



Huron-Superior Catholic

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Catholic Culture Update #22

Quote to carry through the week

“In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.” Ps. 138:1c

February 6 is the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. “Practice of Hope – Miracles happen all the time; with the right perspective, miracles are found everywhere. Just think about our human bodies with its myriad cells, ligaments, bones, joints, and organs and how they work independently and in concert with the others. It’s amazing that each of us began as two cells colliding, growing, and morphing into the extraordinary wonders that we are.

- ✚ In today’s Gospel, Jesus asks his friends to try a different perspective and to be more persistent. He tells them to fish again and they reluctantly do, but they are astounded when the catch almost tears their nets. This story and the miracles that happen in our midst can inspire us.
- ✚ Think of a goal or activity with which you struggle, and brainstorm about alternative approaches to ensure its success. Pray about this process for further direction.
- ✚ Help someone in your family with a new skill or hobby. Encourage them as they try positive activities.” AT HOME with the WORD 2022, Liturgy Training Publications, page 39

Scripture Insights > “Today’s readings are crucial for understanding the good news of the Christ event. We begin with Isaiah’s vision of God’s throne room that results in his call to be God’s spokesperson. We move to the psalmist’s unwavering faith in God who protects him even when he speaks uncomfortable truth to power. This leads to Luke’s narration of the call of the first disciples and Paul’s primal creed of the good news. Unlike our disinclined Jeremiah from last week, Isaiah calls out, “Here I am...send me!” He becomes the model for future prophets and disciples. Jesus, in Luke’s Gospel, is teaching by the sea and revealing the Word of God. In the midst of manifesting God’s prophetic activity, he encounters those who will be his disciples. Simon Peter, James, and John all enter into relationship with Jesus based on his word and deed. They eventually become prophets and apostles in their own rights, but now they are just beginning. In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Paul recounts the next steps of the revelation of the glory of God. Responding to questions about the reality of the resurrection of the dead with what amounts to the earliest proclamation of the full Gospel. Paul writes to his Corinthian churches in the mid-50s. He affirms the tradition

he received and now share: Jesus, who is God's Anointed One, the Christ, died for the sins of humankind. That this sacrifice atoned for the sins of humankind is manifest through his resurrection and encounters with Peter (Cephas in Aramaic), the inner circle, then James and all commissioned with the Word. Paul recounts this good news in defense of his apostleship so that he can teach further, but his teaching transcends its original context to instruct believers of all times that the good news culminates in eternal union between God and humankind.

- ✚ In what unexpected ways have you felt called by God to discipleship and/or leadership?
- ✚ How does Paul's resurrection proclamation affect your understanding of the good news?
- ✚ Reflect on Luke's Gospel. What has inspired you to follow Christ?" AT HOME with the WORD 2022, Liturgy Training Publications, page 39

February is the month of **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month**. "Every February, young people and their loved ones join together across the country for a national effort to raise awareness about the issue of teen dating violence through **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM)**. This annual, month-long push focuses on advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts. We are so excited to announce the theme for TDVAM 2022 is **Talk About It**. Talk About It is a call to action to young people and those who support them to engage in meaningful conversations about healthy relationships and navigate what may be unhealthy or even abusive." <https://www.loveisrespect.org/get-involved/tdvam/> There are resources on this website.

