

# Quebec Diocesan Gazette

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## Une Magogoise présidera une messe francophone

Par Vincent Cliche

First published in *Le Reflet du Lac, Magog*, published with permission.

Pour la toute première fois de son histoire, l'église anglicane St-Luc de Magog tiendra une messe francophone, le 30 juillet, à 16 h. Cette dernière sera présidée par la Magogoise d'origine, Joanne Brousseau. Une belle fenêtre d'opportunité pour cette révérende.



L'idée de tenir une célébration francophone à l'intérieur de la paroisse vient justement du diocèse de Québec de l'Église anglicane. «Nous voyons cette occasion comme une ouverture d'esprit de notre religion. On reconnaît aussi que, dans notre région, les paroissiens sont de moins en moins présents aux célébrations. Comme la population magogoise est principalement composée de francophones, nous allons les inviter à assister à une messe dans leur langue. C'est une façon de maintenir les racines de l'église anglicane dans la région», partage un membre du conseil d'administration de la paroisse et fidèle paroissien, Robert Chapman.

Pour la principale intéressée, il s'agira d'un retour à Magog. «C'est un grand plaisir pour moi que de revenir dans mon patelin», s'exclame Joanne Brousseau.

Cette dernière, présentement révérende dans la paroisse de St-Jacques-Le-Grand à Thetford Mines depuis le 14 mai dernier, a terminé sa maîtrise et son BAC en théologie à l'Université de Sherbrooke. C'est grâce à ses grands-parents si, aujourd'hui, elle peut présider des célébrations. «Ce sont eux qui m'ont ouvert à cette religion. J'étais catholique, alors, et malheureusement, je ne pouvais pas vivre pleinement mon appel de Dieu», explique celle qui voulait devenir prêtre.

Joanne Brousseau a aussi suivi de très près la cérémonie d'ordination de neuf femmes qui deviendront prêtres. Celle-ci a eu lieu le 25 juillet dernier en eaux internationales, là où aucune autorité n'a le droit d'intervenir. «Je souhaite qu'un jour j'aie des collègues féminines qui ont le même titre que moi au sein de l'Église catholique romaine. Ce serait une joie de partager une telle profession avec elles.»

C'est donc dans un esprit œcuménique, c'est-à-dire où les traditions religieuses se rencontrent, que la révérende Joanne Brousseau présidera une cérémonie francophone à l'église anglicane St. Luke. «J'invite tous les gens, peu importe leur religion, à venir assister à cette messe. Et, qui sait, si la célébration est un succès, peut-être y en aura-t-il d'autres pour mieux accommoder les francophones?»

## Open Doors at

### Baie-Comeau

By Stephen Kohner, Lay Incumbent

Thanks in large part to a Deanery grant and a Federal government summer student employment grant (HRDC), the Church of St. Andrew & St. George has had a summer filled with unique opportunities to open its doors to the community.

Kenneth MacIntosh was employed over the course of six weeks as tour guide and church custodian. The HRDC grant provided the church with sufficient funds enabling him to welcome visitors to the church and provide



Parishioner Kenneth MacIntosh greeted visitors this summer. This is the fourth consecutive year the church has been able to hire a student guide

By Christian Schreiner

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and all Judea and Samaria, in Winnipeg, Montreal, Vancouver, Toronto, on the farms in Saskatchewan, the ranches of Alberta, the foothills, the Rockies, at Niagara Falls, on the lakes, rivers and in the forests of the North, in the Arctic, the cities of the prairies, in Gaspé, on Vancouver Island, at the Bay of Fundy, in Halifax and throughout this land, to the south, across the Pacific and over the Atlantic, and unto the ends of the earth.*

## St Luke's, Magog offers Holy Eucharist in French

By Fred Richardson

A historic first for Magog's Church of St. Luke. On July 30, the first Anglican Francophone Service of Holy Eucharist was celebrated at the Church of St. Luke (in its 131st year of consecration) by the Reverend Joanne Brousseau, Incumbent of St. James the Greater, Thetford Mines consisting of seven parishes in the Deanery of St. Laurent.

