

VISION NEWSLETTER

Special
20th
anniversary
edition

Leaders in the new evangelization;
inviting young people to know and follow Jesus

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Message from the Director

God is so good! Twenty years ago the Catholic School of Evangelization was born through prayer and trust in the providential love of God. My life has been changed because of my decision to be a student, then staff member and now the executive Director. It is an honor to be able to serve through the CSE as my way of giving back to those who have blessed me so.

My time as director has been challenging, but I have learned a lot about myself and grown closer to Jesus as well. Whenever I feel as though I am not able to do a task that is set before me, I am reminded that with God all things are possible. It is by His strength and grace alone that I am able to do what I do.

Although we do not have an Outreach Team this year, God has brought many opportunities for us to reach out. We are still meeting once a week at Emmaus, winter and summer camps are being prepared, JOLT is still drawing young people into praise and worship. We have also taken this year as a year of listening to the needs of those around us... parishes, the Archdiocese, the youth and young adults and all those we have served in the past and to continue to use our giftedness to share the gift of faith we have been entrusted with.

In this year of faith, I invite you to pray for the Catholic School of Evangelization and all of its ministries as we continue to be attentive to where God is calling us to serve.

Anita Van der Aa,
Executive Director

20th Anniversary Celebration

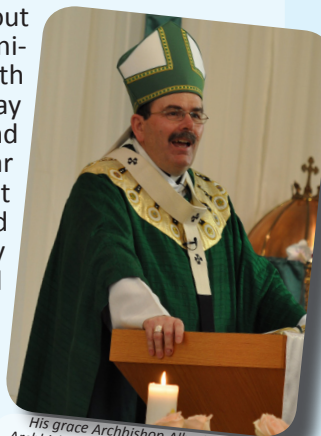
Approximately 250 people came out to celebrate the CSE's 20th anniversary on Sunday, October 14th and what a celebration it was! The day started with Praise and Worship and though I saw many friends and familiar faces there were many people I didn't recognize. It was then that I realized that God had done immeasurably more through the CSE than I would ever fully understand.

We then celebrated Mass with his grace, Msgr LeGatt. and I was most inspired during communion. I was seated near the front and as people walked by on their way to receive Jesus, I was astounded at how many people were present. I soon realized that those I saw only represented a small number of lives touched by God through the ministries of the CSE.

After Mass the newest section of the CSE (chapel and girls' dorm) was dedicated to L'abbé Joseph Choiselat, one of the founding members of the CSE. On a plaque with his photo and name was inscribed "Have faith in providence", a favourite saying of his. The first house parents of the first Discipleship Formation Program class, Jean and Mathilde Fifi, were there along with some members of the Choiselat family.

After the dedication we were invited to the Church basement for food and fellowship. There was so much love present that day and I couldn't help but look around and be reminded that we must always seek out God's will our my lives, because in 20 years, we don't know what God might do with and through us.

Amber Wsiaki
Outreach Team Alumni, member of 20th anniversary committee



His grace Archbishop Albert LeGatt,
Archbishop of Saint-Boniface, celebrating
mass for the CSE's 20th anniversary



photo credit for this page: Erin Kinsella

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE MINISTRIES?

Catholic Outreach Team

MY OUTREACH EXPERIENCE:

Coming to the CSE on September 12th, 2011 I was quite nervous about being away from home and living with a group of people I didn't know very well at all. I wasn't too sure what the year was going to look like in regards to classes and ministry, but somehow I was thinking that we would just go about doing what we were each used to, and use what talents we had already discovered. Well, that's not exactly how it went. After the first few weeks where we just took time to get to know each other better and learn about the Faith, we started into our formation and training period for outreach. I was a little worried when Kurt (outreach coordinator) started talking about leadership roles on team. There were a good number of roles, and because we were only 5 on team some of us would have to have more than one. I cringed and knew right away that one or more of my roles was going to be a challenge for me. I was asked to be the music leader and one of the team leaders. ah! I liked music, sure, but I would have to learn how to play guitar and learn new music all together; and being a team leader... what does that mean? I agreed to take these roles on board to see what was in store for me throughout the 9 months.

After many mistakes and much useless worry on my part, I was able to learn and play guitar; as well as help 'lead' the team. I can say with much satisfaction that my time on the Outreach Team was well worth the challenges! I have gained so much knowledge over the year, not only about my faith, but also about myself and what I can do when I allow God to work in and through me. I was able to go places I didn't know existed and meet people of all different nationalities and backgrounds. I loved being able to spend time with and minister to the youth, through talks, skits, music, games, and fellowship. God has blessed me tremendously with a great bunch of people, my second family, throughout the 9 months. I will never forget the journey we had together, and I have many pictures to remind me of all the ridiculously fun times we had. I want to say thank you to all who have supported the CSE in any way, you have no idea how much you have helped to touch many lives! May God bless you all!

Stephanie Sundell
2011-2012 Outreach Team



Left to right: Marlette Hulet,
Elaine Jeanson and Stephanie Sundell

THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE

We would like to acknowledge both Elaine Jeanson and Kurt Nugent for their contributions to the Catholic Outreach Team and to the Catholic School of Evangelization. Both are now pursuing other areas of interest and we offer them our prayers as they continue on in the journey that Jesus leads them.



photo credit for this page: Ed Bolmeke

INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THE CATHOLIC OUTREACH TEAM?

