



Chaplains' Newsletter

Volume 4, Thanksgiving 2009

The Office of Campus Ministry
King's University College
266 Epworth Avenue
London, ON N6A 2M3
1-800-265-4406 / 519-963-1477 / campusministry@uwo.ca

Inside this issue:

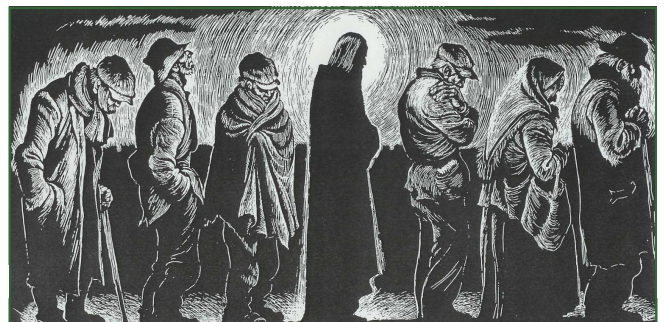
Reflections on the New GIRM	2
Development and Peace	3
Thanksgiving and Charity	3
All Saints Day	3
Saints for October and November	4-5
Ecumenical Prayer Service	6-7
Song Suggestions	7
Prayers for the Season	8

“DO YOU WISH TO HONOUR THE BODY OF CHRIST?”

Then do not neglect Him when He is naked. Do not honour Him here in the church with rich silk cloth, while you allow Him to suffer from the cold outside for lack of clothing. For the same person who said, ‘This is my Body,’ and who made it happen through His word, is the same one who also said to you: ‘You saw me hungry and you did not give me anything to eat,’ and also, ‘Each time you do it to the least of these little ones, it is to me that you do it’. For the Body of Christ in the Church has need, not of clothes but of pure souls—while out there, He requires a great deal of loving care. Let us therefore learn to live with wisdom, and to honour Christ as he Himself seeks to be honoured ... Honour Him in the way He has commanded, by giving your riches to the poor. For God does not need golden vessels, but golden souls. I am not saying this to keep you from making religious donations, but I believe that at the same time (or even before) people should give alms ... For what is gained if Christ’s table is weighed down with golden vessels, while He Himself is dying of hunger? Begin first by feeding the hungry and then, with whatever is left over, you can decorate His altar. You will fashion a golden chalice, but will you not give a cup of cold water? And what good is it to cover Christ’s table with golden cloth, if you do not provide Him with the

covering that is necessary? What do you gain in this way? Tell me: if you see Christ lacking in the food that He needs, and yet you abandon Him to cover His altar with precious ornaments, do you think He will be pleased? Would He not rather be insulted? Or again, you see Christ covered in rags, shivering in the cold, but you neglect to give Him a coat, instead erecting golden columns in the church and saying that you have done all this to honour Him. Will He not say that you mock Him, that you are insulting Him, and insulting Him in the worst possible way? Consider that it is also Christ who wanders among you, a stranger with no shelter—and you, who neglect to welcome Him, embellish the floors and the walls and the columns of your churches, stringing up lamps with silver chains, and yet you do not see that it is He who is chained in prison. I say this, not to prevent you from being generous in these ways, but to exhort you to accompany such acts of generosity—or to precede them—with other acts of kindness. For no one has ever been condemned for neglecting donations to church buildings—while those who neglect generosity toward the poor are threatened with hell, with a fire that never goes out, with the tortures reserved for demons. So therefore, when you decorate your churches, do not forget your brother or sister in distress—for they are a temple of infinitely greater value.

St. John Chrysostom (347-407)
Sermon on the Gospel on the Mount



“Christ of the Breadlines”
Fritz Eichenberg (1950)

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE NEW GIRM

Many of you have probably heard that within the next year or two, the Church in Canada anticipates beginning the process of introducing a new translation of the texts used for mass (Ordo Missae) to accompany the new edition of the General Instruction of the

R o m a n
M i s s a l
(2002).

