



Dear Friend of the Cathedral

Let's start with some good news of outreach initiatives which were reported at Monday's Forum.

- A cheque for \$5000 was delivered just before Christmas to Nakuset, executive director of the Native Women's Shelter of



Montreal. This was a donation from the Cathedral's outreach fund, intended to support the warming tent erected in Cabot Square. Our donation was sent in recognition of the leadership and generosity of the indigenous community in responding to the needs of homeless people in the city, both indigenous and non-indigenous, and in token of our commitment to reconciliation, reparation, and respectful collaboration with the indigenous peoples. (Photo of the tent posted by Nakuset on Twitter)

- Bertrand and Deborah send warmest thanks to all who contributed to the food collection for Mile End Mission over the Christmas season.



We brought the equivalent of 25 regularly-sized grocery bags; the folks at Mile End were pleased and grateful. Mile End Community Mission works with members of the community who have been marginalized by society, many of whom struggle with addiction, are in poverty and/or are homeless.

- Janet King has collected over 100 pairs of socks to be distributed to people attending the lunch on January 30. Thank you to everyone who donated \$ or socks



### **The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund**

Peggy Simpson, the Cathedral's representative at the Montreal branch of the PWRDF made an interesting power point presentation at Forum about the Anglican Church's promotion of social and ecological justice through special

projects in Canada and around the world.

Here is an example of this work, taken from the PWRDF newsletter sent January 14.



In consultation with Archbishop Mark MacDonald and the Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, PWRDF has been monitoring the situation in Indigenous communities across Canada as they tackle the pandemic. [PWRDF has responded with \\$50,000 to support northern Indigenous communities](#) coping with recent COVID surges. The Indigenous People's Alliance of Manitoba-North will use the funds to purchase and distribute face masks and supplies for cleaning and disinfecting.

You too can subscribe to the newsletter which always has interesting information <https://pwrdf.org/subscribe-to-our-newsletter/>

And you are also invited to attend the Montreal meetings which take place on the 2nd Thursday of the month, currently on zoom. Contact Peggy Simpson or email Roslyn Macgregor [roslyn.macgregor@gmail.com](mailto:roslyn.macgregor@gmail.com)

If you give money to the cathedral using a box of envelopes, you will have seen the blue envelope to be used for a donation to PWRDF. If you give your donations through PAR you can tell our treasurer Jane Aitkens if you would like to add a monthly donation to PWRDF by PAR. [treasurer@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:treasurer@montrealcathedral.ca)

## **The Cathedral's Ecological and Social Justice Action Group**

ESJAG is being prompted by Brenda Linn to consider the challenges of the new year. The group will hold a planning meeting soon. If you would like to be involved please contact Brenda Linn. If you don't know her email address, you can send a message via [ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca)

Meanwhile, the sale of fair trade goods continues, thanks to Lisa Middlemiss and Joseph Hafner. Here is a message from Lisa about their latest endeavour

Until the Cathedral re-opens, fair trade on wheels (or by foot, depending on where you live) is back. If you're short of fair trade essentials - or just dreaming of some fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil (you name it) to tide you through this snowy January, you can write to [fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca) with your wish list, and Joseph/Lisa will respond to the delivery request. The list of our inventory is [here](#).

This list is not fully updated yet given the closure of the cathedral, so if you're not sure if we have something in stock, please do not hesitate to ask.