Reverend Brousseau is a native of Magog and has assisted in the Deanery of St. Francis at St. Luke's, St. Peter's, Sherbrooke and at St Mark's Chapel on the Bishop's University/Champlain College campus. The readings were by Miss Julie Lavigne and the Reverend Fred Richardson, Incumbent of St. Luke's, with Mr. Réal Breton, organist.

There were 58 present at this historic event. To honour this event a reception by the Parish of St. Luke was held in the Church Hall. Future Francophone Services of Holy Eucharist will be held at St. Luke's, Magog on Saturdays at 4 p.m. on August 27; September 24; October 22; November 19 and December 17. All are welcome.

a 15-minute tour, highlighting the rich contribution of the church to the community and show off its Tudor-style architecture and impressive stained-glass windows.

The Deanery grant was used to re-paint the church hall floor, provide the funds for promotion-related materials, the cost of belonging to the North Shore tourism Association, and expenses related to the summer concert series. As the church increasingly opens its doors to the community, the building must meet municipal building codes and requires much more maintenance than in previous years. The deanery grant, hence, has helped to meet some of these expenses and ensure the church grows in its community outreach initiatives.

For the second year in a row,

## ELCIC Tenth Biennial Convention

With these words still echoing in the minds, the delegates, visitors and guests of the Tenth Biennial Convention departed from the room that had served as their meeting place and now had been transformed into their place of worship for their last hours together.

To me, the closing ceremony was a service of exceptional beauty, and I had the great honour to serve as chaplain to Bishop Mark S. Hanson, the President of the Lutheran World Federation and Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the United States, who preached an absolutely amazing sermon.

In between the Opening Service on Thursday and the Closing Ceremony on Sunday, the Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), that took place on the Campus of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, was dominated by the issue of the blessing of same-sex unions. I was impressed by the atmosphere of respect for each other, especially in the "listening circles" on Friday afternoon. Everyone could talk about his/her feelings, concerns and fears without being attacked by others. I can just hope for a similar culture at our own Synod in October!

On Saturday, after much thoughtful, considerate and re-

spectful discussion, reflection and prayer the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) voted to defeat a motion to allow a local option for pastors to perform blessings for same-sex couples. Of the 408 votes cast five ballots were spoiled, 183 voted yes and 220 voted no.

Another point of the Business Agenda was the Election of the National Bishop. The Delegates reaffirmed the leadership of current National Bishop Raymond Schultz as they re-elected him on the third ballot.

This will be Bishop Schultz's second term in office. In a speech immediately following the announcement of the election, the bishop accepted the election results and expressed that he was "hopeful about the church and encouraged." Throughout the convention the bishop has asked delegates to reflect on the theme of the convention, In Mission for Others, and in his post-election comments Bishop Schultz went further to say that the "church body is gifted with people who have enthusiasm and creativity."

Now that the Delegates' work as convention is over, their work as church begins again. The convention message calls the ELCIC as well as us as their partners out into the world as faithful witness, to bring the good news by our presence and our lives to those who need it most.

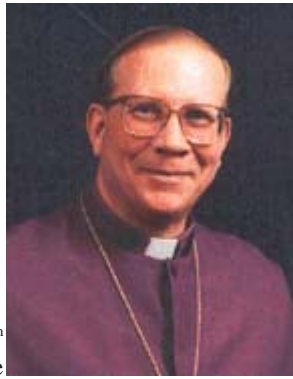
the church hosted a number of performing artists as part of the ROSEQ series. A local group of young performers started off the season on July 8th and 9th with a home-grown musical smorgasbord, followed up on July 22nd with an outstanding performance by Marie-Thérèse Fortin singing the repertoire of "Barbara", a renowned French singer. Richard Petit was forced to cancel his show due to personal reasons, but the remaining three shows by Catherine Major, Dumas, and Polémil Bazar performed to sold-out audiences. The collaboration between the local Salle de Spectacle and the church has certainly benefited everyone and the church has gained an amazing amount of positive public exposure.