We are now accepting applications for the 2013-2014 year.

Contact us today for an application form!

outreach@catholicway.ca

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE MINISTRIES?

Emmaus

Actively pursuing the answer to the aches of the human heart is at the very core of the Emmaus Young Adults group. Relationship with Christ, understanding the teachings of the Church, and giving witness to the truths that have been revealed to us is how we grow to understand ourselves within the context of God the Father, Son, and Spirit. The Trinitarian community is the source of the absolute goodness that we crave, and on earth, become closest to that Perfection in receiving the Eucharist.



Emmaus core team, right to left: Justin Patenaude, Stephanie Berthon, Amber Wiacki and Bill Dykstra

"Jesus joins them on their journey—though we are told that they are prevented from recognizing him—and he asks them what they are talking about. Throughout his ministry, Jesus associated with sinners. He stood shoulder to shoulder in the muddy waters of the Jordan with those seeking forgiveness through the baptism of John; over and again, he ate and drank with disreputable types, much to the chagrin of the self-righteous; and at the end of his life, he was crucified in between two thieves. Jesus hated sin, but he liked sinners and was consistently willing to move into their world and to engage them on their terms."

Humility needs to be coupled with our call to evangelize. There are those who, consumed by their own frustrations, speak out against a greater society in a manner that does not reflect the self sacrificing altruism that we see in Christ and the Saints. Our fire needs to reflect the burning bush; a flame that glows but does not consume us. It is a flame that's ignited within the depths of our hearts.

Emmaus meets at the St. Boniface Pastoral Center, Hall "C" on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. Please feel free to join us.

Bill Dykstra
Emmaus coordinator



This year of Faith has been a great advantage for the Church to rediscover and become more united Christ. In his letter "Porta Fidei" Pope Benedict XVI says

"The "door of faith" (Acts 14:27) is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into his Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace. To enter through that door is to set out on a journey that lasts a lifetime."

Faith is not an ignorance of truth, but the way we embrace truth. Absolute truth, God's logos, the Word is personified in Christ Jesus. To have Faith is both an involvement of the mind and heart.

At Emmaus we have taken this year of faith to heart and mind. Thus far we have looked to the Catechism of the Catholic Church for understanding what Faith is. We have looked to those who have gone before us, the Saints, and looked to their expression of faith, and soon we will enter a series on The Apostles Creed, the profession of faith.

By involving ourselves in this year of faith we are not "patting ourselves on the back" as it were. Looking back to our community's archetype of the Road to Emmaus, we recognize that these travelers were in retreat of Jerusalem in the wake of the events of the Crucifixion. We all, like the travelers on the road, retreat from witnessing to love. Despite our own cowardice we are still loved. Fr. Barron explains it this way :

Save the date!
Annual CSE banquet
April 12th, 2013

A special thanks to
Stephanchew Church Goods,
for sponsoring Catholic musician,
Joe Zambon, at Emmaus' celebration
for the CSE's 20th anniversary.

Saint Malo Catholic Camps

Now that summer camp has been wrapped up, I am looking forward to the upcoming months of preparation for winter camp! The theme that has been chosen for winter camps is "Keepin' it Real!". This theme is based off of the year of faith which our pope, Benedict XVI, has announced. With this focus, we will be learning about how to make our faith authentic so that we can truly live the gospel message within our school, work and especially our families. The bible verses that I have chosen to accompany this theme are:



Participants at our 15 to 17 year old retreat this past summer, along with His grace Archbishop Albert LeGatt, and a few seminarians from the Archdiocese of Saint-Boniface.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1 Timothy 4:12, 5:8

Lastly, if anyone is looking for volunteer experiences, there are many things to help out with here at the CSE during and before winter camps! Contact Madison at camps@catholicway.ca for more information.

Madison Giesbrecht
Director's Assistant

Winter camp dates and registration forms are now available! Don't forget to register! Space is limited! Contact us for more information!

Please note: earlybird registration ends December 16th

I would like to support the Catholic School of Evangelization and its ministries in their efforts!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Postal/Zip Code: _____ Tel. no.: _____

Email: _____

One time donation of: \$ _____

(please enclose a cheque or fill in the credit card info below)

Monthly donation of: \$ _____

automatically deducted from:

My bank chequing account (please include a void cheque)

My credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card# _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. date: _____

I hereby authorize the Catholic School of Evangelization to make a monthly deduction from my bank chequing account or credit card for the amount indicated above on the **15th** of _____ mm _____ yyyy

Signature: _____

Window fundraiser

We would like to invite you to participate in the physical restoration of the CSE! You can sponsor a window and in thanks a plaque of remembrance will be installed for yourself or in memory of a loved one. Contact us for more details.

Donations are tax-deductible (reg # 13441 2998 RR0001) Receipts are issued at year end- your bank or credit card statement will indicate the CSE's receipt of your donation on a monthly basis.