It is the sacrament of yourselves that is placed on the Lord’s altar, and it is the sacrament of yourselves that you receive. You reply “Amen” to what you are, and thereby agree that such you are. You hear the words “The body of Christ” and you reply “Amen.” Be, then, a member of Christ’s body, so that your “Amen” may be in accordance with the truth ... It was thus that Christ our Lord signified us, and his will that we should belong to him, when he hallowed the sacrament of our peace and unity on his altar. Anyone, however, who receives this sacrament of unity and does not keep the bond of peace, does not receive it to his profit, but as a testimony against himself.

St. Augustine, Sermon 272
PERSONNEL CHANGES: Maija Wilson will begin her maternity leave at the end of the summer and anticipates returning in September 2018. As well, Melissa Page Nichols has accepted a position in another department. The position has been posted on the King’s website. Over the summer, we will be assisted by the presence of five students: Frank Ferhervari, Sara Saeed, Lindsay Hogan, Jeanette Heyblom and Ali Neves.

VERITAS SERIES FOR FAITH AND CULTURE
2017-2018

Through the Veritas series, King’s endeavours to foster learning and dialogue by gathering scholars, artists and activists who support and challenge us in living lives of faith and justice in the 21st century. This coming year’s series will be dedicated to looking at music as a vehicle for personal and communal transformation. The following speakers have been confirmed. We hope that many will join us for these gatherings.

This coming year, we will welcome:

Anthony Ruff, OSB
Associate Professor of Theology
Saint John’s University
Collegeville, Minnesota
September 28, 2017

Ricky Manalo, CSP, PhD
Liturgical Composer & Professor
Santa Clara University
Santa Clara, California
October 19, 2017

Rory Cooney
Director of Liturgy & Composer
St. Anne Catholic Community
Barrington, Illinois
November 23, 2017

Dylan Robinson, PhD
Assistant Professor
Canada Research Chair
Indigenous Arts, Queens University
January 18, 2018

Shaykh Qutaiba Albluwi, PhD
Imam & Academician
Centre for Nonviolence & Peace Studies
March 1, 2018

Aviva Chernick
Singer, Prayer Leader & Educator
Toronto, Ontario
March 22, 2018

SAVE THE DATES FOR FUTURE KING’S CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERTS:
Christmas Concert: December 2, 2017 / Spring Concert: April 7, 2018
Visit kings.uwo.ca/kuccc for more information.
CONGRATULATIONS are extended to Michelle Resendes and Michael Pereira and to Brent Pickard and Mia Segal who were united in marriage on Saturday, June 17, 2017.

In the coming months, the following couples will be celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage. Please remember them in your prayers, that God strengthen them in faith and love.

Vanessa Demelo and Daron Bacon (June 24, 2017)
Michelle DiMarcelli and Jeff Reati (August 12, 2017)
Tess Zanatta and Simon Coutu (August 12, 2017)
Douglas Carter and Cristina Monaco (September 30, 2017)

Please remember in your prayers, Father Trevor Plug, priest of the Diocese of St. Catharine who died suddenly on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. While a student at King’s, he was active in our faith community. We are grateful that God gave him one year to serve as a priest. May he be numbered among the saints.

MASS TIME CHANGE (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2017): As we look to September, our Sunday Eucharists will be celebrated at 9:00 am (Windermere on the Mount), 11:00 am (Windermere on the Mount) and at 5:00 pm (King’s University College). More information will follow in the coming weeks.

INTERFAITH APPEAL: Caritas Canada, the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada and the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis, and Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops are collecting funds to address the crisis in Africa. If you are interested in making a donation that would directly aid those in need, please visit https://www.devp.org/en. Please note: if you give before June 30th, the Government of Canada will contribute an equivalent amount to the Famine Relief Fund.

PROJECT RACHEL is hosting a Healing Retreat from June 23 to 25, 2017 designed to bring healing and reconciliation for women of all ages who suffered as a result of a past abortion experience. Come and experience God’s mercy and forgiveness with others who understand and care. Location will be announced but will be held in the Windsor-Essex area. The cost is $200 per person for the weekend which includes accommodations, supplies and meals. For more information and registration, please call 1-888-355-1110.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE MARTYRS’ SHRINE: Bishops Fabbro and Dabrowski invite you to join them on a pilgrimage to The Martyrs’ Shrine on Tuesday, August 22, 2017. A number of priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation which will be celebrated from 1:00 pm. Bishop Fabbro will offer the Eucharist at 2:00 pm. Venerations of the relics and The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will follow at 3 pm. Registration information will follow in the coming weeks.
RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND: The 4 stages of marriage are: Romance, Disillusionment, Misery, and Awakening. Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don’t give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment please contact Retrouvaille for confidential information about, or to register for the August program beginning with a weekend on August 25-27th, 2017 at the Michaelite House Retreat Centre, London, ON. Please call 519-243-0687 or email retrouvaillelondonstthomas@gmail.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org

YOUTH SYNOD SURVEY: In preparation for the 2018 Synod about “Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment,” the Diocese of London is participating in a worldwide youth survey. If you are, or know someone who is, between the ages of 16-30 (regardless of whether they be Catholic or non-Catholic), please visit dol.ca/survey to take the survey. Youth in the Diocese of London who complete the survey will be entered into a free draw for a chance to win one of three, prepaid credit cards. The survey will be open until September 30, 2017.

Jesus called John the greatest of all those who had preceded him: “I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John....” But John would have agreed completely with what Jesus added: “[Y]et the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he” (Luke 7:28).

John spent his time in the desert, an ascetic. He began to announce the coming of the Kingdom, and to call everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: “He must increase; I must decrease” (John 3:30).

John was humbled to find among the crowd of sinners who came to be baptized the one whom he already knew to be the Messiah. “I need to be baptized by you” (Matthew 3:14b). But Jesus insisted, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15b). Jesus, true and humble human as well as eternal God, was eager to do what was required of any good Jew. John thus publicly entered the community of those awaiting the Messiah. But making himself part of that community, he made it truly messianic.

The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus. John attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. But he constantly deferred to Jesus, even to sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.

Perhaps John’s idea of the coming of the Kingdom of God was not being perfectly fulfilled in the public ministry of Jesus. For whatever reason, when he was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the Messiah. Jesus’ answer showed that the Messiah was to be a figure like that of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. John himself would share in the pattern of messianic suffering, losing his life to the revenge of Herodias.

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