

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Upon the death of
Her Late Majesty

Elizabeth the Second

by the Grace of God

of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories
Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

It is with deep sorrow that we acknowledge the death of her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth on September 8, 2022 in her 97th year of life.

Earlier this year Queen Elizabeth celebrated the Jubilee anniversary of her reign as monarch, having served with unstinting faithfulness in her responsibilities since 1952. She presided through those years with grace and dignity, rooted in her Christian faith and with love for all the people she served.

We mourn her death and commend her to eternal life as a faithful servant.

*O God, from whom comes everything that is upright and true:
Accept our thanks for the gifts of heart and mind thou didst bestow
on thy servant Elizabeth,
And which she showed forth among us in her words and deeds;
Deal graciously we pray thee, with those who mourn,
especially the members of the Royal Family,
that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Season of Creation



Photo by [Jeremy Thomas](#) on [Unsplash](#)

This is the second week of the **Season of Creation** when we praise God for the wonders of the world around us, repent of our misuse of nature, and pray for the healing of our planet. Last Sunday you might have noticed the new Eucharistic Prayer for this season which was written for our congregation.

The final Sunday of the season of Creation, October 2, will have two special services, a **Blessing of the Animals** at the 10:30 service and a **creation-themed Evensong** at 4 pm, followed by lemonade and cookies on the forecourt. All pets are welcomed for a blessing, as long as they are properly restrained. Do invite your pet-owning friends to join us.

Healing Prayer at the Cathedral

Deborah writes:

From Biblical times, Christians have practiced the laying-on of hands and anointing with oil as a sacramental way to request divine healing. Such healing may take physical or spiritual form (for example, a cancer might go into remission or a dying person's relationships might be healed); it is our role to ask in faith, and God's to decide the form of the healing. This is different from the

offering of prayer for one another, as it involves anointing with oil which has been blessed by the Bishop for that purpose and must be performed by a priest.

Starting in September, we are going to offer healing prayer with anointing as part of our Sunday morning services. *The rite will be offered on the third Sunday of each month (starting September 18th) at 9:00 and 10:30. Anyone who wishes to receive prayers for healing of body or mind may come forward and stand at the foot of the chancel steps at the designated time, then return to their pew for the next part of the service. Prayer requests will be held confidential. (After three months, we will assess whether this is something we should continue indefinitely.) Please note that since anointing requires the one being prayed for to be present, it's not usual to ask prayers for someone else. If you desire prayer for another person, please add them to the intercessions list by e-mailing Ann Elbourne (ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca). In time past, the Cathedral has also had an intercessory prayer team, which we hope to rejuvenate as pandemic conditions allow.*

Fall Participation Poll

The next two Sundays, you will have an opportunity to fill out a survey telling the Cathedral what spiritual activities you'd be interested in participating in, and what times you would be available.

If—and only if—you are not able to fill out the poll in-person, please [click here to download the Word document](#), fill it out, and email it to Deborah at deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca by the end of the day on Sunday, September 18.

Activities Returning in Person

Several activities which have been offered on-line are moving back into the cathedral and Fulford Hall:

1. **Meditation.** Deborah writes:
*Meditation lies at the intersection of prayer and wellness: a simple form of resting in God and in yourself which has proven benefits in terms of mental focus, emotional stability, and physical health. The Cathedral offers a **Meditation Class** from 11:30 a.m. to noon on the second Tuesday of each month, starting **Tuesday, September 13th**. No experience is necessary. We will meet in the Chapel of the Reserved Sacrament (to the left of the main altar); those who like may stay for Communion or head out to lunch together. The class is led on a rotating basis by Ralph Leavitt, Vivian Lewin, and Deborah Meister.*
2. **Forum voted to have their next meeting in Fulford Hall at 12:15 on Sunday, October 16.** Light refreshments will be provided. As always, this meeting is open to all interested members of the congregation.
3. **The Last Sunday Lunch will move back into Fulford Hall on September 25.** Adrian is looking for 25 volunteers to show up at 11:30 (finishing by 1 pm) to run the food to the tables, or to sit at a table serving the food. Other smaller jobs you might consider are helping set up the tables

in Fulford Hall at 8 am., helping in the kitchen and washing the dishes in the dishwasher. Adrian asks you to consider asking your friends if they would like to join you in helping. As an inducement, all volunteers will have a chance to sample Peggy's homemade cookies!

