

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

One of the foundations of Anglican practice is daily prayer, both personal prayer and prayer as a gathered community.

Now that our building is open again for in-person prayer and worship, the ministry team has developed a new schedule for our midweek worship which seeks to balance the needs of those who are remaining home with those who are able to come to the Cathedral. This is not a forever-schedule, but a plan for the next few months.



Praying angel, photo by Carole Pelletier

- Mondays: Zoom Morning Prayer, 9:15 am
- Tuesdays: Midday Prayer on Facebook Live 12:15pm
Zoom, Prières du Soir, (French) 7:00 pm
- Wednesdays: Morning Prayer in the Cathedral, 10:05 am
Zoom Evening Prayer with informal Bible discussion, 7:00 pm

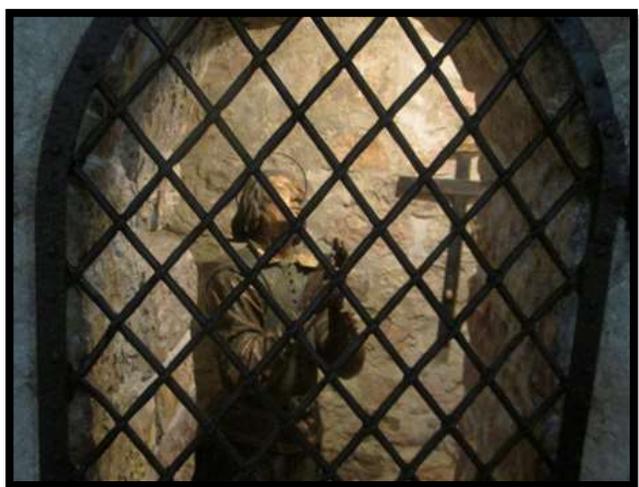
For the moment Thursdays and Fridays will be fallow days, but we are hoping to add midday Eucharist on those days once our protocols have been approved by the Diocese. (Stay tuned for that.)

Of course, our buildings remain open for personal prayer Monday through Saturday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. And if you would like some resources to support your prayers at home, our midweek bulletins are posted here so that you can use them on your own schedule: <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/weekday-services/>

We are looking forward to welcoming Brother Josép Reinaldo Martínez-Cubero, OHC on Sunday, October 11 for the first of three discussions on intimacy with God, ourselves and one another.

This Sunday, the Feast of St Francis marks the end of the Season of Creation which we have been celebrating during September. The 9am and 10:30 am service will include a showing and blessing of animals – so wake your dogs and cats and other pets and be ready to hold them up to your zoom camera.

St Francis was renowned for his outreach to the needy as much as his love for animals. He spent some time in prison after he gave away the profits from his parents' business to the poor of Assisi.



St Francis in a prison cell



Francis' parents

The Cathedral too tries to support needy people, so last Sunday the Social Service Society served a **hot lunch** to 100 people. Here are some extracts from a letter Adrian wrote to supporters of the lunch

Our big news is that our fabulous cook, John McLean is back! This meant that we were able to advertise on our handouts that we were going to provide a hot take out lunch. John cooked one of his most popular dishes: Salisbury steak. John's Salisbury steaks are great slabs that practically take up all the room in our compostable take-out containers. Donna organized the vegetarian quiche option. Peggy once again provided an over whelming abundance of cookies and squares including her famous Rocky Road Squares. Deborah, Donna and I had a wonderful time stuffing the bags with cookies. We ended up giving out 100 lunches.

One eighty-six-year-old East Indian gentleman arrived at the end and received the last vegetarian lunch. For this he blessed the creator and asked me to convey his deep gratitude to everyone at Christ Church Cathedral

I am hoping to find a volunteer to make up four or five vegetarian quiches for the October lunch. Chances are good that a hot take out lunch will be even more meaningful then. Thanks to all of you for your support.

Blessings, Adrian, Donna, Deborah and John McLean.

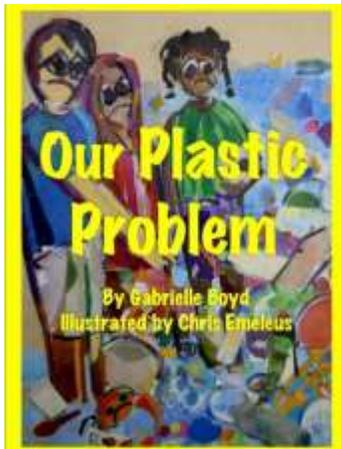
The Annual Meeting of the Christ Church Cathedral Social Service Society, delayed due to COVID-19, will take place by Zoom on **Wednesday, October 7** at 11:00 am.

The agenda includes the retirement of Marjorie Sharp as President, a financial update, a report on the Sunday lunches, and other business. Anyone interested is welcome to join the meeting, with the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81258919211?pwd=bUhabkxVVHFGcDY2OTIUMXB2cUxzUT09>

We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Marjorie for her leadership of the society and her passion for social justice. I'm sure many of us will try to join this meeting

Brenda Linn writes that another part of **ESJAG's role in the cathedral community** is to encourage and support parishioners who are working for ecological and social justice, not as official representatives of the cathedral, but simply as Christians living out their faith in their professional or their private lives. During the past fortnight, two of our members have been heard from coast to coast as they plead for justice for refugees, and for an adequate response to the climate crisis that is upon us. Janet Dench's spoke at a Canada-wide PWRDF prayer service. Michele Rattray-Huish contributed to a Lead Now climate change appeal that has attracted over one million viewers. <https://animoto.com/play/WnSiLReISEThYCWQ90IEAg>
Our gratitude and our prayers go out to them both.

