



Gazette

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A Unique Benefit Concert Resounded at St. Michael's in Sillery

Article and photos by
Anne Martineau

Last September 29th, organists, a saxophonist, acrobats and dancers performed in an unusual benefit concert that took place at St. Michael's Church in Sillery as a fundraiser for the church. Most would agree that it was basically an organ concert with a creative twist. The two church organists, Irène Brisson, from St. Michael's and Jean-Charles Castilloux, from Saint-Charles-Garnier Church were accompanied by internationally-known saxophonist Claude Brisson, from the Conservatoire de musique de Québec. The organ played on was a seven stops 1910 Casavant Frères pipe organ, located in the back of the church.

The benefit concert was made possible thanks to the work of many. Kudos go to Irène Brisson, who was responsible for the musical program as well as being the organizer of the concert. Parishioners helped in many different ways, one of them being Mary Robertson who contributed by managing logistics.

The musicians and other performers gave generously of their time and talents, as volunteers and not counting the many hours of practice required.

In addition, Anne May Sirois, a local entrepreneur in circus management, provided valuable input to the concert in making necessary arrangements with the Cirque du Soleil artists. The three acrobats

(Sania Quirion, Jean François Robitaille, Timothé Vincent) rose to the challenge of performing individual improvisations to some of the pieces in the program in the front of the church. Other friends of the church were professionally-trained dancers Christine Simard and Renou Aaron Benteau, who did the slow tango down the main aisle to other numbers.

The concert featured a varied range of works from classical to modern, including some that were written for the organ, such as Bach's Prelude in C Major, Pachelbel's Ricercare in C Minor, and two compositions by Canadian Healey Willan. Others were transcribed music for the organ, by Handel, for example, Aria in F major and Gavotte in G major. On a more modern note were Ennio Morricone's Gabriel's Oboe and Astor Piazzolla's Oblivion, both lyrical and haunting, written for the cinema and well-known in our time.

The concert can be seen as a success from several points of view. It was very well-attended by parishioners and newcomers, who nearly filled the church. Financial goals were reached, the proceeds of which will benefit St. Michael's.



Cirque du Soleil's Sania Quirion executes hand balancing on canes

After the music ended, refreshments were available. Judging by the many members of the audience who lingered for a good while, in lively exchanges, with friends and

performers in the afterglow of the evening, they had enjoyed themselves. It is hoped that some of the non-parishioners will be inspired to return to the church.



From left to right, Renou Aaron Benteau, Christine Simard, Timothé Vincent, Jean-François Robitaille, Irène Brisson, Sania Quirion, Claude Quirion, Jean-Charles Castilloux

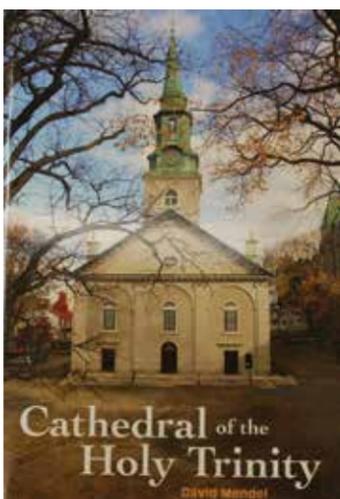
Cathedral honoured



The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity was awarded the Prix d'excellence for two projects which are part of the new visibility program focusing on the history and unique heritage of the Cathedral. The permanent exhibition The King's Gift displays the wealth of objects donated by King George III to the Cathedral during its

construction in 1804. Most of these had been locked away and only brought out for special occasions over the past 212 years. (photo on page 2)

The award was presented by the Conseil du patrimoine religieux du Québec during a Gala evening to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Conseil. There were eight projects nominated in the "Mise en Valeur" category



from across the province. The jury emphasized the successful integration of the exhibition space inside the cathedral. They also noted that the new "souvenir book of the cathedral is also a remarkable synthesis of history, architecture and valuable art objects found there. The author David Mendel was able to offer a versatile book, accessible, practical and beautifully made."

Tommy Byrne, Project manager for the Cathedral, accepted the award on behalf of the Cathedral. This award highlights the work the Cathedral

has been doing to increase the knowledge and use of the building by both tourists to Quebec and the local inhabitants.



