



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 18, 2020

**Pope's message for**  
**World Mission**  
**Sunday 2020**  
**Here am I, Send me**  
**(Is 6:8)**

**Covid & The Call to Faith**

**Vulnerability and Solidarity | COVID & the Call to Faith**  
Watch later Share

**COVID & THE Call to Faith** Week 4

**Vulnerability & Solidarity**

*Panelists*

Mr. Eoin Murray, Ms. Jo Ann Molloy, Ms. Suzette Montreuil, Dr. Lance Dixon, Ms. Cathie Langmead, Rev. Eamonn McNerney

Watch Panel Discussion Video Week 4 at  
<https://grandinmedia.ca/bishops-reflections-on-covid/>  
Weekly Reflection (PDF) is appended to this bulletin

**Weekend Schedule**

Saturday	Confessions	4:00 pm
	English Mass	5:00 pm
Sunday	Confessions	6:45 am
	Latin Mass	7:15 am
	English Mass	9:00 am
	English Mass	10:30 am
	Confessions	Noon
	Latin Mass	12:30 pm

**Weekday Schedule**

Monday	Confessions	6:30 am
	Latin Mass	7:00 am
	Confessions	8:30 am
Tuesday	English Mass	9:00 am
	Confessions	6:30 am
	Latin Mass	7:00 am
Wednesday	Confessions	8:30 am
	English Mass	9:00 am
	Confession	11:30 am
Thursday	Latin Mass	Noon
	Confession	6:30 pm
	English Mass	7:00 pm
Friday	Confession	8:30 am
	English Mass	9:00 am
	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	9:30 am
Saturday	Confessions	6:00 pm
	Benediction	6:00 pm
	Latin Mass	7:00 pm

**Pastor** Fr. Edmund Vargas ext 224 or 587-349-9615  
**Associate Pastor** Fr. John Shannon, FSSP ext 226 or 403-714-7361  
**In Residence** Fr. John Petravicius, Fr. Anthony Pudota  
**Deacon** Ron Nowell  
**Bookkeeper** Magda Aguillon ext 223  
**Janitorial Service** Polmax Ecology Cleaning Ltd.

**On Temporary Leave:**  
John Morgan Music Director  
Heather Schilling Parish Secretary  
Dorothy Loucks Sacramental Preparation  
Maria Teresa Valez Accountant  
Dianne McKay Office Assistant

## Pastoral Notes

### The Christian spirit of sharing

This year's theme for World Mission Sunday, "Hear I am, send me" (Is 6:8), captures the spirit of our Christian sharing.

Mission, which means "sent", is expressive of a maturity in the faith. Christian life is a life that goes beyond the self, beyond our comfort zone, beyond our racial or ethnic boundaries, beyond parish jurisdictions. Faith communities are meant for other communities. The Church has always sent missionaries, to "go into the whole world and preach the Good News to all peoples". The original missionary is "Jesus Christ, sent by the Father, the first Missionary, who is the Savior of the world. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life..." Jesus Christ has become "bread broken for the life of the world..." He is our Eucharist. As Christians, we become the Eucharist for others. We become Christ's presence to others.

As the Father sent His Son, so does the Son send His followers. The missionary nature of our faith stems from the diffusive character of God's love. The more divine love is shared, the more it becomes fruitful. It grows and develops as it gives itself away. The love it shares is the love it keeps and more... People who have decided to share their resources for the sake of the faith often realize that their generosity has been more than compensated. God is never outdone in generosity. He is more generous with those who are generous.

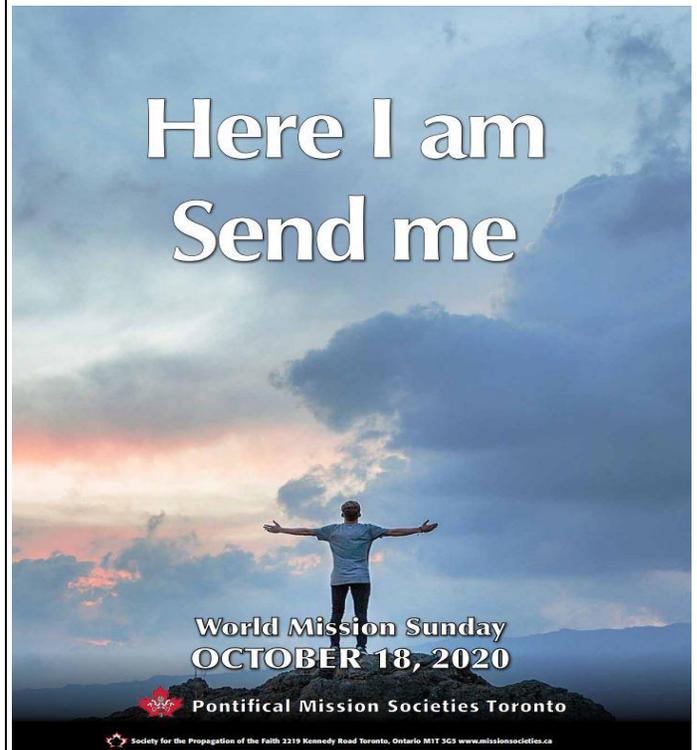
As we celebrate World Mission Sunday, let us re-assess our commitment to share not only our faith but also our resources with others. We do this through our stewardship of God's gift of life and its resources. Or is our faith not strong enough to feel the urgency to share? Is it too weak not to realize the urgency to share it? As we renew our faith during this year's celebration of World Mission Sunday, let us make our own resolve to strengthen our faith by sharing it more and more in both little and big ways. As this year's theme invites us, let us share more of ourselves as well our own resources with others, especially those who are in need.