The church was fortunate to

have received a landscape plan in the summer of 2002. Since then, we have been able to use funds raised from our annual plant sale to enhance the beauty of the church. Each year, a particular aspect of the plan is put into place. This summer, the window boxes brimmed with flowers, grass seed was sown in one particular area. The rear of the church benefited from new crushed gravel being spread to help dissipate the precipitation that falls from the roof. The area is now protected and has given it a clean, inviting look to an area that was somewhat of an eye-sore.

We are looking forward to hosting a one-week teen day camp in mid-August, sponsored by the Diocesan Programme Committee and the Deanery of the North Shore. You'll be able to read about this in next month's edition of the Quebec Diocesan Gazette.

## From the Bishop's desk:



Dear Friends:

In a little over a month the 79<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Synod of The Diocese of Quebec will be meeting at Lac Beauport near Quebec City. The Synod meets from Thursday, October 13 to Sunday, October 16. I am grateful to the Synod Planning Committee under the direction of Dean Walter Raymond for the work which has gone into the preparation of this years Synod.

I like to think of Synod – which meets every two years – as a family gathering. It brings together representatives of every congregation of our enormous diocese if everyone is present. It is the governing body of the diocese so it has an important function in making decisions about finances and monitoring and adjusting from time to time the rules and regulations of our family life together which we call the canon law of the diocese. Synod also elects people to boards and committees and other synods at the provincial and national levels of our church.

The life of a meeting of Synod, however, is not all budgets, canons and elections. There is an important social dimension to the meeting and opportunity to meet people and hear and learn about church life in a variety of places across our culturally and geographically diverse diocese.

Then not only do we meet together but we also worship together. Our worship is a central part of any synod meeting. The meeting opens and closes with celebrations of the Eucharist and there is daily worship and bible study.

Normally Synod also has one or two themes or subjects for study and discussion often with a keynote guest speaker or presenter.

Two important subjects will be considered at next month's Synod.

First, a guest from the Episcopal Church in the United States will lead us in discussion about the ministry of small churches. He will give three addresses and there will be workshops on the subject of Tools for Small Church Ministry.

Secondly, there will be some discussion of the whole area of human sexuality and where the Anglican Communion and our own church are in the ongoing struggle around issues of sexuality and division of opinion. This may not be a subject area that leaps to mind as the most exciting or interesting but it is something we must address as a diocese. We as a diocese have had almost no formal addressing of these issues and now we are formally required to at the request of General Synod.

Two things will happen. Two major reports, one of the Anglican Communion and one of the Anglican Church of Canada will be presented and there will be discussion. Second we will formally launch a diocesan consultation concerning human sexuality which will likely happen regionally in the Diocese over the next year or more.

All of that is a tall order. I ask you to pray for the last minute planning for Synod still to take place. I hope all who are elected as delegates to Synod will be able to be present. Please pray for your delegate or delegates. I hope each Deanery very shortly will be identifying two youth delegates to come to Synod – that is youth between the ages of 16 and 26.

I look forward eagerly to Synod next month. It will be a great gathering – truly the diocesan family at prayer, at work and “walking together” which is the meaning of the word Synod.

+Bruce

### Archbishop's Calendar September

September 8 – 11	Episcopal Election	Gander, Nfld.
September 14	Ordination as Deacon of Randy Murray	Toronto
September 20 – 25	Provincial House of Bishops and Provincial Council	Rocky Harbour, Nfld.
September 28 – October 4	Council of the North	Split Lake, Manitoba
October 5	St. Francis Renewing Ministry Steering Committee	Lennoxville

## Update on Residential Schools Settlement Fund

By Dr. Ellie Johnson, Acting General Secretary and Archdeacon Jim Boyles, Consultant on Residential Schools

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, the Anglican Church of Canada will mark the half way point in our five year commitment to raise \$25 million to compensate victims of physical or sexual abuse at Anglican run Indian Residential schools.

