



Chaplains' Newsletter

Volume 7, Ordinary Time 2010

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A LETTER FROM OUR CHAPLAIN...

Dear Colleagues,

This is our "Transition Issue." It is the last issue of this Academic Year and one where secondary and post-secondary schools are saying good bye to their graduates and to others within our communities. As I write, there are many things on my mind.

This week we sat down to plan how best to receive your graduates and to welcome them into our community at King's University College. Today, is the 15th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood and I am aware that my 25th High School Reunion is on the horizon. For me, today is a day of reflection and introspection.

Looking back, leaving high school and preparing for ordination was a time of great uncertainty and some anxiety. I am grateful for the ministry of those who walked with me during those high school years. I am sure that I would not be half the man that I am had it not been for those chaplains and campus ministers and for the couples that gave of themselves through the work of groups like C.O.R.

For students and for those of us who work with them, it is a season of mixed emotions. It is a Paschal Time where we are experience the death of saying good-bye simultaneous with the joy of seeing our students moving on to the next stage in their growth. With confidence that we have called our students to holiness, to live lives of justice and to be rooted in God's love, we remind them of the post-resurrection narratives. "Be not afraid," Jesus tell us over and over again. "Know that I am with you until the end of the world," he assures us.

Please accept my thanks for all that you do in Campus Ministry. Though I do not see your day-to-day activities, I see the product of your labours in our first year classes. These freshmen are some of the finest men and women with whom I have had the pleasure of sharing in ministry. Trust that you have done a very good job.

I hope that this issue provides you some useful resources as you look to the end of the year and to Labour Day 2010. We are always looking for your input. Please forward any suggestions for topics or thing which you might find helpful to mbechard@uwo.ca

Continue to pray that the good work that we have begun, God will bring to completion.

Yours in His Service,
Michael Béchard (Rev.)



"Christ Walks on Water"

Julius Schnoor von Carolsfeld,
World Mission Collection

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS...

The end of the school year may bring a sense of closure and perhaps a desire to finish to allow ourselves a time of rest after a busy and rewarding school year. However, the spring season also provides us, the staff with whom we work, and our students and their families, the opportunity to enhance our ethical living by making informed choices about our activities during the spring and summer months. It is important that we provide them with options while rejuvenating and nourishing our own spiritual quest for justice by connecting with the wider community.

As the spring season unfolds, and farmers markets become readily apparent and available across the country, it is the ideal time to watch and share the movie *Food Inc.* produced by Magnolia Pictures and rated Parental Guidance. It is available for purchase

“Even though high school closes for the year, the thirst for justice does not.”

through Amazon and can also be rented from some local video stores. This is a thought-provoking documentary about our food sources and their implications. This movie is not for the faint of heart or weak-stomached. Please know your audience before a screening. Although the movie documents the situation in the United States it still speaks to Canadians by raising awareness about some Canadian circumstances we remain ignorant of. The conclusion of the movie offers suggestions on how we can make a difference, effecting change both individually and collectively, even within school communities. This truly is a life changing opportunity.

As the academic year draws to a close it is important to celebrate the good work that each of our communities have done for social justice. However we can still keep one eye to the future, encouraging more young people into the God's ministry. We can effectively do this by *welcoming in* new members. This can be accomplished in two different ways - with

those arriving into grade 9 next year and those already within the school community.

If time allows, go to feeder schools and witness for them first hand yourself, or ideally with your student team, about the ministry your school chaplaincy team is involved in. Excite them about campus ministry before they arrive at high school. It would be great to have them seek you out early in the school year because they know of the good work the team is involved in and want to be a part of it. You can also look for new recruits within the school community. Invite people who are thinking about joining to check out the final meeting of the year – and then put in an extra effort to make sure it is a great one! Recognize the team's accomplishments during the past year and the new ground that was broken. Acknowledge the struggles that were experienced and set goals for next year. And - if possible- serve snacks! A positive energy for building up the Kingdom of God and goodies – a sure fire way to have more students commit to being a part of your group next year!

Even though the high school closes for the year, the thirst for justice does not. Both Amnesty International (amnesty.ca) and Habitat for Humanity (habitat.ca) provide students with the opportunity to continue their commitment in a non-gathered way. Amnesty international provides an online youth activist toolkit, e-newsletters and gives students the opportunities to connect with one another. Habitat for Humanity also provides a variety of ways students can be involved – from donating/purchasing from their restores, to fundraising and actually assisting build homes to help those in need.