Denis Charpentier, diocesan Bursar, Diocèse de Saint-Hyacinthe and member of the jury; Patrick Turmel, vice-président associé Banque Nationale; Tommy Byrne, Cathedral Project Manager

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Friends:

By the time you receive this Letter, Synod will have happened and a new bishop will have been elected who in time will become the 13th Lord Bishop of Quebec. I thought I would put into theological context some of what we must consider as we move forward as a diocesan family.

The Road to Emmaus passage from the writer of the Gospel of Luke teaches us that as we move forward in our journey of Faith; we, like the early disciples, are always accompanied by the presence of Our Lord. He is in our midst. And we who continue Jesus' mission, offer to humanity the possibility of walking on a path that takes us towards salvation.

The disciples are found walking on the Road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They are upset and distraught about what they have heard has happened there. They are confused and yearn to understand what it all means. Into this situation enters Jesus who listens to their concerns and confusion and reveals through words and actions, a way to make sense of the various parts.

However, it is the manner in which Jesus teaches them which is of pivotal importance. Like all good teachers he listens, then asks questions and after, he challenges them

'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

The disciples are so taken by his words and explanation that they urge Jesus to stay longer that they might have the opportunity to continue in his presence. 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them.

As in all such human interactions they paused to rest and to eat; and we read: When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us* while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' Clearly, the key point is found in the act of seeking to know Jesus.

Early Christians were well aware that faith seeks understanding. And if "the Way" was to continue to draw people into a relationship with Jesus there had to be a model or pattern that would help the process of evangelization. That model or pattern is found more clearly later on in Acts 2: 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

This pattern comes directly from the passage of the Road to Emmaus. Jesus taught them. Then Jesus stayed with them to commune. During which he prayed and broke bread.

I believe these four elements are the pillars that support God's Mission to share the Gospel and to transform the world. The measure of how effective we will be in that mission will be seen in how boldly we are willing to proclaim the Good News and how creative we will be in renewing our message of new Life. It is not enough to believe that the Gospel is relevant to our own Age. The relevance of the Church must be measured in how effectively it can transform the lives of people and incorporate them into the household of Faith. Effectively sharing the Living Word of God is an essential part of bringing in God's Reign.

Faithfully yours,

+ Dennis Rainville



A view into part of the permanent exhibition of the King's Gifts displayed in the Cathedral



May you have the gift of faith,
the blessing of hope
and the peace of His love
at Christmas and always.



Best Wishes this Christmas and in 2016

From

Bishop Dennis and Cynthia
Garth, Marie-Sol, Sherry
Emma, Marie-Eve & Jim



National Stewardship Gathering

By Jennifer Patterson

In September of this year I was fortunate to attend a stewardship conference in Toronto sponsored by the Anglican Church of Canada. Organizers of this gathering were delighted that there was representation from all but four of the Anglican dioceses across Canada. Although sponsored by the Anglican Church of Canada, we also heard from representatives of the Lutheran, United and Episcopal churches.

For me it was a truly energizing and inspirational experience.

Over the two day period, presentations & discussions focused on three main tasks of the stewardship campaign. These tasks were to:

Inspire: We learned the importance of "telling our story" (When was the last time you bragged about your church?); sharing our own stories of "why I give"; showing images/ pictures of our faith in action; using

a narrative budget to better communicate how our vision, values and ministry are linked with financial priorities of our congregation. The purpose of these activities being to inspire generosity, giving and ways of living our faith.

Ask: The next part of a congregational giving program is to ask and invite others to join in contributing to God's mission in terms of their time, talents, and treasures. Remember that you are not asking for yourself but for the church so it can fulfill its mission.

When you are proud of the work your church is doing, it is easy to ask for money.

Thank: The value of thanking and acknowledging gifts in a timely, sincere and personal fashion was stressed. We were reminded to thank often and creatively as a way of strengthening relationships. One of the organizers of this event was Susan Graham Walker, who has been invited to lead a stewardship workshop during the clergy conference to be held in November.

