



Newsletter of the Catholic School of Evangelization

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BIG NEWS: Sep 2022 Relaunch of our Discipleship Formation Program

The original vision of the CSE's founders was to make it a place of spiritual formation for young adults, from which would sprout further apostolic works, both for the CSE and in the broader lives of those adults. From 1992 through 2007, seventy-one people participated in the CSE's Discipleship Formation Program. Lack of enrolment and many other factors contributed to shutting it down, but now a generation has passed. **We are starting it up again in September of 2022**, revamped and made relevant for today's needs.

Students would pay a modest fee for tuition, room, and board for the year, and would live in community at the CSE from Sep–Jun. They will receive on-site faith formation, and will participate in opportunities to put their faith into practice.

The details are still being worked out, but we believe God is leading us in this direction, so we are giving him permission to make it happen. **If you are interested in participating as an instructor, a dorm supervisor, or a student, or by contributing towards bursaries, contact the CSE.** This is more than a gap year. This is a chance to orient one's trajectory to the whole-hearted service of God through a flourishing life of virtue. Keep an eye on our website for further information.

Need a Venue?

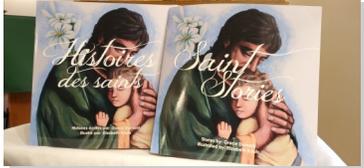
The CSE is offering its ample facilities in St. Malo for FREE to any Catholic parish, school, or ministry group.

Our 10,000 square foot facility includes a chapel, two meeting rooms, a fully functional kitchen, and a dining room for up to fifty people. Three separate sleeping areas (bunk beds) can sleep collectively up to eighty people.

We are offering these facilities to enable your Catholic community to offer successful faith formation. Additional services are available for a fee. Contact us for more details.

Saint Stories

Do you have your Saint Stories book yet? Written and illustrated by camp alumni Grace Dumont and Elizabeth Kautz, at \$20.00, this treasured work makes a great gift for all occasions. Contact us for information on how to get it into your hands.



Board Update

We gratefully acknowledge the service offered to our Board of Directors by Justin Jeanson, Janelle Malkiewicz, and Nick Sagriotis, all of whom stepped down from the board this past year. It's so valuable for us at the CSE to have input and guidance from people across various walks of life, and the experience and expertise they provided us was a great blessing. THANK YOU!

How about you? Are you able to help guide and direct the CSE in our mission? **We could especially use somebody with a solid background in accounting.**

The commitment to serve on the board includes one meeting a month (usually virtual), occasionally some small, practical tasks arising from those meetings, and supporting the CSE in active prayer.

Email board@catholicway.net if you'd like more information.

Director Update



Anita Vander Aa stepped into the role of Executive Director way back in January of 2012. For context, that was the year Barack Obama won his second term as US President.

"Escape Room" was added to the English lexicon. Queen Elizabeth II celebrated the

60th anniversary of her coronation. The Curiosity Rover landed on Mars.

After nearly ten years of devoted ministry leading the CSE, Anita submitted her resignation effective Oct 1, 2021. She has taken a new job with the Catholic Schools Office at the Archdiocese of Winnipeg.

Everywhere one goes in the CSE, one sees Anita's lingering touch. A handwritten affirmation note pinned to the bookkeeper's bulletin board... a vibrant collection of nametags from past conferences hanging on her old office door... mysterious inside jokes known only to her and Kevin... a dried rose lovingly placed next to a statue

of Our Lady in the chapel.

But far more powerful are the lingering touches she has left on the people who have come through the CSE in that time, as campers, staff, retreat participants, rental groups, clergy, and friends. Anita's radiance of the love of Christ is her real legacy here. She will be missed, and we wish her well in this new chapter.



Hello! I'm **James V. Kautz**, the new Executive Director. I was raised as a Free Methodist evangelical Protestant in Saskatchewan. In 1998 I became Catholic (a story for another time!) and moved to Ottawa, where I met Winnipegger Dawn Bohncke while doing volunteer work. We were married there, but moved to Manitoba in 2001 after the birth of the first of our eight (soon to be nine) children. Since then, I've had a long association with the CSE. I've attended JOLT, many Emmaus Prayer Meetings, and countless retreats here over the years. Our children have been campers and counsellors and have made many life-

long friends from those experiences.

But by far my most profound connection to the CSE came when my family lived here as Missionary Family from 2018 to 2020. That experience deepened my love for the CSE, and gave me a solid institutional understanding long before I knew I'd need it in this role.

