Charles de Foucauld was born in Strasbourg, France on September 15, 1858. Orphaned at the age of six, he and his sister Marie were raised by their grandfather in whose footsteps he followed by taking up a military career. He lost his faith as an adolescent. His taste for easy living was well known to all and yet he showed that he could be strong willed and constant in difficult situations. He undertook a risky exploration of Morocco (1883-1884). Seeing the way Muslims expressed their faith caused him to question himself and he began repeating, “My God, if you exist, let me come to know you.” On his return to France, the warm, respectful welcome he received from his deeply Christian family made him continue his search. Under the guidance of Fr. Huvelin he rediscovered God in October 1886. He was then 28 years old. “As soon as I believed in God, I understood that I could not do otherwise than to live for him alone.” Ordained a priest at 43, he left for the Sahara, living among the Tuaregs of the Hoggar. He wanted to be among those who were “the furthest removed, the most abandoned.” He wanted all who drew close to him to find in him “a universal brother.” In a great respect for the culture and faith of those among whom he lived, his desire was to “shout the Gospel with his life.” “I would like to be sufficiently good that people would say, “If such is the servant, what must the Master be like?” He was declared a martyr after being killed outside his home on December 1, 1916. In his writings, he offers us the following:

“Be as tender and attentive towards those whom God puts on our path, as a brother towards brother or as a mother for her child. As much as possible be an element of consolation for those around us, as soothing balm, as our Lord was towards all those who drew near to him.”
READING WEEK AND PROGRAMMING: Please note that Reading Week falls between February 18 and 22, 2019. During this time, Campus Ministry’s regular programming will be suspended. These include Daily Eucharist and Development and Peace. There will be no 5:00 PM Sunday Eucharist or community meal on February 17 and 24, 2019. “Reading Between the Lines” will still take place on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

WORDS OF THANKS are extended to Father Paul Baillargeon for his ministry this week while Father Michael Bechard is engaged in another parish in the Diocese of London.

COMMUNITY MEALS: Our community meals following the 5:00 PM liturgy continue. We warmly encourage parishioners to contribute to our potlucks, to consider sponsoring a meal ($500) or to join with another family to prepare a meal for those gathered. This offering is tax-deductible. We are in need of volunteers to assist with preparing coffee, setting tables, and preparing the room. If you are able to assist, even if only occasionally, please contact either michael.bechard@kings.uwo.ca or annette.donovan-panchaud@kings.uwo.ca.

COFFEE SOCIAL: Christ the King University Parish will be hosting a gathering on February 24, 2019 with coffee and sweets following the morning Eucharist. We hope that many of you will be able to join us in the Parish Hall.

KING’S CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERT, “INTO THE LIGHT”: On Saturday, March 30, 2019 at 7:30 PM King’s University College Chamber Choir, joined by chamber orchestra, presents a program that explores the literal and figurative meanings of darkness and light. Repertoire includes the ethereal Lux Aeterna by Lauridsen. Admission by freewill donation with proceeds to the Refugee Sponsorship Initiative at King’s. This concert takes place in The Chapel at Windermere on the Mount.

VERITAS SERIES FOR FAITH AND CULTURE

Dr. Murray Watson
Rediscovering Our Lost Family: Highlights and Lowlights in Contemporary Jewish-Catholic-Muslim Dialogue
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019, 7:30 PM, KENNY THEATRE
FREE / ACCESSIBLE

Although Catholicism has a very long history of interacting with both Judaism and Islam, much of that history has been negative, tense and confrontational. This talk will provide a glimpse into some of the many good news stories and some of the struggles that challenge us to come to know each other better, and to interact respectfully, and thoughtfully, as partners and, increasingly, as friends.

Dr. Murray Watson is a Catholic Biblical scholar and interfaith leader who has worked for 20 years in the field of interreligious dialogue and education. After studies in Rome, Jerusalem and Dublin, Murray’s work has involved teaching here in London and in Israel, as well as work with the Scarboro Missions Interfaith Department and the International Council of Christians and Jews. Murray is currently based in Barrie, Ontario, where he works supporting the professional development of Catholic teachers. In 2004, Murray was one of the co-founders of the Centre for Jewish-Catholic-Muslim Learning here at King’s.