### HEALING CORNER

Churches Seeking Reconciliation and Peace... The goals of overcoming violence and building a culture of peace imply spiritual, theological and practical challenges for our churches, which touch us in the center of what it means to be church. The debate about the whole spectrum of the spirit and logic of violence has started but the course we have entered requires persistence and endurance. The respect for human dignity, the concern for the wellbeing of the neighbor and the active promotion of the common good are imperatives of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Men and women are created equally in the image of God and justified by grace. Therefore, Human Rights are basic elements of preventing violence at all levels, individual, inter-personal, and collective, especially violence against women and children.



### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2020



Pope Francis' message for World Mission Day [released on Pentecost Sunday](#) May 31, highlights that the celebration is also "an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of your offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church."

"This invitation from God's merciful heart challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis (that) like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm," Pope Francis wrote in his message adding that "We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other."

[Make a donation to World Mission Sunday 2020](#)

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, Oct 18

7:15am Latin	SI	special intention
9am English	RIP	Rose Lutula
	RIP	Anderson family
10:30am English	SI	Parishioners of St. Anthony's
12:30 pm Latin	SI	special intention

### Monday, Oct 19

7am Latin	SI	special intention
9am English	RIP	Elaine Stoicoiu
	RIP	Peter Tabuno

### Tuesday, Oct 20

7am Latin	SI	Special intention
9am English	SI	Dianne McKay
	SI	Faye LaPaz

### Wednesday, Oct 21

Noon Latin	SI	special intention
7pm English	SI	Don and Diane Hall

### Thursday, Oct 22

9am English	RIP	Souls in Purgatory
	RIP	Souls in Purgatory
7pm Latin	SI	special intention

### Friday, Oct 23

9am English	SI	Licudine Family
	SI	Pat Lawrence
7pm Latin	SI	special intention

### Saturday, Oct 24

9am Latin	SI	special intention
5pm English	RIP	William & Barbara Saruga
	RIP	Rose Lutula

## LATIN MASS CALENDAR

Sunday Oct 18	2 <sup>nd</sup> CL	20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday Oct 25	1 <sup>st</sup> CL	CHRIST THE KING
Sunday Nov 1	1 <sup>st</sup> CL	ALL SAINTS DAY
Monday Nov 2	1 <sup>ST</sup> CL	ALL SOULS DAY

## LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK

Rose Dourado, Ken Foran, Mary Hess,  
Faye LaPaz, Leanne Morgan, Corazon Reyes

**May the Lord grant them healing, comfort and  
peace.**

St. Anthony's 10:30 AM Sunday Livestream Mass



Watch livestream on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)

## DONATIONS IN OCTOBER

	BUDGET	COLLECTION	DIFFERENCE
<b>MTD</b>	<b>\$32,815</b>	<b>\$38,334.98</b>	<b>\$5,519.98</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>\$344,644</b>	<b>\$304,939.77</b>	<b>(\$39,704.23)</b>

	GOAL	COLLECTION	DIFFERENCE
<b>TIA 2020</b>	<b>\$41,030</b>	<b>\$16,295.45</b>	<b>(\$24,734.55)</b>
<b>Refuge Family</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$28,750</b>	<b>(\$1,250)</b>

## YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING

Our parish relies on our regular offertory giving for maintenance and growth. We offer many convenient ways for you to make your contributions including: sign in to your to own banking institution and e-transfer the amount to:



[isupport@stanthonyssyc.ca](mailto:isupport@stanthonyssyc.ca); or to donate by credit card, or register for pre-authorized debit withdrawal visit [stanthonyssyc.ca/donation](http://stanthonyssyc.ca/donation); you may also mail your cheques to St. Anthony's Church 5340 4 St. SW Calgary, AB T2V 0Z5, or drop off your donation envelopes into our donation box in the church foyer when you come to Mass. You are providing crucial support to care for your parish during this difficult time. Thank you for your generosity.



## WEEKLY ADORATION

If there is anything you need, pray for it. Philippians 4:6

Thursday and Friday 9:30 am – 6:00 pm.

[Register in advance](#) or sign in.

