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**CATHÉDRALE
CHRIST CHURCH
MONTRÉAL**

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Keeping a Holy Lent

Deborah writes:

Lent is a time when many Christians "try on" a new practice or way of prayer. There are many ways to pray, and each person will find a few which particularly suit them at this particular stage of their spiritual journey. To help you, we'll be sending you a suggestion each week which you might wish to incorporate into your own life.

Our first suggestion comes from Vivian Lewin, a Cathedral Lay Reader and a Spiritual Director licensed by the Diocese.

Spiritual Practice: Silence

Silence has many dimensions, and they are not all comfortable. If you have been told to "be quiet" you likely didn't hear a gentle invitation to explore your inner experience, or to enjoy God's intimate friendship. People on the margins, who have endured injustice and worse for too long, know the pain of voicelessness and the silence of bystanders. Yet we also come to silence as a place of pure freedom, a haven of solace and release, discovery and insight. Give yourself time this week to experience a time (or times) of willing silence in the presence of God...or in solidarity with another.

Enjoying community events in Lent

There are a number of special events being offered which you are invited to join. Many of you picked up the brochure designed by Alex. You can also [access it online](#). Three of the activities involve cooking. Space is limited and ingredients have to be bought so please register in order to secure your place. Cost \$5 each class.

Saturday, March 2, 10 am- 1 pm: Indian DalMania with Deborah

[Click here to register.](#)

Saturday, March 16, 10 am- 1 pm: European beans with the Dean

[Click here to register.](#)

Saturday, March 23 9:30 am: Hot Cross Buns with Deborah. Bring mixing bowls and a cookie sheet. Note the start time. The buns have to rise! While you're waiting, you can join the group making palm crosses.

[Click here to register.](#)

This is the final week to sign up for the Cathedral's spiritual retreat (April 19-21) before any remaining places are advertised more widely. More information can be found [by clicking here](#) or by contacting deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca. Scholarship funds are available.

Missa del Ministerio Latino



MINISTERIO LATINO IGLESIA ANGLICANA

MISA EN ESPAÑOL

el 4º sábado de cada mes a las 10:30

en la capilla de San Juan de Jerusalén de la catedral Christ Church



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DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL

¡Tenemos un nuevo ministerio en la Catedral! We have a new ministry at the Cathedral! On the fourth Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m., the Rev'd Fresia Saborio and The Rev'd Deborah Noonan will be leading a mass in Spanish in the St. John of Jerusalem Chapel.

An Arts and Crafts Event this Saturday

Krystal Tennessee will be hosting an informal arts and crafts event in the baptistry on Saturday, February 24 from 11 AM to 1 PM. With musical accompaniment from the Oasis concert rehearsal, this event will give you some time to make that card you've been meaning to or capture the beauty of the cathedral's stained-glass windows on canvas. Supplies will be provided but feel free to bring your own project, being sure that any items you bring are safe in an all-ages context. This event is open to everyone, no artistic training required, and no registration needed. Latecomers are welcome, stop by whenever you can.

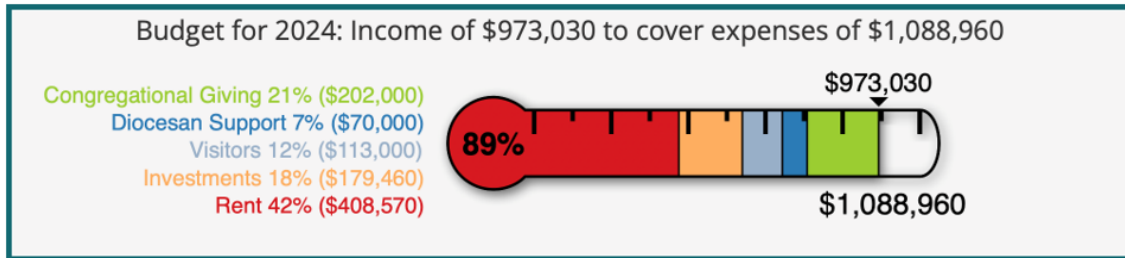
Easter Decoration Planning

Cathedral administrator Elizabeth Smith tells us that there will be a meeting on Thursday, February 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the baptistry to make plans for the church's easter decorations. All interested are welcome to attend.