The Fund has already received just over \$15 million. Seven dioceses have paid their commitment in full, and the other 23 are right on target. The Diocese of Quebec paid its entire commitment of \$135,000 upfront. The Anglican Church of Canada wants to express our thanks to all the faithful donors in the Diocese of Quebec, and to every Anglican across our church who has offered support. This is truly an amazing accomplishment that has allowed us to pay out \$5.2M in compensation to approximately 200 victims of abuse

Meanwhile, as Anglicans do their part, and in fact, show leader-

ship in this work, the government continues with its ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) program. There has been heavy criticism in parliament and elsewhere about the costs of this program, but it is working, claimants are being heard, impartial adjudicators are making awards, and the government and churches are contributing. People's lives are being turned around as this formal process of acknowledgement lifts a heavy weight from their hearts. So far, hearings for claimants who attended Anglican-related schools have been held in several of our western dioceses. In most cases the local diocese has been able to arrange to have a church representative attend in a supportive and listening role. These efforts too are much appreciated.

Now, the government and the Assembly of First Nations have agreed to work towards a lump sum payment to all former

students of the schools, in recognition of the systemic damage done to their lives, particularly in the loss of language and culture. It is too soon yet to know the details of this program or how it might affect our Settlement Agreement. We are monitoring the negotiations being undertaken by Mr. Justice Frank Iacobucci who was appointed by the government to resolve the many issues that are faced. The government continues to struggle with over 12,000 lawsuits, and it is estimated that there are approximately 87,000 former students of the schools still alive.

Meanwhile the Anglican Church continues with its on-the-ground healing work, through its 225 indigenous parishes across the country, through a number of urban ministries, and through General Synod's national healing fund that last year made grants of just over \$350,000 to local groups for healing projects.



The above photo pictures members of Trinity Church, Ste. Foy Anglican Church Women at the Mission House at the Port of Quebec. The members were invited by a volunteer at the Port, Miss Eileen McLaughlin, to hold their June meeting at the Mission House. After the business meeting a pot luck luncheon was enjoyed by the members. Submitted by Joan Gibb.

### Quebec Diocesan Gazette

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## Installation du Révérend Claude Lamarre dans la paroisse St-Stephen de Grand-Mère et M. Hugo Lemay, reçu comme ministre laïque, le 5 juin 2005



M. Jean-Pierre Paquet, curé de la paroisse catholique romaine St-Jean Baptiste de Grand-Mère, M. Hugo Lemay, reçu comme ministre laïque, Mgr Bruce Stavert, Archevêque de Québec, le Révérend Claude Lamarre installé comme pasteur de la paroisse St-Stephen de Grand-Mère, le Révérend Chanoine Pierre Voyer, pasteur de la paroisse de Tous les Saints de Québec, la Révérende Joanne Brousseau, pasteur de la paroisse St James the Greater de Thetford Mines, et le Révérend Frederick Richardson, incumbent à Magog

## Summertime and the music is ...

### wonderful

By Keith Boeckner

In April my wife and I were visiting her mother in Walkerton (Yes, that Walkerton!) and she mentioned that someone called Canada's Singing Priest was giving a performance at the Anglican church. Would we like to go? We thought it sounded interesting so we called up and reserved

tickets.

The concert was very enjoyable and upbeat so during the intermission, we spoke with Father Mark Curtis, saying that he should come to Quebec City sometime. Well, sometime turned out to be sooner than we had expected.



people who regularly attend his concerts.

He suggested July 15, at the close of his tour which began in Montreal, went through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and would then end with his first performance in Quebec City.

Father Mark has a wonderful tenor voice, which lends itself to traditional music, church hymns and Broadway showtunes. He has a wonderful sense of humour, no doubt honed while touring in his early performing days with the likes of Red Skelton. And he has a deep faith, as evident in his stories of Christian life and a call to rise to the challenges of being a Christian in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The group of parishioners, locals and tourists who gathered at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on the Sunday evening of July 15 thoroughly enjoyed the concert. We were entertained with wonderful music and encouraged in our journey of faith. Music selections included old favourites such as *How Great Thou Art* and *Bringing in the Sheaves*, as well as some of Father Mark's own compositions, including *The Angels Still Sing*.