A minimum of 2 people per hour are required.

## Religious Leaders in Canada denounce Bill C-7



[Download the document](#) or read it appended to this bulletin.

### OCTOBER IS ROSARY MONTH

The Praying of the Holy Rosary will be held every Saturday during October 10-11am in the main church. Online registration is an option, and walk-ins are welcome. Wellness protocols, including contact tracing documentation, start at 10am. Rosary starts at 10:15am after when the doors are closed and locked. No latecomers are allowed. The Rosary ends before 10:45am, to make room for exit of participants and the cleaning and disinfecting of pews and other surfaces. Mask are mandated. All are welcome. The celebration is hosted by the Legion of Mary.

### NEW SENIOR'S MASS Sunday, October 25 at 3PM

Seniors and vulnerable and their companions are invited to attend a special Mass just for you. Pre- registration is in progress. You should receive a phone call over the next couple of weeks inviting you to attend. If you would like to register yourself, please call the parish at 403-252-1137. Fr. Edmund will offer anointing for all seniors in attendance. We plan to have this special Mass once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

*Faithfully*  
FAITH. LIVED. FULLY.

**Faithfully October Edition ["From the farm to your table"](#) is now available online!**

### PARISH ENVELOPES 2020 – 2021

We are preparing for the distribution of parish envelopes for the coming year. As more people are moving to other forms of donations, we will be reducing the number of boxes of envelopes and **assigning new numbers**. It is important that all unused 2019-2020 envelopes be recycled after November 21, The Feast of Christ the King.

If you would like to register for Pre-Authorized withdrawal you can do so at <https://stanthonysyc.ca/direct-debit/>. For assistance with planning your donations for 2020-2021 please email Magda at [accounting@stanthonysyc.ca](mailto:accounting@stanthonysyc.ca).

### COVID SAFETY PROTOCOL NOTES

As the weather becomes colder, we can no longer leave the front door propped open before Mass. The door will be unlocked 30 minutes prior to Mass and locked after the start of Mass when all are inside. Please arrive early to avoid lineups. You may use the assist button to open the door. Please ensure that the prescribed social distance of 6 feet is maintained between your family cohort and others especially when entering and exiting the church. Please wear masks anytime you are moving throughout the building.

During the 10:30 Sunday Mass there may be two communion lines to ensure that the time to serve communion is kept as short as possible. Please ensure that you maintain the prescribed 6 feet between you and the person in front of you. Please wear your masks even if you are seated until everyone is served.

To assist our sanitizing crew after all Masses, please leave your kneeler down to indicate that the pew has been occupied. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our Masses safe and COVID free.

### PANTRY TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



We are now transitioning from our Pantry to become a "conference" or branch or affiliate with the wider society. All members of the current Pantry and others who are interested are invited to become part of the new setup by completing the [SSVP new member form](#) appended to this bulletin and emailing it to Fr. Edmund at <mailto:efvargas@shaw.ca>.



# ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## SACRAMENT MATTERS

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

**Registration Deadline: October 24**

In-Person 30-minute Session with Fr Edmund in the church after the Sunday 10:30 Mass: October 25, November 8, November 22 & December 6.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: **December 15, 7pm** or by appointment.

### FIRST EUCHARIST/COMMUNION

**Registration Deadline: January 24**

In-Person 30-minute Session with Fr Edmund in the church after the Sunday, 10:30am Mass: January 24, February 7, February 21 & March 7.

First Communion Mass: **March 14, 10:30am Mass** or by appointment.

### CONFIRMATION

**Registration Deadline: April 11**

In-person 30-minute Session with Fr Edmund in the church after the Sunday 10:30am Mass: April 11, April 25, May 9 & May 23.

Confirmation Mass is on **Saturday, May 29, 5pm**.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Please arrange an interview with Fr Edmund at any time with your Registration Form. The home study program will be explained accordingly. The program culminates with the celebration at the Easter Vigil (April 3)

### BAPTISM

Please submit a Registration for Baptism Form, together with a copy of the child's birth certificate. Upon receipt, Fr Edmund will contact you for an interview and scheduling of the celebration.

An online Baptism Class is scheduled every 4th Saturday of the month, 10am to 12noon, facilitated by Ferdie & Malou Gayos of the Missionary Families for Christ (MFC).

### WEDDINGS, FUNERALS & ANNOINTING OF THE SICK SPIRITUAL DIRECTION or PASTORAL CONSULTATION

Contact Fr. Edmund to arrange.

St. Anthony's Church  
5340 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Calgary, AB T2V 0Z5



403 -252-1137  
403-255-7796



[www.stanthonysyc.ca](http://www.stanthonysyc.ca)  
St. Anthony's Catholic Parish

Pastor: Fr. Edmund Vargas



587-349-9615



403-874-2015  
efvargas@shaw.ca



**9.9**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Existing Member: \_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_ Renewal\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_ Council \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Name

Member Since: (D/M/Y) \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Salutation: Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Last Name: .....