February 10 is the memorial of **St. Scholastica**, Virgin. St. Scholastica (+547) is thought to have been the twin sister to St. Benedict and was "dedicated to the Lord from infancy" (see 1 Samuel 1:24). Her story is told in Book II of the *Dialogues of St. Gregory the Great*. Once a year Scholastica would visit Benedict at a guest house on the grounds of his abbey in order to spend time together in worship and holy conversation. At the end of one such visit, Benedict rose to leave, but Scholastica, having a premonition of her own death, begged him to stay. When he insisted that he had to return to his cell for the night, she bowed her head and wept in prayer. A wild storm arose, making it impossible for Benedict to leave. When Benedict realized he could not return to the abbey, he complained to his sister, "God forgive you, what have you done?" She answered him, "I desired you to stay, and you would not hear me; I have desired it of our good Lord, and he has granted my petition. Therefore if you can now depart, in God's name return to your monastery, and leave me here alone" (*Dialogues, Book II*) Gregory comments that God heard Scholastica's prayer rather than her brother's because, since "God is love," it is natural that she who loved more, did more. The next morning, the two returned to their respective monasteries, and three days later, Benedict, as he prayed in his cell, saw his sister's soul ascend to heaven in the form of a dove. St. Scholastica is the patron saint of female Benedictine monastics. Because of Benedict's vision of her death, she is depicted in art accompanied by a

dove. St. Gregory's narrative is also found in the Office of Readings for this memorial." Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 47

February 11 is the memorial of **Our Lady of Lourdes**. It was on this day in 1858 that the 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous, a peasant girl in Lourdes, saw a "lady" in a grotto near the river Gave, at the foot of the Pyrenees Mountains in France. Over the next several months, Bernadette encountered the "lady" many times. During one of these apparitions, the Lady directed Bernadette to drink from the fountain. But there was no fountain there – only a river. At the lady's command, Bernadette began to dig in the ground near the grotto, and a spring of water began to flow. Immediately, numerous miraculous healing took place, of those who bathed in or drank the water of the spring. Only later did the Lady reveal to Bernadette who she was: "I am the Immaculate Conception." Today's Lourdes is one of the most popular pilgrimage places in the world. Every year, hundreds of thousands of people make the pilgrimage to the little town, to drink of the water, and to feel close to the Virgin and to her Son, Jesus Christ, healer of body and soul." Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 47-48

February 11 is also the **World Day of the Sick**. "Since 1992, the World Day of the Sick has been celebrated each year on the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. St. John Paul II had already been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease when he instituted this world day of prayer. Today we pray for all who are sick and suffering, that they may see in their suffering a share in the Cross of Christ. We pray also for caregivers, for nurses and doctors, that they may be unfailingly gentle and compassionate. We pray, too, for researchers and scientists who seek to eradicate disease. And we pray for the poor of our world, who do not have access to adequate health care." Companion to the Calendar – A guide to the Saints, Seasons, and Holidays of the Year, Second Edition, page 48

CEW 2022 Friday's theme of Rebuild Together

Trust can be rebuilt. It takes time, communication and pure honesty.

To rebuild trust, see to it that your words and actions consistently align. Terri DiMatteo

February Virtue of the Month – Love, l'Amour, Zaagidwin, Kahsagahetin

In the Grandfather Teachings Love is Zaagidwin. The eagle that represents love because he has the strength to carry all the teachings. The eagle has the ability to fly highest and closest to the creator and also has the sight to see all the ways of being from great distances. The Eagle's teaching of love can be found in the core of all teachings, therefore an eagle feather is considered the highest honour and a sacred gift. To know love is to know peace. View your inner-self from the perspective of all teachings. This is to know love and to love yourself *truly*. *Then you will be at peace with yourself, the balance of life, all things and also with the creator.*

<http://ojibweresources.weebly.com/ojibwe-teachings--the-7-grandfathers.html>

Our Mission Statement – We are a Catholic learning community.

The only reason we exist as a separate system is because we are Catholic. In the BNA our rights to teach religious education were enshrined in order to keep all the Catholics in Quebec happy. It is our right but it is also a privilege. One that can be taken away as it was in Quebec, the Maritimes, and in some parts of Western Canada. Let us take our responsibility seriously and hand down the faith to the students in our care.

Strategic Directions – Success and Well-Being of our Students

We will foster a culture of high standards and excellence. During these days when I am supply teaching in various classrooms, I see students completing their work as quickly as possible and without attention to details. When you point this out to individuals, they might take the paper back and try to do more. Other times the response is “I’m done.” We need to set a standard, a standard of excellence and invite students to meet that standard, especially when we know that they can do more. Elementary school is the time to build the learning skills that will be able to flourish in Secondary school and beyond. The Olympics are coming this week. Let us encourage our students to be Olympian-like students.

Twenty-first Century Learning

<http://wccm.org/> > World Community for Christian Meditation > This is a site for Christian Meditation for teachers and students alike.

www.CARFLEO.org > best kept secret for religious education teachers of every grade

www.vocations.ca > In our GIF GIC religion program, many vocations are promoted. Go to this website to see how you can promote vocations more effectively. There is also information about discernment.- This information is helpful for the Grade 6 & 7 GIF GIC programs.

www.catholicreadings.org > a website that publishes daily readings, reflections and prayers for Catholics

<https://dfcm.utoronto.ca/confused-about-covid> > With all the news and protests about vaccines and masking, perhaps you want reliable information about Covid 19. The Family Physicians have set up a website to disseminate factual science based answers to the questions that their patients are asking them.


All Saints – Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for our Time by Robert Ellsberg – pages 65- 67

“Don Hélder Câmara – Archbishop of Recife (1909 - 1999)


We who are charged with announcing the message of Christ need to learn the incomparable lesson that he taught us by his own example. He taught first of all with his life, and only then did he preach.”

...This courageous and prophetic bishop has served as one of the [last] century's great apostles of Christian nonviolence. He embodied the church's "option for the poor" and defined through his actions the intimate relationship between love and justice. Câmara was born in 1909 in Fortaleza, Brazil, the twelfth of his parents' thirteen children. By the time he was eight he had already discerned his vocation. When he informed his father, a masonic freethinker, that he wanted to be a priest, his father told him, "Do you know what it means to be a priest? It means to belong to yourself no more. The priest belongs to God and to others." To this, young Hélder brightly responded, "But that is exactly what I want to be!" Câmara was ordained in 1931. At that time the church's principal concerns were combatting communism and religious indifference. Câmara joined a conservative political movement, the Integralist Party, which was inspired by Italian fascism. Their motto was "God, Country, Family." Within a few years, however, he had broken with the movement. While engaged in pastoral work in Rio de Janeiro he had become increasingly affected by the poor, the inhabitants of Rio's squalid slums, or *favelas*. In trying to relate the message of the gospel to their sufferings he would undergo a steady and radical conversion until he reached the point where he himself was labelled a communist." One of Dom Hélder's famous quotes is: "When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist." Dom Hélder is one of Sister Pat's heroes.

A Blog for Eclectic Readers - by Pat Carter csj

Trickster Drift by Eden Robinson, 2018. This book is the second in a trilogy by the same author. The main character Jared moves to Vancouver to begin upgrading his Biology and Physics marks so he can study at BCTI. He moves with his mom's estranged sister Mauve and meets many cousins and relatives that he didn't know. Life is very complicated. The story involves Indigenous spirituality and humour. I totally care about Jared and I want him to succeed so badly. I give this book /5 happy faces.

Taking Jesus to the Movies ...A blog by Sister Pat

Passing, a Netflix movie released in 2021. This movie deals with racism in a subtle way. If Black people were not dark, they could try to pass as a white person and have more freedom. But it would be lonely as the experiences were so different and the cultures so different. I think there were so many other ways to improve this storyline. I give this movie /5

Catholic WORD of the Week – For Those Who Read to the end...Just like the credits at the movies

“Form Criticism – This method of analysis focuses on small literary units within, for example, a Gospel or one of Paul's letters. It assumes that the small units of material have their own unique existence and, therefore, history prior to their inclusion into the Gospels or letters. Thus, the overall goal is to establish the history of the unit under

scrutiny from its earliest existence to its final version or form as it exists in the Gospel narratives we possess....” Our Sunday Visitor’s CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA, page 413