

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Some reminders

- **Blessing of Backpacks:** This Sunday, get the new school year off to an excellent start by bringing a backpack containing the tools of your education to the 9 or 10:30 service for a blessing.
- **The English book group** meets Sunday evening on zoom to discuss *Burnt Sugar* by Avni Doshi. Ask Jane Aitkens for the link.
- Volunteers are needed to take a two-hour shift as a greeter during **Les journées du patrimoine religieux** on Saturday September 10, from 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday from 12 noon to 4 pm. Please contact Diana Bouchard dianab@aei.ca or 514-484-4815.
- **A retreat** at the Cistercian Abbey of Our Lady of Nazareth in Rougemont, Friday, October 21 – Sunday October 23. Please let Bertrand know if you are interested.

Christian Meditation Class

Deborah asks: Have you been wondering about meditation? Or do you already have an established practice? We invite you to join our Christian Meditation Class, which will meet at 11:30 am to noon on the second Tuesday of each month in the Chapel of the Reserved Sacrament. All are welcome; no experience necessary. You are welcome to remain for the Eucharist which follows, or to leave following our practice.

Virtual Coffee Hour – to be or not to be?

A question from the clergy: As we began to emerge from pandemic isolation, the Cathedral has worked hard to maintain offerings both for those who wished to attend in person and for those whose mindset or health situation dictated a more cautious approach. One of those offerings has been the “Virtual Coffee Hour” offered on zoom after the 9:00 and 10:30 Sunday services. Over the last few months, however, almost no one has taken advantage of those links. Therefore, we are planning to discontinue them as of the end of August. We are willing to reconsider if Bertrand and Deborah hear from people to whom their presence is vital, so... speak now or hold your peace!

Exciting news from Director of Music Nicholas Capozzoli



I am delighted to appoint Esther-Ruth Teel as Assistant Organist. She succeeds Nicholas Gagnon-Choy, who begins medical school at McGill this fall. Esther-Ruth is no stranger to the congregation, having been one of our very first Patrick Wedd Choral Scholars. She will bring great talent, pastoral sensitivity, and creativity to this new role. I am also delighted that Owen Spicer will be returning as Organ Scholar. Be sure to welcome them on Sunday, September 4!

I am pleased to announce our three new Patrick Wedd Choral Scholars. Each of them show a strong desire to become part of our music ministry, and they express a curiosity for our unique Anglican choral tradition. They will sing and play at various services throughout the year, beginning with 4 PM Evensong on Sunday September 11. If you'd like to donate towards their scholarships, please speak to me or donate here: <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/music/patrick-wedd-music-fund/>

Our 2022-23 choral scholars are: Chenxin Han, Josephine Bywaters, Laura Albrecht



Chenxin Han (Shenzhen, China). Chenxin is an undergraduate piano and music education student at McGill.

Josephine Bywaters (London, ON). Josephine is a French horn player and studies translation at Université de Montréal.



Laura Albrecht (San Jose, CA). Laura is a trained singer and an incoming graduate student in choral conducting at McGill University.

Initial Reflections on the Lambeth Conference by Bishop Mary

Once every ten years or so, since 1867, the Archbishop of Canterbury has convened a gathering of bishops from all around the Anglican Communion. This was the 15th meeting. More than one thousand bishops and spouses, from 165 countries, gathered in Canterbury at the University of Kent in England from July 26 to August 8.

If you think about it as a meeting of all the Anglican church “franchisees”, you might be surprised! We learned about one another’s different cultures and contexts. We reflected on what it was to be “God’s Church for God’s World—walking, listening and witnessing together”. We met together in small groups and studied the 1st letter of Peter, listening to one another as we shared how that letter spoke to our experiences and challenges as a church. I recommend that you read 1 Peter yourself and think about your congregation, your diocese and your own witness.

Our meetings were mostly conducted in English but translation was offered in French, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Swahili, Juba Arabic, Burmese and Korean! When we all prayed the Lord’s Prayer together, there were so many more languages being used and it was a glorious experience. You can hear it in the closing service at Canterbury Cathedral on the [Anglican Communion YouTube channel](#).

You can listen to many of the inspiring presentations that we heard. The bishops and spouses had been meeting on Zoom during the year before this conference and there had been working groups preparing documents for us. Our discussions centered on “Calls to the Church” concerning Mission and Evangelism, Safe Church, Reconciliation, Human Dignity, Climate Justice, Christian Unity, Hospitality and Discipleship, Science and Faith. We were all a little tense as we gathered because we knew that we did not agree with one another on several contentious issues. I was so impressed by the gracious and careful organization of our time together and that Archbishop Justin was able to challenge and rally us into focusing on the most important issues. We came to understand that on the controversial issues, all were prayerfully discerning and making decisions that had integrity in our own social context. No-one was acting lightly or irresponsibly, however much we might disagree with their discernments.

In many ways the Lambeth Conference was like a scout jamboree on steroids – so many people to meet or reconnect with, so many events to take part in, so many varying agendas for what could or should be accomplished in our 12 days together. I was glad to see Bishop James Almasi and his wife Veronica from Masasi, Tanzania and Bishop Achilles Mutshindu and his wife the Rev. Gertrude Mbongo of Kinshasa, DRC and to reconnect with bishops from Brazil and from my trainings for new bishops.

There is more to tell you, of course....

+Mary

Some of Bishop Mary's Pictures



Bishops Mary (Montreal) and Sarah (London)



The Canadian Women at Lambeth

Thank you, Bishop Mary, for these interesting and thoughtful reflections.

Thank you, too, to Deborah and Nick for their contributions and to Alex Griffin for wrestling mailchimp into shape as well as to Michel for proofreading the French version.

Ann Elbourne August 26, 2022