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address: ..... City ..... Postal Code .....

Phone: Day ( ) ..... Evening: ( ) .....

Gender: Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_ Date of Birth(D/M/Y) \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

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E-mail address: ..... Fax: .....

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Information**

Salutation: Mr. \_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Last Name: .....

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address: ..... City ..... Postal Code .....

Phone: Day ( ) ..... Evening: ( ) .....

Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Volunteer Activities**

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Role \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Role \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Role \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Service \_\_\_\_\_



**References** (Please provide 3 references whom we may contact, these should not be family members. As a courtesy, please obtain the permission of your reference. References related to previous volunteer or parish work will be most suitable )

Name.....  
 Address.....City.....Postal Code.....  
 Phone: Day (.....).....Evening: (.....).....  
 Relationship to applicant.....

Name.....  
 Address.....City.....Postal Code.....  
 Phone: Day (.....).....Evening (.....).....  
 Relationship to applicant.....

Name.....  
 Address.....City.....Postal Code.....  
 Phone: Day (.....).....Evening (.....).....  
 Relationship to applicant.....

**File:**

Application\_\_

Police Record Check Report\_\_ Date Received\_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed By\_\_\_\_\_

Interview Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Interviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

References Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (insert Interview checklist page)

Conference/Council Approval Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Service Covenant Agreement: Date signed:\_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Application:\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant\_\_\_\_\_

A photograph of a woman with short hair, glasses, and tattoos on her arms, wearing a grey patterned t-shirt. She is standing and feeding a young man with blonde hair who is sitting in a wheelchair. The man is wearing a blue polo shirt and is smiling broadly, looking upwards. The woman is holding a small bowl and a spoon, offering him a piece of green food. The background shows a bright, indoor setting with a window, a vase of purple flowers, and a bookshelf.

# We Can and Must Do *Much* Better

**Religious Leaders in Canada oppose Bill C-7**  
“An Act to amend the Criminal Code”  
(medical assistance in dying)



***We are convinced that a robust palliative care system available to all Canadians is a much more effective response to suffering and to protecting the sacred dignity of the human person.***

## **Open Letter to All Canadians**

We are obliged to express our strong concern and opposition to Bill C-7 which, among other things, expands access to euthanasia and assisted suicide to those who are not dying. It perplexes our collective minds that we have come so far as a society yet, at the same time, have so seriously regressed in the manner that we treat the weak, the ill, and the marginalized. We the undersigned remain inalterably opposed to

***It perplexes our collective minds that we have come so far as a society yet, at the same time, have so seriously regressed in the manner that we treat the weak, the ill, and the marginalized.***

euthanasia and assisted suicide, the intentional killing of human beings, euphemistically being called “Medical Assistance in Dying,” (MAiD) but which is more accurately, and tragically, nothing less than murder, as was recognized by the Criminal Code of Canada prior to the passing of Bill C-14 in June 2016.<sup>1</sup>

We, of course, have no desire to impose pain on the sick, nor do we wish that anyone suffer unduly. This is not our approach to illness and dying. We are convinced that a robust palliative care system available to all Canadians is a much more effective

response to suffering and to protecting the sacred dignity of the human person. Palliative care addresses pain in a loving and caring environment, wherein people go out of their way to offer comfort and solace. It makes everyone into a better person. Palliative care is a viable and life affirming alternative, which does not discriminate against any group and which gives expression to the ethics of caring and inclusion, hallmarks of Canadian values.

It is clear that the offerings of Bill C-7 will have harmful effects on persons with disabilities, as their representatives and organizations have made abundantly clear, and as [the United Nations Special Rapporteur concluded on her visit to Canada](#). Offering euthanasia or assisted suicide to those living with a disability or chronic illness, but who are not dying, suggests that living with a disability or illness is a fate worse than death. This will create certain pressures to accept such lethal procedures, putting the lives of these Canadians at greater risk in what is now a new regime that sees certain lives can be ended.

***We the undersigned remain inalterably opposed to euthanasia and assisted suicide, the intentional killing of human beings, euphemistically being called “Medical Assistance in Dying,” but which is more accurately, and tragically, nothing less than murder, as was recognized by the Criminal Code of Canada prior to the passing of Bill C-14 in June 2016.<sup>1</sup>***

<sup>1</sup> Prior to the exemptions of Bill C-14, medical practitioners and nurse practitioners in Canada, would have been charged criminally with “culpable homicide” if they “intentionally cause the death of another person, even if they consent to die (section 14 of the Criminal Code).” Likewise, prior to Bill C-14, it was a criminal offence for anyone to “assist a person to die by suicide, whether or not suicide ensues (paragraph 241(b) of the Criminal Code).” Cf. <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/other-autre/ad-am/p2.html>

