

# Chaplains' Newsletter

Volume 8, Thanksgiving 2010

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## HOW TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE TO MASS 101: CULTIVATE A SPIRIT OF GRATITUDE

Many of us are on the look out to make the Eucharist “more relevant” to our young people and to the communities in which we minister. Our search for gimmicks bespeaks that we ourselves do not understand what we are doing or why it is important. My fear is that we look to the Eucharist, our great sacrifice and banquet of thanksgiving as something we only do to mark special occasions rather than being part of the fabric of Christian living. It is also likely that our students, as do many of us, struggle with the disconnection between the words that we pray and the lives that we live.

This is not a new problem. St. Paul addressed it in the early Church when he perceived Christians showing preference to the rich and the powerful rather than seeing the Eucharist as that which mirrors and reflects what has been made known to us in Christ Jesus.

In his Letter preparing us for the Year of the Eucharist, Pope John Paul II reminded us: “There is one other point which I would like to emphasize, since it significantly affects the authenticity of our communal sharing in the Eucharist. It is

the impulse which the Eucharist gives to the community for a *practical commitment to building a more just and fraternal society*. In the Eucharist our God has shown love in the extreme, overturning all those criteria of power which too often govern human relations and radically affirming the criterion of service: “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all” (*Mc 9:35*). It is not by chance that the Gospel of John contains no account of the institution of the Eucharist, but instead relates the “washing of feet” (cf. *Jn 13:1-20*): by bending down to wash the feet of his disciples, Jesus explains the meaning of the Eucharist unequivocally.” (*Mane Nobiscum Domine*, 2005)

If we saw the interconnectedness between being fed with the Bread of Life and being “daily bread” for others, that our need for “better music,” “more involvement” will simply fall away. There is nothing that we need to do different. Rather, we need to do what we already have “well,” living what we celebrate in ritual.

One of my professors at the University of Notre Dame said to us that the Eucharist is a good rehearsal for heaven, where all stand equal before the face of God with plates and cups overflowing in bounty.

Maybe we could consider some sort of meal, food drive or justice based activity to help reinforce the connection between our reception of the Eucharist and the new life that it calls us to embrace.



“God dwells in our midst,  
in the Blessed Sacrament  
of the altar.”

- St. Maximilian Kolbe

- Michael Bécharde (Rev.)

## CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN ONTARIO

Ontario's Catholic school go back as far as the 1600s. A formal system was established in 1841, and the *Scott Act* of 1863 gave the Catholic community the right to establish and operate publicly funded Catholic schools. Since then, Catholic schools have made a tremendous contribution to the vitality and success of Ontario's education system, which ranks among the best in the world.

Today, Ontario's Catholic education system consistently produces high levels of student achievement. Further, graduates are taught the virtues and values of the Catholic faith—including community, responsibility, accountability, collaboration,

caring and family—making them not just good students, but good citizens.

Directly supported by 2.4 million ratepayers, Ontario's English and French Catholic schools annually educate approximately 670, 000 students—a third of all the students in the province.

Catholic education is an essential pillar in Ontario's publicly-funded education system, which is admired around the world. The distinctive partners in the system work cooperatively, creating a stronger whole.

In opposing Catholic education,

some critics say the United Nations has called Ontario's funding system "discriminatory."

In fact, the U.N. has not made such a ruling. It was the opinion of one of the members of one committee, and never moved beyond that committee. Both the Canadian and Ontario governments responded to the opinion, strongly defending the existing system. Notably, the matter has not been pursued by the U.N. or any member government.

***"Catholic schools have made a tremendous contribution to the success of Ontario's education system."***

- excerpts from *168 Years of Success: Ontario's Catholic School*

### REMINDER: CHAPLAINS' RETREAT DAY - OCTOBER 15, 2010

Where: King's University College  
When: 9:00 AM start

For more information or to register, contact Campus Ministry at 519-963-1477 or email Susan Glaab, CSJ at [sglaab@uwo.ca](mailto:sglaab@uwo.ca) or Marilyn Mason at [mmason@uwo.ca](mailto:mmason@uwo.ca)

### CLICKWORTHY

*"Clickworthy" is a new feature that introduces you to websites that may be useful to your ministry as well as to the school communities that you serve. If you know of any web resources that you would like to share, please send us your suggestions.*

#### **BustedHalo.com**

Touting itself as the "online magazine for spiritual seekers," BustedHalo is packed with information that is very accessible, informed, creative, and thought-provoking. It features stories, reviews, interviews, faith guides, commentaries, audio clips, discussions and links to prayer resources. One of its more popular sections is "Googling God" which attempts to answer users' burning questions that many are often too afraid to ask in person. Questions range from "What do other Christians believe about Mary?" to "If there is a God, then why is there suffering in the world?" to "Why can't people live together before marriage?"