The United States Bishop's youth website has an excellent program for students aged 14-22 entitled **A Catholic Call to Justice**. This is an activity book commissioned by the USSB for Raising Awareness of Social Justice Issues created by Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHB). Its purpose is to raise the consciousness of people around social

justice issues. This resource can be used as one activity or 6 individual sessions. Each section begins with a scriptural reference, and a catholic teaching. From this starting point people engage in an experience/activity and then reflect on questions leading from the experience. Topics include Dignity of the Human Person, Dignity of Work, Solidarity, Option for the Poor, Community and the Common Good, and Rights and Responsibilities. This program in it's entirety is available online at uscgb.org/cchd/5-239.pdf.

Development and Peace's fall campaign was announced at the beginning of May. It will focus on raising awareness of the issues pertaining to Water. Look for information to begin appearing on the website in late summer. In the meantime you may wish to begin delving into the topic yourself. There is a variety of information on the Development and Peace website (devp.org) from years past.



“What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.”

- Luke 13.18-19

Also, it is not too early to look ahead to next year. St. Patrick High School in Chatham has a friendly rivalry with the local school, St. Christopher Secondary.* The two high schools compete against one another and ultimately the winning homeroom for fundraising at the winning school, is served pizza by the losing team's student council. Get ready to support Development and Peace now!

Summer time and the quiet it brings provides the perfect opportunity to explore Development and Peace's solidarity resource book *We Dare to Say* which is also available on line at their website.

Continuing to reach out to the variety of organizations nationally and internationally, as well as our local communities strengthens our ministries, our commitment, and our relevance as people seeking social justice for a world in need.

*Shared with permission of St. Patrick High School's chaplain.

PRAYERS BEFORE AN EXAM...

FOR STUDENTS:

God, help us to stay calm as we write this exam. We know you are present, and your presence can provide us with peace and comfort. May we write all that we know and have studied. If we become stressed, help us relax and sort out our confusion. If we need to guess, we pray the guess is a good one! Amen.

FOR TEACHERS:

God of knowledge, as these days pass and students prepare for exams, we pray for peace of mind. Many students face decisions that will affect the rest of their lives, so we pray for prudence. When students feel the pressure of the final stretch, we pray for a sense of calm. As teachers we work very hard to complete courses and mark assignments and tests. Please give us patience and strength. May each of us feel the presence and love of God as we proceed through these days. Amen.

-Filomena Tassi and Peter Tassi (*500 Prayers for Catholic Schools and Parish Youth Groups*)

GRACE FOR A GRADUATION DINNER...

We come together to celebrate the achievement of graduating from high school. It is a day of great joy and excitement. We reflect on the numerous and varied contributions that we have made throughout our high school experience. We thank God for the ability he has given us and for the support and comfort we have given to and received from one another. With these thoughts in mind we pray:

God of love and life, we thank you for the wonderful gifts you have given each of us. We are grateful for the ability to share these gifts for the benefit of each other. Bless each of us here tonight as well as the grads and staff who are unable to be here with us. As we go our separate ways, may we cherish the sense of identity we have gained through our entire high school experience. We thank you for the food we are about to share and ask you to bless it. In Jesus' name. Amen.

-Filomena Tassi and Peter Tassi

(500 Prayers for Catholic Schools and Parish Groups)

SONG SUGGESTIONS FOR GRADUATION

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

Graduation from high school represents a significant milestone in the lives of graduates, their families, friends, teachers and staff. While it marks the end of one phase of their lives, it also marks a time to begin anew, to look forward with hope to what lies ahead in their lives. When choosing music for graduation liturgies, as for all liturgies, one ought to be mindful that the music enables the participation by the whole assembly. This principle is especially important on such occasions when the assembly comprises people that do not regularly worship or sing together. Music for graduation liturgies is characterized by a sense of celebration and joy as befits the occasion. It is equally important, however, to select songs with texts that challenge the graduates to live out their call to discipleship and mission as they enter adulthood. Below you will find music suggestions that relate directly to these themes.

HYMNS

Alleluia, Go and teach all people - CBW515	Make me a channel of your peace - G 524
Anthem - G 494, GP 83	Now let us from this table rise - CBW 521
Be not afraid - CBW 481 G 430, GP 8	Send me, Jesus/Thuma Mina - G 484
City of God - CBW 345, G 485, GP 187	The servant song - G 476
Come and journey with a Saviour - CBW 476	Sing a new song - CBW 563, G 384
Go to the World - CBW 508	The Summons - G 510
God, the Spirit, guide and guardian - CBW 510	Take, Lord, receive - GP 53
God has chosen me - G 488	We are called - G 518
Here I am, Lord - CBW 520, G 492, GP 198	We are marching/Siyahamba - G 357
Jubilate, servite - CBW 572, G 377	We are many parts - G 530
Lift high the cross - CBW 435	You have anointed me -G 483, GP 197
Lord, you give the great commission - CBW 691	

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

40 - CBW 115, G 47	117 - CBW 138, G 100
112 - CBW 124, G 93	

SAINTS FOR JUNE AND JULY...