*With our world-renowned health care system now endorsing euthanasia as a “solution” to human suffering, we will be undermining the creativity and resolve that is needed to confront some of the most complex cases of care.*



Soon, the Federal Government will be contemplating the expansion of euthanasia to “mature minors” and to those whose sole medical condition is mental illness. With our world-renowned health care system now endorsing euthanasia as a “solution” to human suffering, we will be undermining the creativity and resolve that is needed to confront some of the most complex cases of care. We are, in effect, imposing the intentional taking of human life as a solution to human suffering. This is not just deeply troubling; it is unacceptable for a civilized society. The course on which we have embarked has resulted in the perverse reality that doctors and other health-care professionals who, on basic religious or ethical principle, refuse to administer a lethal injection could be subject to sanctions, even to the point of losing their license. How precipitous a fall we have made into a moral abyss. This is not what we, as Canadians, have in mind when thinking of ourselves as a caring, compassionate and inclusive society.

Instead, we must embrace those who suffer, and offer exceptional care to those who are confronting illness

and death; to deploy our expertise and resources in confronting complex cases of care, rather than choosing lethal procedures that are incompatible with the dignity of both the patient and the health-care professional. Palliative care administered with unwavering compassion, generosity and skill expresses the best of who we are. Rather than withdrawing from those who are not far from leaving us, we must embrace them even more tightly, helping them to find meaning up to the last moments of life. This is how we build compassionate communities.

*We must embrace those who suffer, and offer exceptional care to those who are confronting illness and death... Palliative care administered with unwavering compassion, generosity and skill expresses the best of who we are.*

*Rather than withdrawing from those who are not far from leaving us, we must embrace them even more tightly, helping them to find meaning up to the last moments of life. This is how we build compassionate communities.*



*In the presence of human pain, suffering and loneliness, we need to respond as a society with profound solidarity and extraordinary care. It is via the deep acknowledgement of the beauty and dignity of human life, lived and experienced as a gift, filled with meaning and love, that we can come to the aid of the most vulnerable among us.*



As Canadians, we can and must do better. It is our firm belief that to avoid moving too quickly toward a reality that has serious and long-lasting repercussions, we need to press hard on the pause button, and take serious stock of the impact of MAiD. As religious leaders in Canada, we provide this moral vision through the

## ***We urge a more complete consultation with all Canadians on this grave matter.***

living memories of our respective traditions which stem from thousands of years across continents and cultures. We do not claim to have the technical solutions to all these complex problems; however, our duty is to witness to the lessons about the human spirit, the

inestimable value and meaning of life, and the equal dignity of all learned through the crucible of history and through our extensive experiences of being at the bedside of the sick and dying. A society suffering from moral amnesia is perilously vulnerable to repeating the painful mistakes of the past. Let us not forget what is most becoming and appropriate to human dignity.

We urge a more complete consultation with all Canadians on this grave matter. In the presence of human pain, suffering and loneliness, we need to respond as a society with profound solidarity and extraordinary care. It is via the deep acknowledgement of the beauty and dignity of human life, lived and experienced as a gift, filled with meaning and

love, that we can come to the aid of the most vulnerable among us. This is a defining moment for Canada. Let us take this moment with careful and complete deliberation, so we can become/be a society of care, compassion and inclusion for all. ☸



# Signatories

*Rev. Bill Allan*

**Rev. Bill Allan**  
President  
Associated Gospel Churches of Canada

*Dr. Rob Blackaby*

**Dr. Rob Blackaby**  
President  
Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary & College

*Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka, CM, Ph.D*

**Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka, CM, Ph.D**  
Rabbi Emeritus and spiritual leader  
Congregation Machzikei Hadas, Ottawa

*Kim Cairns*

**Kim Cairns**  
President  
Peace River Bible Institute

*Elder Michel J. Carter*

**Elder Michel J. Carter**  
Area Seventy, National Public Affairs  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

*Bruce J. Clemenger*

**Bruce J. Clemenger**  
President  
The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

*David Di Staulo*

**David Di Staulo**  
General Superintendent  
Canadian Assemblies of God

*Tim Dyck*

**Tim Dyck**  
Executive Director  
Evangelical Mennonite Conference

*Dr. Stephen Elliott*

**Dr. Stephen Elliott**  
National Superintendent  
The Wesleyan Church of Canada

*Steve Falkiner*

**Steve Falkiner**  
President  
Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada

*Rev. Dr. Ian Fitzpatrick*

**Rev. Dr. Ian Fitzpatrick**  
National Director  
Church of the Nazarene Canada

*Brenda Frost*

**Brenda Frost**  
Administrative Coordinator  
Eston College

*Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl*

**Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**  
Rabbi Emeritus  
Beth Tzedec Congregation  
Vice Chair  
Canadian Rabbinic Caucus

*The Most Rev. Richard Gagnon*

**The Most Rev. Richard Gagnon**  
Archbishop of Winnipeg  
President  
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