We're sure this won't be Father Mark's last visit, and next time, maybe we can fill the church with the 200 to 300

## James Quirk inducted into the parish of Waterville, North Hatley and Eustis as well as four youth from St John's, Waterville confirmed



Father James Quirk, newly inducted into the parish, along with the four confirmation candidates: Amanda Nichols, Courtney Nichols, Ben Nichols, Jesse Nichols. Servers were Jessica Ross (who is hidden in the picture, as is the Rev. Ruth Charleau), and Lisa Nichols. Archbishop Bruce and his Chaplain: Robert Monk and visiting clergy: Rev. Fred Richardson. Photo T. Matthews

By Ruth Charleau

Trinity Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Archbishop Stavert was welcomed at St. Barnabas Church where he presided over the Induction of Father James Quirk as Incumbent of the Parish of St. John's, Waterville, St. Barnabas, North Hatley, and Christ Church, Eutis.

Father James came to the parish in September 2004 along with his wife Marnie and their two daughters Madeleine and Flora. (They had a third child in July. Congratulations James and Marnie!!)

The Archbishop also confirmed four young people from St. John's. The confirmands were

Amanda Nichols, Courtney Nichols, Ben Nichols and Jesse Nichols. They were prepared by Deacon Ruth Charleau for this important occasion when they took responsibility for the vows that were made for them on their behalf at their Baptism.

Assisting at the Service were: Kathy Stafford, Layreader; Joy Chandler as organist; our choir; Robert Monk as the Archbishop's Chaplain, Jessica Ross and Lisa Nichols as Servers and Beverly Dame as Chalice bearer.

Following the Eucharist a lovely reception was put on by the Ladies Fellowship and was arranged by Barbara Allatt, one of the Wardens at St. Barnabas.

## A Heritage Church

By Graham Jackson  
Lay Incumbent

Once again this year on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> 48 souls gathered in the deserted village of Halesboro, located 9 kilometers north of Portneuf on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence, to honour their ancestors in this little church on the hill, Christ Church, Halesboro. A lovely service of evensong was held and the con-

gregation came from such places as Montreal, Quebec City, Three-Rivers, St. Raymond, Ste-Foy, Lac Beauport, Loretteville and even Massachusetts in the USA.

Betty Jess of Portneuf, a descendant of the early families, was the prime organizer of the special annual event and she always assures that this sturdy wooden building is ready for worship. Betty was assisted by Lawrence Christopher who provided the music for the hymns and the readers were Glenn Marcotte and Molly Richard, both of Portneuf. The lessons were taken from Sirach 44: 1-14 and St. Matthews: 1-14.

During the sermon people were invited to tell of their relationship to the early settlers of this village. Their grandparents and great-grandparents are buried in the well kept cemetery which surrounds the church along with the graves of soldiers who settled in Canada after completing their terms of service under Governor James Murray in the late 1700's. A number of those attending told us of their family history and mentioned such family names as: Jess, Meehan, Hale, Bonalie, Gilpin, Kingsborough, Burns, Adeock and McLeod.

Christ Church, Halesboro was built in 1842 and when the elementary school nearby was destroyed by fire in 1868, classes were continued in the basement of the church. It was built for the glory of God and the education of his children and remains a source of pride to all who live in the municipality of Portneuf.

As that children's hand game goes: "Here is the church and here is the steeple" [photo on left] "and here we see all the people." [below - two photos combined into one to show the congregation] photos by Graham Jackson



## Nuggets from the past

Compiled from past issues of the *Diocesan Gazette* by Dr. M.E. Reisner, *Diocesan Historian*

The **Quebec Diocesan Gazette** has long had a tradition of printing news from the regions. In 1905, the June issue carried a page and a half featuring various happenings in three of the country parishes, but the most interesting by far that month came from the Gaspé, written by the Rev. George Radley Walters, who, as readers of the **Gazette** would have been aware, had lost his wife a short time before to "a long painful illness":

"A successful sale of work, prepared by the Guild, in connection with St Peter's Church, Malbaie, being the work of last summer, over which my late dear wife presided, and whose place is now being zealously taken by my daughter, assisted by the lady members of the Guild, was held a short time since, in the Church Hall, and was well patronized, the proceeds being for paying for the papering of the Parsonage, which was done before the Clergyman [himself] occupied it, and also towards the insurance of the Church Edifice. Sufficient was raised to pay all expenses."

