

■ ■ AROUND SAINT PETER'S

"Of Movies and Missionaries"

During the past few weeks, I've been thinking a lot about one of the outdoor movies we were able to show last summer: Mary Poppins.

Not that I was ever expecting a Disney musical about a British nanny to have spiritual implications for my life, but when I was watching the end of the movie last year it struck me that in many ways the life of Mary Poppins has a lot in common with the life of a missionary. In the film, Mary Poppins comes from a faraway place in order to help two children connect with their father and to help their father connect with them. Missionaries do the same thing... except instead helping people connect with their individual fathers we strive to help people connect with Our Father.

For the past 102 years in Canada, the Paulists have sought to help the people we have come across do just that. In Montreal, in Vancouver, in countless missions across the continent, and of course in Toronto. With the establishment of the University of Toronto Newman Centre, through Fr. Frank Stone's brainchild the Paulist Information Centre, and through and with the people of Saint Peters, we have sought to give the people of Canada an experience of God through our ministry. In the process, the people of Canada have also provided us with a constantly unfolding experience of Emmanuel, of "God with us," through your hospitality, kindness, faithfulness, and love.

At the end of the movie, Poppins watches wistfully as the Banks' children skip happily with their father as they sing, "Let's go fly a kite!" The parrot head that makes up the base of her umbrella, rubbing salt in the wound, casually mentions that the children love their father more than they loved her... to which Poppins replies, "That's as it should be." That sentiment sounds a lot like the message we have all been reflecting on these past few months as a Christian community: we are not people of the messenger, but the message. And so, just as Mary Poppins had to move on to help other families connect with each other, so too we Paulists must move on to continue the mission in which Saint Paul embarked so many millennia ago to help people connect to God through Jesus Christ.

Still, while Mary Poppins was trying to put up a brave front by saying that "practically perfect people never permit sentiment to muddle their thinking," we all know that there is always sadness in saying good-bye... especially when we are talking about relationships that go as deep as the Paulist Fathers and the people of St. Peter's. I can't help but wonder if Saint Paul also felt the same way when it was time for him to say good-bye to the people of Corinth, to the people of Thessalonica, to the people of Ephesus. I'm sure he did, especially given the enthusiastic greetings he began each of his letters to the communities he had once been a part of and the blessings with which he concluded those letters.

And so, as Paul concluded in his second letter to the Corinthians, "Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you" Or, as Mary Poppins might put it, skip hand in hand with your Father and sing, "Let's go fly a kite!" Thank you all for allowing us to fly a kite with you for all of these years. God bless.

-Fr. Tom Gibbons, CSP



Congratulations John Bertolo!!!

Long time parishioner John Bertolo has just been accepted into the Archdiocesan diocane program this past month! John will begin his aspirant year—otherwise known as a "perpadeutic" year—within the next few months as the beginning of his journey towards becoming a deacon. Let us all congratulate him and offer him our prayers as he begins to serve the church in a new way.

CANADA DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mass will be celebrated in the Paulist Centre on Wednesday, July 1st at 10AM. The Parish/Paulist Centre Office also will be closed on that day.

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Parish Finances

Offering June 20 - June 21, 2015

Envelopes:	\$2,927
Loose:	\$1147
PAG:	\$345
Total:	\$4,419
Thank you for your generosity!	

St. Michael's Cathedral Temporary Closure

St. Michael's Cathedral, mother church of the Archdiocese of Toronto, is temporarily closing its doors as part of its extensive restoration efforts that have been ongoing for the past three years. The next phase of restoration will require its closure full-time to allow for work that will preserve the cathedral for years to come. Daily Mass will continue to be celebrated in St. John's Chapel, a small worship space accessible from 200 Church Street. Nearby, St. Paul's Basilica will provide additional weekend Masses beginning in July, featuring music from St. Michael's Choir School to accommodate the cathedral closure. Please visit www.stmichaelscathedral.com for additional resources.

A timeline has been forecast as follows:

June 17, 2015 – mid-December 2015 - full closure of St. Michael's Cathedral.

Mid-December 2015 – January 2016 - cathedral will open briefly pre/post-Christmas.

January 2016 – March 2016 - full closure of St. Michael's Cathedral.

March 2016 – September 2016 - cathedral will open prior to Holy Week and Easter, remaining open while work continues through September 2016.

September 29, 2016 – goal to complete this phase of restoration. This date is also the Feast of St. Michael, patron saint of the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Legion of Mary Praesidium

Legion of Mary invites you to join them every Tuesday at 7:30pm at the Paulist Centre. For more information please contact: Lily -416-835-6323 / Cherry-647-984-4034 /Luz -416-925-9825.

Summer Camps - St. Vincent de Paul Society

Marygrove: Girls 5-13 yrs.

Ozanam: Boys 6-13 yrs.

Our parish - St. Vincent De Paul Society conference is taking requests for the registration of children who would like to attend summer camp. This is a one-week excursion - free of charge - for those children who would not otherwise be able to afford a summer camp experience. For registration and further information, please call (416) 534-4219, ext.229 (SVDP), and leave the appropriate information (including a phone #); then a member of St. Vincent De Paul will contact you.

LIVING FOR CHRIST PRAYER COMMUNITY

invites you to attend:

Prayer meetings every Friday from 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM at the St. Peter's Church basement.

1st Friday – 7:00 pm First Friday Mass at St. Peter's Church followed by Praise & Worship and Teaching on Healing & Altar Call

2nd Friday - Rosary, Praise & Worship followed by Teachings: Foundation Series

3rd Friday -Rosary, Praise & Worship followed by Gospel Sharing – Serendipity Bible Study

Last Friday -7:00 pm Memorial Mass at St. Peter's Church, followed by Praise & Worship and Praise Report.

TCDSB School Accommodation Review

All are welcome to attend Public Meetings regarding the School Accommodation Review for the area including St. Bruno and St. Raymond Catholic Schools. The first public meeting took place on February 25th.

Upcoming Public Meetings

4th meeting – June 29th, 2015 - St. Raymond, 270 Barton Avenue at 7 PM

A Portuguese interpreter will be available at the meetings. For more information please refer to the links below.

School Accommodation Review

Policy S.09: <http://tcdsb.org/policyregister/S.09.html>.

Information Related to the Review for the Area : <http://www.tcdsb.org/Board/PlanningandFacilities/SARC/Pages/St.-Bruno,-St.-Raymond.aspx>

Online Credit Card Donations

If you wish to make an online credit card donation to St. Peter's you may do so through the Archdiocese of Toronto website by visiting www.archtoronto.org and selecting the "DONATE NOW" button.

- Please ensure that you select "St. Peter's Parish, Toronto" from the Parish drop down menu -

You may make a single donation or set up a recurring gift. You can also specify to where your donation will be directed: Offertory, Building Fund, or Capital Campaign.

If you collect points on your credit card, donating to St. Peter's online is a great option.

A receipt for online credit card donations will be sent to you from the Archdiocese. Receipts for a single donation will be e-mailed immediately. If you decide to set up a recurring gift, a tax receipt will be sent to you at the end of the year.

Please remember St. Peter's in your will.

June 27 - 28 2015