I am humbled that the board has trusted me with this position. I give this sincere assurance to the whole CSE family: I will do my very best to honour the CSE's traditions, in harmony with authentic Catholic teaching, submissive to the will of God,

respecting the dignity of all people, with *the ultimate goal of facilitating encounters with Christ*, who alone can change hearts and lives through the free gift of his grace and mercy.

Pray for me! I've got big shoes to fill. Oh and that reminds me: Anita, you left some slippers here.



Meet the New Missionary Family: the Bonekamps

Keri, Veronika, Alexandria, Maximilian, and I (Paul) look forward to serving you as the CSE Missionary Family. We are excited to make new friends and to become more involved in the Catholic community down here in friendly southern Manitoba.

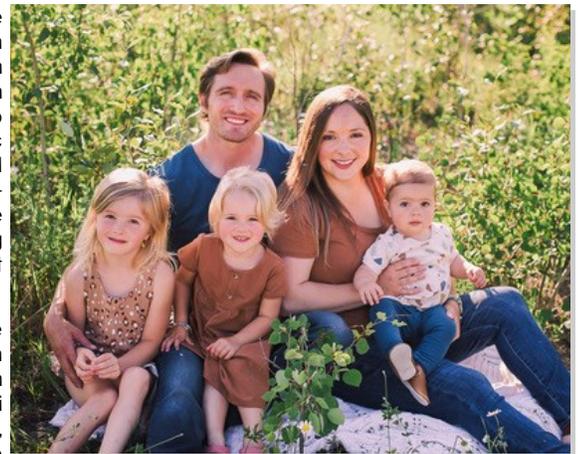
Before moving here, we owned a house in Beausejour, where we had lived for about eight years. So why did we sell our place and take the position as Missionary Family? I suppose it had a lot to do with community, as well as our desire to become more involved in the life of the Church.

Keri and I didn't attend Catholic camps growing up. We never really developed much in the way of broader Catholic community. That all changed during the last couple of years as we began to meet a lot of fantastic people who were very involved in the life of the Church, many of whom hailed from the quiet little towns dotting the landscape in southern Manitoba. At the same time, we had both found ourselves drawn into a much deeper practice of our faith. When the mission-

ary family position opened up at the CSE, we were already looking for an opportunity to become more involved in the life of the Church, especially in a setting where we could continue to meet new people and to build Catholic community for our family. As a helpful bonus we would also have the opportunity to get to know this end of the province a little better, as we are hoping to settle down in the area someday. It seemed like a good fit!

As I'm writing this, we have been here for a little over six weeks. It has been a great change for our family. Our children love having so much room to play, Keri and I appreciate the friendly neighbours, and everyone is enjoying the more relaxed lifestyle on offer in southern Manitoba. 24/7 access to the chapel is probably the best part of living here though!

We look forward to being a part of the work of



building up the Church for future generations. Our ultimate hope is that we can play some role, God willing, in helping our young people to embrace the high and holy call of sainthood.

Summer Camps Review

"For we walk by faith, not by sight" - 2 Corinthians 5:7



The pandemic has reshaped all aspects of our society, and camps are no exception.

With the experience of running day camps once already in 2020, our team of camp leaders and counsellors came into 2021 with a better understanding of what to expect.



Last year, public health orders changed frequently leading up to camp season. Parents were either reluctant to send their kids to spend time with other campers, or else hesitant to put their kids in an environment where social distancing would apply. And campers

themselves had a hard time responding to the change in the camp experience. We learned from those experiences and brought those lessons into the 2021 season of day camps.

Through all the uncertainty, one thing drove us to offer whatever we could for a camp program: the unchanging love of God for his people, and a firm belief that the CSE has a role to play in announcing that message.



So we did what we could. We partnered with several parishes: Sts-Martyrs-Canadiens, Notre Dame de Lorette, St. Emile, Our Lady of Victory, St. Timothy's, St. Malo, and Notre Dame du Laus in Powerview.

They graciously allowed us to run day camps using their facilities. Through games, skits, small group sharing, prayer time, and talks presented by a talented and dedicated group of young people making up our team of counsellors, we hope and pray that through our efforts, the seeds of faith in the lives of our campers were brought closer to Christian maturity.

Scan this code to see our camp highlight video on Facebook, set to the sound of campers singing "Walk By Faith" - our original camp theme song!



