



This Month in the Diocese

An E-Publication of the Diocese of Antigonish

Issue 10

May 2016



Our Cozy New Home ...

Emmaus Centre manager Linda LeBlanc is among our Pastoral Centre staff who have been busy these past few weeks settling in to our new space at 200 Churchill Dr., Membertou. Visit us now, and stay tuned for an official event in the next few months.



Three faiths, One God

A conference being hosted by St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish in Sydney on **Sunday, May 29, 2016** will celebrate both the Jubilee Year of Mercy and the common faith heritage shared by Judaism, Christianity and Islam. For details, see **page 3**

Five Questions ...

Margie Gillis has ministered in the barrios of Latin America, worked with at-risk youth in Alberta and chaplained thousands of high school students in Ontario. Now she has come home and is ministering to us as Assistant Director of Liturgy. See **Page 2**.

Are you up to date?

Our Diocese of Antigonish website is growing in content and popularity. Visit our site to:

- update your mass times
- connect with us on Facebook
- share photos and links
- Download this newsletter, the Bishop's letters and more

See more News and Notes on **Page 4**.



Five questions:

a conversation with our new Assistant Liturgy Director, Margie Gillis

1. Who was Margie Gillis before she became our Assistant Director of Liturgy?

I was born in Whitney Pier, graduated with my education degree from St. FX in '76, then joined the Congregation of Notre Dame. In my 18 years with the CND I was missioned in various places in Nova Scotia, Alberta and Latin America. I worked for two Catholic School Boards in Ontario for 25 years, as a teacher, faith formation consultant and chaplaincy leader.

2. What attracted you to this opportunity?

It was more like this opportunity found me. I longed to come home, and this past year I left my job in Ontario, downsized my belongings and returned to Sydney, not knowing exactly what I would do, while hoping to engage in some form of ministry. This position turned out to be a grace that has moved my spirit.

3. What are some of your priorities in this job?

Liturgy is an encounter with the Divine that is rich and powerful, drawing each of us into a relationship with the Divine. Where I lived in Guatemala, there was little structure in their liturgy but they had such joy, such engagement with the Word and their community. I hope I can share some of my experiences and energy to support and encourage grace and vibrancy in liturgical formation in our diocese.

4. How can parishes and we as individuals benefit from activities in your office?

There are so many ways of expressing our experience of prayer and worship. I invite parishes to discern what type of support they might need, and I look forward to providing support in enriching prayer experiences for all ages.

5. What are some of your favourite things, in liturgy and in life?

Coming home to Cape Breton has awakened my soul. I now live in the home my grandfather built. It is 110 years old, and renovating it has been a blessing and a challenge. I also love poetry and classical music (did you know baroque music can release writer's block?), Canadian female musicians like Jann Arden, and blues. I am also a poet, theologian and musician who is optimistic about life. I am told I have a great sense of humour and that people feel comfortable in my presence.

To contact Margie: 902-539-6188 or toll-free 1-800-656-5311 ext 237
email: Margie@dioceseofantigonish.ca

Coming Next Month: Five Questions with Pat Bray

Pat served as Assistant Director of Liturgy until her recent retirement.

We'll chat about her favourite memories and her hopes for this new chapter of life.



Mercy in our Time: A DIALOGUE AMONG THE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM

An interfaith conference being hosted by St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish on **Sunday, May 29, 2016** will celebrate both the Jubilee Year of Mercy and the common faith heritage shared by Judaism, Christianity and Islam. St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish and St. Ninian's Cathedral in Antigonish are pilgrimage sites for the Year of Mercy.

Prayer leaders as well as conference presenters and panelists from local Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths will engage the topic of mercy.

All are welcome and invited to attend.

"We live in a time when a better understanding of these three faiths, with their common ancestry rooted in the person of Abraham, is much needed among themselves and by the general public," said Deacon Robert Coleman, an organizer of the event. "By coming together in prayer and dialogue we wish to show the authentic nature and aim of religion as being one of peace, tolerance and the pursuit of common purpose and good."

Image Source: Muslims4Peace.org



Mercy in our Time: Events of the Day

2 p.m.: Prayer Service at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish 40 Cabot Street, Sydney.

3 p.m. Dialogue session at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish moderated by Wendy Bergfeldt

7 p.m. Concert featuring 'The Peacemakers' by Karl Jenkins, presented by Cape Breton Chorale, United Protestant Church, Sydney River

Light refreshments will be served by the Catholic Women's League. There is no charge to attend the prayer service or conference. Admission to the evening concert is \$25.00.

For further information, please contact Deacon Robert F. Coleman 902-539-4666 (residence); 902-562-1803 (office M-F 8:30-4:30) or visit the Year of Mercy page under Events on our website: www.antigonishdiocese.com



News and Notes



Aid and Prayers for Fort McMurray

Our prayers continue for the safety of citizens and emergency workers coping with the massive wildfires that swept through Fort McMurray and area in northern Alberta. An emergency collection taken last weekend (May 14-15) and forwarded to the Diocese will be donated to the Canadian Red Cross. For updates and Bishop Dunn’s letter, see www.antigonishdiocese.com

Attention Composers of Catholic Worship Music!

The National Liturgy Office of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced that the process for publishing a National Hymnal has begun. The Hymnal Committee will be considering “new” music, Psalm settings and Mass settings for the new hymnal.

For details, see the blog post by our Director of Liturgy, Fr. Conrad Edwards, on our website: www.antigonishdiocese.com

‘Some Body Cares’ Day June 4, 2016

In past years, ‘Some Body Cares’ Day has resulted in church and office cleanups, dinners for soup kitchens, book donations to local libraries, baked treats for emergency personnel, item collections for area transition homes and shelters ... there is so much we can do!

As we continue the great Jubilee Year of Mercy, we ask you to consider:

*What projects
can your parish plan
to carry out
these works of mercy?*

A parish packet has been prepared with details on planning, promoting, and carrying out your Day of Service. For details and to download your packet, visit the Year of Mercy page under Events on our website: www.antigonishdiocese.com

Comments? Story ideas? Contact our communications officer:
jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca