

VISION

of the catholic school
of evangelization
newsletter

Campers Spreading
the **FLAME**
Fr. Dominic LaFleur



Let me tell you the story of a boy at camps who spread the Fire of Jesus to my parish.

"Why didn't you give me the Bread?" the young boy asked me with tears welling in his eyes, after I had celebrated the closing mass for his week of summer camps in St. Malo. I was heartbroken, and scrambled for words as my mind raced, and I answered: "Have you ever received Jesus before? Do you know what 'Eucharist' means?". The 8-year-old was wide-eyed and obviously not familiar with what I was asking. So I asked: "Do you know what I was giving the other kids at communion?" I asked. "Yes! You were giving them Jesus!" he exclaimed. His Body and Blood!". "How did you know?" I asked. His answer was so matter-of-fact: "Because I saw you do that thing that changes the Bread into Him!".

I shared with him the great privilege that lies in receiving Holy Communion, and how we like to make sure people are ready to receive it by inviting them to First Reconciliation and then to bring them to their First Communion. "Do you know why we do that?", I then asked. "Yes! So that Jesus can come into a pure heart and soul! We learned that at camps!" he exclaimed. "Do you want to be prepared to receive Jesus?" I asked. "YES!" he exclaimed back. "Then go tell your parents that you want Jesus and I'll get you ready!"

"You're on", he said with a smile. "I'll be back, and I know some friends who might come with me, too! Can they come?" "Of course!" I answered.

This same boy later returned, this time with friends, to be duly prepared to receive Jesus at their First Communion. They started helping us form new groups for our catechism programs.

"We sure wish our parents and family would come to Mass more often!" the boys eventually said, "I would learn so much more and receive Jesus!" The boy and his friends were later trained as Altar Servers. Their families and friends slowly began to show up at Mass with their other children.

The original group of mini-apostles was so on fire they started thinking of ways to invite their parents, siblings and friends to participate in the Life of the Church. They wanted to be sure to respect them and to meet them where they were at in their faith commitment.

Before I knew it, we had founded a Youth group. This Youth Group involved parents for planning activities with these youth - youth who, in turn, reach out to other youth, and other parents whom I do not usually see in my Ministry.

All because of one little soul who wanted Jesus after his experience at summer camps, many other souls have also chosen Jesus. These kids invite us to make a choice; Jesus comes to us through their little hearts burning with great love for Him.

This is one example of how one little spark from camp helped spread the fire of Jesus' Love and Truth here in St. Malo. I could recount many more examples of other sparks that have been cast across the Archdiocese, the country and abroad, through experiences of Christ at the St. Malo Catholic Camps and the CSE's various other programs. I am in awe at the beautiful blessings the Lord gives us through this ministry. ✠

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Building Family at Camps

Gillian Moore

This past summer, my husband and I had the pleasure of spending a week at the St. Malo Catholic Camps during the 15-17 retreat with our three children: Jacob (6), Asher (4), and Emika (1½). Our past experiences at the CSE as campers, retreatants, and counsellors had a great impact on making us the people we are today. Having personally experienced the fruits of the CSE, we've been supporting its ministries for many years. We were invited to spend a week at summer camps, in an effort to provide a positive experience and example of family to the retreatants. We immediately saw this as an opportunity to support the CSE's mission in a new way: a way that included our entire family. We jumped at the chance.

Our experience this summer exceeded all expectations. It was incredible to see how welcomed our children were by all staff, facilitators, and the retreatants. Jacob still loves to recount - to all who will listen - the story of picking the name of the boys' team and designing their team flag, which is now hanging in a place of pride in his room. (Shout out to all the Warriors for

Christ!) Everyone was very accepting of our children and their individual personalities. Once again, the CSE lived up to its mission by being so hospitable to our family.

It was a privilege to witness the creation of community over the course of the week, from the first icebreaker games where strangers awkwardly tried to remember each other's names, to becoming a community of brothers and sisters in Christ. Seeing this transformation take place in the participants was a testament to the power of, and need for, evangelization in our world today. Each participant, ourselves included, came to the week from a different place in our journeys of faith, but I saw everyone taking steps - and in some cases leaps - closer to Jesus. Sustaining a life of faith can be a challenge even in the best of times, but we have confidence that the CSE, and the community created through its ministries, will be here for us all as we grow to be true Disciples of Christ. ✠



"The witness of the camp counselors, their joy and enthusiasm for God, and their testimonies are what I

hear about a lot from my kids. They get to meet other kids who share the same faith and the same language"

-Camper Parent



"I am so grateful to the CSE for the amazing summer camps they provide for my children! They love the campers AND the counselors who inspire the kids through their testimonies. They also very much love the quiet Chapel time where they've shed tears of joy each year! Praise God!"

-Janelle LaFrance, camper parent

Save the date!

Find the Retreat calendar on page 3!

EMMAUS

Come for some prayer and fellowship!

Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Kateri Hall, Saint-Boniface Pastoral Centre (622 Taché Ave.)

CSE Annual Banquet

Come have a great meal and support the CSE!

When?: Friday, April 22nd, 2016
Where?: Hall of Sts-Martyrs-Canadiens Parish (289 Dussault Ave.)

Please contact the CSE for more info!

#Giving Tuesday

Tuesday December 1st, 2015

Giving Tuesday is an international initiative which invites you to consider giving of yourself! Please consider the CSE in your Giving Tuesday gift.

Great opportunity to get in last-minute donations for a 2015 tax receipt!

Winter Camps!

Register online!

www.stmalocamps.net

Winter Camp dates are announced! The early bird deadline to get a discounted registration for winter camps is **December 11th!**

Volunteer Appreciation Event

We sincerely want to thank all volunteers who give so generously of their time!

Saturday April 9th, 2pm
location TBA

Support the CSE at the Co-op

Contribute your Red River Co-op refunds to the CSE by using the number below at the till!

0409593

2016 Retreat Calendar



Virtual Lenten Retreat February 10th to March 27th

Subscribe to our daily e-mail reflections starting Ash Wednesday and ending Easter Sunday.



Discernment Retreat February 19th to 21st

Ever wonder what God may be calling you to in life? Come and learn some practical tips and methods for discernment of big or small decisions!



Triduum Retreat March 24th to 27th

Come and delve more deeply into the beautiful mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.



Mother-Daughter May 14th to 15th

Calling all mothers & daughters! This retreat will provide you with an experience to grow in relationship with each other and with God.



Father-Son June 11th to 12th

Calling all fathers & sons! Through camping and canoeing, this retreat will provide you with an experience to grow in relationship with each other and with God.



MUSIC Retreat June 3rd to 5th

Come and develop your giftedness as a musician and as a christian artist!

An Innovative OUTREACH

Amber Wsiaki



“**A**s each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.” (1 Peter 4:10). We are so blessed here at the CSE by the many gifts with which God continually graces us: our generous donors, our dedicated supporters, and the privilege of ministering to His people. But one gift that we've also recognized is the gift and expertise of our staff, and this is a gift that we plan to use in a very new and special way this year.

The first way that we plan to utilize our staff's talent will be to offer various daylong and weekend retreats for families and young adults. As the family is the smallest (and most important) unit of the Church, we're proud to keep promoting youth ministry through the domestic Church. We will also be offering specialized young adult retreats. We are so excited to embark in this new chapter. Check out our retreat schedule just to the left of this story!

But that's not all! The second way we will endeavor to promote youth ministry in Manitoba will be to offer retreats to those who

minister to youth: Catholic school staff and parish workers who work so hard to bring the Good News to their communities. For one day, we invite groups to come out to St. Malo and take a step back from a typical day's work to be refreshed, renewed and refocused as the Christian role models and leaders they are for the Church. These retreats include a variety of activities: individual reflection and prayer time, group discussions, and team-building activities.

We're very excited about these new ministry opportunities because they allow us to continue to use our gifts to build up the Catholic Church in Manitoba! In keeping with our vision of being leaders in the new evangelization, we hope to reach out to these groups and fill a need for personal faith development and team building within already established leadership groups. We hope you are as excited as we are to continue in our mission of inviting youth to know and follow Jesus by taking some time to minister to those who minister to them! Please pray for us as we embark on this new adventure! ✝

New Website Coming Soon! Stay Tuned!

Stay tuned to catholicway.net! In order to better serve the community, we are in the process of developing a new website! In the mean time, make sure to like our Facebook pages!



/CatholicSchoolofEvangelization
/StMaloCatholicCamps
/CatholicOutreachTeam

Giving Tuesday: December 1st

Since its inaugural year in 2012, #Giving Tuesday has become a movement that celebrates and supports giving and philanthropy with events throughout the year.

THANK YOU!

This year on Giving Tuesday, the CSE is inviting you to join us in our invaluable mission to the youth of Manitoba, by becoming a monthly giver. Monthly gifts allow us to have the stable financial support needed to bring youth to Christ. Your help is essential. Every penny is used to lead youth to Christ.

For more information on becoming a monthly donor, or to make a one-time donation, contact Stella, stella@catholicway.net, or call us: 204-347-5396!

Meet our Staff!



Anita Vander Aa

Executive Director
anita@catholicway.net

What a blessing to be entering into my 5th year as the director of the CSE. In the fall of 1995, I was welcomed into the community life of the CSE and my life has been changing ever since. I look forward with joy to what God has in store.



Kevin Prada

Associate Director
Camp Director
kevin@catholicway.net

Having grown up in Winnipeg, I started coming to camps at the CSE when I was 13. I fell in love with the mission of the CSE, and still have the privilege of working with the camp program here! Please contact me for any inquiries regarding camps or fundraising!



Amber Wsiaki

Outreach Coordinator
amber@catholicway.net

I have been the Outreach Program Coordinator since January 2013. This year I am taking care of scheduling and running retreats for leaders in ministry. I also coordinate the adult retreats that will run from February to June and I take care of rental groups.