 Gazette

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Jim Sweeny
Editor

Guylaine Caron
Translator

Roy Stinson
Chair of The Gazette Board

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The mandate of *The Gazette* shall be to serve as a means of encouragement, communication, and community building among the regions of the diocese, with special emphasis on regional activities and matters of concern for both laity and clergy. It shall provide an opportunity for the bishop to address the people of the diocese directly and seek to cover items from outside the diocese that bear on its corporate life. *The Gazette* shall provide a channel for information and a forum for discussion, shall be encouraged to express a wide range of opinion within the diocese, and shall enjoy editorial independence. (Canon 22 of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec)

Editorial and advertising enquiries, as well as letters to the editor, should be directed to:

editor@quebec.anglican.ca

The Editor
The Gazette
P. O. Box 495
Waterville (Québec)
JOB 3H0
(819) 571-4045

Doing Advent and Christmas differently

By **Rev. Chris Brouillard-Coyle**

The Christmas season is approaching. Stores began to put out their displays in September, promising that this year Christmas can be bigger and better if only we purchase a new set of lights or animated decoration.

Shop, shop, shop. Spend, spend, spend. Work, work, work. Party, party, party.

Through commercials, displays and television specials, we are given a clear picture of what makes the perfect Christmas.

But is it a vision consistent with our most precious memories of Christmas?

How much do we enjoy the pressures associated with the heavily commercialized Christmas ideal? Do we really

find meaning in getting Uncle Fred one more tie he doesn't need? Does that gift card for our co-worker strengthen our relationship with them? When January comes, do we find ourselves overwhelmed by all that we spent?

What does it really take to make our Christmas special? Think back. Be honest with yourself. How many gifts can you name from last Christmas? What does it say about these exchanges if there is much we don't remember less than a year later?

What might it look like to spend less and be more intentional in what we buy? What might it look like to share more of our time and talents as gifts? How might spending less affect our outlook come January?

Can spending less lead to giving more of our time and tal-



Graphic: Advent Conspiracy

ent for those about whom we care and those who may need to experience the wonder of Christmas in a new way? Can we rephrase our understanding of giving this Christmas?

Perhaps by keeping our focus on the reason for the season — the gift of God with us through a baby laid in a manger — we can find a renewed sense of wonder and joy in the season. Forget the beautified visions we find on cards and in movies. This was as messy as it gets and yet this

is how God chooses to be with us — in the mess of life.

It begins and ends with love. God's love in Creation. God's love made flesh. God's love in life, death, and resurrection. God's love in the eternal life-giving Spirit. This is the love we are called to share through this blessed season and every day.

Spend less, give more, worship fully, and love all. These themes provide the foundation for the first Social Justice

Huron Advent calendar (below). Drawing from the work of Advent Conspiracy (advent-conspiracy.org), we invite you to conspire with us in an effort to do Advent and Christmas differently by clicking here for our Advent Calendar.

We hope this journey will help you reflect on what is truly important not only at this time, but also throughout the year. May you find in your Advent journey the grace, wonder and hope needed to truly embrace the joy of Christmas morning.

Rev. Chris Brouillard-Coyle is co-chair of Social Justice Huron.

This article and the calendar first ran in the Huron Church News and is published here with permission.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 29 Spend Less: How can we change our habits so that gift buying and giving becomes more meaningful?	30 Buy a goat or support the Council of the North. Check out your favorite charities for gifts that give twice.	Dec 1 Consider giving the promise of time - dinner, a movie, a game of golf or other experience can be very meaningful for the giver and receiver.	2 Do you bake, sew or garden? Are you good at building or fixing things? Who might appreciate these talents?	3 Know someone who needs a little help? How about giving coupons for free babysitting, meals, shovelling snow or mowing lawns.	4 Check out a local craft fair, farmers market and support artisans and farmers.	5 Share a special memory: make a photo album or story book as a reminder of special times to share with those you love.
6 Dec 6th is the feast of St Nicolas. Give anonymously bags of gold (chocolate) coins to co-workers and neighbours in his memory.	7 Give more: refocus giving by sharing your time, talents and treasures more widely this season.	8 Make a Christmas box for someone in need. Share the experience with a young person you know.	9 Do you do lots of Christmas baking? Consider sharing what you make with a soup kitchen, senior's home or homeless shelter.	10 Buy roll of recycled paper and have a painting party with stamps or potatoes. Use this as your gift wrap.	11 Volunteer -it is a great way to share your gifts. Invite a friend so you can share your gifts together.	12 Make a contribution: pick a charity or organization and be generous in your support.
13 Worship fully: it starts and ends with Jesus. How can we make this year a celebration of the greatest gift of all?	14 Imagine you and your friends are Magi, what gifts would you bring for Jesus? How could you offer these gifts now?	15 The Spanish posada mimics the journey of Mary and Joseph asking who will make room in the inn. How will we make room for wanderers this season.	16 The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) highlights an alternative economics. How can we honour this alternative today?	17 How do we measure our Advent experience? In cookies baked, presents bought, decorations hung, parties attended? Is there room in the inn for Jesus?	18 Spend some quiet time in front of the fireplace or Christmas tree. List those things for which you are thankful this season.	19 Candy canes can remind us of Jesus. Share a box of candy canes with friends and family. Invite them to worship.
20 Love all: by spending less and changing our focus we free ourselves to give more and love as Jesus loved.	21 Christmas can be hard for some. Call someone who may be having a difficult time. Offer a gentle ear.	22 Visit a nursing home. Give out smiles and hugs. Maybe share a song or two.	23 Who might be forgotten or alone this season? How can you help them feel the warmth of the stable this Christmas?	24 Visitors come to worship for many reasons. Open your heart tonight to give space for a visitor to know the joy of God with us.	25 Merry Christmas! Don't forget to thank God for the gift of Jesus as you enjoy your celebrations.	26 Boxing day. Historically, servants were gifted with treats and the day off on Boxing Day. Who will you gift today?

