



Dear Friend of the Cathedral

The letter this week and for the next 4 weeks will be shorter and simpler while Alex takes medical leave.

First a look at Lent

The way one keeps Lent is a personal decision. It often involves giving something up. Deborah urges us to take something on, particularly something which will help us to grow in love. This might include some spiritual reading. [Her list of suggested books](#) is on the website.

The newsletter of February 9 mentioned a [Lent calendar put out by Green Anglican](#), a group recommended by climate activist Bill McKibben when he visited the cathedral. Each entry relates to our environment, particularly trees and plants and gives a link to explore.

[The Montreal Chapter of PWRDF has created another kind of Lent calendar.](#) Ann Cumyn explains: "The focus of the content is those things that we have but many of our Indigenous brothers and sisters do not have." Money raised will support PWRDF's Indigenous Responsive Grants which provides grants to Indigenous communities for enhancing their communities.

If you want a pdf of this calendar, please contact Ann Elbourne (ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca) or look for a copy in church.

Here are examples for the first three days of Lent from the two calendars:

Diocesan PWRDF Lent project

Feb 23 Donate 50¢ if vaccinated against any disease, covid measles, polio, etc

Feb 24 Donate 20¢ for each computer in the house

Feb 25 Donate 10¢ for each cell phone in the household

On the same days the **Green calendar** suggests learning about the loss of forest cover, the causes of deforestation and the impacts of deforestation. Suggestions for practical actions, like growing a medicinal plant, fill some of the following days.

Jesus at the Movies: On Friday evenings, **starting February 24 at 6 pm in Fulford Hall**, join Deborah for a light meal, a movie and an interesting discussion. "All good stories resonate with God's story."

The Cathedral has signed up for **Dio's online course, Paul the Apostle** which runs during the month of March: Wednesday evenings March 1st to 29th, 2023, 7:00pm to 8:30pm. The blurb says " Almost everything we once thought we knew about Paul has been proven wrong. This class is a chance to catch up on the latest research in a fun and accessible way." For more information, [click here for course website](#).

If you would like to join in, please be in touch with Jane Aitkens (treasurer@montrealcathedral.ca).

Music at the Cathedral

Nuit blanche will be celebrated across Montreal on Saturday. Come to the Cathedral to experience beautiful music, presented by members of the Cathedral choir and by two other amazing choirs.

7-7:30 pm Compline with Gregorian Chant

8-9 pm Sapphonix

9:30-10:30 pm Earthworld

11-12 pm Sapphonix

Sadly, because of the flood in the Undercroft we have had to cancel serving hot chocolate, but our welcome will still be warm.

Compline is a short service of Night Prayer. It is mostly sung, and you will hear some of the most ancient chants of the church sung in Latin, English, and French. All are welcome to arrive early at 6:45 to learn how to sing this office.

Esther-Ruth Teel describes the **Sapphonix concert** as "featuring projections, dance, water installations, organ, and electronics. Our central theme is bodies, how we exist in queer bodies, and how we find echos of the sapphic experience in nature especially water". [More information on the concert can be found on the Oasis Facebook page.](#)

Earthworld's concert, Of Bodies, presents stories of transformation, reflected visually in projection, dance, and lighting design, and aurally through music for organ, piano, voice, and electronics.

Community Celebrations - Reminders

Last week Tom Herrmann invited people interested in **an all-ages trip to Odanak** to fill in [a very short poll](#) expressing interest and indicating preferred dates. The purpose of the trip is to learn more about the spiritual and cultural life of our Indigenous neighbours.

The English Reading Group will discuss *Jack* by Marilynne Robinson on March 5 via zoom. Jane Aitkens will send the link. (treasurer@montrealcathedral.ca)

Pastoral note: Longtime Cathedral member **Gwen Cornwall** died peacefully on February 10th. There will be a simple memorial service at the Cathedral on Wednesday, **March 1st at 2:00 p.m.** Those who knew her are welcome to attend. The service will take place at the high altar.

For details about the events mentioned in this letter, [click here](#).

Thank you to contributors Deborah and Jane, and a big tip of the hat to Danforth for formatting the letter for MailChimp. You usually see him as a verger on Sunday when he also helps Carlos run the equipment which streams our services. Thank you to Michel for the French translation. We send best wishes to Alex for a swift recovery from his operation.

Ann Elbourne

February 24, 2023

Happening This Week at the Cathedral

Click the plus button next any event title to view the detailed event page on our website. There, you'll find the Zoom links, the event livestream, location details, and more.

Saturday	
7:00 p.m.	Sung Compline for Nuit Blanche +
8:00 p.m.	Sapphonix Concert for Nuit Blanche +
9:30 p.m.	Earthworld Concert for Nuit Blanche +
11:00 p.m.	Sapphonix Concert for Nuit Blanche +
Sunday	
8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion +
9:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist in French +
10:30 a.m.	Choral Eucharist +
4:00 p.m.	Choral Evensong +
Monday	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer on Zoom +
12:00 p.m.	Brown Bag Bible Study on Zoom +
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
Tuesday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer and Bible Discussion in French on Zoom +
Wednesday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
6:00 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study and Supper with St. Martha's Chapel +
Thursday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
Friday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
6:00 p.m.	Jesus at the Movies in Fulford Hall +
Saturday	
9:00 a.m.	Observing a Holy Lent: Mini-Retreat +
2:00 p.m.	Oasis Concert: Gracie Carney +

Masks are recommended during worship services.
We have masks available for anyone who needs one.

If you are experiencing cold and flu symptoms, or if you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days, please stay home and watch our livestream instead.

[Click here to join the livestream](#)

Looking Ahead to Holy Week and Easter

Mark your calendars!

April 2 Palm Sunday	
8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion +
9:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist in French +
10:30 a.m.	Choral Eucharist +
4:00 p.m.	Choral Evensong +
6:00 p.m.	Cathedral@6 Ecumenical Eucharist +
April 3 Holy Monday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
7:30 p.m.	Sung Compline in English +
April 4 Holy Tuesday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
7:30 p.m.	Sung Compline in French +
April 5 Holy Wednesday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
7:30 p.m.	Tenebrae +
April 6 Maundy Thursday	
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
7:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Liturgy +
April 7 Good Friday	
11:00 a.m.	The Story of Good Friday +
1:00 p.m.	Good Friday Liturgy +
April 8 Holy Saturday	
7:30 p.m.	The Great Vigil of Easter +
April 9 Easter Sunday	
8:00 a.m.	Holy Communion +
9:00 a.m.	Eucharist in French with Choir +
10:30 a.m.	Choral Eucharist +
4:00 p.m.	Choral Evensong +