*Dr. Jeff P. Greenman*

**Dr. Jeff P. Greenman**  
President  
Regent College

## Signatories (continued)

*Rabbi Jarrod Grover*

**Rabbi Jarrod Grover**  
Beth Tikvah Synagogue in Toronto  
& President of the Ontario Rabbinical Assembly

*Rabbi Dr. Geoffrey Haber, BA, BA, MA,  
DMin, DD (Hon.)*

**Rabbi Dr. Geoffrey Haber, BA, BA, MA,  
DMin, DD (Hon.)**  
Baycrest Health Sciences

*Rev. Dr. Eric R. Hallett*

**Rev. Dr. Eric R. Hallett**  
District Superintendent  
Central Canada District of the Wesleyan Church

*Rev. David Hearn*

**Rev. David Hearn**  
President  
The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada

*Farhan Iqbal*

**Farhan Iqbal**  
Missionary  
Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada

*The Most Rev. Shane B. Janzen*

**The Most Rev. Shane B. Janzen**  
Archbishop  
The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada

*Rev. Steven Jones*

**Rev. Steven Jones**  
President  
The Fellowship of Evangelical  
Baptist Churches in Canada

*Dr. David P. Lavigne*

**Dr. David P. Lavigne**  
Bishop  
The Evangelical Christian Church in Canada

*The Right Rev. Brian K. Magnus*

**The Right Rev. Brian K. Magnus**  
Bishop  
The United Brethren Church in Canada

*Rev. Tim McCoy*

**Rev. Tim McCoy**  
Executive Minister  
Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec

*Rev. David McGrew*

**Rev. David McGrew**  
President  
Canadian Fellowship of Churches and Ministers

*Rev. Paul McPhail*

**Rev. Paul McPhail**  
General Secretary  
Independent Assemblies of God International Canada

*Rev. Wesley E. Mills*

**Rev. Wesley E. Mills**  
President and National Director  
Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada, Inc.

*Rev. Rob Ogilvie*

**Rev. Rob Ogilvie**  
Executive Minister  
Canadian Baptists of Western Canada

*Rev. Frank Patrick*

**Rev. Frank Patrick**  
Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

## Signatories (continued)

*Michael B. Pawelke*

**Michael B. Pawelke**  
President  
Briercrest College and Seminary

*Rev. John Pellowe, MBA, DMin*

**Rev. John Pellowe, MBA, DMin**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Centre for Christian Charities

*Mark Penninga, B.A., M.A.*

**Mark Penninga, B.A., M.A.**  
Executive Director  
ARPA Canada

*Rabbi Reuben Poupko*

**Rabbi Reuben Poupko**  
Congregation Beth Israel Beth Aharon, Montreal  
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Canadian Rabbinic Caucus

*Dr. Rick Reed*

**Dr. Rick Reed**  
President  
Heritage College and Seminary

*Imam Refaat Mohamed*

**Imam Refaat Mohamed**  
President  
Canadian Council of Imams

*Ingrid Reichard*

**Ingrid Reichard**  
National Faith & Life Director  
Canadian Conference of  
Mennonite Brethren Churches

*Rev. Dr. Peter Reid*

**Rev. Dr. Peter Reid**  
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Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada

*Dr. Rob Reimer*

**Dr. Rob Reimer**  
President  
Steinbach Bible College

*Rev. David Rowley*

**Rev. David Rowley**  
General Secretary  
The Union of French Baptist Churches in Canada

*Pastor David Ruis*

**Pastor David Ruis**  
National Director  
Vineyard Canada

*Rev. David Schrader*

**Rev. David Schrader**  
National Pastor  
Congregational Christian Churches in Canada

*Kevin Schular*

**Kevin Schular**  
Executive Director  
Baptist General Conference of Canada

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General Legal Counsel & Director  
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**Pastor Terry W. Snow**  
General Superintendent  
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## Signatories (continued)