“How are we responding to God’s blessing by our willingness to share our own resources?”

While the rhythm and language of the prayers will take some getting used to, the texts are extremely valuable in helping us to see the intimate connection between those texts that have been composed by the Church and those pieces which we have been given through Sacred Scripture.

What I find most exciting is that the promulgation of these

pieces will allow us an opportunity to revisit the rich teachings that were given to us following the Second Vatican Council. We see for example:

Through the ministry of priests, the people’s spiritual sacrifice is brought to completeness in union with the sacrifice of Christ, our one and only Mediator. For the celebration of the Eucharist is the action of the whole Church; in it all should do only, but all of, those parts that belong to them in virtue of their place within the people of God. In this way greater attention will be given to some aspects of the Eucharistic celebration that have sometimes been neglected in the course of time. For these people are the people of God, purchased by Christ’s blood, gathered together by the Lord, nourished by his word. They are a people called to offer God the prayers of the entire human family, a people giving thanks in Christ for the mystery of salvation by offering his sacrifice. Finally, they are a

people growing together into unity by sharing in Christ’s body and blood. These people are holy by their origin, but becoming ever more holy by conscious, active and fruitful participation in the mystery of the Eucharist. (GIRM, 5)

How are we demonstrating to our communities how thankful we are for all that God has given us?

How are we seeking to work with our communities so that they might come to know the transformation that God wants all his children to know?

How are we responding to God’s blessings by our willingness to share our own resources?

We hope that you find this newsletter helpful in your good work.

In His Service,
Michael Béchar (Rev.)
Chaplain / Campus Ministry

THANKSGIVING IS NO ORDINARY HOLIDAY. IT IS A TIME TO REFLECT ON ONES GOOD FORTUNES. IT IS A TIME TO GREET FAMILY AND FRIENDS. IT IS A TIME TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF LOVE. CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING WITH THESE MEMORABLE THANKSGIVING QUOTES.

“True thanksgiving means that we need to thank God for what He has done for us, and not to tell Him what we have done for Him.” - George R. Hendrick

“If the only prayer you ever say in your whole life is ‘thank you’, that would suffice.” - Meister Eckhart

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” - John Fitzgerald Kennedy

“Grace isn't a little prayer you chant before receiving a meal. It's a way to live.” - Jackie Windspear

“Material goods and the way we are developing the use of them should be seen as God's gifts to us. They are meant to bring out in each one of us the image of God. We must never lose sight of how we have been created: from the earth and from the breath of God.” - John Paul II, On Social Concern

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The national Catholic organization, 'Development and Peace' is focusing on the issue of "agrofuels" for this year.

At a time when we give thanks for our food it is appropriate to remember farmers in the global south that are losing their land and livelihoods to crops used for agrofuels around the globe.

Take time to explore this issue on their website, www.devp.org and contact your local churches to see how you can get involved in the fall campaign. You can also start something at your own school to help put an end to this injustice.

THANKSGIVING AND CHARITY

As a Catholic people we are profoundly impacted by the connected images of Eucharistic bread, communion and community. Thanksgiving is a marvelous time to allow students to delve more deeply in this mystery by sharing the bread from their table with one another. Food drives are very popular at this time of year and in having the whole school community participate in such a drive, students can engage in this giving of themselves to and for others.

Another option is to have a select number of students go to a shelter or mission to prepare and serve a Thanksgiving meal to those in need. Alternatively, some students could chose to literally share their bread with others by baking bread themselves in small groups (perhaps with adult supervision depending upon their age) and then selling it by the slice to the community for a fixed price or donation. All proceeds can be given to a designated organization to aid the less fortunate.



"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it me."
- Matthew 25.40

ALL SAINTS DAY

The Saints are a uniquely Catholic tradition. Some of the stories passed down in the tradition are mysterious and maybe a little disconcerting.