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 St. Justin	2 St. Peter and St. Marcellinus	3 St. Charles Lwanga	4 St. Francis Caracciolo	5 St. Boniface
6 Corpus Christi	7 St. Willibald	8 St. Medard	9 St. Ephrem	10 St. Getulius and companions	11 Sacred Heart of Jesus	12 Immaculate Heart of Mary
13 St. Anthony of Padua	14 St. Basil the Great	15 St. Germaine Cousin	16 St. John Francis Regis	17 St. Albert Chmielowski	18 St. Elizabeth of Schoenau	19 St. Romauld
20 St. Silverius	21 St. Aloysius Gonzaga	22 St. John Fisher	23 St. Audrey	24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25 St. Jason	26 St. Jose Escriva
27 St. Cyril of Alexandria	28 St. Irenaeus	29 Sts. Peter and Paul	30 First Martyrs of the Church of Rome			

June 9 - St. Ephrem (306-373) the Syrian was a prolific writer, Ephrem the Syrian left us hundreds of poems and hymns but we know very little about the man himself. It is widely held that he was a deacon in the Diocese of Nisbis who undertook hymn writing in order to challenge heresies that arose. He was a voice of morality during times of siege and famine, and has inspired countless faithful to honour and propagate the Christian faith.

O Lord and Master of my life, give me not the spirit of sloth, idle curiosity, lust for power and idle talk but grant unto me, Thy servant, a spirit of chastity, meekness, of patience and of love. Yea, O Lord and King, grant that I may perceive my own transgressions and judge not my brother, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen.

June 23 - St. Audrey (+679) or St. Etheldreda was an English noblewoman

who took a perpetual vow of chastity while being married. After her first husband died, she was married again to the King of Northumbria, who was an adolescent and who agreed to allow her to keep her vow of chastity. However, 12 years after the marriage he recanted and approached St. Wilfred, bishop of York who refused his request to release Audrey from her vow (much to her happiness), but that did not stop the king from continuing to press the matter. Audrey ended up leaving her husband and fleeing south to become a nun, where she founded a monastery at Ely.

“Before you speak, learn;...let nothing hinder you from paying a vow promptly, and do not wait until death to be released from it. Before making a vow, prepare yourself; do not be like one who puts the Lord to the test.” (Sirach 18.19, 22-23)

July 7 - Blessed Ralph Milner (+1591) was born in the small village of Flacsted in England and was raised Anglican. He converted to Catholicism and on the day of his first communion, he was arrested and taken into custody. His good behaviour during incarceration, allowed him frequent parole, which he used to serve the other Catholic prisoners. He acted as escort to Father Roger Dicconson as he travelled from village to village administering sacraments to Catholics and it was during one of these trips that he was seized for the final time. He was given the option of renouncing his Catholic faith or facing execution. He chose execution and met his death courageously.

O Jesus, Blessed Ralph Milner gave his life for the sake of the faith and faced his death with calm courage. Grant that the Church may glorify, at the earliest opportunity, this faithful friend to all God’s beloved. Amen.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Blessed Junipero Serra	1 St. Bernardino Realino	3 St. Thomas
4 St. Ulric	5 St. Anthony Zaccaria	6 St. Maria Goretti	7 Blessed Ralph Milner	8 St. Grimbald	9 St. Augustine Zhao Rong	10 St. Rufina and St. Secundus
11 St. Benedict	12 St. John Gualbert	13 St. Henry	14 St. Camillus de Lellis	15 St. Bonaventure	16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel	17 Carmelite Nuns of Compiegne
18 St. Frederick	19 St. Arsenius	20 St. Apollinaris	21 St. Lawrence of Brindisi	22 St. Mary Magdalene	23 St. Bridget	24 St. Sharbel Makhluif
25 St. James the Greater	26 St. Anne and St. Joachim	27 St. Celestine	28 St. Samson	29 St. Martha	30 St. Peter Chrysologus	31 St. Ignatius of Loyola

END OF YEAR PRAYER SERVICE...

Leader: Greetings and welcome to our prayer service to mark the end of the school year, which means different things to each of us. Some of us will be moving on to new places, others to new responsibilities. Let us take the next few minutes to reflect on the blessings of this school year, to give thanks and to invite our gracious God to continue with us as we journey forth through the changes that summer will bring. Let us begin, marking ourselves with the sign through which all things have been made new: In the name of the (+) Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Gathering Song

Opening Prayer

Leader: Lord God, as we ponder the blessings and challenges of this past year, grant us the serenity of your Spirit and openness of heart to the wonders you have done in us and will continue to do in faithfulness to us, your children. We make this prayer to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us listen attentively to the Word of the God.