#### **Pray-as-you-go.org**

Are you a busy person and can never find the time to devote to prayer? The Jesuits have come up with an innovative way to help you through their Pray-as-you-go - a daily prayer session that you can download for free for use on MP3 players such as iPod. Each prayer lasts for about ten minutes and incorporates music, scripture, and questions for reflection. Now you can literally pray "on the go" while travelling to and from work or school.

## DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The National Canadian Catholic Development and Peace Organization has been instrumental in creating awareness of issues in the Global South and effecting change in these countries, and influencing policies in our own. They have a particular focus on, and outreach to, youth through their “Just Youth” web page which allows young people throughout the world to show off the great things they are doing locally and nationally to create a just world for all. To discover what is happening across Canada and/or to sign up your local group check out <http://youth.devp.org/>.

### BOTTLED WATER CAMPAIGN 2010 - 2011

Recently Development and Peace launched their new fall action campaign for 2010 – 2011. It is against the unnecessary use of Bottled Water. Their website is full of information explaining how this common plastic bottle has become an issue of huge concern for human rights and environmental activists. For background information on this issue and a first hand look at the pledge sheet that Development and Peace is asking people to sign, please see <http://devp.org/>.

There are many sources available to help supplement this information. Two are the movie FLOW (<http://www.flowthefilm.com>) and the short <http://storyofstuff.org/bottledwater/> available on the internet. The movie Flow is geared to a mature audience, 16 and over. It highlights the ways in which bottled water effects human dignity: its possible impact on our health due to lack of regulation, the effects of the global financial market on bottled water and the devastating effects that purchased water has on the people and land in the global south. It may be available at the local movie rental store.

The website <http://storyofstuff.org/bottledwater/> is an excellent short resource for younger groups or for an initial introduction to the idea that bottled water can indeed harm both us, and the environment. It is presented primarily in a cartoon fashion highlighting the history of the bottle of water beginning as a manufactured idea, to water being taken from land usually used to produce crops and thus depleting the water supply, lack of regulation to the water given to us in bottles and then the mountains of empty water bottles that these “recyclable” bottles leave behind. The notion of “manufactured need” is introduced exceptionally well and could prove an excellent catalyst for discussing other “manufactured needs” that are marketed to all of us, in particular teens, constantly. Uncontrolled consumerism is clearly reaching epidemic proportions in our North American culture. This could provide an opportunity to open young people’s minds to a discussion about consumerism and an opportunity to truly and honestly evaluate the media’s influence on their perceived needs versus their actual needs. The other aspects of the site <http://storyofstuff.org> will provide much food for thought for a continuing exploration down this path.

*“Uncontrolled  
consumerism is  
clearly reaching  
epidemic proportions  
in our North  
American culture”*

One of the exciting aspects of working on an education campaign such as this one provided by Development and Peace is that it enables one to focus upon the meaningful formation of a group, regardless of its size, and empowers them to become leaders in the community by raising the awareness of others and ultimately effecting change in their world. To assist in this formation process the Development and Peace Group at King’s University College provides a day of formation for high school groups during the fall semester. If you are interested in finding out more about this day of formation on the topic of Bottled Water please contact Annette Donovan Panchaud at [adonova5@uwo.ca](mailto:adonova5@uwo.ca).

## ETHICAL EATING

*“Reflect on where your food came from—the farmers that grew it and the laborers who picked, processed and packaged it.”*

The Thanksgiving season is a time that encourages reflection and compassion, when families and friends are brought together by

the communal rituals of cooking and eating to share companionship, take stock of all that they have to be thankful for, and to remember the millions of people around the world who do not have adequate food. As you buy, prepare and consume your holiday

meal, we invite you to consider how this food is related to social justice issue, environmental stewardship and community sustainability.