Some may choose to disregard the saints as completely "other". However, the saints are an important part of our history challenging us to be more than what we could be on our own, inspiring us to reach for more than that which we might otherwise imagine, and encouraging us by example, as many saints lived less than perfect lives too.

"The saints are an important part of our history challenging us to be more than that which we might otherwise imagine"

In the resource Faith Ways developed by The Centre for Ministry and Development for Youth Ministry, there is a two to three hour program called "A Celebration of All Saints Day" that highlights all these areas.

In the program high school age students engage in a fun learning opportunity about specific saints lives such as St. Patrick, St. John the Baptist, Joan of Arc and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton to name a few. They learn about the lives of saints by creating their own saint, seeing the qualities they share with the saints and then translating those qualities to their own lives. In so doing they discover how they can be saints for today.

SAINTS FOR OCTOBER

October 1 - St. Thérèse of Lisieux has been admired by young Catholics for generations. They have also found inspiration in this young woman and her short life. Therese died when she was only 24 after having lived the life of a Carmelite nun for less than ten years. She never performed great works. The only book of hers was published after her death. It was her personal journal which she called "Story of a Soul," and which continues to be a best seller even today. Therese often worried about how she could achieve holiness in her rather ordinary life. She did not want to just be good; she wanted to be a saint. She thought there must be a way for people living ordinary lives, like she was, to do just that.

Therese felt that she could not measure up to the holiness of the saints but instead of becoming discouraged, she devoted herself to looking for ways to make small sacrifices to God. Therese is a patron saints of the missions, not because she ever went anywhere, but because of her special love of the missions, and the prayers and letters she gave in support of missionaries. This is reminder to all of us who feel we can do nothing, that it is the little things that keep God's kingdom growing.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 St. Thérèse of Lisieux	2 Guardian Angels	3 St. Mother Theodore
4 St. Francis of Assisi	5 St. Maria Faustina	6 St. Bruno	7 Our Lady of the Rosary	8 St. John Leonardy	9 St. Denis	10 St. Francis Borgia
11 Blessed Angela Truszkowska	12 St. Seraphin	13 St. Margaret Alacoque	14 St. Callistus	15 St. Teresa of Avila	16 St. Marguerite d'Youville	17 St. Ignatius of Antioch
18 St. Luke	19 St. Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf	20 St. Maria Boscardin	21 St. Hilarion	22 St. Peter of Alcantara	23 St. John of Capistrano	24 St. Anthony Claret
25 St. Antonio Galvao	26 Blessed Contardo Ferrini	27 Blessed Bartholomew of Vicenza	28 Sts. Simon and Jude	29 St. Narcissus	30 St. Alphonse Rodriguez	31 St. Wolfgang of Regensburg

October 2 - The Feast of the Guardian Angels: the role of the guardian angels are to guide us to good thoughts, works and words, and to save us from evil. God has charged His angels with the ministry of watching and safeguarding all humankind. "No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent, for to His Angels, God has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways. Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone." *Psalm 91.10-12*



October 4 - St. Francis was born in Assisi about the year 1182. The son of wealthy parents, Francis enjoyed a rich and easy life. Growing up he became the leader of a crowd of young people who spent their nights in wild parties. Francis became a knight and joined the Fourth Crusade because he longed for the glory and prestige associated with being a soldier. One day into his travels Francis had a dream in which God told him he had it all wrong and told him to return home. Upon his return the townsfolk and his father ridiculed him for his seemingly cowardly ways. Francis went off to a lonely cave where he spent time in prayer. Not long after he encountered a leper, the sight of which repelled him. Nevertheless he jumped down from his horse and kissed the leper's hand. When the leper kissed him back Francis's heart was filled with joy. Denouncing his former life Francis began to preach the love of God. Much has been written about Francis' love of nature but his relationship was deeper than that. We call someone a love of nature if they spend their free time in the woods or admire its beauty. But Francis really felt that nature, all God's creations, were part of his brotherhood. The sparrow was as much his brother as the pope. Francis did not try to abolish poverty; he tried to make it holy.

