

A message from the Dean

Christ Church Cathedral is very sorry to announce that Dr Jonathan White will be stepping down as Director of Religious Music as of April 25th. Jonathan has served the Cathedral's music programme with dedication, innovation, and enthusiasm since his arrival in June 2019.

With the knowledge that the pandemic will continue to affect our global life for some time, and with increasing personal demands, Jonathan has decided that he cannot return to Montreal and that, consequently, now is the right time to hand over the stewardship of the programme.

The Cathedral, the Music Committee, and Jonathan have spent considerable time in recent months trying to find a solution that would enable him to continue in his role, but in the end this was not possible.

For the last year Jonathan has worked tirelessly to reimagine and sustain a vibrant digital music ministry that has served not only the Cathedral but also the wider diocese, and he has taken an active interest in supporting many other ministries within our community.

Christ Church Cathedral would like to extend its immense thanks to Jonathan for all that he has done for the Cathedral in his time with us, and we very much hope that he will remain an integral part of our ever-growing international family.

We are however delighted to announce that Dr Nicholas Capozzoli has agreed to take on the role of Acting Director of Music and that he will be taking the helm of the Music Program at Christ Church Cathedral following Jonathan's departure. Nick is well known to the Congregation at Christ Church Cathedral, having served as Assistant Organist as well as interim co-director of music and we look forward to many years of liturgical music under his leadership.

The Very Rev'd Bertrand Olivier



All things Bright and Beautiful Windows in the Children's Chapel

Dear Friend of the Cathedral

This Sunday, April 18, there will be two special offerings, the first at 11:45 after the 10:30 service, the second at Evensong.

1. **Words from the Wilderness.** The second Sunday after Easter is known in many churches as "Earth Sunday" so ESJAG has invited environmental activist and educator Linda Handiak to speak to us. She plans to offer a whirlwind guided trip to the seaside.

Linda explains: *Canada has the longest coastline in the world, so marine protection is a priority, right? We have made some headway, but the journey is fraught with peril. What are some of the challenges? What can ordinary citizens do? I will draw on what I know as a member of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and the David Suzuki Foundation, as well on some volunteer experiences in marine conservation at home and abroad.*



Come and find out how CPAWS has been working to protect our vital, vulnerable marine eco-system, spaces, and also to support indigenous "guardians" whose work addresses ecological and social challenges in effective and elegant ways. More information on the work of CPAWS can be found on their website, at <https://cpaws.org/our-work/ocean/>

2. We're happy to announce that **Choral Evensong** is back starting this Sunday at 4 pm. Our choir has not gathered in person since March 2020, and while we will only have four singers on Sunday, it will be a joyful return! If you've never been to a choral evensong, now is your chance to hear this meditative service that is uniquely Anglican! You can join us in person or watch live from the Cathedral Facebook page. Alternatively, you can listen on 91.3 FM or radiovm.com. The quartet will sing Eastertide music by Palestrina, Harris, and Gibbons

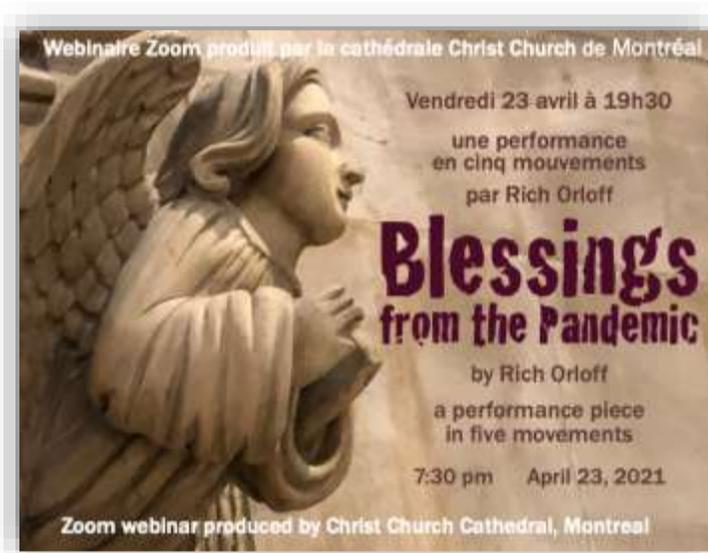


In the pre-COVID days, the choir in procession

REMINDER

We continue to offer intimate services of Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays and Fridays at 12:15pm in person at the Cathedral, no pre-registration required.

