is lamentable: it should be "Entre le monde et moi," which is much less alarming.)

The **bible study group** which is meeting on Thursdays to discuss ethical issues related to food spent some time last week talking about the disastrous results of the increasing use of palm oil in food and cosmetics. Old rain forests are being destroyed, thus hurting the homes and livelihood of indigenous



photo from Ethical Consumers website

people and endangering species like the orangutan. Jan has sent the link to an excellent web site which gives information about the many disguises under which Palm oil cloaks its identity and lists manufacturers who don't use the bad kind of palm oil – there are good palm oils, like the red palm oil sold by the cathedral's Fair Trade Boutique. The site tries to answer the question, "What can consumers do?"

<https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/food-drink/palm-oil-and-consumers>

If you are interested in buying products from the **Cathedral's Fair Trade Boutique**, graciously delivered to your door by Joseph and Lisa, please look at the list of products (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RMenh5mth8204T6DQmq5IAPzUN38SiatEn4iXwMb69c/edit#gid=0>) and email Lisa and Joseph at fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca to place your order.

The Cathedral also **supports PWRDF through prayer and donations**. Our representative is Peggy Simpson who has sent this description of its vision and activities.

PWRDF, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, began in 1959 after response to the 1958 Springhill Mine disaster in Nova Scotia brought the Church to the realization that we needed a process to respond quickly to emergencies.

As an instrument of faith, PWRDF connects Anglicans in Canada to communities around the world in dynamic partnerships to advance sustainable development, to respond to emergencies, to assist refugees, and to act for positive change.
(Mission statement)



Photograph of Beirut from PWRDF Facebook page

There are a number of ways to give:

- The new World of Gifts catalogue should be available after September 24th at <https://pwrdf.org/world-of-gifts/>
The list includes the traditional items of livestock – chickens, goats and donkeys. There are seeds and seedlings and programs to develop sustainable agriculture to support food security.
- The extension to AMCC (All Mothers and Children Count) Program provides PPE for clinics in four African countries, and every dollar of your contribution is matched by six dollars from the Canadian government.
- A contribution to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank provides emergency food relief to places such as Yemen, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The Canadian government matches donations up to \$4 to \$1.
- There are opportunities to donate to the fight against climate change, to help people learn skills to earn a living, to provide fresh safe water to communities, to provide microloans to indigenous Canadians to start small businesses. You will note that many of the projects carry a Climate Action symbol.
- You can also make undesigned gifts which allow flexibility at <https://pwrdf.org/give-today/>
You can order Christmas cards at <https://pwrdf.org/get-involved/advent2020/>
- In short, whatever your favorite cause, you are likely to find a way to support it through PWRDF.

Donations can be made online, by phone (Call Donor Relations Officer Mike Ziemerink at 416-822-9083.) or by mailing a cheque to PWRDF at 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2
Financial statements and Annual Reports are available at <https://pwrdf.org/about/financials/>
Please give as generously as you can.

In memoriam : John Oliver and Gavin Elbourne

Donations have been made to the Cathedral to the glory of God and in memory of two faithful pillars of the church whose faith and dedication were an inspiration.



Jane Aitkens and John Oliver

John Oliver died on September 25. Jane, his much-loved friend, sent this beautiful photograph.

Gavin Elbourne died on September 28.
A wedding day photo in top hat and tails



Gavin and Ann Elbourne

Please send requests for a memorial or thanksgiving notice in the newsletter to ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca, or to Vera Burt and Rob Wells via the office. Vera and Rob can find a beautiful flower picture if you don't have a photograph you want to share. Your donations are helping the cathedral to stay afloat in these difficult times.

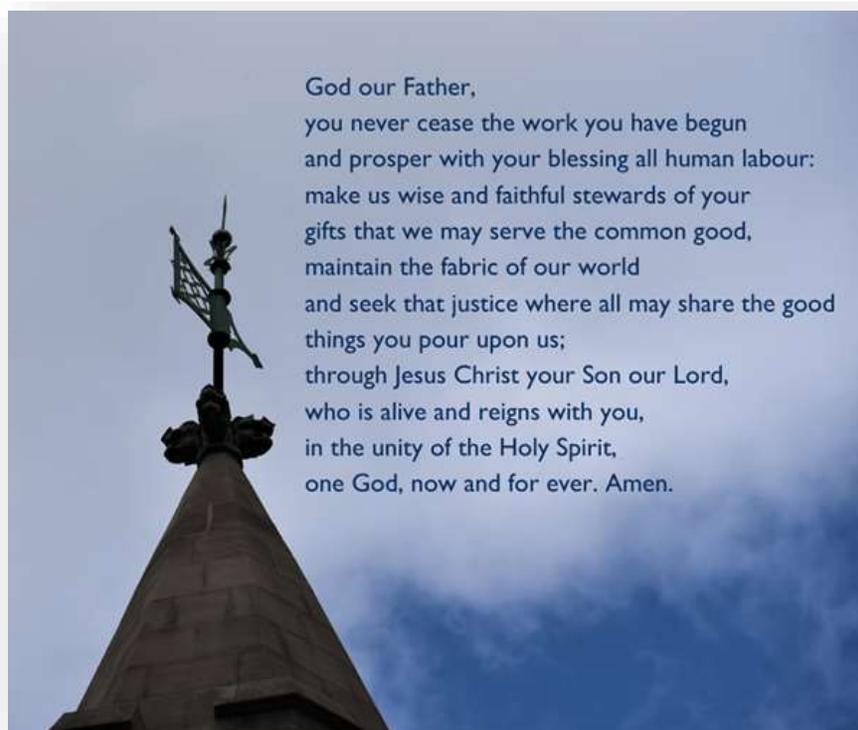


Photo by Elizabeth Shama

A prayer from the Cathedral's Facebook page. You can also go to the site to see great pictures of the baptisms of Charlie and Saoirse and listen to the midday services.

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchMTL>

Ann Elbourne, with thanks to Deborah, Peggy, Elizabeth and Raymonde
September 25, 2020