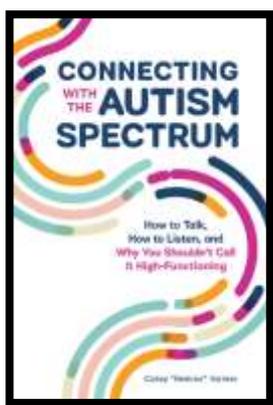


After the 10:30 am service last Sunday, Gabrielle Boyd hosted a **workshop about getting rid of plastics in the bathroom**. She summed up her message "Don't put anything in your body you're not prepared to eat". Her audience members are probably now rushing to buy bamboo toothbrushes and coconut oil. She also showed a video of a book she has just written, with artist Chris Emeleus. Edward narrated the text.

The book is available on Amazon.ca



More about books

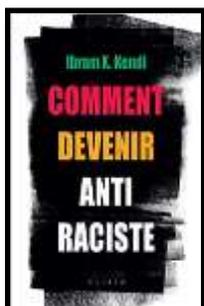
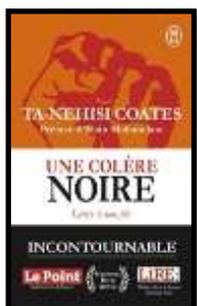
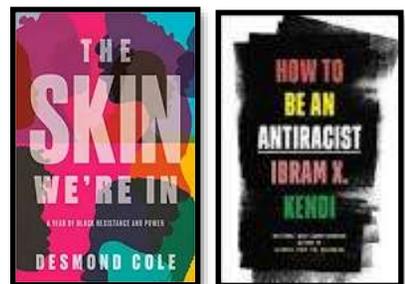


Many of us are familiar with the beautiful detailed pencil drawings created by Casey Remrov Vormer. He has recently written a book about autism *Connecting with the Autism Spectrum* in which he shares his own experience as an autistic person. It is available as an E-book, or can be pre-ordered as a paperback on Amazon.ca Congratulations Remrov!

Reminder: Deborah is organising a **congregational read** as part of the Cathedral's Anti-Racism initiative (see details in last week's letter) We will be discussing pairs of books

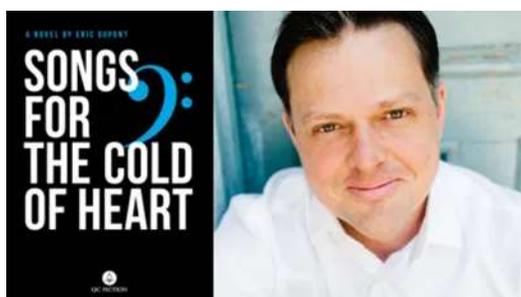
The English-language pair is Desmond Cole's *The Skin We're In* and Ibram Kendi's *How to be an Antiracist*.

If you contact Deborah TODAY (Oct 2) she might be able to acquire a book for you. deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca



The French-language pair is Ta-Nehasi Coates' *Une Colère Noire* and Ibram Kendi's *Comment Devenir Anti-Raciste*.

The Cathedral Reading Group's next book, to be discussed on November 15, will be *Songs for the Cold of Heart* by Eric Dupont.



This is a translation of *La Fiancée américaine*, so we would be delighted if Francophones would like to join the discussion. A Goodreads review describes it as *a sweeping saga that goes from Riviere du Loup in 1919 to New York, then contemporary Berlin and Rome, built around fascinating characters, sharp humour and an intricate and engaging plot.*

Looking ahead, we are also planning to read *Station Eleven* by Emily St John Mandel so, thinking about long waiting lists, you might like to reserve a copy at the library now!

The Word Bookstore, run by Adrian and Donna, is having a 25% off sale, and is also offering surprise boxes of books for curbside pickup or delivery. This amazing service greatly brightened the lockup for me in the Spring. <https://www.wordbookstore.ca/>

Some of you may have seen on Facebook this picture of **Nicholas Capozzoli** seated at an organ console in front of the cathedral. Nick says that the organ is the Canadian International Organ's new "Bach mobile" that he will play to accompany outdoor screenings of the film *Pipedreams* in October. He was recording music for a promo video to be released later this week.



When they set up loudspeakers many people stopped to listen. Many noticed the church behind me and its signs, and they wanted to go in!

Obviously good publicity for the Cathedral! Nick adds "I don't have set times yet, and who knows how the government directives will affect this, but I will be playing in Lachine, La Prairie, and NDG. I will also play a concert outside of the Cathedral on October 15 in the late afternoon."

Sadly, in light of the current I fear it's possible that these concerts might be cancelled. We'll keep our fingers crossed.



News about the spire: The aluminium tiles are being removed. We are delighted to hear that Heritage Montreal will be focusing on the restoration project. Meanwhile community support continues to be an important part of our fundraising. Thank you to our many donors.

Bertrand was ordained in Southwark Cathedral on September 29th, 24 years ago, the feast of St Michael and All Angels.



We wish him continuing blessings on his ministry, and pray too for Deborah and Jean-Daniel and the rest of the team who are guiding and comforting us as we wrestle with the pandemic.

Finally, the Cathedral community joins the diocese in sending an affectionate message congratulating our Bishop, Mary, on her five years as the Anglican Bishop of Montreal. She has been an inspiring leader during a difficult time and a huge support to the Cathedral.

Thank you Bishop Mary.

Ann Elbourne, with thanks to all the contributors and to Elizabeth and Raymonde
October 2, 2020