Reflect on where your food came from – the farmers that grew it and the laborers who picked, processed and packaged it. Did they earn a living wage? Does their work promote human dignity or does it cause them stress and insecurity? Consider the turkey, ham or beef on your table – were those animals raised humanely, or were they crammed into confined spaces with dozens, even hundreds of other animals? Consider the land on which your food was grown and raised – was it nurtured and worked in a way that preserves the soil nutrients and protects the watershed for future generations? Reflect on the communities where your food comes from – are the downtown streets bustling with activity or marked by empty storefronts and the slow unraveling of their economic foundations?

Eating is a moral act. The decisions you make about how you feed your family, where you buy it and how it was produced can have a profound effect on the farmers, communities, animals and ecosystems from

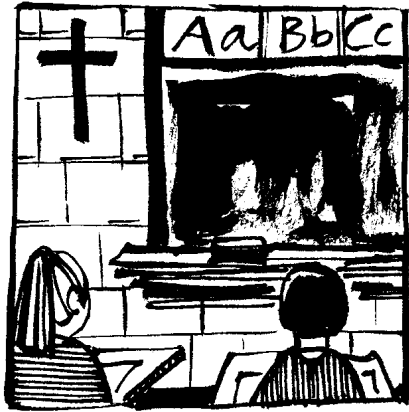
which it came. Most of our country's food spending goes to a few powerful corporations, thereby strengthening their control of a global food system in which small farmers' livelihoods are squeezed and their rural communities erode, in which workers are treated as costly inputs and animals are reduced to commodities, and in which food travels thousands of miles before it reached your place. Consider buying food in a way that supports a more sustainable food system in which farmers earn a greater share of the food dollar, more money is circulated in the local economy, workers have greater livelihood security and the health of the environment is respected and preserved.

- Excerpt from “The Ethics of Eating” by Catholic Rural Life Conference (<http://www.ncrlc.com/page.aspx?ID=89>)



## THE CENTRE FOR MINISTRY & DEVELOPMENT

The Centre for Ministry and Development has created some truly exceptional, easy to follow and implement programs for high school age youth. A non-exhaustive list of programs and retreats



focussing on social justice are entitled The Earth Speaks: a Retreat on Environmental Stewardship; Consumerism: When is it too much stuff?; Being Catholic in the World Today: an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching; Catholics Confront Global Poverty; Created by God: Exploring what it means to be pro-life. There are many more programs available on line at [youthministryaccess.org](http://youthministryaccess.org). For a \$150 user fee, high school campus ministers and parish youth ministry coordinators can access a multitude of programs in the eight components of youth ministry: Prayer and Retreats, Pastoral Care, Evangelization, Social Justice, Leadership Development, Community Building, Liturgy and Worship, and Advocacy.

### SONG SUGGESTIONS FOR THANKSGIVING

CBW = Catholic Book of Worship III (1994) / G = Gather, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (1994) / GP = Glory & Praise (1984)

#### GATHERING / RECEPTIONAL SONGS

All my days – GP2	Song of Thanksgiving (Ducote) – G447, GP239
Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord – CBW383, G317	Song of Thanksgiving (Zsigray) – GP143
Let all things now living – CBW534	Songs of Thankfulness and Praise - CBW348, GC383
Lift up your Hearts - GC543, GP214	This day God gives me - CBW650, GC749
Now we all thank our God – CBW535	We gather together – GC549
Sing to the Mountains – G313, GP48	

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

34 – CBW55, CBW167, CBW201	118 - CBW89-92, CBW98
92 - CBW135, CBW143	126 - CBW22, CBW58
107 - CBW146	138 - CBW126, CBW172
116 - CBW48, CBW112	

#### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS / MEDITATIVE SONGS

Confitemini Domino (Taizé) – GC550	Our blessing cup – GP129
Father, we thank thee, who hast planted – GC547	The harvest of justice – GC716
For you are my God – GP16	With joy you shall draw water – CBW237
For your gracious blessing – CBW550	We give you thanks – GC553
In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful (Taizé) – GC546	