As Emily Sophia Radley Walters' obituary (in the January issue of the **Gazette**) had stated, the erection of the new parsonage, described as "a model of a good, suitable country and seaside house," had been the focus of her particular care. The recent completion of the parsonage toward which she had worked so hard, made her death so much the more poignant. All who knew her, her memorialist states, "recognised what a blessing it must be for a Clergyman to have such a bright and real helpmate."

Born herself into a clerical family (her father was the Rev. Joseph DeMouilpied) Emily Sophia would have been well aware of the responsibilities and cares of a clergy-wife in channeling the energies of the parish women. Her daughter Winifred was obviously committed to following her footsteps.

"I would beg to thank all those who assisted to make the sale so successful," Radley Walters continues, "and trust that the Guild again formed will work as zealously for a further sale for funds to do a much needed work here ..."

I would thank also the merchants of the place for their kind

and liberal donations to the Guild."

It would seem that the Guild had fallen into a period of inactivity, perhaps in the months following Emily Sophia's death, and had re-formed to organize the recent sale.

Other means for supporting efforts for fund raising came soon afterwards from the younger members of the parish:

"This sale was followed a short time after by a most successful concert gotten up by the young people of the place and was very much appreciated, all who took part being several times encored."

Then as now the importance of thanking individuals was well understood by the rector:

"I cannot refrain from mentioning the kind assistance given us by the family of Mrs Thos Tapp of Barachois. Miss Tapp presided at the piano throughout the evening and did all the accompanying, while her sister and brothers received much applause."

To Mr Gordon Varden and Mr James LeMarquand all credit is due for being chiefly interested in getting up the entertainment, and thanks are due to Mr Varden for much pains in preparing the Hall and other individual assistance rendered so ably and freely. Also to Mrs Thomas Varden for all her trouble and interest, without which the evening would not have been so successful."

The Miss Tapp mentioned would no doubt have been the eldest Tapp daughter, and Mr Varden (as opposed to Gordon and Thomas Varden) would probably have been either the senior brother or, more likely, a member of the older generation, whether father or uncle to those named.

The organizers of what seems to have been a most successful evening had the added pleasure of bringing the small community together as well as supporting the drive for necessary parish funds.

"May we not hope," Radley Walters concludes, "to have more such pleasant entertainments which cannot fail to do good? To each and every one who sang, recited, or played in the farces, would I tender my hearty thanks, and say to them all — well done."

### Call for nominations

The Diocesan Synod in October will elect fifteen members to the Diocesan Executive Council, four new members to the Programme Committee, two members to the Gazette Board as well as delegates to the Provincial and General Synods. While the majority of these are open only to synod members — that is delegates who attend synod — the Gazette Board and Programme Committee do have members who are not synod members. Deadline for applications is Friday October 7, 2005. Further information and forms can be obtained from Church House, synodoffice@quebec.anglican.ca or James Sweeny, Chair of the Nominating Committee, jsweeny@abacom.com

## Word from Michaelgarth

By Mia Anderson

I won't ask you 'How is a raven like a writing desk?' That belongs to *Alice in Wonderland* and that was last year, here at Michaelgarth. But I will ask you 'How is a Buddhist like an Anglican?' — and I have one answer. You may find others. Mine is: give them a bell, a bowl or a gong and they will work it into the liturgy.

On June 18, as close this year to midsummer's eve as we could accommodate the booking, the Pagode de Beauport spent the afternoon and evening around us, doing walking meditation (also in the cemetery, with great beauty, they *and* it), then having a semi-silent picnic meal together, then filling the church to hear the venerable Vietnamese monk from Montreal, Chan Hoi, and the far less venerable rector of St Michael's share an evening of animated meditation.