Annual Vestry last Sunday

Fuelled by Peggy's cakes and other delicious snacks, this well-attended meeting approved a number of appointments, including the continuation of the current members of Corporation; James Selfe, Rector's Warden; Michele Rattray-Huish People's Warden; Diana Bouchard, Marie-Claire Fournier and Sandrine Mutoni, Deputy Wardens; and Jane Aitkens as Treasurer. The Dean presented an encouraging picture of a community which is growing and flourishing and thanked the many volunteers who contribute time, talent and enthusiasm in supporting the ministry of the Cathedral. Jane presented a financial statement showing that the Cathedral ended the year in the black, partly owing to COVID grants from the government and rental payments for Fever concerts. This year, cost of living expenses are rising, COVID grants are discontinued, and concert revenue is uncertain, so the

2024 budget shows a deficit. However, committed giving is growing. Here's a graphic from Jane.



The [event on the website](#) now contains links to the Vestry meeting papers and the Cathedral Annual Report for 2023. Details of the Spire fund-raising campaign are included. You will see that there is a shortfall of \$301 341 – remarkably low for a project of this nature --but the end is in sight for a project which began in 2015.

Remembering Forgotten Wars

Congregation member Janet Dench, who was Executive Director of the Canadian Council for Refugees until the end of 2022, has sent a plea for us to remember in our intercessions the acute humanitarian crisis in the Sudan where civil war broke out last April. More than 8 million people have been displaced, 18 million face acute hunger. However, we hear little about the catastrophe in the news. Janet writes “As part of the cathedral’s commitment to anti-racism, I hope that we can intentionally include in our prayers situations in Africa, including currently the acute needs faced by Sudanese, despite our world’s tendency to turn its back on what is happening in sub-Saharan Africa.” You can find some facts and figures [at this link](#).

Remembering Sarah Maxwell

I wonder if you have ever looked at the memorial plaque near the back of the west aisle which commemorates Sarah Maxwell, head teacher in the Hochelaga School, which was destroyed in a horrific fire in February 1907. Sarah died trying to rescue the children in her charge. Sixteen students also perished. Edward Yankie would like us to remember Sarah in our prayers for the departed. Do [follow this link](#) to read a very touching – and shocking – account of the incident.

Bill S210 – Protecting Children in the Age of the Internet

At the request of Penny Rankin, VP Children and Youth in the National Council of Women of Canada, both Bishop Mary and Dean Bertrand have signed as community leaders an open letter to the Government of Canada regarding Bill S210, an Act to restrict young persons' online access to sexually explicit material. [Here is the link to the open letter](#). They invite you to sign as well, and a specific [petition has been created](#) on change.org.

Oasis Concerts, Saturdays at 2 pm

February 24

Celebrate the brilliance of queer choral music! Choeur Maha, Chorale des Intrépides, and Choeur Adleisia are joining forces to perform an effervescent program of queer choral music.

March 2

Musicians born and raised in Hong Kong explore chamber works of Western music repertory and original contemporary works composed by Hong Kong composers.

March 9

In Opera, the most dramatic roles often include a woman's hysteria, villainy or victimhood. Today, composers endeavour for a more nuanced reflection on female experiences. This concert of songs and arias explores portrayals of women's mental health in classical music throughout history. Featuring Stephanie Sedlbauer, soprano, and Christopher Knopp, piano.

Oasis is run through audience donations. Esther-Ruth Teel suggests a donation of \$20 for adults or \$10 for students and seniors.

A date for your diary

Saturday 30th March, Holy Saturday: a morning of decorating and cleaning the church, preparing for Easter.

Thank you

A special thank you to Edward Yankie and Janet Dench for their suggestions this week, as well as to Deborah, Bertrand, Jane and Esther-Ruth for their input. Contributions from the community are always welcome. Thank you, Alex and Michel, for preparing the letter for publication.

Ann Elbourne

February 23, 2024

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	
10:30 a.m.	Misa en español <i>en la capilla de San Juan</i>
11:00 a.m.	Arts and Crafts in the Baptistry
2:00 p.m.	Oasis Concert +
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 +
11:00 a.m.	Brown Bag Bible Study +
12:15 p.m.	Eucharist +
Tuesday	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer +
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +

7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer and Bible Discussion (FR) +
Wednesday	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer +
12:15 p.m.	Eucharist +
5:15 p.m.	Taizé +
6:00 p.m.	Bible Study with St. Martha's Chaplaincy +
6:00 p.m.	René Girard Discussion In-Person
Thursday	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer +
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
3:00 p.m.	Easter Decoration Meeting <i>in the Baptistery</i>
Friday	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayer +
12:15 p.m.	Midday Eucharist +
Saturday	
10:00 a.m.	DalMania <i>pre-registration mandatory!</i> +
2:00 p.m.	Oasis Concert +

We hope you'll join us for worship
either in-person or online.

[Click here to join the livestream](#)



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