# SAINTS FOR SEPTEMBER

**September 9 - St. Peter Claver (1580-1654)** was a Spaniard who entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and was ordained a priest. Known as the “apostle to the slaves”, St. Peter was greatly moved by the African slaves arriving by the shipload and sought to preach to them as they arrived in Spain. Although the owners tried to prevent his ministry, Father Peter cared for and loved those whom society deemed unlovable and despite vehement criticism that slaves could not be faithful, he taught to them and preached the Gospel, all the while urging their owners to become better Christians. Father Peter died in much the same way that he served—quietly and forgotten. However, he never complained and remained grateful to God for the opportunity to share his love with the least of his children.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 St. Gregory the Great	4
5 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6	7	8 Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9 St. Peter Claver	10	11
12 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	13 St. John Chrysostom	14 Triumph of the Cross	15 Our Lady of Sorrows	16 St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian	17 St. Robert Bellarmine	18
19 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	20 St. Andrew Kim Taegon	21 St. Matthew	22	23 St. Pio of Pietrlicina	24	25
26 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	27 St. Vincent de Paul	28 St. Lawrence Ruiz	29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	30 St. Jerome		

*Gracious Lord, St. Peter Claver refused to judge people because of their race, religion, culture or creed because he recognized that prejudice is the greatest offence to God; help us to love everybody as God's children according to the venerable example left us by St. Peter. Amen.*

**September 26 - The Canadian Martyrs, St. Isaac Jogues (1607-1646) & St. Jean de Brebeuf (1593-1649)** along with their companions, were the first martyrs of North America. Father Isaac Jogues and Father Jean de Brebeuf were Jesuits who had come to ‘the new world’ with the hopes of sharing the Gospel with the indigenous people. They worked among the Huron peoples, who were constantly at war with other tribes. After Father Jogues’ first capture by the Iroquois, he returned to France upon escaping to receive papal permission to celebrate Mass despite his mutilated hands. He then returned to Canada and the work of Father de Brebeuf. Father Jogues was captured again in 1642, and was tortured and killed. Father de Brebeuf met a similar fate three years later.

*“My confidence is placed in God who does not need our help for accomplishing his designs. Our single endeavour should be to give ourselves to the work and to be faithful to him, and not to spoil his work by our shortcomings.” - excerpt from a letter by St. Isaac Jogues (12 September 1646)*



**September 29 - St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael** are the three most well known of God’s archangels and are different than all the rest of the saints because they are not human. As archangels, they are tasked with protecting and guiding humanity and these three angels in particular, are well known throughout the Scriptures. The name Michael means “who is like God” and it was the angel Michael who defeated Satan and cast him down from heaven. The name Gabriel means “the power of God” and it was the angel Gabriel who visited Mary at the Annunciation. The name Raphael means “God has healed” and it was the angel Raphael who protected and healed the prophet Tobit. St. Michael is humanity’s example of how to be loyal to God; St. Gabriel is the means by which God speaks to humanity; and St. Raphael comes to us as God’s protection and healing.

*St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael: be with me today. Protect me from whatever could cause spiritual or physical harm. Help me to be faithful to Jesus and a worthy communicator of his divine love. Amen.*

# SAINTS FOR OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 St. Thérèse of Lisieux	2 Feast of the Guardian Angels
3 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	4 St. Francis of Assisi	5	6 Blessed Marie Rose Durocher	7 Our Lady of the Rosary	8	9 Sts. Denis, Rusticus & Eleutherius
10 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	11	12 St. Felix & St. Cyprian	13	14 St. Callistus I	15 St. Teresa of Avila	16 St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
17 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time	18 St. Luke	19 St. Paul of the Cross	20	21	22	23 St. John Capistrano
24 30th Sunday 31 31st Sunday	25	26	27	28 St. Simon & St. Jude	29	30

**October 12 - St. Felix and St. Cyprian** were African bishops during the 5th century who suffered martyrdom with over 4500 other of God's faithful during the persecution by the Vandal king Hunneric, an Arian. Christians were cruelly exiled to the Sahara desert. St. Felix, old and infirm, was tied to a donkey and dragged to his exile, while St. Cyprian, younger, risked his life to take care of Christian prisoners until he too was captured and exiled. They were accompanied into the desert by almost 5000 fellow Christians.