Feedback from parents

"Camp should be a place to grow in friendship and make memories with others in an environment that is focused on Christ. I believe St. Malo Day Camp provided just that for my daughter."

"Our child cannot wait until next year to go back to this camp."

"One of the things that I love was when I saw the facilitators, they were enthusiastic young adults that would surely be able to relate to these little kids."

"Thank you to all the facilitators who gave their time. May God bless them and your team."

Winter Retreats Preview

"Strength In Adversity"

In order to conform to public health orders and still provide programming to all families, this winter we are planning on running several Saturday retreats instead of overnight camps.



Our theme will be *Strength In Adversity*. Believers in the West today don't suffer persecutions anything like Christians did under the Roman Empire, but everybody has some degree of unpleasantness in their life - whether it's an annoying sibling, exclusion from a friend group at school, or having to wear a mask (and yes, sorry, unless public health orders change, masks will be required for indoor functions at these retreats). And Christ himself tells us to expect hard persecutions if we are his followers.

We'll explore age-appropriate accounts from the Bible and the lives

of the Saints to find inspiration and practical examples of how to endure injustices (small and big) as a Christian.

For more information and to register, visit stmalocamps.net.

Note: we reserve the right to cancel Winter Retreats if updated public health orders or other unforeseen factors make it impractical or impossible to offer them. Pray that we're permitted to proceed!

Language & Ages	2022 Date	Retreat Venue & Time
English 8-11	Sat, Jan 15	Holy Cross, 9am-6pm
French 8-11	Sat, Jan 22	Saints Martyrs, 9am-6pm
English 12-14	Sat, Jan 29	Holy Cross, 9am-6pm
French 12-14	Sat, Feb 5	Saints Martyrs, 9am-6pm
Bilingual 15-17	Sat, Feb 12	CSE, 9am-9pm

2020-2021 Financial Overview

Wish List

REVENUE		EXPENSES	
Donations & fundraising	\$112,388	Payroll & Benefits (regular + camp staff)	\$144,168
Grants*	\$93,131	Activity & travel costs	\$9,614
*\$28,274 of our grant revenue was COVID relief		Memberships, licensing, & marketing	\$9,362
Camp & Rental Revenue	\$14,957	Taxes, bank fees, admin, & insurance	\$15,933
		Building, utilities, & equipment	\$20,585
TOTAL REVENUE	\$220,476	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$199,662
		NET INCOME	\$20,814

- A humeral veil for use during Eucharistic Adoration
- A new barbecue
- Tree service: we have some dead trees to take down
- Firewood, or somebody with time, tools, & skill to chop up those dead trees
- Wood for custom bookshelves for our overstuffed library, and somebody to design & build them
- \$200 to restock our large altar candles in the chapel
- \$1,000 for landscaping to minimize basement water leaks
- \$1,000 for lock upgrades
- \$1,500 for sound absorbing acoustic panels for the dining hall
- \$2,500 for energy efficient lightbulbs & fixtures
- \$3,000 for washroom renovations
- \$50,000 to re-shingle our roof
- \$100,000 to renovate our kitchen
- Prayers: lots and lots of prayers

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Newsletter

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Donor Spotlight



We graciously wish to recognize The Bargain Bureau for its recent generous donation of office furniture to the CSE.

Run by parents of camp alumni, the Bargain Bureau obtains high-quality, well maintained office furniture and supplies from businesses who no longer need it for various reasons (downsizing, upgrading, moving), and resells it at discounted prices. They provided us with a new desk, a filing cabinet, and some very nice chairs, and we know that if we need more we can call on them.

Check them out at thebargainbureau.com.

We rely on our regular donors to keep us in operation year-round. Currently, we have 48 regular donor families, who contribute an average of \$68 each month. Last year there were 125 donors in total, with most of them giving one-time gifts—all greatly appreciated!

Donations made up about 51% of our revenue last year, meaning only 18% of our revenue was predictable when compared against the budget. Running an institution when that much of your incoming revenue is uncertain can be challenging. We cherish our beloved Fr. Choiselat's exhortation to *have faith in Providence*, as this plaque by our chapel constantly reminds us.

Here's our request: This newsletter is costing us about \$1.38 per copy to print & distribute, plus around 30 hours of labour to create it. Please honour our investment by becoming a monthly donor for \$10 (or more, if you're able).



Sign up at: <https://www.catholicway.net/donate>