*His Eminence Metropolitan Archbishop Sotirios*

**His Eminence Metropolitan Archbishop Sotirios**

Primate

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto  
& All of Canada

*Rev. Timothy Teuscher*

**Rev. Timothy Teuscher**

President

Lutheran Church-Canada

*Rabbi Chaim Strauchler*

**Rabbi Chaim Strauchler**

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, Toronto

*Dr. David Williams*

**Dr. David Williams**

President

Taylor Seminary and College

*Dr. Bill Taylor*

**Dr. Bill Taylor**

Executive Director

Evangelical Free Church of Canada

*Rev. Dr. David R. Wells, MA, DD*

**Rev. Dr. David R. Wells, MA, DD**

General Superintendent

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

*Archbishop Papken Tcharian*

**Archbishop Papken Tcharian**

The Primate of the Armenian Prelacy of Canada



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Reflection

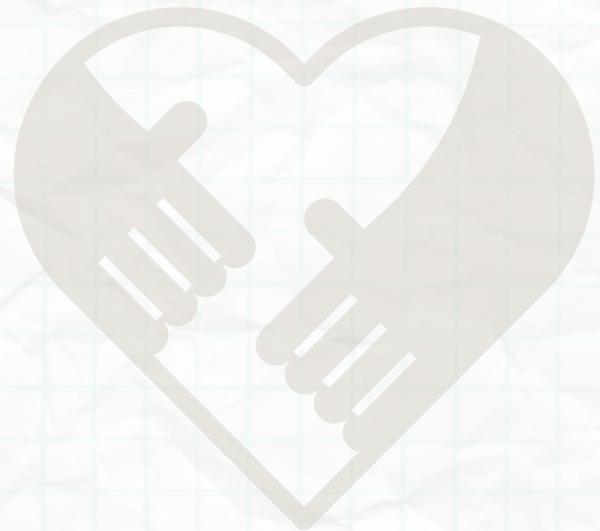
Week 4

[READ HERE](#)

# Vulnerability & Solidarity

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The global pandemic sets forth important lessons for all of us about vulnerability, compassion and solidarity toward our fellow human beings.



One of the most common expressions to emerge during this pandemic time, and often stated by those in leadership roles, is: “We’re all in this together.” Indeed, the concerted efforts of people, businesses, civic and religious institutions, and all orders of government, to assist individuals and communities adversely affected by the pandemic have been truly inspiring. At the same time, the pandemic also yielded (especially early on) some negative examples of persons who took advantage of human vulnerability, such as by depriving others of basic needs through mass-buying and hoarding, or by attempting to resell staple goods and essential services for fiscal profit and personal gain.

Programs offering shelter to the homeless and financial assistance to persons in need; individuals and groups engaged in community food drives, sewing masks or producing hand sanitizer; neighbours calling on neighbours; initiatives to purchase and package supplies for the needy– all of these examples (and more) demonstrate the best of the human spirit. They reflect an understanding that all human beings are vulnerable and that society can only truly thrive when its members, moved by compassion and a sense of solidarity, care for one another.

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- 1 What has been your experience of vulnerability, compassion or solidarity during this time of COVID-19? How has this impacted you and/or your relationships with others?
- 2 What questions or lessons has the pandemic surfaced for you about how we reach out and care for vulnerable persons in our Church? in society?
- 3 In moving forward, what activities should our Church undertake to promote a greater sense of solidarity in the human family, ensuring that “we all stay in this together”?



### RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Pope Francis, [Life After the Pandemic](#), *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*: Vatican City, 2020.
- Pontifical Academy for Life, “[Humana Communitas in the Age of Pandemic: Untimely Meditations on Life’s Rebirth](#)” (2020).
- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* (2006): Ch.4, [Section VI. The Principle of Solidarity.](#)

*Recognizing our constant need of God’s Divine Providence, our moral duty to care for all people equitably, and the natural right of every person to a just share of the earth’s resources, we desire a more humane and peaceable society founded on a genuine spirit of solidarity and sharing.*



# PANEL DISCUSSION

Week 4

## Vulnerability & Solidarity



**Moderator**



**Mr. Eoin Murray**

Director of Development & Community Relations,  
Catholic Social Services, Edmonton, AB

### *Panelists*



**Ms. Jo Ann Molloy**

VP, Resident Experience,  
Covenant Care/Covenant  
Living, Edmonton, AB



**Ms. Cathie Langmead**

Chair, Fort McMurray  
Catholic Board of  
Education



**Dr. Lance Dixon**

Director of Campus  
Ministry, St. Mary's  
University, Calgary



**Ms. Suzette Montreuil**

Executive Director, NWT  
Seniors' Society/ Diocese of  
Mackenzie-Fort Smith



**Rev. Eamonn McNerney**

Chaplain, University of  
Alberta Hospital,  
Edmonton



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of **Alberta** and the  
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## **A Pastoral Statement on the Impact of COVID-19 and the Call to Christian Renewal**

**“Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance”**

Dear faithful in Christ,

For the past several months, our Catholic community, together with all Canadians and indeed the whole world, has been seriously impacted by the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). All of us – whether individuals, families, parishes, institutions or dioceses – have been required to make sacrifices, including many difficult but necessary decisions about matters at the very heart of our Catholic faith and way of life. As bishops, we acknowledge and are grateful for the way in which our Catholic faithful – clergy and laity alike – have lived the unprecedented circumstances of these months. We know, too, that the Lord allows all occasions – positive and negative – to teach and re-teach us lessons for right living in light of the Gospel. It is in this spirit that we address this letter to you as an invitation to consider along with us what the Lord may be saying to his people and his Church through this time of trial.