Gleanings

Gleanings is a monthly column by Meb Reisner Wright, the diocesan historian, who delves in to the back issues of the Quebec Diocesan Gazette to present us with interesting nuggets of our past.

Sometimes, enticing hints of our Anglican past are merely hinted at in the pages of the Diocesan Gazette. In the January issue 1916, for example, is the briefest of references to the 'Church of England Incorporated Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays' which operated two homes in Sherbrooke, one for boys, one for girls from the 1880s until the 1930s.

Under the title "St Francis District Association," is a description of a two-day conference which was convened on Tuesday, December 7th: "At St Peter's Church Hall, immediately after the ceremony of Dedication of the Gibbs' Home for Boys, the opening meeting of the anniversary of the St Francis District Association of the Church Society took place ..." Nothing more is mentioned about the Home or what sort of dedication had occurred.

The Boys' home, dating from 1897, had been in operation for some time and would continue until 1933. The Society operated a total of six Homes in Canada. British children in institutions in England and Wales were sent by the Society to Canada, Australia and Southern Rhodesia. Today the Church of the Advent in Sherbrooke houses a memorial plaque to the boys from the Gibbs' Home who gave their lives in the conflict then underway.

To return to the District Association meeting, however, it was attended by twenty-one local clergy, and addressed by Bishop Williams. After the usual business had been transacted, they proceeded into St Peter's Church for evening Service. "The speaker, Venerable Archdeacon Patterson-Smyth, dealt eloquently and with much sympathy upon the subject of

life after death, especially with reference to the men who are suddenly killed upon the field of battle, and his words were full of hope and comfort to the bereaved."

On the following day, after Morning Prayer, "the first session of the Deanery Board (composed of the clergy, church wardens and lay delegates of the four rural deaneries of the district of St Francis) was held in the Church Hall." Reports were heard from the Sunday School Institute and the local depository of the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge (SPCK)—which had recently moved from the vestry of St Peter's Church to the Rosemary Gift Shop on Dufferin avenue. The entire afternoon was given up to "a discussion of the pastoral letter of the Lord Bishop of Quebec, recently read in all the churches of the Diocese ..." on the subject of holding missions in as many parishes as possible during the coming Lenten season.

That evening, Rev. Owen Gur-

ney Lewis gave an address illustrated with slides "some of them very beautiful photographs of the [Labrador] coast" where he had been serving for the previous two years, centred in Mutton Bay. "he was introduced by the Lord Bishop of Quebec who remarked that this mission was one of the most difficult and arduous in the whole of Canada." Lewis explained that it was "the tremendous distances that made the work heavy ... It is useless to say beforehand when one will be at a certain place, for a blizzard may delay one for several days. ... The question of food," he pointed out, "is a very serious one on the Coast, the traders coming down by boat from Halifax and Quebec, and exchanging their goods for fish. ... Wild ducks and rabbits are ... the only fresh meat to be had. Water and wood have to be brought long distances by boat or by sled, a barrel at a time in winter lashed to the boat or sled and often losing half its contents before it reaches its destination."