SAINTS FOR NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints	2 All Souls	3 St. Martin	4 St. Charles Borromeo	5 Venerable Solanus Casey	6 St. Nicholas Tavelio	7 St. Didacus
8 Blessed John Duns Scotus	9 Dedication of St. John Lateran	10 St. Leo the Great	11 St Martin of Tours	12 St. Josaphat	13 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini	14 St. Gertrude
15 St. Albert the Great	16 St. Margaret of Scotland	17 St. Elizabeth of Hungary	18 Dedication of Sts. Peter and Paul	19 St. Agnes of Assisi	20 St. Rose Duchesne	21 Presenta- tion of Mary
22 St. Cecilia	23 Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro	24 St. Andrew Dung-Lac	25 St. Columban	26 St. Catherine of Alexandria	27 St. Francesco Fasani	28 St. James of the Marche
29 Servant of God John of Monte Corvino	30 St. Andrew					

November 1 - Solemnity of All Saints: On this day the Church gives honor to all the saints – those whose names we know, and those whose names are known only to God. We remember all who lived the Beatitudes on earth, and who now enjoy the reward of faith in heaven. We remember them not because by doing so we can add to their glory; we remember them because we ourselves need reminding that the call to holiness is for everyone.

November 2 - All Souls Day / Commemoration of the Faithful Departed: Today we recall all those who have died, and who are still on the journey to blessedness. This is the day when we remember in a special way our loved

ones who have died, and when the reality that we ourselves must one day die is brought home to us – not in a frightening or intimidating way, but as a gentle, insistent reminder.

November 3 - St. Martin of Porres was born in Lima Peru in 1579. At fifteen he became a lay brother of the Dominican Order and spent the remainder of his life tending the fields and sick. St. Martin’s love was all-embracing, shown equally to humans and to animals. He possessed great spiritual wisdom which served him well when helping the priests and bishops of his Order to resolve theological problems. He was a close friend of St. Rose of Lima.

November 16 - St. Margaret of Scotland was an English princess who arrived in Scotland because of religious persecutions occurring in her homeland. Before long she was married to the reigning King. As Queen, Margaret changed her husband, family and country for the better. Her husband soon recognized the wisdom and goodness of his wife. Under her influence his temper softened and religious practices deepened. Together they gave a wonderful example to everyone by the respect they gave to each other. They fed and clothed many of Scotland’s poor with their own hands having only one desire: to give joy and peace to others. Let us take this saintly Queen for our example. While we do our duties, let us keep in mind that God rejoices in our faithfulness.



November 30 - St. Andrew the Apostle was a fisherman like his brother Simon Peter. One day while fishing he encountered Jesus who invited him to come and see where He lived. Andrew brought along his brother Peter and both eventually became the first disciples of Jesus. At first the two brothers continued to carry on their fishing trade and family affairs but later, the Lord called them to stay with Him all the time. He promised to make them fishers of all people and this time, they left their nets for good. It is said that Andrew was put to death on a cross to which he was tied but not nailed. He is the patron saint of both Russia and Scotland.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Gathering Song

Opening Prayer

Leader: Loving Lord, your gifts of love are endless and your goodness infinite. On this Day of Thanksgiving, we come before you with gratitude for your kindness: open our hearts to care for others, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us listen attentively to the Word of the God.

First Reading: Colossians 3.15-17

A reading from the letter from Paul to the Colossians.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts...and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and instruct one another in all wisdom, and with thanksgiving in your hearts sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 138)

Response: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

Response

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever

knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.

Response

All the rulers on earth shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways: "How great is the glory of the Lord."

Response

You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

Response

Gospel Reading: Luke 17. 11-19

A reading from the Gospel of Luke.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection (Prepared/Shared, Meditative Song or Silence)

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Our God generously gives us all we need. Let us pray not only for our needs, but the needs of our brothers and sisters.