While the situation of COVID-19 continues to develop in our lives and communities, it is increasingly evident that the pandemic has had, and will continue to have for some time to come, a far reaching impact on all people throughout the world. In Canada, including here in Alberta and the Northwest Territories, many human and social values have surfaced that, as Catholics among others, we will need to reflect upon as we consider the future of our life together in society, especially in the light of Christian revelation and our faith in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

In particular, the pandemic has alerted us to a number of important social issues that touch us all including:

- the care of vulnerable persons in our society and supports offered to medical personnel in hospitals, nursing homes and other care facilities;
- the education of our young people and supports offered to families and to educators;
- isolation and depression in our homes and communities, and the prevalence and stigma of mental illness, substance abuse, suicide and other social ills;
- increased rates of domestic violence, elder abuse and other forms of interpersonal violence;
- societal discord over different responses to COVID-19 that have fractured human relationships and challenged our call to love one another;
- incidents of racism, bigotry and religious intolerance, including in our towns and cities;
- anxieties caused by massive losses of employment and the general situation of economic instability;
- the fragility of our human condition and the basic needs we all have for safety, solidarity, and love within authentic human community.

At the same time, we have witnessed on a daily basis many heroic and selfless examples of individuals who exemplify true human goodness and charity. These are the so-called “saints who live next door” identified by Pope Francis as medical professionals, educators, parents and grandparents, shop workers, cleaners, communications and information technology specialists, law and order personnel, delivery drivers and so many volunteers in all sectors of our society. Whether motivated by faith or otherwise, young or old, these individuals are role models for all of us, demonstrating dedicated care and compassion that goes beyond duty to a level of human solidarity that is inspiring to others. We give thanks to God for raising up such generous human individuals who embrace this collective challenge as a way to witness to the enduring human and social values by which we need to live.

All of these situations described above – the good examples and the social challenges we face – give us insights into certain behaviours, actions and structures that we value as a society and as a Christian people. Some of these we will rightly want to hold on to going forward, while others may be in need of remedy or renewal.

On this feast day when we contemplate Christ's victory over death through the life-giving wood of the Cross, we, the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories, invite you to reflect and discern with us the kind of response that will be needed to address some of the human and social values that have surfaced during this pandemic. Specifically, we seek new ways to promote authentic human development and flourishing in the very way that we live, care for others, work, organize society and interact with one another. Moved by our faith in Christ and inspired by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, we invite the Catholic community to join us in looking afresh at certain aspects of our life together in society, to discern and decide a course for true social, cultural and spiritual renewal.

In the coming weeks, *Grandin Media* will be hosting a series of recorded panel discussions on various themes related to the pandemic and its challenging effects on our society. These sessions, featuring Catholic voices from around the province and territories, are meant to encourage our Catholic faithful to engage new questions and to take up new actions that reflect a “new normal” consistent with our life in Christ. Together with written texts, prepared by our bishops and released weekly, we shall present a series of reflections on the following topics:

- Reflection Topic #1: Inherent dignity of every human life
- Reflection Topic #2: Importance of the family
- Reflection Topic #3: Individual rights and social responsibilities
- Reflection Topic #4: Vulnerability and solidarity
- Reflection Topic #5: Responsibility for the common good
- Reflection Topic #6: Healthy use of information technologies
- Reflection Topic #7: Value and dignity of human work

We encourage all of our faithful to “tune in” to these sessions and take an active part in offering their own experience and wisdom on the topics presented. [An online mechanism will be available to receive your comments and feedback.] In this way, we hope to receive your insights into living our Christian faith in new ways in Catholic homes and in our communities, through our parishes, lay movements, schools and institutions, marked by hope, compassion and charity.

Our Catholic faith has much to contribute with respect to promoting human, social and spiritual values for the common good of society. We trust that you, like us, see the urgency to discern wisely the *signs of the times* and to “reset” our lives so that our collective experience in moving forward accords with the Gospel. Guided by the Holy Spirit, and

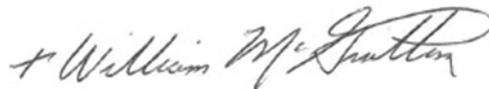
through the intercession of the most holy Mother of God, we are confident that this can be a time for bold creativity and life-giving transformation for all. We ask for God's blessing on this endeavour and upon all who join with us in this journey of discernment and path of renewal.

Yours in Christ,

Catholic Bishops of Alberta and NWT



Most Reverend Richard W. Smith  
Archbishop of Edmonton



Most Reverend William McGrattan  
Bishop of Calgary



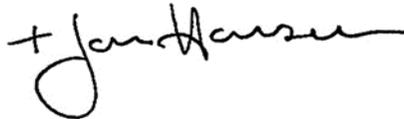
Most Reverend Paul Terrio  
Bishop of St. Paul



Most Reverend Gerard Pettipas CSsR  
Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan



Most Reverend David Motiuk  
Bishop of the Ukrainian Eparchy of  
Edmonton



Most Reverend Jon Hansen, CSsR  
Bishop of Mackenzie-Fort Smith

**September 14, 2020 – Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

*We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,  
because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.*