I mean that in both senses. There was laughter, there was to-ing and fro-ing, a hip-bumping alleluia, a ritual of hand-washing using the baptismal font with not a single soul failing to participate.

People flowed into active roles where they saw a need — this one took the water urn, that one another towel — and the Schola Scandicus accompanied the water-walk with their Gregorian chant. But there were also our reflections on prayer and on peace, offered turn and turn about.

All forms of bells were rung at some point or other, but if you haven't heard a Tibetan bowl (standing about 2½' high) then you are missing an extraordinary experience. They were kind enough to leave it for our Sunday morning service where we found several excuses to introduce it into the eucharist, including marking the end of the sermon, which happened to be being given by visitor Pastor Christian Schreiner that day.

When Serge started to move towards the bowl at the back, Christian hallooed that he was about to be rung out of church before he'd finished — sort of like the stage-hook when a comic in a vaudeville act won't leave the stage. None of which was true, of course, in Christian's case, but it made for a lot of laughter.

Both Church and Pagode discovered such a twinning of their approach to prayer, to solemnity with levity, to silence and simplest of sounds, that we are convinced we are meant to do this again. We envision next Pentecost, when that Feast of Tongues would seem to be most appropriate for two traditions finding ways of talking together. Some of them now regularly come and walk the labyrinth.

We had begun by then to hold our coffee hour, which at St Michael's lasts as long as the ser-



vice, out in the Quiet Garden.

On the last day of July we held the first of the season's outdoor eucharists, also in the Quiet Garden. The skilled ministry of a parishioner meant that coffee turned into catered lunch, a wise idea for those who were staying for the afternoon's Quiet Garden event. This was an inauguration for us — I think in fact for Québec city — and God's weather could not have been more benign for the whole day.

The "event" referred to was another guided meditation, but very much, well, *quieter*, than the Buddhist evening. But for all that, there were definite similarities, a contemplative aspect to each, and a great peace upon all.

At the end of this mini-retreat, the archbishop having arrived, we held a ceremony of consecration of the outdoor altar which got duly dedicated to St Francis. It was, after all, built for the diocesan synod held in the St Francis Deanery, and it was then used here in the garden for last year's Blessing of the Animals on St Francis' Day. That will happen again this year on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, but the now-utterly-blessed altar will be used for the rest of the summer as often as the weather permits.

As Archbishop Bruce said, if this altar isn't consecrated now, it won't be for want of trying! — the ritual had held rather a lot of solemnity of gesture, purple patches of prayer and varieties of sensuous significance. Water was blessed, then the altar was signed with a cross

of virgin soap chips (well, there's virgin olive oil...), washed with a new sponge, wiped with a new towel, asperged with hyssop from the labyrinth, and the assembly duly asperged too. Four wood crosses at each corner and a large one in the centre were chrismated. The altar was incensed by the archbishop. The altar cloth was laid on. The candles were lit by the archbishop from a white candle.

You can imagine that many prayers and invocations accompanied all this, and Psalm 84 was recited. Some Taizé chant was sung. But hey, we had more refreshments of a most spiritual kind waiting for us for after, so we didn't sing each chant more than 3 times.

Last January we had held a weekend workshop that fired people's imaginations concerning the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*, including the «other diocese de Québec» and the local Montessori School. The Feast of Michaelmas this year will usher in the training of catechists here for the *Catechesis* from the Thursday of September 29 at 5:00 pm through all day Friday and all day Saturday.

This is the first of three stages of preparation of those who will then be able to present this Montessori-inspired method, designed for (first of all) 3-to-6-year-olds. I have received the formation already from the U.S., and have briefly had an "Atrium" (as it's called) running, but here at Michaelmas we are introducing it in French.

That's new — the complete resources do not yet exist anywhere in francophonie, though founded in nearby Italy and widespread in North and South America, and now in Germany. We are preparing them. St Michael's is trail-blazing.

Pray for us, please.

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