A major community event, Friday April 23 at 7:30 pm



We would love to have your support to make a success out of this offering to the community and to the public. It will be an entertaining evening, showing the world that the cathedral and its community are alive and well. As we look towards the end of the pandemic it's timely to reflect on what we've learned – about ourselves, about other people, about resilience, grief, love and laughter.

Please help us to promote **BLESSINGS FROM THE PANDEMIC**

- ✓ Share our Facebook event on your own page.
- ✓ Invite friends to attend!

- Here's the link to the event
<https://www.facebook.com/events/971195710292032/>
- **Get tickets here:**
<https://app.simplyk.io/ticketing/691fe9b2-2a23-4576-9d09-794f28448883>



English book group reminder Please join us over zoom April 25 at 7 pm to talk about *Butter Honey Pig Bread* by Francesca Ekwuyasi. I'm enthralled by the book and kept startling my cuddling cat by laughing out loud. Our May book will be *Klara and the Sun*, by Kazuo Ishiguro, his first book since he won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2017.

A new discussion group hosted by Deborah.

She writes:

Among the churches which have made a significant impact on their communities, the Church of the Savior in Washington, D.C., has counted among the leaders in the last century. While never large, it found ways to significantly reduce poverty and relieve suffering among its neighbors. This May, we will be hosting a book group to learn about this church and dream together about how its efforts might inspire us to engage in our own context. The book is *Journey Inward, Journey Outward*, by **Elizabeth O'Connor**. We'll be meeting online **Monday nights at 7:00 pm, starting May 10th**, for 3-4 weeks. We have a couple of extra copies of the book. Contact Deborah for more information or to enroll. (NB: Deborah will be on leave for the last two weeks of April, so if you do not reach her this weekend, you might want to buy the book on your own.)

A new Fair Trade product offered by the Cathedral boutique.

Lisa says:

Fair trade, biodegradable dental floss? It seems too good to be true but it exists! Many have recommended that cathedral fair trade kiosk feature new ecologically sustainable products - we hope to expand to others if popular. This fantastic floss (\$6.50) is made of handwoven fair trade silk from Colombia and comes in compostable packaging.

One box of dental floss is not too small to have delivered to your doorstep. If you would like to order other fair trade staples like coffee, tea, chocolate and more, please view the spreadsheet stock link directly

here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/u/0/d/1RMenh5mth8204T6DQmq5IAPzUN38SiatEn4iXwMb69c/htmlview?urp=gmail_link&gxids=7628#gid=0 and email fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca to place your order.



Praying with an icon for people suffering from racial discrimination.

It's agonising that, in spite of the efforts of the BLM movement, members of the black community are still being targeted by the police in Canada and the US. Following on her Lent presentation about praying with icons, Deborah sent this pair of striking images, one old, one modern.



The ancient one is Our Lady of the Sign, and is one of the oldest icon-types of the Virgin, depicting her wearing a mantle with the image of Christ on it.

A modern icon-writer re-worked it as Our Lady Mother of Ferguson (after Ferguson, Missouri, where Michael Brown was shot and killed).



Let us pray for all vulnerable and bullied people, asking our compassionate God to protect them in their daily lives.



Jeffrey and Natasha, formerly very active members of the Cathedral community, have happily immersed themselves in life in the Northern community of Dawson City where Jeffrey is ministering to the congregation of St Paul's Anglican Church. Spring has barely reached this part of Canada, and last week Jeffrey posted this picture of the dogs pulling a sled he was driving along the Yukon River. I'm sharing it to end this newsletter with a smile. For an extra smile you can take a look at Natasha's joyful paintings on her website natashahenderson.com

Dog Sled being driven by Jeffrey Mackie in the Yukon last week.

Wishing you all a happy, if chilly, week.

Ann Elbourne,
with thanks to contributors and to Elizabeth and Marie-Claire
April 16, 2021