Stella Dubois

Admin. Assistant
stella@catholicway.net

I am originally from St-Malo. With 3 kids at home (2 boys and 1 girl) I keep busy with sports and other activities. I enjoy outdoor activities with my family whenever we can! Please contact me for any information on giving or on general CSE inquiries!

Wish List...

The CSE is in need of the following gently used items! If you are interested in donating any of these, please email kevin@catholicway.net.

-Rubberized entrance carpets
-Linoleum or tile flooring
-Office supplies

-Children car seats
-Sports equipment
-LCD projector
-Lawn mower
-Gas cards

-Snow blower
-Booster seats
-Fridge
-Indoor Plants
-Minivan



YES!

I would like to partner with the Catholic School of Evangelization in its mission of evangelization!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

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

☐ One time donation of: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 or ☐ \$_____

☐ **Monthly donation of:** ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 or ☐ \$_____

I would like to donate through:

☐ My chequing account (please include a void cheque)

☐ My credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card# _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. date: ____ / ____ Security Number: _____

☐ I hereby authorize the Catholic School of Evangelization to make a monthly deduction from my bank account or credit card for the amount indicated above starting on the 15th of _____mm _____yyyy

☐ **Please correspond with me by email. Email address:** _____

Allowing us to correspond with you by email allows us to reduce our printing and postage fees. Thank you!

Signature: _____

THANK YOU!

NEW! Donate online!

You can now make a one-time donation online through our secure PayPal network! Simply visit catholicway.net and click on the Donate button!

Donations of \$10 or more are tax-deductible (reg # 13441 2998 RR0001). Receipts are issued yearly by February. Your bank or credit card statement will indicate the CSE's receipt of your donation.

2014-15 Activities Report



THIS YEAR, OUR
OUTREACH MINISTRY TRAVELLED
5500 kms

**"WE ARE
leaders IN THE NEW
EVANGELIZATION. WE INVITE YOUNG PEOPLE
TO *know* AND *follow* Jesus."**

**40 volunteers
500 youth**
WERE AT RETREATS

27 kids
OF CSE ALUMNI CAME
TO CAMPS THIS SUMMER

OVER 72 HOURS PRAYED AT
Emmaus

**304
campers**
ATTENDED SUMMER AND WINTER CAMPS

43 staff members
RAN THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

**WE HELD OUT 3RD ANNUAL
MUSIC Retreat**

9 ALUMNI ***married*** THIS SUMMER,
4 ARE CURRENTLY IN THE ***seminary***,
AND 3 HAVE JOINED THE ***religious life***.

OVER
**60 CSE
alumni**
HAVE SINCE GOTTEN
INVOLVED WITH OTHER MAJOR
NATIONAL YOUTH MINISTRIES
SUCH AS NET, CCO, FACE TO FACE, STE,
THÉRÈSE SCHOOL OF FAITH AND MISSION...

2014-15 Financial Report



From the Director...

Anifa Vander Aa

As I look back and see just how much I and the ministry of the CSE have grown since I have been here as director, I am humbled by how God has chosen us to be His instruments in the world.


Recently, I met with the CSE Board of Directors to take time to evaluate the direction that we are taking. When pondering what the strengths of the CSE are, the word “community” was mentioned often and stuck with me. This is why I have felt at home here, why I feel drawn back to it time and time again. I have met and grown with so many beautiful people, and have been privileged to witness God working in, with and through them all in their own unique way.

At a recent Emmaus evening, an alumnus of the CSE shared her testimony, of how God used her

year on the Catholic Outreach Team to invite her to go deeper in her relationship with him.

This past year, I witnessed alumni dropping off their children for the first time at winter and summer camps, marvelling at the fact that, in a way, their lives have come full circle. Those who support the CSE have told me that they do so in order that their children and grandchildren will have a place to grow in and deepen their faith.

We are continuing to foster the growth of our community – our family. Through the retreats we will be offering here, Emmaus and camps, we will continue to form community – a community that will naturally and intentionally reach out and evangelize others.

Thank you for being a part of our family! 



Donating Trends

Total Number of Donations (2014-15).....	942
Total Number of Donors (2014-15)	216
Total Number of Monthly Donors	66
Average Donation Amount per Donor	\$150
Average Monthly Donation Amount.....	\$50

Total Revenue

Donations and Gifts	\$146,600
Activity-Generated Revenue.....	\$60,540
Grants.....	\$24,470
Fundraising & Miscellaneous	\$11,700
Total Revenue	\$243,310

Total Expenses

Fundraising and Advertisement.....	\$7,890
Building Maintenance, Utilities.....	\$16,580
Ministry Expenses.....	\$50,040
Admin Expenses.....	\$151,700
Total Expenses	\$226,210

*Dollar figures shown above have been rounded to the nearest ten.
Copies of an in-depth financial report are available upon request.*