Despite the difficulties experienced in his sparsely populated mission, Lewis was full of admiration for those he served. "A striking characteristic of the people," he affirmed, "is their hospitality; wherever you go, there is a warm welcome, and if it is the last can of condensed milk, it will be opened for the missionary or doctor, if either happens to come along. They are very resourceful, good carpenters, building their own boats and houses, shingling, painting, etc. If the church has to be repaired all that is necessary is to give out notice on Sunday, and the following week all will turn out to paint and shingle." Yet the mission was under staffed, Lewis emphasized, and needed a second priest. It is hoped that such presentations aroused interest in the needs of this field of endeavour and that the Church Society, which was—as it is today—the financial arm of the Diocese paid special heed to the needs of this branch of the Diocesan family.

Faithful Reflections

By Louisa Blair

The end of a vocation

Children are indeed a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Happy are those who have a quiver full of them. She shall not be put to shame when she speaks with her enemies in the gate.

[adapted from] Psalm 127

I only have one in my quiver, and she'll be flying off soon. After eighteen years of living my vocation as a mother, my quiver will be empty again. I have a lot of competing vocations, but being a mother has been the most challenging and rewarding. How do I let go of the vocation that has most absorbed me for eighteen years, and why is it so difficult?

But let's be sensible, can I really call motherhood a vocation, if so very many unsaintly people like me fall into it by mistake, and then suddenly, it just ends? But I'm calling it a vocation anyway, a gift from God that is given to us for others, and I'm hoping it's going to help me deal with the empty-quiver syndrome.

Even childbirth itself gave me insight into what vocation is all about: abandonment, trust, work, pain, and giving way for another to exist. As women we have to abandon ourselves to the body's demands (rather than resist), trust (instead of fear) that it knows what it's doing, work very hard and endure a lot of pain, all to allow a new person into the world. Our bodies happen to be the vehicle of choice for the arrival of new people. Not that we have any choice, once the moment arrives, to say "yes" or "no" to our call to motherhood. But after that, the choices of how we live our vocation are infinite: we can either fail or succeed at motherhood several times a day.

We work hard preparing our children to be independent. Then they abandon us. As the Bible writer suggests, part of the difficulty is losing that mother-identity. In some parts of the Middle East, as soon as a woman gives birth, her name changes to that of her eldest child: "Mother of Kevin" for example. In our society, the vocation of motherhood is not exactly a name-changer: at least in my milieu, watch the eyes glaze over when someone asks you, "What do you do?" and you say, "I'm a mother." But it's still an ID you can pull out at the gates to give yourself a whiff of credibility when speaking with your enemies.

But ID and credibility are not what vocation is about. Jesus didn't belabour the question of his identity; in fact he avoided most questions about it. He was just completely true to himself, and created a space around him in which everyone who wanted to could discover their own truth – it's a kind of hospitality. In that truth they suddenly found they were unique and infinitely precious, no matter what their ID. Then they could go away and be hospitable in the same way, because that kind of authenticity is contagious. To see what my vocation is now I guess I'll have to put down my quiver and go and stand near him for a while.

Executive Assistant

The Anglican Diocese of Quebec is looking for an Executive Assistant to the Bishop, to the Executive Archdeacon and to the Executive Director

Location: Québec, Québec

Salary: Between \$18 - \$22 per hour – depending on experience plus benefits (including medical, life, dental and pension)

Nature of work: full time, 35 hours / week

Training Required: Minimum D.E.C. in administration

Experience required: 3 years of experience

Responsibilities:

- Reception duties: work with phone, messages, agenda, fax machine, photocopying, scanning.
- Manage Synod e-mail account, mail, distribution list, directories and databases
- Manage the Bishop's and Executive Archdeacon's travel arrangements and calendars
- Event planning for various board meetings and workshops including travel arrangements
- Complete bank deposits and mailing of cheques and invoices
- Correspondence and information management
- And any other tasks as required

Qualifications required:

- This position requires an excellent command of the French and the English language due to the nature of the clientele.
- Computer skills: proficiency in Windows-based software (Excel, Word, etc.), a knowledge of Accpac would be an asset.
- The ideal candidate will be dynamic, resourceful, and will demonstrate excellent organizational proficiencies. He or she will exhibit good communications abilities and a strong desire to learn and develop new skills.

If you think you have this job profile, we are anxious to meet you! Send us your resume so that we can process your application as quickly as possible.

Send your resume to executivedirector@quebec.anglican.ca before December 15, 2015