Response: *Lord, bear our prayer*

That we as followers of Christ always realize the many gifts God provides and faithfully give thanks and praise for them, we pray.

That all peoples of the world share equally in the good things of this earth, we pray.

That the poor and the sick, the hungry and homeless be granted a place at the table of God's abundance, we pray.

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

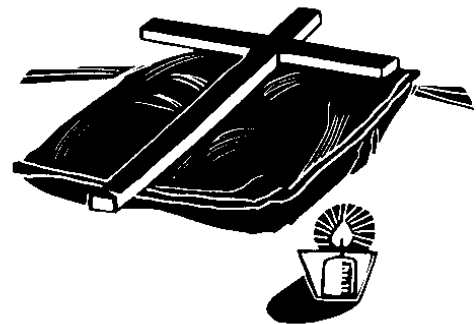
Closing Prayer

God, you gave us your greatest gift by sending Jesus, who showed us the way to live in love, justice, and peace. Like the healed leper, help us to always be thankful for the blessings you have given to us. May we be always mindful of sharing what we have so that all people might know the love and kindness you give us in Christ. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sign of Peace

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

Closing Song



SONG SUGGESTIONS FOR THANKSGIVING

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

<p>All my days – GP2</p> <p>Alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord – CBW383, G317</p> <p>For the beauty of the earth - CBW531</p> <p>In the Lord I'll be ever thankful – G 546</p> <p>For the fruits of all creation - CBW532</p> <p>Let all things now living – CBW534</p> <p>Meadows and mountains – GP142</p>	<p>Now thank we all our God – CBW535</p> <p>Sing to the Mountains – G313, GP48</p> <p>Song of Thanksgiving (Ducote) – G447, GP239</p> <p>Song of Thanksgiving (Zsigray) – GP143</p> <p>We give thanks to you – CBW536</p> <p>With joy you shall draw water – CBW237</p>
---	---



PRAYERS FOR THE THANKSGIVING SEASON

The Office of Campus Ministry
266 Epworth Avenue
London, ON N6A 2M3
1-800-265-4406 / 519-433-3491
campusministry@uwo.ca

Team Members:

Michael Béchard (Rev.)
Susan Glaab, CSJ
Annette Donovan Panchaud
Janet Loo
Andrea Rector

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

**WWW.KINGS.UWO.CA/
CAMPUS_MINISTRY**

Grace before Meals Thanksgiving Day

Lord of Gifts,
From Your holy heart
has come a flood of gifts to us.
With uplifted hearts, we have gathered around this
table to thank You with prayer
and with the worship of feasting.
We are grateful
not only for the gifts of life itself,
but for all the gifts
of friendship, love, devotion and forgiveness
that we have shared.
On this feast of giving thanks, Lord God,
we thank You for showing us how to return thanks
by lives of service,
by deeds of hospitality,
by kindness to a stranger and by concern
for each other.
Come, Lord of Gifts,
And bless our table and all the food of
this feast.
Amen.

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is
darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to
be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Autumn Prayer

We praise you, Lord, for what autumn teaches,
We praise you for the beauty and colour and drama
You have put into what is dying.
Teach us to die to ourselves, to give our all,
With such grace and energy and spirit,
That you name will be glorified and held high.
Glory be, as autumn teaches,
To the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Now and forever.
Amen.

The Cycle of Life

To everything there is a season,
A time to every purpose under the sun:
A time to be born and a time to die;
A time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is
planted;
A time to kill and time to heal ...
A time to weep and a time to laugh;
A time to mourn and a time to dance ...
A time to embrace and a time to refrain from
embracing;
A time to lose and a time to seek ...
A time to rend and a time to dew;
A time to keep silent and a time to speak;
A time to love and a time to hate;
A time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Seedtime and Harvest

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
God of seedtime and harvest,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Bless us and strengthen us
To live and blossom and bear good fruit
To his praise and glory.
- Dorothy M. Stewart

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