PLEASE BRING US YOUR OLD PALMS: As we now turn our minds to Ordinary Time, we cannot forget that Lent is just around the corner. Traditionally, the ashes that are used for Ash Wednesday are from the charred remains of the palms from the year before. Please bring in your old palms by March 3, 2019. There will be a basket at the back of the chapel to receive them. Thank you for your assistance.
UPCOMING MARRIAGES: Please remember in your prayers the intentions and needs of the following couples preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage:
Mark Firth and Michelle Flisar on April 27, 2019
Mark Whitley and Katherine Berkelmans on June 29, 2019
Andrew Lang and Brianna Switzer on July 20, 2019
Brian Rome and Nancy Cabral on August 3, 2019
Rodney Lupo and Katrina Beene on August 24, 2019
Kevin Van Lierop and Michelle Foglton on September 28, 2019
Matthew Bellia and Kirsten Rimeikis on October 12, 2019
John McAlea and Lauren Phillips on October 15, 2019
Jonathan Kingwell and Kathleen McKee on December 28, 2019

IN MEMORY: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Melvin Weber, father of Linda Weber, of Student Affairs at Kings, and Anne Beam, mother of Jacqueline and Giulio Spagnuolo, who have died. May Melvin, Anne and all who have died know the fullness of peace in the presence of God and may those who grieve find hope in the promise of resurrection.

COME AND SEE WEEKEND: Men who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life are invited to gather in prayer, learning, reflection and discernment at St. Peter’s Seminary from March 1 to 3, 2019. To register or for more information, please contact Father Patrick Beneteau at vocations@dol.ca, 519.432.1824 ext. 204.

LEN TEN DAY OF PRAYER - SEEING CLEAR THROUGH: JESUS IN THE GOSPEL EVENT OF THE “TEMP TATIONS”

Our Lenten Day of Prayer is on Sunday, March 10, 2019. We will begin with a simple lunch in the Parish Hall at 12:00 PM and conclude with the 5:00 PM Eucharist in The Chapel at Windermere on the Mount. There is no cost for the day, but your RSVP to lisa.caeiro@kings.uwo.ca is requested so as to plan for food.

Our speaker for the retreat is Sister Margo Ritchie CSJ, a Sister of St. Joseph. Her life has offered many opportunities: teaching high school, co-director of a home for women experiencing homelessness, adult education and leadership within her Congregation.

We will reflect upon the gospel story for the first Sunday of Lent which speaks of the three temptations of Jesus during his 40-day desert sojourn. What does such vivid imagery have to say to us today? How can we describe the inner space of Jesus that enabled a clarity about what his life was about? What difference does our own clear-seeing make in our own experience of ourselves and our engagement in our world?

The following snippet of poetry by Vaclav Havel, one of the architects of the Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia, will be included in our reflection:

Whether all is really lost or not depends entirely
On whether or not I [we] are lost.
The feast of the Chair of St. Peter commemorates Christ’s choosing Peter to sit in his place as the servant-authority of the whole Church. After the “lost weekend” of pain, doubt, and self-torment, Peter hears the Good News. Angels at the tomb say to Magdalene, “The Lord has risen! Go, tell his disciples and Peter.” John relates that when he and Peter ran to the tomb, the younger outraced the older, then waited for him. Peter entered, saw the wrappings on the ground, the headpiece rolled up in a place by itself. John saw and believed. But he adds a reminder: “They did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead” (John 20:9). They went home. There the slowly exploding, impossible idea became reality. Jesus appeared to them as they waited fearfully behind locked doors. “Peace be with you,” he said (John 20:21b), and they rejoiced.

Only then can Peter fulfill the task Jesus had given him: “Once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:32). He at once becomes the spokesman for the Twelve about their experience of the Holy Spirit—before the civil authorities who wished to quash their preaching, before the Council of Jerusalem, for the community in the problem of Ananias and Sapphira. He is the first to preach the Good News to the Gentiles. The healing power of Jesus in him is well attested: the raising of Tabitha from the dead, the cure of the crippled beggar. People carry the sick into the streets so that when Peter passed, his shadow might fall on them.

At the end of John’s Gospel, Jesus says to Peter, “Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go” (John 21:18). What Jesus said indicated the sort of death by which Peter was to glorify God. On Vatican Hill, in Rome, during the reign of Nero, Peter did glorify his Lord with a martyr’s death, probably in the company of many Christians.

Like the committee chair, this chair refers to the occupant, not the furniture. Its first occupant stumbled a bit, denying Jesus three times and hesitating to welcome gentiles into the new Church. Some of its later occupants have also stumbled a bit, sometimes even failed scandalously. As individuals, we may sometimes think a particular pope has let us down. Still, the office endures as a sign of the long tradition we cherish and as a focus for the universal Church.

www.franciscanmedia.org

The place where we gather for worship and mission is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to the land and region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London.