## **Black Lives Matter**

February is Black History Month. Edward Yankie, co-chair of the Diocese of

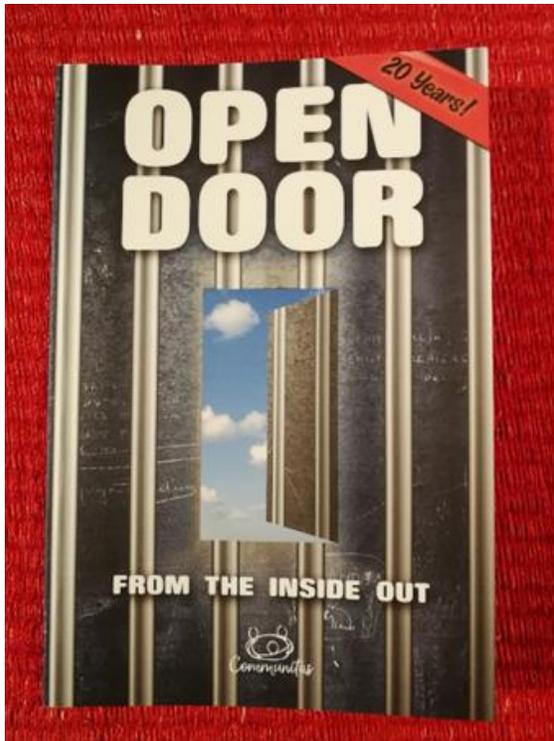
Montreal's Anti-Racism Task Force, asks us to reserve the date, **February 19 at 11am**, for a Black heritage celebration over zoom.

The group is also known as Montreal Anglicans for Racial Justice



and Equity. You might like to look at their [facebook group](#), which is designed to share information, resources and events and to support one-another in rooting out racism in ourselves, our churches and our world.

### Restorative Justice Matters

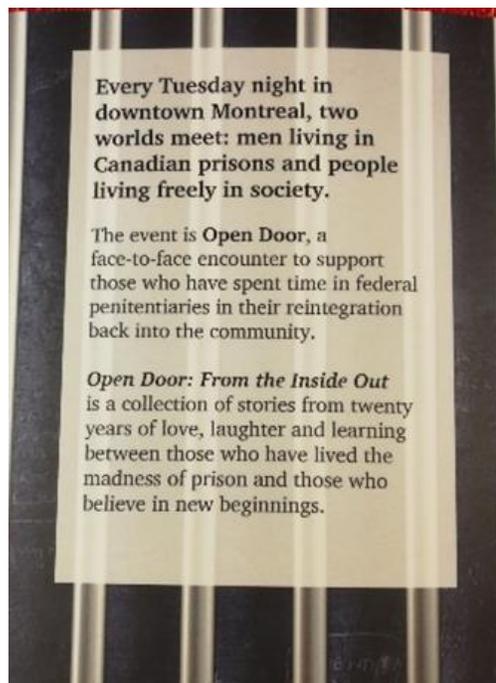


Deacon Peter Huish and Churchwarden

Michele Rattray-Huish have been involved in Communitas for many years. A book has just been published, ***Open Door: From the Inside Out***, which celebrates 20 years of Open Door, a programme of Communitas that started incidentally on 11 September 2001, the day the Twin Towers came down.

Michele wrote to us: Every Tuesday night from 7.00 – 9.00pm (before the advent of Covid), the Open Door Community could be found in Fulford Hall, volunteers, members of the public, ex-prisoners, men on parole from Half-way Houses, and men on escorted temporary absence from Minimum Security Institutions in Laval or from St-Anne-des-Plains.

What happens at Open Door – the making and sustaining of community, is what is written about in this book. The anecdotes vary – funny; poetic; serious;



contemplative; unexpected. We see where we have been over 20 years of weekly meetings, weekly encounters, weekly involvement – how our lives have been impacted – how we have changed for the better.

With introductory statements from Bishop Mary and Dean Bertrand, and Christ Church Cathedral input from Peter Huish, Tim Smart, Jhon Steeker St.Clair, Jonathan Bailey, Joel and Yevgenia Amis and Robert Bergner, it can be said that the ministry of Communitas of restorative justice and the reintegration of ex-prisoners into society is supported and upheld by the Cathedral.

