

Dear Friend of the Cathedral

This Sunday is Trinity Sunday, celebrating a doctrine at the heart of our faith which many of us struggle to understand. Images can help.

One of the Cathedral's stained-glass windows explains the Trinity, using an ancient symbol known as the Shield of the Trinity. The outer circle reads *Pater non est Filius, Filius non est Sanctus Spiritus, Sanctus Spiritus non est Pater* (The father is not the Son, the Son is not the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is not the Father). The arrows at the centre of the triangle point to *Deus* (God) and say *Filius est Deus, Spiritus Sanctus est Deus, Pater est Deus* (The Son, The Holy Spirit, the Father are each God).



Other familiar ancient symbols of the Trinity include St Patrick's famous three-leafed clover, the fleur-de-lys and the Trinity Knot found in Celtic manuscripts like the Book of Kells.

Even as we struggle to understand we can pray in the glorious words of John Donne.

*Batter my heart, three-person'd God, for you
As yet but knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend;
That I may rise and stand, o'erthrow me, and bend
Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new.*

A message from the Dean

Cathedral Survey 2021

As vaccination rates progress, and deconfinement plans are slowly emerging, the leadership of the Cathedral agreed that it would be the right time to pause and reflect on our experience of the pandemic. You are therefore invited to take part in a cathedral-wide survey to help us in this task. By doing that, you will enable us to take what we have learnt into the 'post-pandemic' Cathedral and reshape our ministries and mission as well as our common life.

This will be followed by small group meetings in order to give us an opportunity to go deeper, hear one another and then plan.

Thank you in advance for participating in this important piece of research, **preferably by Monday 7 June.**

English version: <https://forms.gle/9CwyzoNQH68XPR6U6>

Version française: <https://forms.gle/tVAhrZ6nrnHuoHc38>

Saying goodbye

This Sunday at 10:30 we will be sending Cassidy Vanderschee and her husband Kaden off to new jobs and a new life in Alberta, giving them a blessing from the congregation. They have greatly enriched our community with their talents, leadership and faith so we are sad to see them go.

Then on June 10 Stephen Petrie will move to PEI, although he plans to stay in touch with the Cathedral and will continue to help put the Sunday bulletins together. We will miss Stephen too, especially his lovely welcoming smile.

This Sunday

- Queer Space meets this Sunday at 12:15. Information https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/event/queerspace-sunday-1215-pm/?event_date=2021-05-30
- Adrian and Donna will be hosting the last Sunday in the Month Lunch, offering a hot meal prepared by John and cookies baked by Peggy.

Summer Sundays

During the past months we have enjoyed hearing a number of speakers after the 10:30 service on Sunday morning, and are most grateful to the people who have organised this uplifting experience. However, as we enter summer, we will be taking a break from having speakers on zoom, and so the time online after church will be about being together and enjoying one another's company.

Bob Coolidge

We have sadly lost another long-time member of our congregation. Robert Coolidge died on Wednesday.

Robert was ordained a Perpetual Deacon on July 29, 1967 in the Diocese of California. After coming to Montreal, he taught History at Concordia University. He was an ardent champion of the Vocational Diaconate and was a Director of the Montreal Fund for the Diaconate.

A service is to be held at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal at a time yet to be determined. Bob had three sons, Christopher, Miles and Matthew. Christopher was the raven in the Cathedral's production of Noyes Fludde and Miles sang in the men and boys choir at a time in the seventies when there were 24 boy choristers making beautiful music and ruining their Sunday trousers by playing tackle football on the lawn after the morning service.

If you have memories or photographs of Bob, please send them to me for inclusion in next week's newsletter.



Here is a picture of Bob enjoying the outdoor Eucharist and BBQ held in June 2015.

A joyful Eucharist Eucharist on the lawn facing La Baie.



Tyson censed the congregation – no smoke alarms outside!



Sharing what we have with others in greater need.

We have received a request and an offer.

1. Mile End Mission is in need of men's shoes, size 9-13 (the larger the better). Information about how to donate items is here <https://mileendmission.org/donate-items/>.



2. I'm passing on a question from Denzel Phillips in which he makes a generous offer,

Do you know someone that needs furniture? I am thinking that it would benefit a refugee family or other persons in need. I have a dining room table with five chairs, a living room table and a side table. I have some dishes and cutlery as well. All free, of course.

Denzel rescued the chairs from a recycling bin, restored and re-upholstered them. He also sent me pictures of the tables if anyone wants to see them. Please contact me ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca if you know of a family who would benefit from a gift of furniture.



Dates for your diary

1. **Bishop Mary will be celebrating at all three services on June 6th**, celebrating her ordination to the diaconate on Pentecost Sunday, June 7, 1981.
2. **June 5, 3-4 pm: Abide in My Love: Cross-Canada Online Celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

This event has been organised by The Canadian Council of Churches in partnership with The Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and The Prairie Centre for Ecumenism. Leaders from diverse Christian traditions in Canada will participate. This year's theme, *Abide in My Love and You Shall Bear Much Fruit (John 15:5-9)*, calls us to nourish unity with God and with one another through prayer, contemplative silence, and common action. This is a bilingual event. Please register on Eventbrite: wpcu-2021-spuc.eventbrite.ca

CROSS-CANADA ONLINE CELEBRATION of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
CÉLÉBRATION PANCANADIENNE EN LIGNE de la Semaine de prière pour l'unité des chrétiens

"Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit"
(Jn 15:5-9)

« Demeurez dans mon amour et vous porterez du fruit en abondance »
(Jn 15:5-9)

June 5, 2021 3:00–4:00 p.m. (EDT)
Le 5 juin 2021, de 15 h 00 à 16 h 00 (HAE)

3. **Black Lives Matter** The Diocese has planned a workshop on October 2, 2021. Besides that, the theme for the next three Diocesan Synods is Racism (specifically, how we fight it). Edward Yankie is a member of the special task force appointed by the bishop to shape the diocese's response to the BLM movement.

4. **Journées du patrimoine : 11, 12 September.**

Journées de la culture : 24, 25, 26 September.

Sheena Gourlay is coordinating the Cathedral's participation in these two projects. Please contact her if you would like to be part of the group planning our programme, or if you would like to volunteer help during the events.

For Journées de la patrimoine, we will have a display about the history and architecture of the Cathedral and guided and self-guided tours. The same displays and self-guided tours will be available for Journées de la culture, but there will also be activities, extra displays and music. We want to show how the Cathedral has evolved in its attitudes – for example towards the ordination of women – and how it has spearheaded many social initiatives in the city. Do join in the brainstorming and the planning. We always have fun at these city-wide events. Contact Sheena rectors.warden@montrealcathedral.ca

Here's a photo of Phil Dutton demonstrating pottery making on a wheel, one of the workshops we presented at Journées de la culture in 2019.



I would love to hear from you. What are you planning to do this summer? How will you celebrate the easing of restrictions – carefully of course and after you are vaccinated.

Wishing you all a week enjoying some glorious May weather

Ann Elbourne
with thanks to Dean Bertrand, Elizabeth Shama and Marie Claire Fournier
May 28, 2021