If you would like to volunteer (or donate!) to help with the lunch, please email Adrian directly at wordbook@securenet.net

Staying online

These three activities will stay on line:

1. **Brown Bag Bible Study** returns at noon on Monday, September 12. Deborah describes it as "*a friendly, gentle conversation which examines passages of Scripture, seeking to understand both what they say and how they call us into deeper faithfulness. No preparation is necessary, but if you'd like to read ahead, we will be focusing on Luke 19: 29-46. All are welcome, and it's perfectly fine to eat your lunch during our discussion if that allows you to take part!*" Those of us who participated in the Spring found the sessions very rewarding and enjoyable. Here's the link:
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88038119606?pwd=WEIvbnBPS0plREkzSzZleDdZbkxHZz09>)
2. **The English book group** meets monthly via zoom. Our next discussion will be on Sunday, September 25 at 7 pm to talk about *Sweet Sweet Revenge Ltd* by Jonas Jonasson, "a madcap journey spanning five continents".
3. **Travel Talk** will soon be resuming its twice monthly Friday meetings, visiting some fascinating corners of the world. Next meeting TBA

Activities of the Francophone Community

Thank you to Michel Gagnon for the following announcement about activities of the francophone group starting again.

With the arrival of September and the beginning of the school year, we are back to most of our usual activities. So, after the Sunday service, we will have a coffee (hot) inside in the Undercroft (the church basement). This is an opportunity to share and get to know each other better. The coffee will usually be followed by either the Bible group *Pain, partage, prière* or a practice of the Francophone choir.

1. **Pain, partage, prière (PPP)**

As it was last year, PPPs will be held approximately every two weeks after the 9:00 a.m. service, and we will discuss upcoming scripture passages, the liturgical calendar, etc.

Once again, PPPs will be in a hybrid format, both in person in the Undercroft, and on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83767640762> (secret code: 1857).

Here are the dates of the next PPP:

Sunday, September 11, 10:10 a.m.

Sunday, September 25, 10:10 am

Sunday, October 9, 10:10 am

2. Francophone choir

After being offline for more than two years because of COVID, we will resume choir practices this September. The choir will perform at the Christmas service, but may also sing on other occasions to enrich our liturgy.

Practices will take place on Sundays after the 9:00 a.m. service and coffee, on weeks when there is no PPP.

The next choir practices will be:

Sunday, September 18, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 2, 10:30 am

Sunday, October 16, 10:30 am

3. Francophone Book Club

As leaves are turning red, the Francophone Book Club is back in business.

Our next meeting will take place on Zoom

Saturday, September 24, 2022, 4:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81373697978>

Or by phone: 438-809-7799 • Meeting ID : 813 7369 7978

We will be talking about the book *La nature de la bête* by Louise Penny.

Welcome to new and returning members!

Inviting the City into the Cathedral

This month we are participating in two city-wide events, **Religious Heritage Days** this weekend and **Les Journées de la culture** at the end of the month. Diana Bouchard is looking for volunteers to clicker-count and welcome our visitors. Please contact her at dianab@aei.ca or 514-484-4815 to volunteer.

September 30, the first day of Les Journées de la culture, is also the **National Day of Truth and Reconciliation**, and we will be commemorating it in the Cathedral under the leadership of Brenda Linn. There will be a movie and displays inside the Cathedral and drumming on the forecourt with Marg Boyle and the Eagle and Condor Collective, as well as a display of orange shirts forming a memorial for the children who were so badly hurt by the residential schools. We need a lot of shirts to make an effective display. **Please consider buying a child's orange shirt or even wearing one yourself.**

Orange Shirt Day is held every year on September 30 to honour the healing journey of residential school survivors and bring awareness to the need for reconciliation. Named after Phyllis Webstad's favourite orange shirt—taken away from her in 1973 on her first day of residential school—this day has grown from a local event in her community of Williams Lake, B.C. to a statutory holiday.

Outreach Beyond the Cathedral

We have been saddened by the terrible **floods in Pakistan**. PWRDF (The Primate's World Relief and development Fund) is organising relief. Please consider making a donation to help with this disaster. [Click here to donate now.](#)

Our Cathedral PWRDF rep is Peggy Simpson. She will be delighted to tell you about their activities both in Canada and around the world and can invite you to a meeting of the Montreal branch.

Remembering Her Majesty the Queen

The following is a statement from Justin Wellby, the Archbishop of Canterbury:

As a faithful Christian disciple, and also Supreme Governor of the Church of England, she lived out her faith every day of her life. Her trust in God and profound love for God was foundational in how she led her life – hour by hour, day by day.

In The Late Queen's life, we saw what it means to receive the gift of life we have been given by God and – through patient, humble, selfless service – share it as a gift to others.

Her Late Majesty found great joy and fulfilment in the service of her people and her God, "whose service is perfect freedom" (BCP). For giving her whole life to us, and allowing her life of service to be an instrument of God's peace among us, we owe her a debt of gratitude beyond measure.

The Late Queen leaves behind a truly extraordinary legacy: one that is found in almost every corner of our national life, as well as the lives of so many nations around the world, and especially in the Commonwealth.

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip worshipped at the cathedral in 1976, when the Queen was in Montreal to open the Olympic Games. A memorial service will be organised at Christ Church Cathedral at a date and time to be confirmed, following the State Funeral in London and Ottawa.

Wishing you all the comfort of God's love,

Ann Elbourne with special thanks to contributors, Deborah and Michel, and to Alex for producing the final Mail Chimp letter and Michel for proof-reading the French version.

September 9, 2022