Michele adds “If anyone who wishes to make a donation for the book (we are using it as a fundraising tool), or simply to support Communitas please visit their Canada Helps page

<https://communitasmontreal.org/donate/>

### **Messages from our clergy team**

- The leaders of the Christian Meditation group have decided to move the group to the first Tuesday of each month, so, for February and March it will gather on the first of the month at 6pm.
- Supporting us in these difficult times, the clergy want to hear from you if you are in need of pastoral care. Please also let them know if you are concerned about someone you know.  
Contact [deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca)
- Ben Crosby, who has been serving as a deacon at the cathedral, has sent the congregation an invitation to attend his ordination on February 26. The service will be live-streamed over the St Paul's Parish YouTube Channel. Note the tinyurl at the bottom of the invitation



**GOD WILLING  
AND THE PEOPLE CONSENTING**

The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates  
Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts  
will ordain

Benjamin David Crosby  
to the Sacred Priesthood

on Saturday, 26 February 2022  
at ten o'clock in the morning.

St. Paul's Parish ❖ Malden, Massachusetts  
Live-streamed at St. Paul's Parish YouTube Channel  
[tinyurl.com/stpaulsparishyoutube](http://tinyurl.com/stpaulsparishyoutube)

YOUR PRAYERS & VIRTUAL PRESENCE ARE REQUESTED

- We have a new assistant verger, Nikoo. Head verger, John Cavacece has been working on restoring the bathrooms at the back of the church.

### **Easter is a time for baptisms!**

Also for adult and teen confirmations, and for those who were raised in other Christian traditions to be received into the Anglican church. If you are interested re-grounding your faith life by making any of these commitments, or in learning more about them, please contact [deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca). We would need to know about any potential confirmations or receptions **no later than February 20<sup>th</sup>** to arrange a preparation course. If you are considering an Easter baptism, please let us know by **March 26<sup>th</sup>**.

### **A recommended short movie**

When the snow was falling on Monday I watched an NFB documentary *The Snowfighters*, filmed in 1957. It's a fascinating snapshot of Montreal in another era, when everyone West of St. Laurent smoked and spoke English and

streetcars roamed the streets. Much of the film was shot downtown near the cathedral. Do watch this 10 minute film and see how many places you recognize.. [https://www.nfb.ca/film/snow\\_fighters/](https://www.nfb.ca/film/snow_fighters/)

### **From Robert King, a bit of levity (with a core of truth!)**

Bob wrote: I am spending a bit of time each day while things are quiet to go through all our travel / souvenir files and put them in some order. One thing I have found is the newsletter of the Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Buenos Aires, which included the following which you might want to include in our newsletter:

What would have happened if it had been Three Wise Women instead of the Three Wise Men? They would have:

- asked directions
- arrived on time
- helped deliver the baby
- cleaned the stable
- made a casserole, and
- brought practical gifts

But then - what would they have said when they left ... ?

"Did you see the sandals that Mary was wearing with that gown?"

"That baby didn't look anything like Joseph."

"Can you believe they'd let all those disgusting animals in the house?"

"I heard Joseph wasn't even working right now."

"And that donkey. Huh, it's seen better days."

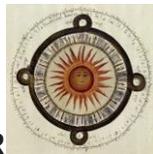
Thank you Bob. Please, dear readers, send me your contributions.

If you want to contact someone at the cathedral, but don't know their email address, please write to me [ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca) and I'll connect you.

Thank you to everyone who makes this newsletter possible, particularly to Deborah Meister who knocks the letter into shape before sending it out by mail chimp, to Marie Claire who checks the French version, to Jane Aitkens who posts it on the web, and of course to contributors.

Ann Elbourne

January 21, 2022



#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **Feast of Candlemas** Observed Sunday, January 30th.
- **The Last Sunday of the Month Lunch** will be served on January 30th.
- **Annual Reports!** Due to Ann Elbourne Feb 4.
- **Cathedral Forum** Tuesday, February 15 at 5:15 p.m.
- **Black Heritage Celebration** Saturday, February 19 at 11:00 a.m.