First Reading: Isaiah 43.19-21

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers. Wild beasts honour me, jackals and ostriches, for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for my chosen people to drink, the people I formed for myself, that they might announce my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 139)

Response: We praise you, Lord, for you have wonderfully made us.

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up. You discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path, and know all of my ways.

Response

Even before a word is on my tongue, O

Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me.

Response

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Response

My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them yet existed.

Response

Gospel Reading: Mark 6.30-34

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw and had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection (Prepared/Shared, Song or Silence)

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Our God generously gives us all we need.
Let us pray for our needs and the needs of all people.

For the Church, that as she teaches, she will always be faithful to the vision of the Gospel entrusted to her by Jesus, we pray.

Response: Renew your people, Lord.

For all those entrusted with the mission to educate in the light of faith, that they might find

strength and support in their teaching communities, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

For persons whose hunger for knowledge and learning are constrained by war, violence or poverty, that they might find solidarity and hope in our response to their needs, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

In thanksgiving for those students, colleagues and peers who have called forth in us a Gospel response to extraordinary circumstances, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

For all the members of our home, school, parish and community, that God's Spirit might increase our appreciation for one another's gifts, and strengthen the bonds that unite us in the freedom and joy of God's children, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

For the members of our educational community who may be suffering in hidden ways, that our prayers and compassion might support them in their struggles, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

That we here gathered may live fully the fellowship we have been given in Christ Jesus, we pray.

Response: ***Renew your people, Lord.***

Leader: Let us gather our prayers—spoken and those remaining in the quiet of our hearts—and unite them with the prayer of Jesus, using the words that he gave us...

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Closing Prayer

Leader: As our prayer draws to a close, we turn to you Lord, that you might continue to bless us and the community we serve. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, may the seeds of the Gospel you have planted in our hearts and called us to water in our school and our lives, continue to grow. Grant us a peaceful and restful summer, that we might be ready to respond with joy as you continue to call us forward in Christ, in whom you make all things new. We make this prayer to you, in his name. Amen.

And may Almighty God bless us (+), Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Song

A GRADUATE'S PRAYER...

Dear Lord,
 As I look toward the future
 Bright hope conducts this prayer,
 For I know the plans You have for me
 Were wrought with divine care.
 Holy Spirit, lead me.
 Let me run at your command,
 Yet be still and know that You are
 God
 When trouble's close at hand.
 Your Word will be a lamp for me,
 A guide to light my way,
 A solid place to set my feet,

A compass when I stray.
 May I live my life to praise You,
 Not for fortune, nor for fame,
 May everything I say and do
 Bring glory to your name.
 May my eyes stay fixed upon You
 As I seek the way that's pure,
 Tasting your love and goodness
 Sleeping and rising secure.
 Planted by your living streams
 I'll delight in all your ways,
 Hidden by your sheltering wings
 With new mercies for each day.

Even in a dangerous land
 When storms threaten to destroy,
 At the cross I'll stand upon the Rock
 My Strength, my Hope, my Joy.
 Dear Lord, show me your favor,
 At all times keep me blessed,
 May your face ever shine upon me,
 With peace and perfect rest.
 Amen.

- Mary Fairchild
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WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT, HOPE AND FAITH FOR GRADUATES...

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Are you looking for just the right words of encouragement from Scripture to share with your graduating students? This collection of scripture verses has been designed to instill hope and faith in the hearts of young graduates as they celebrate their accomplishments and prepare for new experiences.

“...Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

“For surely I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart / And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge him, And he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

“...this this is what God asks of you: Only this, to act justly, To love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB:
WWW.KINGS.UWO.CA/
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“Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith and your purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12)

“Therefore I prayed and understanding was given to me. I called on God and the Spirit of wisdom came to me.” (Wisdom of Solomon 7:26ff)

“Then John's two disciples turned and followed Jesus. Jesus looked around and saw them following. “What do you want?” he asked them. ‘Sir,’ they replied, ‘where do you live?’ ‘Come and see,’ he said. So they went with him to the place where he was staying.” (John 1:37-39ff)

“I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I the Lord, the God of Israel, Who calls you by your name.” (Isaiah 45:3)

“For it was you who formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; That I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them? I try to count them – they are more than the sand; I come to the end – I am still with you.” (Psalm 139:13-18)

“Happy is the person who mediates on wisdom and reasons intelligently and reflects...on her ways and ponders her secrets.” (Sirach 14:20ff)

“The LORD bless and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26)

“Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me.” (Psalm 119:105)

We welcome your feedback. Please send any comments or suggestions to campusministry@uwo.ca