*God our Father, St. Felix, St. Cyprian and their fellow martyrs gave up all they had for the sake of their faith: in your grace, grant us the courage to love our faith so that we, like them, might give of our-*

*selves and our gifts with joyful generosity. Amen.*



**October 16 - St. Margaret Mary (1647-1690)** was born in France and exemplified an intense love of the Blessed Sacrament from an early age. She spent her time in quiet and in prayer, even as a child. She fell horribly ill when she was eleven, and did not recover until four years later until she made a vow to the Blessed Mother to consecrate herself to religious life. Her father died shortly thereafter, and a close relative took over the family affairs, plunging the family into poverty and humiliation. The injustice that she and her mother suffered at the hands of her family, caused St. Margaret to turn even more fervently to the Blessed Sacrament for comfort and consolation. After many struggles, St. Margaret professed her final vows in November 1672. She continued to live an austere life and found consolation with Christ in suffering - and in a number of revelations, Jesus visited St. Margaret so that she might share his messages of love with the world.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, who wondrously opened the unsearchable riches of your heart to St. Margaret Mary: grant unto us, by her merits and our imitation of her, that we may love you in all things and above all things, being always grateful for the little things. Amen.*

**October 19 - St. Paul of the Cross (1694-1775)** was born Paul Francis Daneii in Genoa, Italy. From the beginning of his life, St. Paul had a special connection to and love for the crucifix and modeled the entirety of his life on the crucified Christ. As a young man, he rejected an honourable offer of marriage as well as a large inheritance from an uncle who had been a priest—all he kept of what was left to him was a Breviary. It was shortly after this that St. Paul, enflamed with a desire for God's glory, conceived of beginning a new religious order in honour of the Passion. So, on 10 April 1747, the first chapter of the Congregation of the Passion was held where St. Paul, against his will, was elected the first superior general. For the remaining thirty years of his life, St. Paul spent his time tirelessly engaging in sacred missions and the observance of what he called "regular discipline."

*"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life must lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it." (Luke 9.23-24)*



## PRAYERS FOR THE THANKSGIVING SEASON

“Worship the Lord with gladness;...Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.”

*Psalm 100.2, 4*

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB:  
WWW.KINGS.UWO.CA/  
CAMPUS\_MINISTRY**

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### A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear Jesus,  
thank you for all the blessings  
and the treasures you have  
showered upon us.  
Thank you for family, friends,  
knowledge, wisdom, and all your  
angels and saints who guide us in  
our journey of building up your  
kingdom.

We ask you, Lord Jesus,  
to bless our gifts,  
bless our lives,  
and bless this day.  
Amen.

-from *500 Prayers*  
by Filomena & Peter Tassi

### THANKS BE TO GOD...

#### Sunday

Lord, I thank you for the little things on earth, for the great and might things,  
For the things that fascinate and amaze me, for the things I have and use.  
I give thanks, Lord, for all creation, but most of all for you, the Creator. Amen.

#### Monday

I stand in thankfulness before you, Lord, for all that you have given me, shown me, promised me, and for your protection and guidance. Amen.

#### Tuesday

Lord, I thank you for the food you give me to eat. Bless those who grow and prepare it. As it gives me strength, I ask you to grant sustenance to those who lack it. Amen.

#### Wednesday

God our Father, in your greatest act of love you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to be one with us in this world. By his teaching and his sacrifice we are enable to be one with you in eternity. May our thanks be a reflection of the immensity of your love. Amen.

#### Thursday

Thank you, Lord, for fleas and snakes and things that bite. They help us appreciate the ones that don't. Amen.

#### Friday

Thanks for mother's care, father's fidelity, friend's companionship, the help of generous people, but most of all I thank you Lord, for your constant love. Amen.

#### Saturday

Lord, I always seem to be asking you for something—for me, for friends, for others. Forgive me if at times I do not return thanks to you for your answers to my prayers. It is not deliberate that I do not do it, it is just that life gets pretty busy much of the time. But now Lord, in calm and quiet, with earnestness and gratitude, I offer thanks for all your gifts, for all your blessings, for the abundance of your graces. I thank you for your constant care, your overflowing kindnesses, your open-handed goodness. May I always be grateful to you, the greatest of all givers. Amen.

- From *Prayers for the Journey* by James Fitzpatrick, O.M.I.

*We welcome your feedback. Please send any comments or suggestions to [campusministry@kings.uwo.ca](mailto:campusministry@kings.uwo.ca)*